

Highway Alpine Lodge



February 2008

Highway Alpine, Perisher Valley (02) 6457 5283

Thurlow Lodge, 6 Thurlow Avenue, Nelson Bay (02) 4984 2351

Welcome to Ski-Mag
The official journal of Highway Alpine Club.



Last year was certainly a big improvement on 2006, and with suggestions that we are in a La Niña period, 2008 may be a great year for skiing. So with this in mind, now is the time to start thinking about Winter 2008. Booking information and tariff details are set out below – for a priority booking, your application must reach the Club by 26 March.

Additional Bed / Lease Offer

In late October, the Nation Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) invited ski clubs to apply for additional beds and an extended lease. For Highway, the price for an additional bed was an upfront payment of approximately \$32,000. In regard to a lease extension, the NPWS was offering an effective 50 year lease extension from July 2008 to 2058 for a cost of \$26,180 plus stamp duty and legal costs. The new lease also included a changed provision for the payment of the annual rent based on a percentage of turnover or land value, whichever is the higher. Highway's current lease expires in December 2025.

The Board discussed the offer at length and communicated with 'Slopes' and other clubs. After careful consideration, the Board decided not to apply for an additional bed as our financial modelling showed that the cost would not be recovered through tariff income.

The Board also decided to decline the offer to extend the lease. The Boards reasons were:

- ❑ Having regard to the Club's current level of debt and anticipated expenditure requirements on major items such as the replacement of the deck, it was not financially prudent to incur additional expenditure at this time;
- ❑ The changed provisions in the proposed lease on the calculation of the annual rent would leave the potential for an increase in the rent in the future;
- ❑ Having regard to global warming, the prognosis for skiing in the Australian Alpine area in future decades is uncertain; and
- ❑ Having regard to the long period remaining on the current lease of 18 years, considerations around renewal of the lease should more prudently be considered by a Board at a time more closely approaching its expiry.

Vale – David Monk

In late January, David Monk passed away. David was a foundation member of the Club a true gentleman who reliably attended most of the Club's AGMs. Our condolences to his daughter Deberah (who is also a member), and his extended family.

Balcony and other lodge repairs

During the summer, the car park was completed – this was a condition of the original development application for the lodge extension (I am sure we will all make a lot of use of it in winter!). Our attention is now being directed to

the balcony, which for critical safety reasons, will see a major upgrade and replacement with a 'maintenance free' galvanised steel structure. We need volunteers for a major working bee in the period 29 March to 4 April – please email Alan Marshall at martechm@optusnet.com.au if you may be able to help.

New Booking Officer

After 7 years, Marianne Kerjan has had to relinquish her position as the Club's Booking Officer. We thank her sincerely for the fantastic effort. Fortunately, Kurt Blecher has come to the rescue to take on this critical job. Kurt's preferred way of contact is by email (see back page) and the Board requests that all members remember that this is a voluntary position and while all enquiries will be addressed, the answer may not be immediate.

Summer at Perisher

The lodge is open during summer, and this is a great time to experience the unique environment of the Snowy Mountains. Make Perisher your base for bush walking, cycling, trout fishing or just putting up your feet and taking in the fresh air and peaceful surrounds.

Bookings are now open – with tariff details set out on pg 5. Please note that Member priority operates for the Christmas and Easter holiday periods. To achieve a priority booking, your application must be received by 26 March 2008.

Thurlow Lodge

Located right in the heart of Nelson Bay, this third storey north-facing unit offers water views from the living area and main bedroom. A second bedroom looks out over the township to the hills beyond. The unit can accommodate up to 6 people and provides comfortable family living. The unit complex has a swimming pool. Tariff details are set out below – for information about vacancies, please call Pat Martin (see page 8).

Per Unit Weekly (incl. booking fee)

	Member	Assoc	Member's Guest
26 Jan to 22 Mar 08 (excl Easter)	\$400	\$475	\$550
Easter (21 Mar 08 to 24 Mar 08)	\$500	\$600	\$700
22 Mar to 12 Apr 08 (excl Easter)	\$400	\$475	\$550
12 Apr to 26 Apr 08	\$500	\$600	\$700
26 Apr to 27 Sept 08	\$300	\$350	\$400
27 Sept to 11 Oct 08	\$500	\$600	\$700
11 Oct to 6 Dec 08	\$400	\$475	\$550
6 Dec to 20 Dec 08	\$500	\$600	\$700
20 Dec to 24 Jan 09	\$700	\$825	\$950
24 Jan 09 to 11 Apr 09	\$400	\$475	\$550

Tariff includes \$15.00 booking fee and \$42.00 cleaning fee. Nightly tariff is 30% of weekly rate. Weekend (2 nights) is 60%.

Now is the time to think about skiing in 2008 – and weekly bookings are now open! To achieve priority with your booking, your completed application and cheque for the full tariff must be lodged with the club by noon on Wednesday 26 March 2008. The tariff schedule is detailed on pages 4 and 5.

Dates

Highway Winter Season	7 June 08 to 11 October 08
Queen's Birthday Weekend	7 June to 9 June
Labour Day Weekend	4 October to 6 October
School Holidays	5 July to 19 July

Perisher Lodge - Winter 2008

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Highway Winter Season	7 June 08 to 11 October 08
Queen's Birthday Weekend	7 June to 9 June
Labour Day Weekend	4 October to 6 October
School Holidays	5 July to 19 July 27 September to 11 October

Closing Date – Priority Bookings (Weeks and holiday weekends)	26 March 2008
Closing Date – Other bookings	If available, after 7 June 08

Booking Periods

Weeks Sat 12 noon to Sat 12 noon

Weekends Fri to Sun or Sat to Mon

Irregular Periods All other periods (eg. weekend of more than 2 nights, mid-week period of less than 5 nights).

Priority Bookings

As in previous years, all bookings for weekly periods received from Members, Associates and Non-Members on or before Wednesday 26 March shall be afforded priority.

To achieve priority, your completed application form and cheque for full tariff must be lodged with the Club by **noon on Wednesday 26 March** addressed to **Highway Alpine Club Co. Op Ltd, GPO Box 2357, Sydney NSW 2001**.

Bookings for the Queen's Birthday and Labour Day weekends will only also be dealt with at this time.

Applications will be allocated according to their priority, be it either A, B, C or D class. An explanation of these classifications is detailed in the By-Laws

Weekends Fri to Sun or Sat to Mon

Weekend and irregular period bookings will not be accepted until after 7 June 08 and will be allocated only if accommodation is available.

General Conditions

1. Bookings will not be accepted from unfinancial members. The 2008 subscription of \$75 is due on 1st March 2008.
2. Bookings are made from noon on the day of arrival until noon on the day of departure. Guests may arrive after 8.00am, but must give priority to use of all the Lodge facilities, including rooms and the kitchen, to outgoing guests. Guest arriving early should leave their bags downstairs.
3. Members are at all times responsible for the behaviour of their guests.
4. The lodge is totally non-smoking within the building. Smoking is only permitted beyond the eave line outside.
5. The new Environmental Management System of the National Parks and Wildlife Service stipulates that guests at the lodge must not feed birds and animals.
6. All accommodation is allocated on a shared room basis unless the applicant requests otherwise, in which case a single room supplement may apply.
7. The Spouse of a Member (or other nominated person) who accompanies the Member will be granted Member rates and given the same priority as the Member. Where a joint Membership is held, only one spouse/person is eligible.
8. School Holidays are 5 July to 19 July and 27 September to 11 October. Preference when allocating accommodation during school holidays will be determined in accordance with the By-Laws, Section A, Part 5.
9. Bookings from Non-Members will not be accepted unless a Member signs the application. A Member who signs an application must accept responsibility for the Non-Member and their conduct.
10. Substitution of bookings to other persons is **not** permitted. Bookings are allocated to named persons on the application form in accordance with the priority system. First option on cancellation must be given to those Members who missed out. Failure to notify the Booking Manager of any change in booking to that shown on the application form will result in loss of booking priority for 12 months, in addition to the levy of full additional tariff on the substituted person
11. Payment for telephone bookings must be made within 7 days of being accepted, otherwise the booking will be automatically cancelled.
12. Failure to return keys within 7 days will incur a penalty to cover the cost and time involved in replacing them.
13. Refunds for cancellations, which must be in writing, will be made on the following basis:

6 weeks' or more notice	-	full refund, <u>less</u> an administration fee
4 to 6 weeks' notice	-	two-thirds refund, <u>less</u> an administration fee
Less than 4 weeks' notice	-	No refund
Administration Fee	-	\$25.00

The Board can at all times exercise its discretion to refund a part or the whole of the tariff if the accommodation is re-let, subject to the deduction of the administration fee above. In special circumstances, the Board can exercise its discretion to refund 50% of the tariff less the administration fee, notwithstanding that the accommodation has not been re-let.

Travel and Food

The easiest way to get to Perisher is to use the Ski-Tube. Drive to the Bullocks Flat Terminal, which is about 12 km. In Winter, you cannot drive past the Ski Tube Terminal at Perisher. No overnight parking is permitted in Winter at Perisher.

Highway is a self-catered lodge, so bring your food (including frozen) with you. There is also a supermarket at the Ski Tube Terminal at Perisher (open during Winter).

form Jindabyne on the Alpine Way. Park your car and catch the train. From the Perisher Terminal, book a snow-cat to take you the rest of your way to Highway

Booking Contact Details

Highway:	Kurt Blecher 9973 1617 (Ph or Fax) bookings@highwayalpine.com.au
Thurlow:	Pat Martin 9399 8372 (9.00am – 6.00pm, Mon-Fri) Unit 3b, 94 Alison Road, Randwick NSW 2031
Postal:	GPO Box 2357, Sydney NSW 2001