



## INTRODUCTION

This Handbook has been produced to provide Members with all the necessary information to make membership of our Club, and the use of our lodges, both simple and enjoyable. It will be issued to new members and maintained up to date on the Club's website

Officer bearers will provide details on their areas of responsibility, and any suggestions from Members, for alterations and additions, are welcomed. Newsletters will still be sent to Members from time to time to keep you informed of the activities of the Club and its members. Any suggestions as to how the manual can be improved, should be made to the Vice President Membership, Marketing & Communications.

The dominant theme underlying the information in this handbook is the absolute dependence on the Club on member participation. Members built the Club, our usage keeps it healthy, and our annual subscriptions keep it running. Sharing in lodge activity and making a contribution when the snow is down somehow improves the great experience of being there. That same pleasure carries over into participation in our summer work parties in the mountains, and in keeping the Club ticking over through the involvement of our area sub committees.

Please give a thought to what you might be able to do - your extra participation will be most welcome.

Wishing you more in the way of great skiing and mountain experiences.

Peter Laver

President  
RAN Ski Club

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## DIRECTORS, OFFICE BEARERS & LIFE MEMBERS

The names of the Directors, office bearers and Honorary Life Members are published in the Club newsletter and on the Club website following each Annual General Meeting held in May each year.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Booking Officer Liz Osborne	Tel: (02) 6295 6634 Fax: (02) 6295 1791
<b>Lodges</b>	
Perisher Valley	Tel: (02)6457 5151
Mount Buller	Tel: (03) 5777 6363 Fax: (03) 5777 6694
Thredbo Manager	Tel: (02) 64576305
Snowline (Bureau of Meteorology)	0055 22346
NSW Cross Country Information Line	0055 26028
Pioneer Central Reservations (National)	132030
Hans Oversnow, Perisher Centre	(02) 6457 5334
Skitube Information	(02) 6456 2890
Perisher Blue General Information	1800654581
Skitube Supermarket (Perisher)	Tel: (02) 6457 5555 Fax: (02)64575412

Ski Club Web Site [www.ranskiclub.com.au](http://www.ranskiclub.com.au)

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## SUBSCRIPTION AND ACCOMMODATION RATES

Subscription rates are published in the website at  
<http://www.ranskiclub.com.au/Membership/>

## BOOKING RULES

### *Contact for Bookings*

<p>The Booking Officer The R.A.N. Ski Club PO Box 3484 MANUKA ACT 2603 Tel: (02) 6295 6634 0930-1430 Tue to Fri, only. Fax: (02)62951791 all hours. We do not take bookings by email</p>
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### *Accommodation Rates*

Current accommodation rates and the periods they apply are published in the Club's website and on the reverse of the booking form which may be obtained from the Booking Officer. With the approval of the appropriate Lodge Vice President, Summer Rates will apply whenever there is insufficient snow for skiing. As a basic rule Winter rates will apply when the ski lifts are operating.

### *Advanced Bookings*

Bookings for the ski season open 1 March.

- Bookings for members with priorities will be processed on 16 March.
- Bookings for members without priorities will be processed on 31 March.
- Bookings for guests will be processed from 1 April.

Bookings will be processed on a first come first served within those time frames. Members with priorities may only exercise those priorities before 16 March. After that they will be on a first come first served basis with all other bookings. So, if you have earned a priority don't waste it - book early!

### *Alterations (Low and High Season)*

- Alter confirmed booking giving 28 days or more notice: \$30 per person per booking. #
- Alter confirmed booking giving 14 to 28 days notice: \$40 per person per booking #

- No alterations to confirmed booking with less than 14 days notice#
- # May be varied in exceptional circumstances on written request to the Committee with supporting documentary evidence. In any event, a minimum fee of one night's accommodation per person per booking will be charged.

*No alterations to confirmed booking with less than 14 days notice.*

\* Where a booking is changed to a later date and subsequently cancelled, the cancellation fee applied will be that for the shorter period. For cancellations within 28 days the directors may consider waiving the fee in exceptional circumstances on representation supported by documentary evidence. Such requests should be addressed to the Treasurer as the Booking Officer has no authority to advise or act in these matters. Whenever booking dates are changed an alteration fee will be charged as shown in the table above.

***Applications for both Members and Guests***

The Club's approved Booking Form is to be used for all accommodation requests, with separate forms and separate payment (either cheques or credit card authorisations) required for each booking period.

The Booking Form must show the name of each person requiring accommodation, and the ages of all children must be shown. The Booking Officer is authorised to return any incorrect application, which could delay the processing of your request.

***Booking Periods***

The standard booking periods are:

Weekly	Seven nights - Sunday PM to Sunday AM Five nights - Sunday PM to Friday AM
Weekends	Two nights - Friday PM to Sunday AM

Weekly bookings will normally be given priority over weekends, and a standard booking over a non-standard booking. However, every effort will be made to satisfy members' requests as well as endeavouring to achieve maximum utilisation of the lodges. In order to maintain an equitable allocation of accommodation, applications for bookings in excess of one week will be considered as multiple bookings and thus treated as separate applications.

Additionally, members may seek Advanced Bookings for a maximum of 28 days in each lodge per season, however requests for accommodation in excess of these amounts, received prior to the beginning of the season, will not be processed until then. Persons booked for the maximum continuous stay (28 days) must be absent from the lodge for a minimum of two days before being eligible for a further stay. [Note: Under the NSW Public Health Regulations the maximum continuous stay in Perisher and Thredbo lodges is 28 days.]

***Cancellation and Booking Amendment Fees***

The following fees are charged for the cancellation or alteration of bookings:

***Cancellations (Low and High Seasons)***

- Cancel with more than 28 days notice: \$30 per person per booking. #
- Cancel with 14 to 28 days notice: 50% refund. #
- Cancel with less than 14 days notice: No refund. #

# May be varied in exceptional circumstances on written request to the Committee with supporting documentary evidence. In any event, a minimum fee of one night's accommodation per person per booking will be charged.

***Children***

Children under four years of age cannot be accommodated in the Perisher Valley Lodge in winter. Accommodation will be charged at Member or Guest rates dependent upon the classification of the child (i.e. whether the child has a family membership). There is no special rate for children - They are either a member or a guest.

***Confirmation of Bookings***

The Booking Officer will confirm your booking as soon as all details are finalised and payment has been received. Should your requested accommodation not be available, the Booking Officer will contact you to offer alternatives. When you receive your confirmation please check your invoice for the correctness of details.

***Credit Cards***

When using the credit card facilities, please ensure there are sufficient funds available to meet the debit by the Club. Should 'over-card limit' require the Booking Officer to request a cheque be sent by the Member, the requested booking will not be held should others have requested the same period.

***Family Member Bookings***

Family Members 18 years and over may stay in the lodges without their related Ordinary or Associate Member. Family Members under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult member (ie a Member aged 18 or over).

***Last-minute Bookings***

Accommodation is frequently available at short notice. Members seeking to take up such accommodation should telephone the Booking Officer during the available hours, or after Thursday evening, the Manager of the lodge required, to ascertain availability. Accommodation charges for these bookings are to be paid direct to the Manager, by cash or cheque, on arrival, or prior to extending if already staying in a lodge.



Once made, these bookings are subject to cancellation and alteration fees which will be charged to the member's account and will need to be cleared before future bookings will be accepted.

Phone numbers for the Lodge Managers are:

Mt Buller: 03 5777 6363

Perisher: 02 6457 5151

Thredbo: 02 6457 6305

### ***Payment for Bookings***

Full payment must be made by either an Ordinary, Honorary Life, Associate or Temporary Member at the time of booking, using MasterCard or Visa facilities, or the Member's crossed cheque made payable to The R.A.N. Ski Club.

Payment by credit card can only be accepted with the Member's written authorisation or by telephone, and must include the card's expiry date. Please ensure that the name on the credit card is accurately stated.

### ***Priorities***

If there is insufficient accommodation to meet the demands of advanced bookings, the following priorities will apply to the allocation of accommodation:

- Priority 1 Members in sea postings and members who have participated in work parties.
- Priority 2 Members in shore establishments which have fixed leave periods
- Priority 3 Other Ordinary and Associate members

### ***School Holidays***

If necessary a ballot will be held and all applicants will be advised of their booking status by the end of March.

### ***Single Supplement***

Members making a booking in the high season for one person who is not prepared to share a room will be required to pay for the two beds at the applicable rate. Single members and guests will not be forced to share with someone of the opposite sex but may be required to share with an older or younger person.

### ***Special Parties***

Members wishing to take special parties to the lodges are to forward their requests to the Booking Officer for consideration by the Directors. The Booking Officer will advise the outcome of the request.

### ***Telephone Bookings***

Booking enquiries may be made by phone at any time (see paragraph on hours of contact), however accommodation will normally only be reserved if a written application is made (it may be faxed). However, telephone bookings will be accepted in the two weeks prior to the required booking date if MasterCard or Visa telephone authorisation is given to the Booking Officer at the time of booking.

### ***Summer Bookings***

Requests for summer bookings, including Christmas, open after the October long weekend.

Summer Bookings for Mount Buller are handled by the Victorian Sub Committee

Summer Bookings for Perisher and Thredbo are handled by the Booking Officer and requests should be made to the Booking Officer on (02) 6295 6634 .

### ***Book a whole lodge***

Members and their guests may use any of the three Club lodges during summer. The lodges are usually not busy during summer, except for certain weekends at Thredbo, but if you want to have exclusive use of a lodge for a particular function you may now do so at special discount prices. Whole of lodge bookings may not be available in popular periods (e.g. Christmas, Jazz Festival weekend) where other members may wish to use the lodge.

Whole of lodge bookings can only be made in summer and a set price will apply regardless of the number of people or the mix of members and guests. At least one of the persons must be a member and they must apply by the rules for the use of lodges in summer. A minimum daily fee and a minimum booking of 2 days apply to groups of less than 8 people. After that the normal bed rate will apply up to the maximum figure indicated below.

The rates applicable for having exclusive use of a lodge during summer are promulgated on the Club web site.

### ***Telephone Bookings***

Booking enquiries may be made by phone at any time (see paragraph on hours of contact), however accommodation will normally only be reserved if a written application is made (it may be faxed). However, telephone bookings will be accepted in the two weeks prior to the required booking date if Mastercard or Visa telephone authorisation is given to the Booking Officer at the time of booking.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### *Introduction*

Before you go to the snow, make sure your car has properly fitting chains, antifreeze in the radiator, and a shovel in the boot. Heavy snowfalls are always welcomed by skiers but can be a hazard to the unprepared motorist. Being stranded in the mountains can be both unpleasant and dangerous. Membership of an ambulance service is also a very wise precaution in case of injury while skiing.

Remember, your skis and personal effects are your own responsibility, and we ask Members to ensure they and their guests take proper security measures. While skiing is of course a winter sport, our lodges are also great places to stay during summer, There are many beautiful walks and hikes, the mountains provide a cool escape in the hot summer months, and Summer rates are very cheap.

### *Access to Lodges*

This handbook contains information applicable to all lodges and it is up to you to make yourself familiar with the specific requirements of each, particularly with regard to access. Normally, the person who nominates you will introduce you to the Club and the particular lodge in which you will be staying. Certainly in Summer but also at other times it is important that members are familiar with the unlocking and locking procedures for each lodge. This information can be obtained from the Lodge Representatives, or the Booking Officer.

### *Accountant/Bookkeeper*

The Treasurer is the Club's 'accountant', whilst the Booking Officer acts as bookkeeper. All telephone enquiries should initially be directed to the Booking Officer, as all records are kept in the Club's registered office.

The address for all financial correspondence is:

The Treasurer  
The R.A.N. Ski Club  
PO Box 3484  
Manuka ACT 2603

For All Booking and Membership Matters:

The R.A.N. Ski Club  
PO. Box 3484  
Manuka ACT 2603

For All Other Ski Club Matters except Finance:

The Secretary  
The R.A.N. Ski Club

PO. Box 3484  
Manuka ACT 2603

### ***Constitution***

Electronic Copies of the Club's Constitution are available from the Membership, Marketing & Communications Director. Hard copies will cost \$5.00 for printing and postage.

### ***Associate Membership***

An Associate Member is a member or ex member of the Australian Army or RAAF or a person who has rendered special service to the Club or who, in the opinion of the directors, would be in a position to render service to the Club but is not eligible for Ordinary Membership.

The children, having attained the age of 21 as at 1 January, the widows/widowers, and former spouses, of Honorary Life, Ordinary, and Associate Members, are also eligible to seek Associate Membership. Current Membership conditions are available on the website.

### ***Australian White Ensign***

In 1992 the Chief of Naval Staff granted the Club the honour and privilege to fly the Australian White Ensign (AWE), at the Club lodges, to signify the Club's close association with the Royal Australian Navy. The AWE is flown in accordance with appropriate rules set by the Committee and approved by the Chief of Navy, and may be flown at night provided it is floodlit.

### ***Back Up Address of Members***

It is very important that you provide the Club with a back-up address. In particular, many of our Ordinary Membership are regularly on the move and the Club is often the last to know of a change of address. Thus the only way we can keep in touch when vital mail has been returned to us is by sending it to your backup address. Incidentally, there is a change of address form at the end of this manual — please use it.

### ***Booking Forms***

Booking Forms must be used at all times to enable efficient processing of your requested requirements. Please complete all sections of the form. Current accommodation charges are published in the Club's newsletter or may be obtained from the Booking Officer.

### *Chores*

Our lodges are run on a self-catering, self-maintaining basis, and all those staying in the lodges are expected to do communal domestic chores as well as cleaning-up after themselves. The Hut Leader in the Perisher lodge and the Manager in the Mount Buller and Thredbo lodges will detail your daily chore on the chore board. Please ensure you make your contribution to the comfort of others in the lodge. Remember, if your booking is at the beginning or the end of the season when the lodge is not full, it is your responsibility to ensure the entire lodge is kept clean and tidy. On leaving try to leave your cabin and the lodge in better condition than when you arrived.

### *Cleaning Gear*

Cleaning gear is supplied by the Club and the Lodge Leader/Manager will show you where it is kept. Please return it to its correct position so the next person can find it.

### *Club Badge*

The Club's badge was designed by Geoff Hood, an Honorary Life Member of the Club and one of its founders (you can read something about his early contribution to the Club in the brief history in this Handbook). It consists of a five-sided shield surmounted by a gold Naval crown. The five sides are bounded by red border lines - one each for the three arms of the Australian Defence Force (Navy, Army, Air Force), one for the sport of skiing, and one representing the level structure of the Club's membership (ie no rank). The shield is divided line by the horizon with white snow in the lower section and blue sky above. On this background are a pair of crossed skis in gold and the letters "R A N".

### *Club Ties and Jumpers*

The availability, cost and purchase arrangements for Club ties and jumpers will be advised in the Newsletter from time to time.

### *Credit*

Prior to the end of the Club's financial year (31 December) any monies held in credit on behalf of members, resulting from cancelled bookings etc., will be refunded by cheque.

### *Day Trippers*

Day trippers are welcome to use the lodges for lunch, but are asked to show consideration for those in residence.

### *Debit*

You can end up with a debit balance if you book late and have not made the credit card charge facility available to the Treasurer or the Booking Officer. You must clear all debts immediately. The Club will send you a statement if any account has not been cleared. Please note the Treasurer does have the Directors' authority to charge interest on any unpaid accounts.

### ***Family Members***

Wives or husbands of Ordinary, Honorary Life, and Associate Members, and the children of these members while they remain between the ages of four and 21 years, are eligible for election as Family Members. Family Members are not liable for joining fees.

### ***Friends and Guests***

It is your Club and your friends and guests are most welcome to join you in the lodges. However, you are responsible for the behaviour of your guests and you are asked to please advise them to be considerate of others using the lodges and to respect the property of others. Please refer to the Booking Rules, and the Club's newsletter for guest accommodation rates.

### ***Hut Leader***

If there is no manager in residence, it is normal for an experienced member to be asked to act as Hut Leader to oversee the Lodge while he/she is staying there. The Hut Leader is there to help you and also to ensure all occupants do their chores and that all members respect the other members well being and privacy. Please cooperate — it might be your turn next year!

Hut Leaders are asked to report to the Lodge Representatives any shortages in gear provided in the Lodges and any repairs that are required. Please do not take it on yourself to organise tradesmen to come in and do repairs which cost the club money unless, of course, it is an emergency.

### ***Invoices***

Invoices are sent to all members to confirm accommodation. Please check all invoices as you may have been given your second preference. Also there is a slight chance that the Booking Officer may have made an error!

As invoices are also raised for lockers, ski racks etc., it is important to notify the Booking Officer immediately if you disagree with an invoice.

### ***Lockers, Ski Racks & Trunks***

At Mount Buller there is the facility to obtain, at a nominal fee, a locker, ski rack or trunk space. This can be arranged by contacting VP Victoria and forwarding payment to the Booking Officer who will send you an invoice.

At Perisher and Thredbo personal storage space is very limited, however, from time to time some space does become available and is allocated by the appropriate Lodge Representative. Please make sure you have made the necessary arrangements before leaving any gear at the lodges. As with Buller, you will be invoiced by and you will pay the Booking Officer.

### ***Management***

The management of the Club is vested in the Directors of which there must never be less than six, all of whom must be Ordinary Members, with half currently serving or former serving members of the RAN; they presently comprises the President, Vice President NSW Lodges, Vice President Victorian Lodges, Vice President Membership, Marketing and Communications, Secretary and Treasurer.

To assist in the many aspects of running the Club, there are three Committees, with the NSW Lodges and Victorian Lodge Committees being responsible to Vice President NSW Lodges and Vice President Victorian Lodges respectively. These Committees are responsible for the development, management and operation of club facilities in the respective state. The MMC Committee assists the Vice President Membership, Marketing and Communications with Membership, Marketing and Communications activities, including operation of the website, the production of the Members Handbook and production of the Newsletter.

### **Membership**

#### ***Ordinary Members***

Ordinary Membership of the R.A.N. Ski Club is restricted to present and past members of the Permanent Naval Force or the Naval Reserve. Only Ordinary Members may vote and hold elective office.

#### ***Associate Membership***

An Associate Member is a member or ex member of the Australian Army or RAAF or a person who has rendered special service to the Club or who, in the opinion of the directors, would be in a position to render service to the Club but is not eligible for Ordinary Membership. The children, having attained the age of 21 as at 1 January, the widows/widowers, and former spouses, of Honorary Life, Ordinary, and Associate Members, are also eligible to seek Associate Membership. Current Membership conditions are available on the website.

Applications for civilian Associate Membership will only be considered from prospective members who clearly meet the provision that they 'have rendered special service to the Club or who, in the opinion of the directors, would be in a position to render service to the Club'. The manner in which this applies should be identified by the applicant in some

detail and supported by the proposer. Applicants must be proposed and seconded by ordinary members.

### ***Family Membership***

The spouses and children (under 21 years of age) of Ordinary and Associate Members may join as Family Members.

### ***Membership Nominations***

Currently serving and past members or the PNF or RANR applying for Ordinary and/or Family membership need only provide proof of service (copy of Service ID card or copy of discharge certificate). Similarly serving and past Army and RAAF members applying for Associate membership need only provide proof of service (copy of Service ID card or copy of discharge certificate). Nomination by an Ordinary Member of the Club is preferred but not essential.

All other applications for Associate and Family Membership ***must*** be proposed in writing by one Ordinary Member or Honorary Life Member and seconded by another Ordinary member. Applications for Associate Membership ***must*** be accompanied by a written reference from the proposer which details how the applicant meets the conditions of Associate Membership.

### ***Membership fees.***

There is a once only Joining Fee (“Guarantee” in the wording of the Constitution). This fee is paid by the Ordinary or Associate members only and is not paid by the spouse or children joining as Family members.

The annual subscription is published in the Membership page of the website. A Family cap applies so that a family consisting of two parents and two children they will pay less than the cost of 4 memberships. Larger families save even more.

### ***Membership Number***

Your Membership Number does not change each year, and should be used on all correspondence and booking applications.

### ***Newsletter***

A newsletter is sent to Members from time to time and normally in April before the AGM and in December. Any contributions for the newsletter should be sent to the Vice President MMC at any time.

### ***Office Hours***

The Booking Officer is only available for telephone contact between the hours of 0930 and 1430 on Tuesdays to Fridays. Outside these hours callers will be greeted with a



recorded message advising these arrangements. Please do not try to leave a message — it is not the Booking Officer's responsibility to follow up enquiries.

### ***Ordinary Members***

Ordinary Members are current and former members of the Permanent Naval Forces or the Australian Naval Reserves.

### ***Payments to the Club***

All payments made by members for club services, facilities or materials, must be made to either the Treasurer or the Booking Officer. No other club officer has the facility to correctly account for the receipt of monies, except a Hut Header/Manager who will accept payment for last minute bookings. A payment made to any other person, no matter how well intended, may in the event of a dispute prejudice the good standing of all parties concerned.

### ***Registered Office***

The Registered Office of the Club is situated at:

Capital Travel Manuka Pty Ltd  
24 Bouganville Street  
Manuka ACT 2603.

### ***Security of Belongings***

Members and their guests are reminded that they are personally responsible for the safety and security of their personal belongings whilst staying in a lodge.

### ***Sheets and Pillowcases***

Members and guests must take their own sheets and pillowcases. Pillows, doonas and blankets are provided.

### ***Ski Racks***

See under Lockers (These are only available at Mount Buller)

### ***Smoking Policy***

Mindful of general community standards, smoking is not permitted inside the lodges.

### ***Telephones***

There are no public use phones in the lodges. Public telephones are a short walk away from the lodge in Thredbo Village.

### *Vacating the Lodge*

Members (and their guests) are to vacate their cabins by 1000 and to be clear of the lodges by 1700. In your haste to depart please do not forget your daily chore as well as cleaning up the accommodation and cupboards you have used.

### *Work Parties*

These are held in the summer months to ensure the lodges are ready for the season. Details are promulgated on the website towards the end of the year. Members are strongly urged to make themselves available for these weekends. If you are available for a work party weekend – and they can be fun too - let your Lodge Representative know. Besides saving the Club money, you gain a booking priority and usually make new and true friends, it is no use complaining that the lodge is not in good working order if you have not given just one weekend. Unfortunately, it is usually left to the same dedicated bunch of stalwarts to maintain and improve the facilities enjoyed by all.

So if you have particular skills which you are prepared to offer to the Club, please tell your area Vice President or Lodge Representative so that the your expertise and talents may be called upon at a time suitable to you.

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## MOUNT BULLER LODGE



### *Getting to Mount Buller*

From Melbourne, the best routes are via Yarra Glen or Whittlesea to Yea, then on to Mansfield and Mirrimbah; driving time 3 to 3.5 hours. From Sydney or Canberra, take the Hume Highway and turn left to Mansfield from the Benalla bypass. You pay an entry fee to the area at Mirrimbah where you

will be advised whether chains need to be fitted at the chain fitting bay. (Chains should always be carried.) You proceed up the mountain until you reach a point where you will be directed by mountain staff where to park. (Take note of which car park you're in!)

Leave your car in gear. **Never** apply the handbrake! Don't forget anti-freeze in the radiator before you leave home. Having parked and unloaded your car, unless directed otherwise, you wait by it for four-wheel-drive transport to the village and the lodge. The lodge, known locally as Navy Ski Club, is situated at the end of The Avenue which commences outside the Kooroora Hotel.

Alternatively, you can catch the bus from either Melbourne or Mansfield which will drop you off in the village and qualify you for an immediate four-wheel drive reduced fare trip to the lodge. Four-wheel drive vehicles meet all the Mansfield Mt. Buller Busline buses.

### *Arrival at Lodge*

The winter entrance is through the lower ground floor door to the right of the building and the door has a combination lock which is set for after hours security. It is up to you if you are arriving late to check with the Lodge Manager for the combination. Ski or out-door boots should be left in racks provided before proceeding upstairs. In the second foyer upstairs, you will find a notice board which, in the absence of the Lodge Manager, will tell you which room(s) you have been allocated. The same board also lists chores allocated to all members staying in the lodge. If you are in doubt, ask any member for help. It's a friendly place!

### *Facilities*

The lodge is a 62 bed complex comprising two- three - and four-berth bedrooms.

Ground Floor Main lounge with open fireplace and bar, dining room, kitchens, bathrooms, toilets and bedrooms, pay phone in foyer [(03) 5777 6363], Manager's flat.

First Floor 2nd lounge, bedrooms, bathroom and toilets.

Food Storage There is a large kitchen opening from the dining room in which you will find a cupboard marked with your room number. Store your non - perishable food stuffs here.

There is a refrigerator near your cupboard for your perishables. Drinks (alcoholic and soft) should be stored in the large refrigerator in the lounge bar. (Marked with your surname. Ditto for your goods in the kitchen refrigerator).

### ***What to Bring***

All beds are equipped with a doona and pillows so you need bring only sheets and pillowcases, personal toiletries and towels. The lodge is centrally heated. Bring your own food and drinks, except condiments. There are two supermarkets on the mountain in case you forget something or run out, also fresh meat can be ordered from Mansfield and delivered daily.

### ***On Leaving***

You are requested to vacuum and clean your own room. Unused foodstuffs must be cleared from the kitchen cupboard and refrigerator and either taken home, or put in the rubbish bins.

### ***Out-of-Season Use of Lodge***

The Lodge Manager is not in residence outside of the main ski season, therefore you have to ensure that arrangements are made to obtain keys, to familiarise yourself with opening and closing procedures and security requirements. The lodge can be booked for out-of-season use individually, for a group or for conventions, seminars etc. Catering and part-catering can be arranged. Members considering use of the lodge for special activities such as conventions etc. should speak to the Vice President Victorian Lodges.

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## PERISHER LODGE



### *Perisher Valley Lodge*

The Perisher Valley Lodge is on the south eastern slope of Perisher Valley, about one kilometre from the Perisher Valley Skitube Terminal, day car park and the Perisher Ski Centre.

Perisher Ski Resort comprises the once separate resorts of Perisher Valley, Smiggin Holes, Guthega Village and Blue Cow. In terms of ski lift capacity and lift accessible terrain it is Australia's largest ski resort. The area possess an extensive network of Nordic ski trails, the more popular of which are regularly groomed, and ready access to back country.

Residents at Perisher Lodge can also access the resorts of Thredbo (by Skitube and shuttle bus) and Charlotte Pass (by over snow transport).

### *Getting to Perisher Valley*

If coming by car, make sure it is in good condition, with a sound battery, antifreeze, and plenty of tread on the tyres. It is compulsory to carry properly fitting snow chains (4WD exempt) if proceeding beyond Sawpit Creek car park, which is about 18 km before you get to Perisher.

Access to the Perisher Valley Lodge is via Jindabyne on the Kosciusko Road, through the National Park gates where you will have to pay a daily entrance fee unless you hold an annual NPWS pass. Park entry fees are:

- Winter season (from the beginning of the June long weekend the end of the October long weekend), \$27 per vehicle per day.
- Outside the winter season, \$16 per vehicle per day.
- An annual NSW All Parks Pass (covers Kosciuszko National Park) costs \$190.

If you want more information about Park Entry Fees go to Introduction of winter entry visitor surcharge to NSW ski fields

The large car park in Perisher Valley is open from 0700 until midnight for day visitors only. Overnight parking is NOT permitted above the snow line in winter. However, overnight parking within the Kosciuszko National Park is available at Sawpit Creek [to the left of the Park entrance gates]. For connections to Perisher contact Sawpit Mick's Valet Parking Service ((02)6456 2321 & 0412 045 894).

Alternative access is via Jindabyne and the Alpine Way (towards Thredbo) and then via the Skitube at Bullocks Flat. Free overnight parking is available here. Skitube operates from Bullocks Flat, on the Alpine Way (the road to Thredbo). During the winter trains operate to Perisher Terminal, providing a 20 - 30 minute service between 0600 and 1800 then hourly until 0100 (all night at weekends) and at 0500 (timetables and fares from 1300 655 822 or [www.perishercom.au](http://www.perishercom.au)). Free short and long term car parking are available at Bullocks Flat. Trolleys are available for your baggage and there is a service elevator at Perisher Centre to help you to and from the platform level. Skitube also connects Perisher with Blue Cow (free to those holding a lift pass) for those wishing to ski the Blue Cow Guthega area.

For those not coming by car, Greyhound Pioneer operate a Snowfields Express Coach service from Sydney via Canberra; for details and bookings call their Australia wide central reservations on 13 14 99 for the cost of a local call. Aeropelican Airlines (0249289600) operates between Sydney (Kingsford Smith) and Cooma (Snowy Mountains Airport) (64525999). A Snowy Mountains Airport Shuttle service to the snowfields meets most flights - call 02-6452 4455. From the Perisher Terminal to the Lodge it's "shank's pony" or Hans Oversnow. For the latter, book at the desk in the Terminal on arrival or call (02) 6457 5334: but be warned, there is a hefty 'call out' fee between 0030 and 0630. Prices for Hans Oversnow are \$15 per person each way. The call out fee is \$44.

The lodge is equipped with blankets, doonas and pillows, so you need only bring sheets, pillow cases and towels, food, drink and personal belongings. There is adequate day-to-day storage for foodstuffs and drinks, with a numbered cupboard in the kitchen for each cabin, communal refrigerators and a freezer. The kitchen is well equipped for gourmet chefs or camp cooks.

Your assistance and co-operation is sought in helping new members settle in, doing your share of the communal chores and cleaning. A full lodge is usually a happy one so you will be encouraged to join in and contribute.

### *Chores*

This club and its lodges functions on the basis that members and guests do communal "chores" within the lodges. This helps to defray costs. To ensure the burden of chores is shared, a Task Board is to be found in the kitchen. This will let members and guests know what tasks are expected of them.

The Manager will fill out the Task Board. If you are in doubt about anything just ask the Manager or a more experienced member; it's a friendly place.

### *On Leaving*

You are requested to vacuum and clean your room. Unused foodstuffs must be cleared from the kitchen cupboards, refrigerator and freezer, and either taken home, put in the rubbish bins, or if appropriate, left for 'community' use.

### *Shopping in the Valley*

A supermarket/liquor store in the Perisher Skitube terminal is open in winter only. Orders can be placed by phone and delivered to the Lodge for a small fee. Telephone (02) 6457 5555. In summer, bring all your food and drink with you or shop in Jindabyne, 33km down the hill. Also in winter only, there are a Medical Centre, newsagent cum video hire, pharmacy and shops selling skiing equipment, clothing, souvenirs and jewelry.

### *Entertainment*

In winter, in addition to the many daytime fast food outlets catering for skiers and day trippers there are several good restaurants open in the evening and live action is often to be found in the pubs and bars. In summer it is very quiet!

### **Driving in the snow [excerpts from the NPWS website]**

Driving in the snow requires all your attention and can often cause tiredness, particularly when conditions demand a high level of concentration. Remember to be patient and enjoy your trip. The snow isn't going anywhere in a hurry - so why should you?

When driving in snowy or icy conditions, leave double the normal distance between you and the car in front. Don't break hard and avoid sharp steering movements: stopping on icy roads takes a lot longer. The speed limit in many areas of Kosciuszko National Park is reduced to 80 km/h during winter. Take extra care around snow ploughs. They may be operating on the wrong side of the road and are not easily manoeuvrable.

To protect your vehicle ensure that your radiator has effective antifreeze. If in doubt, have your service station perform an electrolyte test. If you drive a diesel vehicle you will need a 'winter' diesel mix. Winter mix has special additives which stop the fuel freezing. If you still have plenty of fuel in your tank on arrival in the mountains, it may be sufficient to top it up and run the vehicle for 10 to 20 minutes. Check with a local service station.

Some helpful tips for safe motoring on the snow can be found on the following websites:

- NRMA

- Roads and Maritime Services.

### *Snow chains*

It is compulsory to carry properly-fitting snow chains if you are driving a two wheel- drive vehicle between 1 June to 10 October on the following roads:

- Kosciuszko Road beyond Sawpit Creek
- the Alpine Way between Thredbo and Tom Groggin
- the Island Bend/Guthega Road for its full length

Snow chains should be fitted as directed by NPWS, RTA and Police officers. 4WD vehicles do not need to carry snow chains.

Chains may also be required in certain weather conditions on the Alpine Way between Jindabyne and Thredbo and the Kosciuszko Road below Sawpit Creek. Check road conditions before you travel.

Chains can be hired at many service stations and ski hire shops in the region. Note: The RTA and NPWS do carry out RANDOM checks to see if you are carrying chains. \$300 fine.

### *Check road conditions*

- To check road conditions on Kosciuszko Road, the Alpine Way and other RTA-managed roads, visit the RMS's South/South-West Traffic Reports webpage.
- To check conditions and closures on roads managed by the NPWS, contact the Kosciuszko National Park office or visit the Kosciuszko National Park fire, flood and park closure information webpage.

The road from Khancoban to Cabramurra, and many of the park's minor roads, are closed in winter.

Updated June 2012

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## THREDBO LODGE



The Thredbo Lodge is in Bobuck Lane, immediately behind the fire station and Service Station. The shops and restaurants in the village are a three minute walk from the lodge. The chairlifts are also within easy walking distance.

Thredbo is a year round resort. Outside the ski season, there is bush walking (Mt Kosciuszko is 1.5 hours walk away), mountain biking, horse riding, white water rafting, fishing, Alpine Slide, Olympic swimming pool (indoors), tennis, and more.

### *Getting to Thredbo*

If going by car, Thredbo is 2.5 hours drive from Canberra and 6 hours from Sydney and Melbourne. Chains can be hired in Jindabyne or Thredbo if required. It is recommended that you wait until necessary to hire them as it is not compulsory to

carry them.

As the lodge is located in Kosciuszko National Park, you will have to pay park use fees.

- In the winter season (from the beginning of the June long weekend to the end of the October long weekend), vehicle entry fees in Kosciuszko National Park increase.
- An annual (covering Kosciuszko National Park) can be obtained from NPWS with a reduced rate for Seniors Card holders.

If you want more information about Park Entry Fees go to <http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/passes-and-fees>

**Parking at the entrance is for drop off and pick up only. Please vacate the area within 15 minutes so that other guests may use it. Long stay parking is a five minute walk from the lodge.**

For those not coming by car, Aeropelican flies to Cooma Airport. Flights depart daily.

### **Snowy Mountains Airport Shuttles**

Phone: 02 6452 4455

Operated by Snowlink, Snowy Mountains Airport Shuttles meet every Aeropelican flight with shuttles direct to and from Perisher.

## **Canberra International Airport**

Tel. 02 6209 3336 (recorded information)

Canberra Airport is a 2.5 hour drive from Perisher and a 40 minute flight from Sydney. Canberra International Airport is located about 7 kilometres (10 mins) from the city centre.

Regular connections are available to and from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth by both Qantas and Virgin Blue. For Airport transfers to and from the Snowy Mountains call 1300 655 811.

- Qantas - Tel. 13 13 13
- Virgin Blue - Tel. 13 67 89

### *Facilities*

There are 34 beds at the lodge; 13 two bed rooms, 1 three bed room and 1 five bed room. The rooms are quite small and there are no double beds, however there is space for storing clothes etc. The lodge is equipped with blankets, doonas and pillows, so you need only bring sheets, pillow cases and towels, food, drink and personal belongings

There are 10 bathrooms, each with its own shower and toilet and 4 also contain a bath. The lodge is centrally heated and there is a large fireplace in the spacious living room. There is also a TV room with a video machine provided. Laundry and drying room facilities are well catered for and there is a ski locker/boot locker room for secure storage.

There is adequate day-to-day storage for foodstuffs and drinks, with a numbered cupboard in the kitchen for each cabin, and there is plenty of fridge space for the entire lodge in communal refrigerators. The lodge is self-catering and the large communal kitchen is complete with utensils, cutlery, crockery etc. There are microwaves, gas stoves/ovens, toasters, kettles etc. As with all communal activities, consideration for other members is important.

Your assistance and co-operation is sought in helping new members settle in, doing your share of the communal chores and cleaning. A full lodge is usually a happy one so you are encouraged to join in and contribute.

### *Access*

The lodge is open for some periods in summer which are advised on the website with live-in managers. Check in with the manager on arrival.

### *On Leaving*

As the lodge runs on a communal basis, you are required to leave the lodge as you would wish to find it. This means cleaning the kitchen and common areas behind you. Unused foodstuffs must be cleared from the kitchen cupboards and refrigerator and either taken home, put in the rubbish bins, or, if appropriate, left for community use.

### *Summer Bookings*

Summer is most enjoyable in Thredbo and special events include mountain bike races, runners' week, art exhibitions, Blues Festival, Jazz Festival, World Music Festival, Shakespeare weekends etc. Book by calling the Booking Officer on (02) 6295 6634.

### *Driving in the snow*

(Excerpt from the NPWS website)

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Chains can be hired at many service stations and ski hire shops in the region.

*Check road conditions*

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- The road from Khancoban to Cabramurra, and many of the park's minor roads, are closed in winter.

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## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE RAN SKI CLUB

The history of The R.A.N. Ski Club starts in the early 1950s and is the story of its members. From this short account it will be obvious that the story of the Club, its development over the years, and its continuation today is one of a labour of love of past and present members. It is a Club that thrives on the foresight and faith of its founding members, and the preparedness of members to become involved, then and now, in either management or through the provision of the labour which is essential to the development and maintenance of its assets. These assets comprise three lodges, one each at Mount Buller, in Perisher Valley and Thredbo Village, and a block of land in Jindabyne. Interest in skiing as a sport for members of the RAN began before World War II with a number of young men serving with the Royal Navy. Winter leave was frequently used to ski in Europe.

Although interest in skiing in Australia developed rapidly in the post War years with the arrival of many European migrants, it was in Europe that the idea for an R.A.N. Ski Club originated. The pre-commissioning crew of the old aircraft carrier HMAS SYDNEY was in the United Kingdom standing by the new ship. Following an expedition of ship's company personnel to the Austrian Alps, some young officers were inspired with the idea of forming a Club. They met in the ship's Gunnery Officer's cabin in September 1951. Three of them, Guy Griffiths, Phillip Stevenson and Geoff Hood, after reaching the conclusion that a Club was a possibility, developed the idea. A further meeting at Naval Headquarters in 1952 showed there was sufficient support to get it going.

The R.A.N. Ski Club came into existence officially, with the publication of Commonwealth Navy Order No. 50 on 3 February 1953. This stated that a Ski Club had been formed with the title "Royal Australian Navy Ski Club". The aims of the Club, as set out in this CNO, were:

- To gather all those in the Navy who had skied at one time or another, or who were interested in skiing in the future, for their mutual benefit and for the encouragement of skiing as a Naval sport.
- To collect information regarding skiing facilities in the Australian, New Zealand and Japanese areas.
- To assist in the organisation of skiing parties.
- To form a Naval ski team to represent the Service.

Early difficulties with office bearers being absent at sea led to the involvement of members of the Reserves who today continue to provide great support.

Without their own accommodation initially, Club members relied on the goodwill of other clubs with facilities at Mount Buller. The acquisition of austere accommodation occurred in 1956 when the Club was fortunate enough to acquire a partially completed building at

Breathtaker Point, Mount Buller, for \$4,400. Without a cent with which to clinch the deal, but with the certainty that it was on to a good thing, the Committee bought the building. A loan of \$2,000 was obtained from the Central Canteens Fund and the balance was made up in the form of debentures from members and Club subscriptions.

The Club then entered a period of consolidation after its first acquisition, with efforts directed at making the hut fit for night time shelter. Working parties in early 1956 constructed stone walls, added a kitchen, changing room and water supply.

As membership steadily increased professional assistance was called in to convert the hut into a lodge. New sleeping areas and showers were added and a massive new fireplace and gas lamps gave Breathtaker a character of its own.

The Club had long realised, that although Mount Buller offered a wonderful introduction to skiing for Naval personnel, it was difficult for those serving in the Fleet or in the Sydney Area to make use of Breathtaker. Moreover, many skiers were 'birdmen' to whom HMAS ALBATROSS at Nowra, was home. Further, the return of the Naval College to Jervis Bay, the establishment of the Apprentice Training Establishment (HMAS NIRIMBA) at Quakers Hill, and the movement of a large part of Navy Office to Canberra, shifted the focus away from the Victorian snowfields to the Kosciusko National Park.

Following much debate in 1962 over the benefits of locating a new lodge in Thredbo or Perisher, the decision was made easy. The R.A.N. Ski Club was invited to inspect the last remaining sites for allocation for club lodges in Perisher Valley. Guy Griffiths who had done the spade work with the Kosciusko State Park Trust, and Graham Wright who was performing his last action as a Club official before leaving the Active List of the RAN, walked the sites and opted for the one on which our Perisher Valley lodge now stands.

Once again the Club faced the problem of financing the building of a lodge, this time without the option of starting with a modest structure and by dint of ingenuity developing it into a worthwhile asset. The conditions imposed by the NSW Government and the Kosciusko State Park Trust required a building of the highest quality, properly sited, and constructed to withstand the worst weather that Perisher was capable of inflicting.

Guy Griffiths and Geoff Hood were given the tasks of selecting an architect, a builder, and raising the necessary finance. Once again the Central Canteens Committee was prepared to back the opinion of the Ski Club with a gift of \$7,000 and a repayable loan of \$11,000. The Commonwealth Bank lent \$4,000 and \$10,000 came from Club Funds. With a contract for \$32,000 tremendous enthusiasm, and the support of an understanding wife, Guy Griffiths undertook the project. The Lodge was open for business in time for the 1964 season, the biggest year for snow in Perisher's history. With the assets of the Club growing and with their value increasing, it became increasingly difficult to appoint new trustees for the property every time a Club official received a new posting. It was decided to incorporate the Club as a nonprofit making company. A Sub-Committee, of which Geoff Hood, Rae Sinclair and Peter Cooper were the members, was formed to draft the memorandum and articles of association. The Minister for Defence, the Hon. Athol Townley, on 21 November 1963, consented to the use, by the RAN Ski Club, of the letters RAN. In the title of The R.A.N. Ski Club, subject to the condition that the Club remain under the control of serving members of the RAN.

Club members' enthusiasm for better conditions has never ceased. In 1973 Perisher added two cabins and a rumpus room. The next major undertaking, which started in 1975 was the extension of Breathmaker by 24 berths. A feature of these tasks was to exploit the self-help attitude of members who cleared sites, did the preliminary work and fitting out. However, it was clear that yet more bunks were needed for Navy skiers. The Club membership was rising each year, and the dropout rate was going down. Skiing was fast becoming the in-thing and sailors were not to be left behind. Jindabyne presented itself as a place for future expansion, with easy access to Thredbo for day skiing, and reasonable access to Perisher Valley and Guthega.

The 1979 Annual General Meeting agreed the need for a small lodge or large house with not less than 12 bunks and capable of expansion to 35. Again, following much hard work to raise sufficient funds, the Club purchased Halgapa Lodge at East Jindabyne for \$135,000. It consisted of three self-contained units on a very large block of land with a water frontage to Lake Jindabyne and magnificent mountain views. After ten years this very popular lodge was sold in 1990 and the proceeds invested in a large block of land in the heart of Jindabyne. Difficulties with the local government over zoning regulations had prompted this decision.

In the meantime, Breathmaker Lodge was virtually rebuilt to a guest capacity of 60 beds, and was reopened in 1984 by the Governor of Victoria. In April 2000, after long negotiations, the Club purchased the Army Alpine Lodge at Thredbo Village. The lodge, built in the late 1960's and renovated in the early 1990's, has 35 beds and operates year round. The acquisition of this lodge added long sort after additional low cost comfortable accommodation in the NSW snow fields.

Although much of the RAN Ski Club history is associated with the development of facilities for Navy skiers and their families, its prime goal has been promotion of the sport of skiing in the RAN. To this end it has been closely associated with the conduct of interservice skiing since its inception in 1966. The competition consisted of downhill events only until 1977 when Cross Country (or Nordic) Skiing was added, the Club providing financial support for the Navy team training. After a trial run in 1979 by Rick McMaster and Des Carney, another major milestone in Navy skiing was achieved in 1980 when an Australian Defence Force team led by Ken Green traveled to Europe to participate in the British Services International Ski Championships. Australia has been represented each year since, and British Services teams have become regular visitors to Australia. Similarly, since 1985, Navy Cross Country skiers have participated in Army-led ski mountaineering exercises in the USA, appropriately called "Cold Comfort" and "High Sierra", and many Club members have now experienced these adventure training exercises.

In 1991 an Australian Defence Force Cross Country Ski Team, which included Club members Ralph Loeding, Mike McCourt, Mark Purcell and Mal Taylor, contested the British National and British-Army-on-the-Rhine Championships in Germany; it is hoped that this also will continue to be an annual event.

Late in 1992, Ian MacDougall, member, Patron and Chief of Naval Staff, gave approval for the Club to fly the Australian White Ensign at the Club's lodges. The historic unfurling took place at both Perisher and Mount Buller on Saturday 10 July 1993.

Today the Club is strong and mature with over 1150 enthusiastic members. Its facilities are second to none and feature comfortable low cost accommodation in the snow. The atmosphere is warm, friendly and relaxing, and reflects the first rule of the founding fathers:

"Leave rank and rate outside the gate."

Adventure, exhilaration and fun on the top of Australia: cementing old friendships and making new ones: these are what our Club is all about!

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

FOR USE AFTER RENEWING MEMBERSHIP - NOT AT THE SAME TIME AS RENEWING

MEMBER NUMBER	
NAME	
OLD POSTAL ADDRESS: STREET	
CITY	
STATE POSTCODE	

NEW POSTAL ADDRESS: STREET	
CITY	
STATE POSTCODE	
TELEPHONE (W) ( ) (H) ( )	

BACKUP ( IF CHANGED):	
STREET	
CITY	
STATE POSTCODE	

Please send to:  
The Membership Secretary  
The R.A.N. Ski Club  
PO Box 3484  
Manuka ACT 2603

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