



Burrumbeep News

Volume 1, Issue 3

July 2008

It's Snowing!!!

...In a serious way!

Hello and welcome to the third edition of the Burrumbeep News.

Who would have thought a blizzard could be such a blessing? But at last Victoria's hills are alive with the sound of snow play.

Hothamites last weekend were rejoicing at the sight of snow following such a dry start to the season.

A miserable week of squalls and rain in Melbourne meant bountiful snowfall on the Victorian Alps- the only thing that got me through the gloom and doom of Melbourne!

With over 1metre of cover on the slopes it is snowing as this newsletter goes to print! All lifts are open and whole resort will be at your disposal with The Orchard and Keogh's just opened and new tracks at the tip of your ski's.

Gearing up for the height of the season ski bunnies and rabbits have been enjoying fresh powder every morning for the last week- if that doesn't tempt you I don't know what will!

So if you can wangle a couple of days off go and release some of that pent up day to day boredom down some perfectly groomed slopes and if your already booked in- GET EXCITED!

- George



BOOKINGS FOR 2008 SEASON

Bookings can be taken via two methods:

- I. Phone Booking Secretary Darren on Wednesday nights between 8 and 10pm.
- II. Visit our booking website to see what is available and book your sensational skiing holiday.

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~dazdani@ozemail.com.au>

Rates are as follows:

GUESTS: LOW SEASON: \$40 per night
HIGH SEASON: \$50 per night

MEMBERS AND DEBENTURE HOLDERS
ALL SEASON: \$20.00 per night

Low Season- 7-27 June & 15-28 September (inclusive)
High Season- 28 June- 14 Sept (Inclusive)

If you have a funny Hotham story, adventure or some inside information you would like to see in the Burrumbeep News please email George at: georgie_elr@hotmail.com

QUICK BUT IMPORTANT INFO

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFO

Memberships for sale are available exclusively to members' immediate families until the 31st of July.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to include your family in the distinguished traditions of the Burrumbeep Ski Club.

PARKING PERMITS

Please remember that the entrances to Hotham National Park close at 11pm at night so if you are making the dash after work to hit the slopes the following day you'll have to get up extra early and buy a car pass at head office before 10am in the morning or risk a hefty parking fine.

An Application Form can be downloaded from the Hotham website www.hotham.com.au or please call 03 5759 4444

DOOR CODE

The door code for the lock at the entrance door to the lodge is: **C56Y**

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

Please advise Darren (dazanddani@smartchat.net.au) of your email address and of any changes to your contact information as they occur.

The newsletter will be circulated via email to members whose email addresses are on the database.

All members will receive the newsletters by hard-copy, but if you would prefer to receive them only by email, please advise Darren Richter.

Please advise Darren of any changes to your mailing address, and phone contact details.

CANCELLATION POLICIES

- one month or more prior to arrival – total cost will be refunded
- two weeks prior to arrival – total cost less 50% will be refunded
- less than two weeks of arrival no refund (unless no snow)

Note: If at any stage the cancellation can be re-booked, total cost will be refunded

BURRUMBEEP COMMITTEE

President

John Tulloch- 9419 4324

Booking Secretary:

Darren Richter- 9885 6147

Membership Secretary:

Murray Elrington- 9882 6687

Treasurer:

Celia Gubbins- 53 521495

Work Party Officer:

Simon Dodd- 0409 520345

Peter Leeke- 53 562 343

Mike Kermode- 9808 6262

Jenny Peardon- 9563 6753

Annual Maintenance Levy

Please remember if you were unable to attend one of the work parties this year you are required to pay an annual levy of \$150. You will be unable to book if you are in arrears.

METHODS OF PAYING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE LEVY

1. Post cheque to Burrumbeep Ski Club,
P.O. Box 692, Ararat, 3377
2. Direct Payment to Burrumbeep Ski Club
BSB – 083-408
Acc. No. – 51 612 8435

Please notify Simon if you are able to help

swdodd@unimelb.edu.au

Mob, 0409 520 345

Home, 9384 1130

President's Corner.

Now that the season is in full swing, time now to reflect on a few aspects of life at the Lodge, and the amenity it provides for all our members and guests.

Building Security

We have posted a couple of signs on the main exit doors at the end of the passage near the flats and also on the door at the end of the top passage. During the Opening Weekend there were a couple of intruders wandering about inside the building at night-time – they had apparently come in through an unlocked door, and even went in to a room where people were sleeping!. It is very important that Fire Exit doors are securely locked at all times. These doors are not to be used as access points.

Club Etiquette

It is great that we have the flats for families to occupy especially when there are littlies included in your group, and when making bookings, it is hoped that families with very young kids are encouraged to make full use of the flats, therefore, being close to the TV/Play Room. People visit the lodge for many reasons (as well as skiing, of course), and sometimes they would like to have the opportunity to have a restful time away from the hurly-burly of everyday life. It is great to have kids at the Lodge and to enjoy their fun also, but everyone's wants should be considered and respected, so as a matter of general etiquette, it is best if kids and all the paraphernalia that goes with them – toys, DVD games etc should be encouraged to use the TV Room, as much as possible, which provides a cosy environment for their play.

I think the same goes for the 'big kids' also, with computers, and the Committee discussed some time back that usage of lap-tops should be in the lower lounge so the tables upstairs will not be taken over by paperwork, and so on. It is just a matter of being considerate to all concerned, so our behaviour does not impinge on others.

New Development

We have engaged a Consulting Engineer to do the necessary detailed designing and specifying for the bedrooms and the outside deck, and these preliminary drawings will be completed in a couple of weeks. We will then proceed to obtaining the Building Permit, so we will be in plenty of time to commence the project next summer.

New Heating System

The new boiler and upgraded heating system is working beautifully, and is now fully automated, so as soon as the power is turned on to the building, the system fires up. Ceal and Gubb did a great job in finding the plumber who was able to install the new system within 3 weeks of being contacted for the first time. Well done. Please do not attempt to make any adjustments at all to the boiler or hot water systems – they are all preset. Also the gas mains are not to be turned off at any time, so the pilot in the HWS can stay on at all times to keep the gas line fresh.

Here's hoping for a great season for Burrumbeep – ENJOY!

Cheers,
John Tulloch.



BARRY OLIVER FROM 'THE AUSTRALIAN' DISCUSSES MOUNTAIN DELIRIUM

MOUNTAIN delirium is easy to catch and hard to cure. It hit early this year, back in April when 30cm of snow was dumped on high ground, the biggest April fall in 35 years. People got excited, especially anyone with more than a passing interest in the Queen's Birthday weekend.

I started to listen more intently to weather forecasts of the long-range variety. Any mention of snow had me pricking up my ears and I started thumbing through ski deals. I realised then that the fever had struck, but I wasn't alone. It's contagious and friends who ski were also struck down, checking out weather reports, looking at snowfall charts, trying to divine the best time for a holiday on the slopes.

Staff at snow resorts were worst affected, firing off press releases of the ``it bodes well for the coming season'' variety on the arrival of a dusting or two. Then came the crunch decision, whether to book early or adopt a wait-and-see approach. The only time I ever risked an opening weekend visit -- at Falls Creek in Victoria -- it snowed a treat and I had a moment of fame on the television news, waving and whooping for the camera.

John Moore, Victoria's long-range weather forecaster, reckons we're in for an average snow season, though he now says early falls indicate it might be better than that. Whatever the weather gods decide, tens of thousands of hopefuls will make the pilgrimage to the snow before the season ends on October 6. The resorts, in NSW and Victoria, are ready and willing, having spent about \$25 million during the summer on improvements, mostly in the snow-making department.

BUT WHAT ABOUT HOTHAM?

What's new?

Snow-making has arrived at the resort's popular Heavenly Valley with the introduction of 14 permanent tower guns on runs such as Imagine, Milky Way and Snake Gully. The \$3.3 million scheme increases Mt Hotham's overall snow-making capacity from 17ha to 25ha and, good news for the environment, it's all powered by green energy. In another innovation, skiers and boarders who need to hire gear can register online at home, cutting waiting time at the resort.

Why go?

Hotham has its own airport, 20 minutes away, which makes for hassle-free access. The 320ha resort offers something for everyone with 35km of cross-country trails, night skiing on Wednesdays and Saturdays (children-only supervised sessions are new for this year), snowmobiles, dog-sled tours, tobogganing and ski-in, ski-out accommodation.

Don't miss...

Snowshoeing is also new. Take a lesson, grab a picnic and head for the high country; guided tours available. Or get a taste of kat-skiing (skiers are transported by tracked vehicles to areas not accessed by lifts): it's free if you hold a valid lift pass.

Best deal...

Hotham's Spring Fling offers savings of up to 50 per cent on lift passes, lessons and equipment hire. Kids ski free from September 12-28. Free Sunday afternoon skiing with a five-day lift pass.

For more info: 1800 468 426; www.hotham.com.au.



WHAT'S ON AT HOTHAM THIS MONTH

Board Like a Girl - From 05-07-2008 until 07-09-2008

An awesome program for females who want to take their riding to a new level. Running first Saturday and Sunday of July, August and September.

RAAF Games - From 30-07-2008 until 01-08-2008

We know that they are the best in planes, but what about on snow?

Pub to Pub Cross-Country Race - On 02-08-2008

One of the most traditional events at Hotham, well-supported by the cross-country community. A 12 kilometre race from The Genny to the Dinner Plain Hotel Pub.

Armed Forces Games - From 05-08-2008 until 07-08-2008

This event sees the navy, army and marines battle it out for on-snow supremacy.

ADVANCE Sled Dog Challenge - From 09-08-2008 until 10-08-2008

The only sled dog race in the country. Held at Dinner Plain!

FIS Easy Mac SBX Championships - From 09-08-2008 until 10-08-2008

Competitors race down a purpose-built snowboarder/skiercross course to see who reigns supreme when it comes to banks, berms and rollers.

Snowsports Spectacular - On 09-08-2008

Our best instructors put on a great show for the whole family!

Police Winter Games - From 12-08-2008 until 14-08-2008

Who is the best skier in the police force?

OME Rail Jam - On 16-08-2008

Now in its 6th year, you can see some of the best riders and skiers in the country compete to win a huge bevy of prizes. This year's event will take place in the Easy Mac Rail Park at the Basin.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO BURRUMBEEP

