



February 2024

NEWSLETTER

This **BIG** issue of our newsletter includes updates on the recent AGM; the results of our first member survey and the initiatives the committee is taking in response to what you told us. You'll also find everything you need to know about winter bookings including pricing and how we are going to manage bookings over the prized winter school holiday period. But before we get to winter, remember ...

Great Value, Summer and Autumn Stays at the Lodge

We have seen an upswing in summer bookings and little wonder as summer and autumn are great times to be at the lodge with fresh air, often clear skies and generally excellent weather conditions for walking, mountain biking or fishing down at Jindabyne.

In fact, forget hiking trips to Tasmania (!), and check out the "Snowys Alpine Walk", a multimillion dollar project that has created a number of day walks along excellent new tracks including Perisher to Charlotte Pass (13km) and Charlotte to Guthega along the Snowy River where you'll cross the Spencers Creek suspension bridge where the Spencer Creek and Snowy River meet. It's sensational countryside even when not covered in snow!

\$33
PER NIGHT



Source: NPWS

Staying at the lodge is incredible value for money for both members and guests. you can make whole or part week bookings. [Adult members \$33 per night; guests \$66 per night].

And remember, you can drive up and park right outside.

AGM

The annual general meeting was held on 13 February at Gordon with two new directors joining the committee – Krista Mentjox and Mark Seibold. Krista has been a lifelong member of the lodge and Mark is a lawyer and long-term club member who has been incredibly helpful at past working bees. [Ed: Not surprisingly, Rod Lemon has him tagged as his new apprentice!]

Discussions included future planning for the club, the results of the member survey from November and upcoming maintenance work. The AGM is also a great opportunity to socialise with other members, and we encourage any members to come along and catch up.

Treasurer Phil Carden gave a positive update on our financial position – a full set of reports is available, just email treasurer@kpsc1861.org.au if you would like a copy.

Working Bee

THE NEXT WORKING BEE WILL BE HELD ON THE WEEKEND AFTER EASTER - 5,6,7 AND 8TH APRIL 2024. IF YOU ARE FREE, PLEASE COME AND HELP. PETROL EXPENSES ARE COVERED BY THE CLUB, AND WITH NPWS PASS YOU CAN PARK OUTSIDE THE LODGE BUT YOU MUST PROVIDE ROD LEMON WITH YOUR CAR REGO AT LEAST 3 WEEKS BEFORE TO GET FREE PARK ENTRY. NO RV'S OR ELECTRIC CARS AS NO ABILITY TO PLUG IN. JUST LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE. WORKINGBEE@KPSC.ORG.AU

VALE NORMAN W CLARKE



One of our legendary life members, Norman Clarke died in December 2023 and the news saddened many committee members. It was through Norman's efforts that Kiandra Pioneer Ski Club was officially recognised as the oldest ski club in the world. His book, "Kiandra - Gold Fields to Ski Fields" remains one of the most comprehensive books documenting the beginning of skiing in Australia. Norman had a great love for Kiandra and a dedication to the development of the club and the lodge for future generations.

Steve Illek, president, KPSC 1861 said, "He was a big part of Kiandra Pioneer Ski Club (1861), a valued Member and we owe him a great deal of gratitude for all the effort he personally made to secure the "World's Oldest Ski Club" status. His tenacity writing the book "Kiandra - Goldfields to Ski Fields" will live on as his legacy to KPSC (1861). I enjoyed his stories and great sense of loyalty to our Club and he will be sadly missed."



SURVEY RESULTS:

IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who completed the member survey late last year. Your feedback informed the full day planning session by committee members in November 2023 that looked at improvements needed for the 2024 season, and longer term (five and 10 year) plans and potential changes to the club itself.

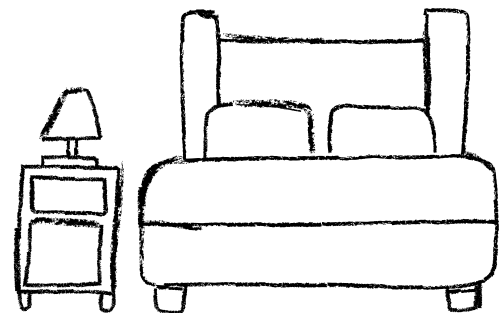
Most members are happy with the lodge and value for money with most of us rating it **four or five stars for the price paid**, however there was also feedback about improvements people would like to see.

While there no plans to install a hot tub at the moment (!) there were some clear and consistent recommendations that we are actioning before the start of this winter season, while others will be rolled out in the next 12-24 months.

We are mindful of the need to make the best use of the limited space within the lodge – whether this is storage, layouts or bed configurations.

Cleaning

In addition to cleaning undertaken by volunteers at working bees, the lodge will be professionally and thoroughly cleaned before the start of and at the end of the winter season. While a small number of people (about 25 per cent) told us they would like to have professional cleaning at the end of each stay, right now others are telling us they are happy to keep cleaning.



Bedrooms

There will be new, improved bedside lighting above each bed and removal of the current wall lamps as well as new power points, ensuring every room has easily accessible sockets and mobile charging. We're also adding new pillows and doonas.

In the 12 to 24 months, we will be replacing the mattresses and/or beds in each room to make them more comfortable and practical in terms of storage and space. In addition, we are also looking more broadly at the issue of storage – wardrobe and drawers.

Lounge/Dining Room

We are currently investigating the cost of new foam and webbing with an upholsterer for this year, as well as seat cushions for the main dining table that better fit.

New cushions will be added, as well as improvements to rug under the dining table.

There will be **no TV** – most people told us they prefer the lodge without a TV and people can bring their own screen and watch in their room. **WIFI** is also off the list as it is felt most people have adequate mobile phone coverage and can hot-spot to their devices.



General Maintenance

Squeaky floorboards came up as an issue for many members! Rod Lemon has assured the committee this will be investigated, and we are hopeful a quiet and affordable solution can be found so we can all sleep well!

Kitchen

Immediate improvements to the kitchen will include a **new oven** (timing dependent on installation availability) and new **lighting**.

New fridge freezers - at least one will be replaced in October this year, possibly both.

We are also looking at the configuration to add a **second dishwasher**.

A couple of people asked for a **coffee machine** – in fact, there is one, just BYO pods.

Booking System

As requested by several people – particularly those wishing to secure school holiday bookings – we have opened the winter season earlier than usual this year.

Next Survey

We will be conducting the survey again in late 2024 to find out what members think and how we can improve the club and the running of the lodge. If you want to have a say, please make sure you keep an eye out for the survey OR join the committee and **get involved**.

SOCIAL!

We would love to get more members together (outside of time spent at the lodge), so the committee is planning an all-ages **FREE social event in October** (date TBC). Please keep an eye out for details in future newsletters and/or emails.

**MEMBER SINCE 1994, 2014?
ARE YOU UP-TO-DATE?
PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL YOUR
CONTACT DETAILS - EMAIL,
PHONE, MAILING ADDRESS - ARE
UP TO DATE ON OUR DATABASE.
IT'S EASY TO FORGET TO DO THIS
FOR KPSC WHEN WE CHANGE
JOBS OR MOVE, SO IF YOU
HAVEN'T UPDATED YOUR
DETAILS FOR A WHILE PLEASE
LOG IN AND DO THIS AND
REMIND ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS
TO CHECK THEIR DETAILS TOO.
WWW.KPSC.ORG.AU**

WINTER *Bookings*

Winter bookings open for members from 6am on Friday 1 March through our online system. At this time members will be able to make one winter season booking (one whole week) for themselves and other members (not guests) and limited to three rooms per family.

Please make sure you can log in and access the booking page and know how to select rooms and dates, before the opening date.

The whole winter season from Friday 6 June 2024 until Monday 7 October 2024 will be available to be booked.

Please be respectful of others and don't book the NSW public school holiday weeks from **Saturday 6 July until Saturday 20 July**, unless you are a member with children who can't come during the school term or a teacher in a similar situation. Please try to fill each room with two people.

From 6am Friday 5 April 2024 members will be able to make whole week bookings for members and guests. Guests may only stay when the member making the booking is also staying.

From 6am Saturday 25 May 2024 bookings can be made for any part of a week up to 7 days.

Allocation of beds through the online system is on a first come, first in basis, however the booking officer can and may decide with consultation to reallocate rooms. Payment by credit or debit card will be required immediately at the end of the booking process to confirm each booking.



Peak season accommodation charges including GST for one week, 7 nights:

Adult member \$700

Youth member \$490

Junior member \$350

Infant member \$0 but must occupy a cot or a trundle

Adult non-member \$1400

Youth non-member \$980

Junior non-member \$560

Infant non-member \$63

For part week bookings rates will be daily pro-rata.

