



Wombats Run News Letter

March 2019

President's Report: Jeff Maher

Well, the past twelve months have flown!

The Merrijig Residents Action Group which incorporated the Victoria Police Alpine Club, were successful at a lengthy VCAT process and hearing to prevent the establishment of a Rock Extraction quarry only a couple hundreds of metres from the rear of the lodge. Your committee worked tirelessly to prevent this possible destruction of the serenity. A special thanks goes to Chris Wren QC for his outstanding efforts for MRAG.

Kane and Amanda Lovick our caretakers/cleaners/grounds persons have been a great success for the Club. Kane and Amanda are dedicated, attentive and available.

The Lodge is now splendidly decked out with a new open kitchen and appliances with thanks to Andrew from Equine Constructions. The Pool table has been recovered. New lounge suites have been placed in the games room. Three decommissioned Mt. Buller lift chairs have been purchased and adapted to become novel seats.

The Al fresco area is finished. The workshop has been cleaned and organised. Security cameras have been fitted in an effort to prevent further theft of firewood and our water pumps. A new power switchboard has been fitted.

A defibrillator has been placed in the lodge.

The membership application and renewal process has been streamlined to now include Online Bank transfers. The VPAC website will be upgraded with contemporary photos and information.

Last but not least by any stretch of the imagination. The whole of lodge has been painted inside and out. Including the roof with thanks to Andrew Foley and his team at AMF Coatings. It looks fantastic, with great feedback from members and guests. New signs and numbers have been added to the contemporary look. Many thanks goes to Anthea Putt interior design.

The lounge suite in the main room is in the process of being recovered.

Presidents' report

Strategic direction

Regular Reminders

Dates to remember

*Important Booking
Information*

Guest Requirements

Membership Renewal

AGM Agenda

Proxy

So as you can see the VPAC committee have been very hard at work. Please enjoy the fruits of the Committees efforts.

Warm regards

Jeff Maher, President VPAC

Strategic Direction of Lodge

The committee continues to refer to and update the Strategic Direction document for the lodge. The purpose of this “living document” is to ensure that robust governance and a vision is maintained for the lodge for the generations to come.

The Vision statement of this document sets out that the document has been developed to ensure that the Victoria Police Alpine Club continues to remain a viable and enjoyable facility for the generations to come of members and guests.

So please contact the committee via our Feedback page <http://vpski.com/assets/Feedbackform.html> or [Click Here](#) if you have any ideas or suggestions.

Firewood

Firewood was obtained late last year due to an early availability from our supplier. This means we will not have to source wood this April as in previous years.

As mentioned in the Presidents report we have had to install security cameras to prevent bulk theft of our wood supplies. The storage garage is now permanently locked during the warmer months. Whilst our supply is currently plentiful we do remind you that it is not infinite so please be sparing when you use the lodge during the winter periods. Please remember that the wood does cost the club and consider how much you are going through. There is no need to stack the fireplace to keep it burning all day long if you intend to be out all day. With the split Aircon and the fireplace the lodge does heat up quickly.

Painting of the lodge

The lodge has received a full makeover with painting inside and out, including the three tones of colorbond roofing receiving a new coat of non toxic / food grade paint. The results exceeding our expectations.





Tricolour roof that showed the various extensions due to fading is now one colour.



The rustic outdoor area has been further enhanced with weathered timber panels, Wine barrels (bolted down) for tables and not in this picture three renovated quad chairs from Mt Buller Ski Lift.



Regular reminders when you are “At the Lodge”

The Committee values feedback from members on any aspect of club activities. Please advise a member of the committee if there are any problems that require immediate attention.

Members and guests

The Committee takes your responsibilities to others and to the club seriously, so please be vigilant and remember that our Caretaker checks the lodge after each group, so if you don't do the right thing we know.

Remember:

- All members and guests **MUST** complete the sign in book on arrival; this is a requirement of our liquor license and our Auditors.
- Vacate your room by 10am. Leave your luggage in the laundry or drying room if you will be returning to the lodge that day.
- Remember to turn off heaters and any electrical appliances, before you leave for the day.
- Guests, members or groups leaving the lodge in an unclean state will be invoiced for cleaning charges. Repeat offenders will be required to pay a forward bond on their bookings.
- **All other rubbish should be taken down on a daily basis to the bins at the front gate and on departure** from the lodge. Kitchen rubbish bins are accessed from outside.
- The council has provided recycling bins, so members and guests are reminded to put out your recyclable bottles, cans and plastics in the bins. Do NOT put **NAPPIES in the recycle bin.** (This is both a health hazard and just revolting)

CLEANING OF THE LODGE

Whilst the clear majority of club members and guests leave the lodge clean on departure, occasionally people do not fulfil their obligations. One of the reasons the cost of accommodation is kept so low is due to members doing the right thing thus reducing our need for professional cleaning. We are all aware that some guests do not do the right thing. If you attend the lodge and it is not up to scratch then obviously you are going to be annoyed at the last guests. Please do not be one of those guests. If the lodge needs to be cleaned professionally after your departure you will be invoiced for these costs.

If you are staying for several nights you are obliged to keep the lodge neat, tidy and clean on a continual basis. Leaving dirty dishes and unwashed glasses etc until the next day is not acceptable. The lodge is equipped with two dishwashers so pack them and set them going before bed. Guests arriving to find the lodge in a mess is not acceptable.

Dates to Remember 2019 www.vpski.com/Calendar/dates.html

Annual General Meeting – Monday 6th May, 8pm,

Mulgrave Club corner of Wellington Road and Jells Road Mulgrave. A Bistro is available for dinner prior to the meeting. Love to see you there! The agenda for 2019 is at the end of this newsletter.

*New committee members and ideas are always welcome.
If you are interested contact any member of committee.* (as below)

Club Working Bee

After Season working bee and general maintenance dates to be advised after the AGM.

How often do you say to yourself and friends “the lodge is just like my own holiday home”? Well like a holiday home it does take some maintenance.



2019



*****Club annual Lake Albacutya (Big Desert)
camping trip is on*****

Camping trip (Queens Birthday weekend)
8th – 11th June

Last year due to unforeseen circumstances the camping weekend was cancelled. It is definitely on this year.

Pencil it in your dairies now. We have in the past had an extraordinary response and commitment to this annual camping trip and it is an excellent venue for kids and a tremendous getaway for the whole family, relax at the campsite, 4x4 or trail ride through Big Desert.

Contact John Blaikie on 0421 634335 for further details.

Club 4 X 4 Trip 2019

The club held its March 4 X 4 trip on the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd of March. This was well attended with a number of dedicated four wheel drivers doing their very best to navigate some difficult terrain and visit some the famous mountain cattleman huts in the high country.

If you feel you would like to attend one of these trips we can cater for the novice or the more adventurous. Give John Blaikie a call on 0421 634335 and if we get enough requests we will run another before the end of the year.

Committee 2018-2019

All positions fall vacant at the AGM on Monday May 7, 2018, anyone wanting to become part of the vibrant team that keeps the club running is more than welcome to contact any of the following committee members and find out what it is about.

President,	Jeff Maher	0419 746 411
Vice President,	John Blaikie	0421 634 335
Booking Manager,	Adrian Healy	0417 568 523
Treasurer,	Tania Allatt	0409 492 610
Secretary,	Robyn Garrett	03 9738 0767
Assistant Secretary,	Harry Hayes	

Committee Members:

Mike Turner	0419 576 712
Mandy Finegan	0403 324 055
Bek Gunther	0439 773 877
Lewis Rapley-Smith	0435 519 721
Brian Jones	0400 345 390

Changed your email address

If you have changed your email please include the new one on the membership renewal form. Email is our preferred method of contact however this March newsletter is sent to all members' via email and your postal address.

The Plug page

Check our website to support our [members](http://www.vpski.com/Links/index.html) and their business (www.vpski.com/Links/index.html)
Please contact the committee if you would like your business to be linked to from our website.

Local activities

□ **Mansfield** - www.mansfieldmtbuller.com.au/

Chances are when you plan a weekend at the Lodge there will be something happening in Mansfield. If you want to keep up to date with "What's On in Mansfield" Try this website it may help you plan your next visit.

• **Merrijig**

Keep abreast of What's happening in Merrijig with the Merrijig Community Newsletter. Available as its supplied and posted on our website, newsletter page. Local events and news.

□ **Mt Buller** - www.mtbuller.com.au/

In Summer walk, hike run and bike

In Winter Ski, snowboard and latte – keep up to date on the Mt Buller website

Lodge Booking procedure and information for members and guests

Before you book please work out how many double & / or single beds you require, and how flexible your preferences are. You can complete the online booking request at any time via the web site links.

Online booking - use the link from the accommodation page

Step 1. Check Bed Availability via our Calendar link



(This calendar is designed to help you plan your stay at the lodge, confirmation is still required from the Booking Manager)

Step 2. "Submit your booking request" via the link and supply details to all relevant questions.

Step 3. The Booking Manager will confirm your booking.

Remember the Booking Manager is a voluntary position and the phones are not manned 24 hours a day.

PAYMENT METHODS

1. Cheque made out to the Victoria Police Alpine Club.(post to: Booking Manager, VPAC, 1 Moodie Place, St Kilda 3182 or P.O. Box 33, Blackburn South 3130)
2. Direct deposit to our co-op account (as advised on booking invoice)
3. Direct BSB deposit from another bank (Ask as advised on booking invoice)

If you do a Bank transfer please include a reference as follows

Name / date of accommodation e.g. Blaikie 04-04-2015

PLEASE NOTE

- Bed allocation is booked as tentative until the Booking Officer receives payment. **Payment for bookings is required within two weeks of making the booking** or if made at short notice less than two weeks from date of stay, then payment is required immediately.
- Names of **all persons attending** Lodge are to be given to the Booking Manager at the time the booking is made.
- Confirmation of bed allocation is displayed on notice board at Lodge and must be complied with.
- Vacating of rooms by 10am day of departure is required so incoming guest can unpack.

Lodge rooms

There are eight rooms in the lodge configured as follows. There are not guarantees that you will get the rooms you request, as it is at the discretion of the Booking Manager when fitting bookings into the lodge. Your allocated room may change between your booking and arrival and will be recorded on the allocation sheet at the lodge – however, it is worth visiting the website booking calendar to check before you leave home.

Room 1 – 4 single bunks

Room 2 – 2 double bunks

Room 3 - 2 double bunks

Room 4 – 2 double bunks and 2 single bunks

Room 5 – 2 single bunks

Room 6 - 2 double bunks and 2 single bunks

Room 7 – 1 queen bed

Room 8 - 2 double bunks and 2 single bunks

*****IMPORTANT GUEST REQUIREMENTS*****

The Victoria Police Alpine Club is run by volunteers and provides extremely cheap accommodation for our guests. Many hours are devoted freely to the upkeep of our premises by just a handful of members. We are not a serviced hotel or apartment and unfortunately not everyone leaves the lodge as they find it which has necessitated us employing expensive cleaning services. As such we feel we need to reinforce the following requirements.

In order to keep the accommodation rates down our guests are expected to play their part in keeping the lodge premises clean, tidy and in a condition you would wish to find on your arrival as a guest.

We require our guests to follow these simple guidelines prior to departing.

- Ensure that the bins under the kitchen bench (accessed from outside) are emptied on your departure and the plastic bin liners be replaced from the supply that is kept in the enclosure. Rubbish to be placed in the wheelie bins at the bottom of the drive. All glass, cardboard and plastic to be placed in the recycle wheelie bins on the back veranda of the lodge.
- Empty the waste paper bins in the kitchen and bathrooms and replace the plastic bin liners from the pantry supply when required. Rubbish to be placed in the wheelie bins at the bottom of the drive.
- Sweep the tiled areas of loose dirt and if required mop the tiled areas (including bath-rooms) with the equipment supplied in the laundry.
- Vacuum your room with the vacuum cleaners supplied and stored in the drying room and laundry.
- Turn off all electrical switches (including the kitchen urn) on departure.
- Keep the kitchen area and benches clean and sanitary by wiping them down with the cleaning equipment supplied under the sinks. Ensure you remove all food from fridges upon leaving as there may not be another guest for several days. Ensure nothing was spilled in the fridges.

The lodge is regularly inspected by our caretaker on departure of guests and if the lodge is found to be in a filthy state requiring a cleaner to be employed then this cost will be invoiced to the persons who left it in that condition.

If all our guests adhere to these simple tasks then we can avoid the expensive cleaning costs which we have had to pay in the past. If we have to continue to employ cleaners due to guests leaving the lodge filthy then we will unfortunately increase our rates accordingly.

Don't forget your renewal for 2019 - 2020

You can now renew your membership or apply for a new membership online.

Go to our home page at www.vpski.com or [Click Here](#) to go directly to our renewal form..

In the bottom right corner of the home page you will see the link to renew online. Alternatively we have also included in this newsletter the regular renewal page.

Don't forget if you have children who have turned 18 in the last year they are no longer covered by your family membership. They can become members in their own right, without the joining fee. They need only send in their details and annual payment.

Renewal of Membership for 2019-2020

Club members are reminded that annual subscriptions are **due by 1st April 2019**

If payment is not received **within one month** from this date your membership will lapse.

Please complete the renewal form below and forward together with your payment. **(If you have a regular payment from the Co-op we still require this form to be returned to maintain our records).**

* SINGLE - \$40.00

OR

Police / Associate (* circle applicable)

* FAMILY - \$50.00

*** Pls. indicate your privacy instructions - I wish my details to remain confidential – YES or NO ***

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ **(Pls. complete all areas to update our records)**

Telephone: Priv. _____ Bus. _____ Mob. _____

Priv. _____

Email: _____

Alt _____

please print
clearly

The VPAC respects members' privacy and will not divulge personal details including e-mail addresses to any other body/members without the individual's consent. E-mails to members will be forwarded BCC (blind carbon copy) so no other individual sees other e-mail addresses. E-mail is an essential communication method of the VPAC, ensuring timely distribution of information/messages and minimizing running costs to keep members' subscriptions down.

Associate member, **please state occupation:** _____

IMPORTANT: All Family memberships must complete the following:

Name of spouse or partner: _____

Name/s of dependent children under 18yrs

_____ Date of Birth: _____

_____ Date of Birth: _____

_____ Date of Birth: _____

- A **fully dependent** child **under 18 years** is included under the family membership

Payment method: (tick applicable)

- ☐ Police Credit - Regular payment form
- ☐ Direct deposit Police Co-op account **901006 s1**
- ☐ Bank transfer **BSB 704 230** Account **100 010 305**
- ☐ Cheque made payable to VPAC.
- ☐ Personal details notification only.

*****NOTE*** If making a direct deposit please ensure you reference your name otherwise it becomes an anonymous deposit.**

Please mail this completed form/s to: VPAC [Inc.]

PO Box 33

BLACKBURN SOUTH VIC 3130

Annual General Meeting Monday 6th May 2019

8.00pm

Place: The Mulgrave Club,
Corner Wellington Road & Jells Road Wheelers Hill

For apologies please contact any member of the committee

AGENDA :

- Welcome
 - Apologies
 - Minutes from the 2018 – 2019 AGM
 - Business Arising
 - Reports – President, Treasurer, Booking Manager,
 - General Business
- Election of 2019 – 2020 Committee of Management**
- Election of Auditor**

Nomination for Committee Members
May 2019 – May 2020

I, _____ current member of the V.P.A.C. would like to propose
_____ for a current position on the Committee of
Management of the V.P.A.C. from May 2019 to May 2020

Signature

Signature (Seconder)



VICTORIA POLICE ALPINE CLUB

Incorporated
ABN 927 949 311 34

P.O. Box 33 Blackburn South. Victoria. 3130
www.vpski.com



Proxy Voting Form

I, _____ being a financial member
of the Victoria Police Alpine Club for the year 2019 – 2020
appoint _____ or in his / her absence,
the chairperson, to be my proxy at the Victoria Police Alpine Club
Annual General Meeting to be convened on the 6th of May 2019
and to vote on my behalf on any Resolution and Election for the
incoming Committee of Management.

Signed: _____ Date: _____