



Wombats Run News Letter

Greetings club members. 2012 is well underway and the lodge is enjoying excellent patronage. March so far has an extraordinary number of “whole of lodge” bookings which hopefully reflects just how popular we are and what a wonderful location it is for a break.

We have a fairly full calendar of events this year to hopefully cater for the outdoor members. We have scheduled the usual 4x4 trips, some two wheeled trail bike trips and a four day camping trip over the Queens birthday long weekend at Lake Albucutya. This camping trip has been run three times now and has an excellent turnout and the kids love it. We have three working bees lined up that we would gratefully appreciate some help with.

I will take this opportunity to remind you all that the AGM for the up and coming club financial year will be on the 7th May at the Mulgrave Country Club. This particular venue we chose last year was excellent with a turn out not seen for many years. The opportunity to have a very nice meal and a few drinks prior to and during the meeting made for a very nice night. There is also a renewal notice attached this newsletter for those not wishing to leave it to the last minute.

Further news is that after several years in the job, our current booking officer Tom Grambau will be resigning his position. Tom and his wife Cheryl have done an excellent job and their expertise will be sadly missed. This position will be thrown into the ring at the next A.G.M. Any interested persons are requested to contact the Club President beforehand so the exact nature of the job can be explained. The person taking over this job must be available to take calls on the nominated nights, be very computer literate and preferably have some web experience. People skills are a definite advantage.

On another note, our Caretaker Dee Millott is selling her house at the bottom of the driveway and heading into Mansfield for a rest from the farm. As such we will need a new caretaker very soon. Our preferred choice is someone close to the lodge so if you are aware of anyone who may be interested, please let us know by emailing me at vpacpres@vpski.com

John Blaikie
Club President

March 2012

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Editors Report

Apologies for the extended time between newsletter, however putting a newsletter together without input from our members is quite difficult. I simply seem to have to rehash the same old stories. If you wish to write an article or have photos from your trips to the club I am sure other members would be most pleased to use them in the newsletter. We had a wedding last year and were hoping for photos, there were various family reunions and birthday – just one photo, one paragraph, would be of interest to us all.

I look forward to a story, joke or photo from some of you.

Email: pamjohn11@inet.net.au

Pam Blaikie



Booking officers retire!

Our current booking officers Tom and Cheryl Grambau have tendered their resignation as from the AGM 2012.

On behalf of everyone who has dealt with them, there is a collective sigh of OH NO, what are we going to do now.

We all join in thanking them and wishing them all the best with their next venture.

If you are interested finding out about the booking officer position and putting forward an expression of interest please contact John Blaikie or members of the committee.

What you need!

Some time management skills, communication skills and excellent computer skills (for email bookings, calendar bookings and account maintenance)

A good sense of humour and the ability to deal with club members and guests in a timely manner.

This is a great opportunity for anyone who either wants to keep up their administrative skills, or have just retired and want a hobby. The role can be challenge, but if you talk with Cheryl and Tom there are lots and lots of highlights.

If there is no one willing to take on the position of booking officer, then the committee will be forced to look to professional services, which will unfortunately pass charges onto our members.

Dates to Remember 2012

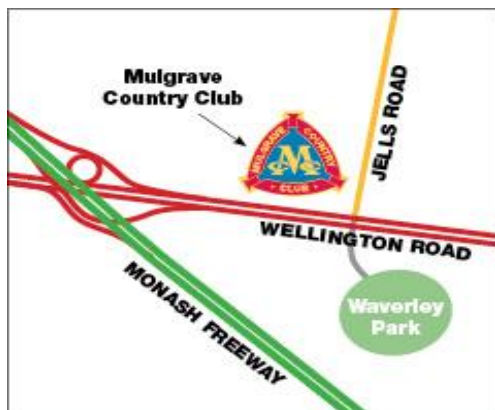
Annual General Meeting – Monday May 7, 8pm

Mulgrave Country Club

Corner of Wellington and Jells Roads,
Wheelers Hill

*Only a minute from the Monash Freeway and a
few minutes from the Wellington Road exit of
EASTLINK*

Dinner facilities prior to the meeting



Club Working Bee

Wood Collect:

Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 May

General working bee:

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 November

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, how about booking into one of our working bees this year, meet some new friends and you get FREE accommodation and a FEED on Saturday night. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Book now: Accommodation free with a BBQ dinner supplied on Saturday night.



Saturday 23& Sunday 24 March 4 x 4 Weekend

A 4x4 trip into the high country,
bring a picnic lunch and have lots of fun.



Trail bike ride

Saturday 14 April &
Sunday 15 April

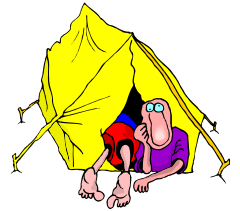


Get together with like-minded bike riders and head for the hills. Enjoy a picnic lunch.



Club Annual Lake Albacutya Camping Trip for the whole family

8th to 11th June (Queens birthday long weekend)



4 x 4 Weekend

(Snow Hunt to Mount Terrible)
17th & 18th August



Trail Bike Ride to Jamieson

19th & 20th October



Fancy a Tree Change

Dee our wonderful caretaker is moving to Mansfield.
Her home is up for Sale if anyone is genuinely interested contact

Ruralco Property – Mansfield
24 High Street
Mansfield, Vic 3722

<http://www.realestate.com.au/property-lifestyle-vic-merrijig-7387016>



Above, a little assistance required at the King River

Right, nine intrepid riders with one injured party sook-ing up out of frame.



Left, even adults can play on the kid's bikes.



Above, rest and a BBQ after a trip to Milmed Rock Wyperfeld National Park.



Left, Mason Krstonosic & Jack Johnson chilling out at Albacutya.

New rates effective 1 June 2012

Winter 1 st June - 30 th September		Summer 1 st October – 31 st May
Club Members Bookings 3 months in advance*		Club Members Bookings 3 months in advance*
Weekday Sunday-Thursday	Weekend Friday-Saturday	\$15 (everyday) \$50 family rate* *For one room only, families exceeding one room, will pay extra at individual rates
\$16	\$20	
*Foundation members may book 4 months in advance		
Guests Bookings 2 months in advance		Guests Bookings 2 months in advance
Weekday Sunday-Thursday	Weekend Friday-Saturday	\$25 (everyday) \$70 family rate* *For one room only, families exceeding one room, will pay extra at individual rates
\$30	\$35	
Whole of Lodge Exclusive Bookings		
<p>If you want to book the lodge exclusively the following minimum costs apply.</p> <p>Summer \$575 per night up to 23 persons, plus \$25 for each additional person above 23</p> <p>Winter weekday \$1020 up to 34 person (every bed) (Sunday to Thursday nights)</p> <p>Winter weekend \$1190 up to 34 persons (every bed) (Friday & Saturday nights)</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Important Family Booking Guidelines.</p> <p>A family booking can only be made for the exclusive use of one room. If you require beds that exceed the capacity of a room then individual rates for each extra person apply at the appropriate member or guest rate.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Family definition</p> <p>A family are those persons under 18 yrs of age that appear on your Medicare card or those you have nominated as family on your current family club membership form.</p>		
<p>Preferred Booking method : Online: www.vpski.com (Booking form available)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Booking Officers: Tom & Cheryl Grambau Telephone: 03 5968 9604 Booking times are Tuesday & Thursday 6.30pm-9.30pm (Please note this is a voluntary position and it may be necessary to leave a message)</p>		

IMPORTANT PAYMENT ADVICE

The club has in the past received on occasion's large bookings during popular long weekends. These bookings have then at the last moment been cancelled. This has in effect prevented other members of the club from using these popular long weekends. This is unfair on those club members as it is very hard to organise trips to the club on one or two days' notice. As such Payment for accommodation must be made within 14 days of booking. If payment is not received in 14 days the room will be allocated to the next party requesting accommodation.

If you are making bookings for multiple persons, it is your responsibility to make the booking payment as a lump sum covering the entire booking. The club will not chase up individual guest payments on your behalf.

Please note that receipts will only be issued on request.

Booking procedure

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 officer)

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

Step 3. The booking officer will confirm your booking.

Remember the booking officer 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 Officer, VPAC, P.O. Box 33, Blackburn South 3130)
2. Direct deposit to our co-op account (Ask Booking Officer at time of booking for account details)
3. Direct BSB deposit from another bank (Ask Booking Officer at time of booking for account details)

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

Name / date of accommodation e.g. Blaikie 04-04-2012

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 Officer 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.

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.

Take some responsibility

As a member of the club it's up to you to be responsible during your stay at the lodge. In the past year, this year we have found billiard balls in the lawn and one in a down pipe, billiard queues broken, photo's knock of the wall and broken, hot ash spilt on the carpets, a number of spills and breaks. Whilst this is to be expected sometimes the Committee cannot fathom the damage and irresponsibility of our guests. We continue to accommodation at the best possible prices, and only ask that you take some care.

Cleaning

Vacuum your room; wipe benches, especially bathrooms and toilets and take out the rubbish. If you have been at the lodge with a large group, ensure everyone pitches in and the place will be clean in no time.

Often there will be a group following the next day and the lodge is not “serviced” every day by a cleaner. This year our cleaning costs have skyrocketed and although we have cleaners come in on a demand basis, this can still cost us **\$180** a visit.

Rubbish and Recycle

The council has provided recycling bins, so members and guests are reminded to put out your recyclable bottles, cans and plastics in the bins.

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. Often it can be a few days until the next guests and the bins get nasty quickly, so please REMEMBER your rubbish.

Members and guests

- 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

The Committee 2010-2011

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Mob 0421 634 335

Vice President
Geoff Alway
9887 9798

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Mob 0417 568523

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0431 327334

Committee Member
Dave Mendes
0457555145

Committee Member
Steve Tate
0432683591

Committee Member
Mike Turner
0419576712

****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 bathrooms) 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 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.

John Blaikie
Club President

Get in early and get your renewal for 2012-2013 in.
This March newsletter is also a mail out to all members

Renewal of Membership for 2012-2013

Club members are reminded that annual subscriptions are **due by 1st April 2012.**

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

* FAMILY - \$50.00

Police / Associate(* circle applicable)

*** 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. _____

Email: Priv. _____

Alt _____ Email _____

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:	_____
_____	Date of Birth:	_____

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

Payment method : (please circle one only)

**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

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Terms and Conditions
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Club member Tanya Johnson can assist with all your parts requirements at PAJA Automotive.

Call their National Call Centre on **1300 55 90 86** for immediate service and excellent advice. Australia's largest range of steering & suspension featuring O.E.M. Products and Japanese '555'



Harvey World Elsternwick would like to offer a discount to all members of Victoria Police and all current members of the Victoria Police Alpine Club.

Please call Renea Gilles on mobile 0421278367
After hours calls welcome

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Club members Rob and Margaret McDonald have a lovely winery with accommodation situated at

1073 Telegraph Road
Sailors Falls, Victoria
Australia 3460

They are offering V.P.S.C. & members of the Police Force generous discounts including.

- * **Stay two nights get the 3rd free**
- * **20% discount mid-week**
- * **10% discount on weekends/holidays**
- * **Free bottle of wine with 2 night stays**

Contact details as follows or check the link on the club web site.

Phone: 03 5348 6626, 03 9370 8813.

Estate Mobile: 0418 374854

or Daylesford Information Centre 5348 1339

Email: sailorsfallsestate@bigpond.com

Web site www.sailorsfallsestate.com.au

Club member Cameron Grambau has a one stop shop for all your two way radio needs.

His web site also caters for 24 hour on line purchases.

www.twoway-radio.com.au



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Email:

wedding-ceremony@hotmail.com

[Web site](#)

www.wedding-ceremony.com.au



Club Member Doug McPhie has an Office Supply business in Wangaratta. This business caters for all your office and business needs. Items available range through, Canteen, Janitorial & OHS, Print & Promotion, Furniture, Office Technology, Warehouse & Packaging and much more.

Doug is offering members government pricing less a further 5% and can also set up an account that allows members to order direct from him at the above pricing.

Follow the link for a full list.

www.monapetofficenational.com.au

Doug can be contacted via

Monapet Office National

Rear 45-49 Reid Street, Wangaratta, 3677

Wangaratta VIC 3677

Phone: 03 5721 4489

Fax: 03 5721 7045

Email monapet@westnet.com.au