

HIGHWAY ALPINE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2026



HIGHWAY ALPINE LODGE

There's nothing quite like standing atop the mountains taking in the spectacular alpine scenery and the crisp air, and then whooshing down the mountain as you carve some turns. Add in a hot chocolate or a glühwein along with staying at our comfortable lodge in the snow with its spectacular valley views, and you have a fabulous winter holiday.

The Snowy Mountains are a spectacular place to visit in the warmer months with stunning alpine flowers and so much to do: bushwalking, mountain bike riding, birdwatching, wine, beer and schnapps tasting, trout fishing, Yarrangobilly Caves, and walking to the summit of Mt Kosciuszko – the top of Australia!

Our lodge is available for booking all year round, with significantly cheaper tariffs outside the ski season.

So take some family and friends to Highway for a rejuvenating getaway.

LATEST NEWS

- **The new Mount Perisher Chairlift will be open again for the 2026 season**
- **Chairmans Message to Members**
- **Encouraging Sport at all levels**
- **Lodge Upgrades**
- **Annual Membership Fees are due by 1 March 2026**
- **Priority Bookings open 1/3/2026**

HIGHWAY ALPINE Welcomes your Family and Friends

We encourage you to recommend HIGHWAY LODGE to your family and friends.

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

Members will recall that the 2025 winter season delivered plenty of snow with great conditions enabling skiing into October. Also during the season we saw the much anticipated replacement of the Mt. Perisher double and triple chair lifts with a new high speed six seat chair lift, a vast improvement.

Winter is now only a few months away and its time to plan your ski holiday in Perisher Valley staying at the Highway Lodge. We look forward to club members as well as their family and friends enjoying what hopefully will be another great season in 2026. The priority period for member winter season lodge bookings opens on 1st March and closes on 22nd March. Booking details are included in the newsletter. I would encourage members to book early to secure your preferred accommodation dates. The financial position of the club will be greatly assisted by members, family and friends booking both winter and summer accommodation at the Perisher Lodge.

For 2026 the Club board has decided there will be an increase of 7% in the lodge tariff rates. The annual subscription rate of \$250.00 remains unaltered. The finances of the club are heavily dependent on members paying their annual subscriptions on time. Each member has been issued with a subscription invoice. Payment is required to enable the member to be regarded as being financial and thus eligible for member booking benefits. Payment of the subscription is also a requirement to maintain membership of the club.

The club board is presently undertaking a major review of the club rules. The rules are the constitution of the club and provide a framework for its operation. The current rules were adopted many years ago and do not accord with current legislation and best practice for operation of a co-operative society. To assist with this project the club has engaged the Co-Op Federation which has expertise in the drafting of rules for co-operative societies. It is intended that the draft new rules will be presented to the club 2026 AGM in June for consideration and adoption.

The recent lodge work party completed internal painting and refurbishment as well as repairing the top level fire exit railing. The next major project involves the complete external repainting of the lodge and repair of damaged timber. A contractor has been engaged and this work, maintaining the existing colour scheme, will be carried out in Spring 2026.

I would like to remind members that the autumn months are a perfect time to visit Kosciuszko National Park and to stay at Highway Lodge. It is a great time to explore the many walking tracks or enjoy some mountain biking. The National Parks and Wildlife Service has opened up some great new walking tracks for you to experience. For the less energetic it is a great place to relax and enjoy the mountain scenery. There are plenty of vacancies in the lodge and bookings can be made on the club website.

Best wishes,

Laurie Winnacott – Chairperson - 19.2.2026

Mount Perisher 6 Chairlift



On 26 June 2025 the Mt Perisher 6 Chairlift was officially opened.

If you have not ridden this new chair at Perisher then I urge you to give it a try. Replacing the Triple and Double chairs, the Mt Perisher 6 is a high-speed, six-seater lift that almost halves the time to the top of Mt Perisher, taking skiers and snowboarders to Australia's highest lifted point, while offering a faster, smoother, and more comfortable ride (I loved the padded seats).

Encouraging Sport at the grassroots level

HAC encourages members and their children to participate in various snow sports. Over the years many children of members have taken up skiing and snowboarding and competed in competition events. Among the current crop of enthusiastic kids are James and William Muras sons of new members Tim and Jacinta. Both boys attend Jindabyne Central School and are keen snowboarders. Last Winter William competed in the Inter-Schools GS event earning Multiclass gold at both Regional and State level. The boys are pictured with Olympic snowboarder Valentino Guseli with William proudly displaying his winners medal.



Supporting Elite Athletes

We also have several elite athletes who have recently started using Highway Alpine Club as their base for summer altitude training. One of the athletes, Cameron Myers, travelled to the US for some indoor racing recently, and became the youngest ever winner of the prestigious (in the running world) Wanamaker Mile.



Lodge Maintenance and Upgrades

Over the Summer of 2025-2026 volunteers from the club completed some urgent maintenance tasks on the lodge's northern fire stairs and windowsills. They also completed the replacement of the old stoves, and procured new side tables for each of the guestrooms. So when you are next at the lodge, spare a thought for the people that keep the place maintained.



HOW CAN YOU ASSIST THE CLUB?

Assistance with operating the club would be greatly appreciated.

Do you have general or trade skills to assist with:

- Maintenance
- Painting
- IT
- Weeding

Please contact David Longhurst:

maintenance@highwayalpine.com.au

0415 211 743



Autumn, Spring and Summer at HIGHWAY

The Snowy Mountains are a spectacular place to visit in the warmer months and Highway Alpine Lodge is a fabulous place to stay. Here are some inspiring activity suggestions:

- Porcupine Rocks Walk (2 hours; 5.7km return) is a must. It leads up the valley that Highway overlooks with spectacular views of the Main Range and the Thredbo Ski Resort.



- Rainbow Lake Walk (1 hour; 3km return) is another must. It begins just down the Kosciuszko Road from Smiggins, near Sponars Chalet.
- Walk or ride to Mount Kosciuszko, the top of Australia!
- Walk the newly opened Charlotte Pass to Guthega walk.



- Enjoy a picnic or barbeque at Saw Pit Creek Picnic Area, just down the road from Perisher. From here there are two lovely walks: Waterfall Walk (2 hrs; 6km; easy) and Saw Pit Creek Walk (1 hr; 2km).
- Spend your day bird watching or photographing stunning alpine flowers.
- Mountain biking trails are in abundance in Perisher as well as in Thredbo and Jindabyne.
- Trout fishing in the alpine streams and at Gaden Trout Hatchery and Eucumbene Trout Farm.
- Wine and Schnapps Tasting and Breweries.



- Water sports at Lake Jindabyne.
- Segway Eco Tours, Lake Crackenback Resort, Alpine Way.
- Thredbo Valley Horse Riding, Alpine Way, Crackenback.
- Yarrangobilly Caves are stunning limestone caves in the Northern section of Kosciuszko National Park near Adaminaby. There is also a natural thermal pool to soak in after exploring the caves.

**PLEASE advise any
change of email
address to:**
secretary@highwayalpine.com.au



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

Invoices were sent to all members by email on 26th February 2026. We had a delay in sending them but would appreciate their payment ASAP. Payment of the subscription is to be made electronically direct to the club bank account in the manner advised on the invoice.

Payment of the subscription is a requirement to make an accommodation booking with member priority and tariff rates. Payment is also required to continue membership of the club. The Club Rules provide that to maintain membership of the club a member's annual subscription must be no more than two years in arrears. For those members who are more than two years in arrears the club board will consider the cancellation of memberships and forfeiture of shares in each case.

SKI LOCKER RENTAL FEES ARE NOW DUE

Invoices have been sent to those members who rent lockers in the Highway lodge. These invoices are payable by 1 March 2026.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

To assist with the administration of the club's accounts, subscription and locker rental payments are to be paid separately and are not to be included with accommodation booking payments.

2026 TARIFFS

Highway Alpine Club

These Tariffs apply for bookings where travel occurs after 31 May 2026.

HIGHWAY ALPINE CLUB CO-OP LIMITED							
TARIFFS 2026 SKI SEASON							
	Date	7-Jun-26 to 27-Jun-26	28-Jun-26 to 18-Jul-26	19-Jul-26 to 29-Aug-26	30-Aug-26 to 12-Sep-26	13-Sep-26 to 3-Oct-26	4-Oct-26 to 13-Jun-27
MEMBERS							
Member, Spouse, Dependent Child under 21 yrs	Week	287.00	574.00	637.00	511.00	364.00	189.00
	Night	41.00	82.00	91.00	73.00	52.00	27.00
Member's Child under 18 yrs	Week	189.00	385.00	427.00	343.00	245.00	126.00
	Night	27.00	55.00	61.00	49.00	35.00	18.00
Member's Child under 5 yrs	Week	56.00	112.00	126.00	105.00	70.00	35.00
	Night	8.00	16.00	18.00	15.00	10.00	5.00
GUESTS							
Adult guests	Week	490.00	973.00	1085.00	868.00	623.00	315.00
	Night	70.00	139.00	155.00	124.00	89.00	45.00
Guests under 18 yrs	Week	322.00	651.00	721.00	581.00	413.00	210.00
	Night	46.00	93.00	103.00	83.00	59.00	30.00
Guests under 5 yrs	Week	98.00	196.00	217.00	175.00	126.00	63.00
	Night	14.00	28.00	31.00	25.00	18.00	9.00

HAC MEMBER PRIORITY BOOKINGS 2026/27 SEASON

BOOKINGS OPEN SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2026

BOOKINGS CLOSE AT 5.00 PM SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2026

PRIORITY BOOKINGS AVAILABLE TO FINANCIAL MEMBERS ONLY

MEMBER PRIORITY BOOKING PROCESS

- Applicable for whole standard-week bookings only (Sun 12 noon to Sun 12 noon) and bookings for the public holiday weekends in June and October.
- Complete the BOOKING FORM linked to this email with your booking details. Use the Tariff Table (under booking form link) to calculate your FULL tariff.
- The FULL tariff amount is to be paid by electronic funds transfer to the HAC bank account (NAB, BSB 082 067 A/C 463544151) using your surname as reference (please retain a copy of the payment receipt). **Please do not include your annual subscription or ski locker rental in this payment.**
- Email your completed booking form, together with a copy of the payment receipt, to bookings@highwayalpine.com.au. Please note that bookings can only be accepted with confirmation of payment in advance.

Priority bookings will only be accepted from financial members and must be received by the Club before 5.00 pm on Friday 22 March 2026 to be included. Applications for bookings received after that date will be allocated following the initial allocation of all eligible member priority bookings. To be financial, a member must have paid the 2026/27 annual subscription invoice and not be in arrears with previous years' subscriptions.

Please note that Class A booking priority applies to a financial member, a member's spouse or (alternatively) a friend, as well as dependent children under 21 years, all of whom must accompany the member. In addition, Class B booking priority applies to friends of a member (other than the one friend allowed under Class A) and a member's children over 21 years, who must accompany the member. Class A bookings receive first priority.

Subject to availability, booking confirmations will be emailed to you by the Booking Officer, Jim Juniper, who will then register your allocated booking on the HAC website booking system.

Following the allocation of all member priority bookings, subsequent member bookings are to be made on the HAC website booking system and will be allocated in order of receipt subject to availability.

Non-member bookings will open on Wednesday 22 April 2026 via the HAC website and will be allocated in order of receipt, subject to availability.

NB Bookings for other than a standard week (Sunday 12 noon to Sunday 12 noon) will only be accepted after 31 May and will be allocated in order of receipt, subject to availability.

2026 NSW school holiday dates for the winter season are 5 to 19 July and 27 Sep to 11 Oct

King's Birthday weekend: Sat 6 to Mon 8 June Labour Day weekend: Sat 3 to Mon 5 October

Cancellation of Bookings

The HAC By Laws provide for a limited refund of tariff on cancellation. The provisions are formulated on the basis that cancellations can usually be made well in advance of the time, thus enabling the Club to re-let the accommodation. However, the Board is aware that some circumstances leading to cancellation on short notice are beyond the individual's control. Accordingly, the Board may consider a 50% refund in these special circumstances, less the administration fee.

It is recommended however, that Members and guests consider the value of travel insurance when they book, especially where a large tariff is involved. For the information of Members, the full text of the By-Laws on cancellations and refunds is reproduced below.

10. CANCELLATIONS

- (a) Applicants for refund of accommodation tariffs must make a written request to the booking officer.
- (b) Refunds for cancellations will be made on the following basis:
- (c) 6 weeks or more notice of cancellation – full refund (less \$50.00 or 10% of the booking fee, whichever is the greater)
- (d) 5 to 4 weeks notice of cancellation two-thirds refund (less \$50.00 or 10% of the booking, whichever is the greater).
- (e) Less than 4 weeks notice of cancellation – no refund.
- (f) Providing that at all times the Board may exercise its discretion to refund a part or the whole of the tariff if the accommodation is satisfactorily re-let, (ie provides equal or similar income) and after deduction of \$50.00 or 10% of the booking, whichever is the greater.
- (g) All refunds are subject to the retention of a minimum \$50.00 booking administration fee.
- (h) Where:
 - (i) a cancellation of a booking has occurred within the period of 4 weeks prior to the booking;
 - (ii) the board has not been able to satisfactorily re-let the accommodation; and
 - (iii) in the reasonable opinion of the board, the reasons for cancellation, supported by appropriate evidence such as medical certificates or other such documents, were substantially beyond the control of the applicant, the Board may refund an amount of up to 50% of the tariff less the booking administration fee of \$50.00.

CONTACTS

Chairman: Laurie Winnacott
info@highwayalpine.com.au
0412 284 770

Treasurer: Graham Wakeman
treasurer@highwayalpine.com.au
0405 317492

Secretary: Paul Byrne
secretary@highwayalpine.com.au

Highway Bookings Officer:
James Juniper
bookings@highwayalpine.com.au
0418 468 744

Highway Lodge Maintenance
Manager: David Longhurst
maintenance@highwayalpine.com.au
0415 211 743

SKI LOCKERS AVAILABLE FOR RENT

We have vacant lockers available for rent for \$30 per year. Enquire this season and make your ski luggage lighter. Only one locker per membership

PERISHER SKI PASS SPECIALS:

- ❖ **EPIC AUSTRALIA PASS** includes:
 - ✓ Free skiing in ski resorts in Canada, USA, Europe and Japan
 - ✓ Free Night Skiing
 - ✓ Free access to 'First Tracks'
 - ✓ Discounts on Perisher lessons, equipment hire, food and retail outlets
 - ✓ Discounted 'Bring a Mate' invitations
- ❖ **SENIORS PASS**
 - ✓ At significantly discounted rates
 - ✓ A great enticement for our mature members to stay at Highway

❖ www.perisher.com.au



HIGHWAY ALPINE LODGE
130 Wheatley Rd, Perisher Valley

HIGHWAY ALPINE CLUB
CO-OP LTD
PO Box 149 Woy Woy,
NSW 2256