



COMMUNITY NEWS

APRIL

20

Stakeholder Briefing
Yarra Room, MCG

JUNE

11

2016 Winter Season
Opening Weekend

LESS THAN

100

Days Until the 2016
Season

THANK YOU

Mount Hotham Resort Management would like to thank everyone who took their time contributed to the Mount Hotham Hotham Central Public Safety & Urban Amenity Upgrade community consultation and provided us with their feedback. We value all comments and these will be taken into consideration for the next stage of the project.



DEVELOPMTHOTHAM FOR ALL YOUR PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

Improving the planning interface and availability of information, the Mount Hotham Resort Management Board is pleased to launch developmthotham.com.au

Planning can be hard work, and being in an alpine area means there is more to consider than in most places. Having guides and quick links to relevant legislation available on an online environment means that information can be located quickly and easily, at a time convenient to you.

The website covers long term development plans for the resort including the 20 year Masterplan, community consultations like the Hotham Central Public Safety and Urban Amenity Upgrade, environmental management, fire safety, leases, subleases, real estate agents, planning permits and the community newsletter that goes out to residents.

The Mount Hotham Resort Management Board aims to continuously improve communication as well as encouraging and supporting development at Hotham whenever possible. Please remember, our office is available to assist with further enquiries on **03 5759 3550** or property@mthotham.com.au
For more information and all your property needs visit www.developmthotham.com.au

UPDATE TO GAS PRICING

Gas pricing during November and December 2015 saw prices rise by 19% which did not correlate to the Saudi oil prices, reasons for this price rise is due to major world suppliers experiencing higher demands in Northern American countries due to their winter starting so their pricing increased and bulk delivery service fees increased. Therefore recent Gas bills from the RMB have seen prices increase between 10.6%-10.9% with the Board absorbing 8.1% of the price rise. Our strategy was to hold out on purchasing any bulk deliveries until the price came back down.

As of the 6th February 2016 the RMB received notification the price finally declined, as hoped to prices closer to what we were paying during the 2015 winter season. To capitalise on this price we have ordered maximum delivery to fill our tanks which should see us through to April depending on weather conditions (and our next scheduled gas read).

Therefore upon receipt of your next gas bill which will be around April the price will have decreased by approximately 10%.

REMINDER

Just a quick reminder to all lessees that maintaining your Crown Allotments to keep clear of rubbish and building materials and keeping your land neat and tidy as Labour Day and Easter long weekends are coming up and there will be more visitors to the mountain. Keeping your sites clean and grass trimmed lowers the risk of snakes or any building materials from being tampered with or removed.

Thank you for your corporation.



ALPINE TREE FROG

This summer has seen the Alpine Tree Frog breeding at the Loch Dam. MHARMB staff had a closer look at the hundreds of tadpoles and took some photos to share. The Alpine Tree Frog is listed on the federal Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act. Impacts likely from a fungus pathogen means the subspecies now persists at only a few isolated sites in alpine and sub-alpine zones of south-eastern NSW and Victoria. Recent studies have shown populations infected with *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (as those recorded at Mount Hotham) can persist when certain habitat characteristics are met (Scheele et al., 2015).

Alpine Tree Frogs continue to utilise a number of natural and artificial waterbodies within the Resort area and continue to breed. The ability of the species to exploit artificial waterbodies means it is possible to create habitat with adherence to a few design principles. Scheele et al. (2015) found exposure to warm water could provide a mechanism for avoiding infection in tadpoles and juveniles prior to dispersal to terrestrial habitats. Areas where recruitment is high can allow populations to persist despite low adult survival and may explain why remnant populations persist in permanent ponds rather than ephemeral ponds that were historically occupied.



NEW BOARD APPOINTMENTS FOR 2016

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board would like to welcome four new Board members who have been appointed to join Nicole Feeney, David Anstee and Stephen Clement who have been reappointed to the Board for another term.

The Alpine Resorts are Crown land reserves each managed by its own Resort Management Board appointed by the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water, The Hon. Lisa Neville MP. The Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning is responsible

for advising the Minister on alpine issues and supporting and assisting the Resort Management Boards on matters affecting all or multiple resorts. Reappointments of Board Members across the Victorian Alpine Resorts including Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board, have been advised with terms of appointment commencing on 1 January 2016. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning have released, Nicole Feeney has been appointed Chair of the Board. Nicole held the role of Chair from 2009-2012 and has been on the Board since 2007. Maxine Morand has been

appointed as Deputy Chair, with Julia Hunter, Jo Shannon and Andrew Skewes the new appointments to the Board.

We look forward to introducing the Board in 2016, as they bring new perspectives on how to 'Share the Amazing Alpine Experience' at Mount Hotham. We would like to thank the retiring Board members Tim Piper, Ron Mason, Peter Hagenauer and former Chair, Deb Spring for their efforts and service while on the Board. We look forward to them all returning to Mount Hotham in their various capacities in the future.

CONTACT US

HOTHAM

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RESORT MANAGEMENT BOARD

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SWINDLER'S VALLEY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

FROM MARCH

25

Hard Rubbish Collection
25 March - 10 April

Over the 2014/15 green season, Mount Hotham Resort Management managed the construction and replacement of the Swindler's Valley stormwater pipe. The \$7.6 million pipeline project was funded by the State Government allocating the money to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

The main pipeline was completed ahead of schedule and a total of 204; 2.1m diameter pipes with a storm flow capacity of 45,000 litres per second were installed.

Works on the final stage of the project started on the 1st December 2015.

The final stage requires the installation of the Inlet Structure for the upper dam of Swindlers Creek. Preparation for the works and the site during December and January included removing all excess soil, installing temporary diversion pipes for the creek and Hotham's village water supply and installing rock anchors to tie the structure to the bedrock.

Currently the team are setting up formwork panels and reinforcement for the walls to pour mid-March for the project completion in late April.

SNOWMAKING UPGRADE PROJECT

Hotham's \$4.4M investment project into further snowmaking infrastructure for 2016 and beyond is well underway with excavation works and installation of infrastructure being completed on Lower Canyon and Lower Imagine.

In the coming weeks installation of a total of 18 brand new snow guns will take place, which most have already arrived on the mountain, along with the rehabilitation of the construction area which will primarily focus on revegetation of the area.

Hotham's operations team have been working hard on the expansion project over summer which will be completed for the start of the 2016 winter season.

The expanded snowmaking will mean Hotham is now 'snow-sure' for more of the season.



Snowmaking Upgrade



Swindlers Valley Pipe Replacement

2016 STAKEHOLDER EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

After the wonderful response from last years briefing we will be inviting all lease and sub lease holders again. The Stakeholder briefing is a fantastic opportunity for the Mt Hotham community to catch up on what has been happening over the past year and what to look forward to in the next snow season.

As you are all aware, so much has been happening this year with the completion of the Swindlers pipe project, MHSC's snow making project and the Hotham Central Public Safety & Urban Amenity Upgrade project.

We have also launched the Develop Mt Hotham website, developmthotham.com.au along with our Explore Mt Hotham QR scan and website, explore.mthotham.com.au

This year the Stakeholder Briefing will be held on Wednesday 20th April in the Yarra Room at the MCG from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. We hope to see you all there.