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**SLOPES: Kosciuszko Iconic Walk - Thredbo Valley Track**

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SLOPES &lt;slopes.au@gmail.com&gt;

18 April 2018 at 09:28

Bcc: frank.zipfinger@gmail.com

Dear SLOPES Members and Associates

Attached for your information are copies of the following articles:

1. "\$27 Million for Kosciuszko" from the Snowy Mountains Magazine. The article can be found online at: <https://snowymagazine.com.au/2018/04/17/27-million-for-kosciuszko/>

2. "Pit stops at Perisher" from the Australian Financial Review.

The Snowy Mountains Magazine article contains information on the following initiatives announced by the NSW Government:

a) a new Kosciuszko Iconic Walk from Charlotte Pass via Guthega and Perisher and finishing at the Lake Crackenback Resort. The walk will be 25 kilometres long, cost \$17m and take 4 years to finish, and

b) completing the Thredbo Valley Track in 2019 from Lake Crackenback Resort to Jindabyne and the final touches of the track from Thredbo to Dead Horse Gap in 2020, with \$10 allocated for that purpose.

This is excellent news for the Perisher Range Resorts and the Snowy Mountains generally.

These facilities will assist Clubs to promote lodge usage and to encourage sports.

For information generally on activities in the Snowy Mountains and Encouragement of Sports see the SLOPES website: <https://slopes.org.au/encouragement-of-sports/> and <https://slopes.org.au/handy-links/>

Regards

Frank Zipfinger  
President  
SLOPES

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**2 attachments****\$27 Million for Kosciuszko \_ Snowy Mountains Magazine.pdf**  
2688K**Pit Stops at Perisher.pdf**  
137K





Winter Olympics 2018

# \$27 Million for Kosciuszko

April 17, 2018



By Steve Cuff

Kosciuszko National Park will see a huge \$27 million investment over the next five years after an announcement today from Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW and Member for Monaro John Barilaro.

In what is sensational news for the Snowy Mountains region, \$10 million will be allocated to completing the Thredbo Valley Track (TVT) in 2019 from Lake Crackenback Resort to Jindabyne, and the final touches of an uphill extension of the track from Thredbo to Dead Horse Gap in 2020.

The main investment of \$17 million will be directed to a brand-new Kosciuszko Snowies Iconic Walk from Charlotte Pass, via



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Guthega and Perisher and finishing at Lake Crackenback Resort. This new 25 kilometre section of track will traverse across the Main Range with works starting at Mt Lee in 2019 and take four years to finish. As each section is finished it will be open to hikers.

Mr Barilaro said the project will completely transform summer tourism in the region and the new Iconic Walk will be a signature walk of NSW and the development of these hiking and biking trails will ensure the region is vibrant and busy all year-round.

“The economic benefits, let alone the social, environmental and health benefits of a project like this, can’t be overstated,” said Mr Barilaro.

“The work on the trails is expected to create a combined 139 full-time jobs in the region over the course of their construction. Once delivered, the upgraded National Park is expected to support an additional 190 full-time positions.”



Deputy Premier John Barilaro and Tourism Snowy Mountains' Wayne Kirkpatrick at the announcement. All photos Steve Cuff

The new Iconic Walk will be a combination of rock paved paths and elevated platforms and will ideally complement the existing Main Range Track and the highly popular walk from Thredbo to Mt Kosciuszko.

When completed it will create a multi-day walk from Thredbo via Australia’s highest mountain, Mt Kosciuszko, to Charlotte Pass, Guthega, Perisher and Lake Crackenback Resort, a world-class 44 kilometre multi-day walk.

At a launch at Bullocks Hut on the Thredbo River near Lake Crackenback Resort, a strong gathering of local identities and

- Mt Bike Interschools
- Patmore Paralympic Gold

## Weather

Thredbo, NSW 2625			
Weather	Wind	Rain	Sun
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interested parties welcomed the exciting news.

Tourism Snowy Mountains' Wayne Kirkpatrick introduced the speakers, Mr Barilaro, Mick Pettitt, Director of the Southern Ranges Branch of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and Snowy Monaro Regional Council General Manager Joe Vescio.

"The actual works on the Main Range, the "Iconic Walk" will kick off again next year, basically our construction period is fairly short because of snow and moisture so we kick off when snow conditions allow and that will be at Mt Lee," said Mr Pettitt.

"Walking has always been an important component within the National Parks reserve system, so it is trying to look at value adding to walkers. Mountain bike riding has certainly increased in the last few years, so it is a combination of different ideas, different demands and different sort of requests from community about access to parks and use for parks."

At present NPWS have a design which shows the rough corridor of where the track will be built, and there will be finer delineation of the actual finished track as more plans are finalised.

The big beneficiaries will be tourists to the region who have predominately visited in summer months for either a walking experience or a mountain biking adventure. Both these activities have seen very strong growth in recent years and with this announcement, will only add to the strength of our region's outdoor activities appeal.



*Mick Pettitt, Director of the Southern Ranges Branch of the NSW National Parks addresses the gathering for the announcement.*

Tourism Snowy Mountains' Wayne Kirkpatrick thanked all the people involved and their support so far for the Thredbo Valley Track in particular, and for NPWS who have embraced the concept of parks are for people.

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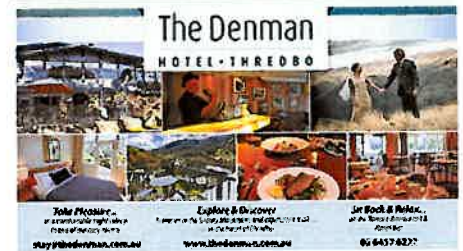
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As the new Iconic Walk is developed, its route will include Guthega, a small alpine village with spectacular views of the Main Range and a popular part of Perisher Resort during the snow season.

Guthega Alpine Inn owner Nick Kennedy said, "We've been very excited about this whole project and the wonderful thing is that Guthega has reinvigorated in the last decade and it's a place that's had an enclave of well run and well managed and highly active clubs (lodges) in the summer, so Guthega will be a really interested place to visit."

While the Iconic Walk is being built, the Thredbo Valley Track when fully completed will also have the strength to be added to the International Mountain Biking Association's Epic status of trails. There are three levels of Epic status from bronze, silver and gold and really stamps to the world of mountain bikers as one of a significance ride. This alone will be a massive boost to our mt bike reputation that is growing by the year.



*Lake Crackenback Resort staff supply lunch to the crowd.*



*It was a perfect day for a mountain bike ride along the Thredbo River, especially after a \$10 million announcement to*

*complete the Thredbo Valley Track.*



*John Barilaro addresses the crowd.*



*Mick Pettitt, Director of the Southern Ranges Branch of the NSW National Parks, Deputy Premier John Barilaro and Tourism Snowy Mountains Wayne Kirkpatrick after the announcement of \$27 million for Kosciuszko National Park.*



*NPWS staff were all excited by the news of a new Iconic Walk.*

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## SKI AUSTRALIA

# Pit stops at Perisher

**Fiona Carruthers** finds out where to refuel off piste.

**Perisher is hitting some serious milestones.** Last year, the Perisher Ski Patrol celebrated 50 years of service, while Sundeck – Australia's highest hotel at 1769 metres above sea level – turns 60 next year. Another grand old dame, The Man From Snowy River Hotel on the edge of Front Valley, will celebrate six decades in 2020.

The largest ski resort in the southern hemisphere also recently announced a \$4.2 million new quad chairlift to be ready for 2019, replacing the old Leichhardt T-bar. The new chairlift will increase lifting capacity in the area by 75 per cent, opening up more access to runs like The Cleft, Powder Ridge, Snowy Trails and Leichhardt Terrain Park.

All this demands the very best in terms of refuelling options. Here are some of Perisher's favourite pit stops to take you from early morning caffeine shot through to sundowners and dinner in style.



From top: The Man From Snowy River Hotel; The Marritz Hotel's heated swimming pool.

### ITALIANS DO IT BETTER

Located in a cosy corner of the bustling Perisher Centre on Front Valley, Brunelli's Cafe opened in 1983. It's run by Bruno and his wife, Roberta. Warm and bright, this spacious open-plan cafe is easy to access, especially when you clunk in and out in unbuckled ski boots.

Bruno's sense of humour is as strong as his coffee – including his renowned blends, the Mother in Law (strong and bitter) and the Rollercoaster (a smoother easy-drinking variety).

### CIRCUIT BREAKER

Alpine Eyre is an old-style favourite at the bottom of the Eyre T-bar (just off Kosciuszko Road near Perisher Gap). With outside tables, it's the perfect mid-morning pit stop to wolf down a tasty Eyre burger for that all-important second breakfast.

### POWER LUNCH

With its distinctive grey stone bunker-like appearance, Perisher Valley Hotel is a ski in/ski out landmark once owned by the late Kerry Packer. If you stay here, you can virtually roll out of bed and on to the Village 8 Express chairlift, less than 100 metres away. There are those who say the hotel's signature restaurant, Snow Gums, is not as good as it was in Packer's day. But *Life & Leisure* loved the three-course lunch menu, with great healthy options (soup, fresh salads, fish) mixed in among the deep-fried choices. The views, the ambience and central fireplace all add up to a lovely place for a special extended


lunch. A word of warning: it's hard to hit the slopes again if you opt for the paired wines.

### NO MOVEMENT AT THE STATION

A roaring fire, goblets of shiraz and sweeping mountain views through the floor-to-ceiling windows are just the ticket after a hectic day on the slopes. The Man From Snowy River Hotel is among Perisher's best spots to relax as the sun goes down. Play it as the mood takes you, opting for the chorizo, garlic prawn, smoked paprika aioli and manchego burger with a Carlton Dry in the Pub Bar, or the pulled pork tacos with pinot in the Lounge.

### FANCY PANTS

OK, it's not The Chedi in Andermatt, but Perisher's Marritz Hotel nevertheless positions itself as a "European-style hotel". The Marritz has an immediate advantage in the luxe stakes in that it houses Perisher's only heated swimming pool. (There's also a sauna and relaxation room.)

You can enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner by the pool overlooking Front Valley, or eat in the Marritz Restaurant – also blessed with stunning views – which prides itself on healthy "cooked to order" breakfasts. Dinners are slightly more indulgent. Feast on chicken liver and blueberry pâté, followed by Hungarian beef goulash and curly chips, finished off with date fig pudding. 

*The writer was a guest of The Man From Snowy River Hotel and Perisher.*

