



Freeman On Ford

Newsletter 4 - December 2008 update

Freeman on Ford - Making you feel special

Its already been six years since we opened and we have met many wonderful people with greatly different backgrounds...from brides, car rally enthusiasts, farmers, judges, pop stars, comedians, vice chancellors, artists, journalists, film directors, historians, lawyers, I.T, H.R people, professors, gift voucher recipients, tired, stressed, guests and people requiring respite...We have a privileged position as we often see people starting their journeys, to those departing, and our mission statement, regardless what their position in life (and lets face it, we all have to put one leg at a time in one trouser), is to make every one of our guests ***feel like a king or queen when they stay with us....*** We have a unique position and treasure these life tapestries and feel blessed. We have had quite a few laughs and stories to tell and some faulty tower moments!

We are 5 Star Rated.

We are still Beechworth's first and only 5 star rated accommodation venue and amazingly the only one in the region. We have also been awarded a Certificate of Commendation from the Indigo Shire for extensive renovations to the building. We will not rest on our laurels. We will extend our building in 2009 and we have already invested heavily this year in installing telephones in all bedrooms with free calls throughout Australia. We have also put in ethernet cabling and we already provide WiFi wireless internet connections, AUSTAR (with 50 channels), and an extensive complimentary video library. We can now email brochures, gift vouchers, newsletters, dining guides, menus, and local spa treatments so as to reduce and expediate paperwork.

What does 5 Star Rating Mean?

A STAR rating system in Australia is operated by AAA Tourism. Properties are rated between one and five star by highly trained

accommodation assessors recruited from hospitality and tourism industries. Properties are assessed every 12-15 months once the properties join the program. 5 STAR means "international quality appointments," furnishings and décor with an extensive range of first class guest services and facilities.



We love making weddings memorable.

Testimonials

It was a lovely relaxing weekend for us and we felt revived and refreshed for work on Monday. You made us feel so welcome; your warmth and genuine, friendly manner with all your customers is outstanding. We will be recommending to our friends and family they stay with you some time in the future.

From the moment we arrived everything from the afternoon tea to the champagne, the port and chocolates to the lavish breakfast was just divine.

*Thanks so much.
Rod & Belinda.*

Hi Heidi and Jim, we wish to thank you for a wonderful stay. We had a very relaxing time and your home away from home is a slice of heaven.

Please tell Ezra that his cheese-cake is a definite winner!

Fondest Wishes - J&J

New Developments: The Chambers

We have had major renovations in The Chambers (the former banking chambers are at ground level facing the street). In the past, this was where The Oriental Bank and later The State Savings Bank operated. Banking was done in this area for over 100 years and the original huge granite safe and barred windows are a reminder of the building's rich history; At one stage this area was used as a dormitory whilst it was a convent for a brief period. We have taken down The Manager's Office, polished the floors, installed new lights, heating, phone lines and ceiling roses to make the area more sumptuous.

Green Star Rating

Freeman on Ford was recently awarded Green Star accreditation. Currently, there are only four Green Star accredited accommodation venues in Victoria. We were independently assessed by AAA Tourism and were awarded this in recognition of our pro active environmentally friendly policies and practices. Freeman on Ford is the only Green Star accredited Bed and Breakfast in Beechworth.

Easter

Once again, we put in our own float in the Easter parade, and once again, dressed up in period costumes. Freeman on Ford's rabbit gave out chocolate eggs much to the delight of the tourists at Easter

Brendan Downey

We were delighted to host Brendan Downey, Group Manager Events, Tourism Vic for the Celtic Festival this year. We are passionate about Beechworth's festivals. In January, we have Opera in the Alps and at Easter we have the major Easter Festival. In May, we have The Harvest Festival and Drive Back in Time. In August, we have The Ned Kelly weekend and in November, the Celtic festival. We are very proud that thousands of people attend the above. We are fortunate to participate in the above events/festivals and have international artists/drawcards coming to this exciting town.



Gift Vouchers

Gift vouchers are always available for birthdays, weddings and anniversaries or simply to rejuvenate. Gift vouchers can be awarded to diligent staff and appreciated friends/family.

Good Karma - Never tire of doing good:

Finally, we wish you all the best whether or not we see you again and hope that you live life to the fullest...(Hold on tight and enjoy the ride)...and remember, never tire of doing good.

Sincerely, Heidi and Jim, Jasmine and Ezra



We lent our Ned sculpture and put it in the middle of town. Ned Kelly weekend 2008



Easter 2008 (Ezra as Easter bunny)



Period Costume at Easter



Brendan Downey, Group Manager Events, Tourism Victoria, Celtic Festival 2008