

# News Release

**Contact:**

Steve Rosa, Executive Manager Tourism  
Phone: 02 4871 2888 or 0429 045 207

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Wednesday 16 July 2008**

## SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CLOSES THE GAP

Tourism Southern Highlands (TSH) is slowly closing the gap on its accommodation shortage with the region's newest accommodation development coming online in the form of the Grand Mercure Apartments Heritage Park in Bowral. TSH Executive Manager Steve Rosa said that "After a number of years, which saw accommodation houses closing for redevelopment or reuse, it is more than encouraging to see new developments, not only approved, but actually opening and the reintroduction of strong Accor brand to our area."

The first of these is the new Grand Mercure Apartments Heritage Park, located on the old Grand Mercure site in Bowral. The development sees total of 26 luxurious apartments available for independent visitors providing them with a self contained option right in the heart of Bowral. Steve said "Whilst the new Grand Mercure Apartments are on the site of the original Grand Mercure Hotel the new development is a vastly different experience to that previously available."

On a smaller scale the Southern Highlands has seen the development of the Satori Springs Country Estate at Canyonleigh, a wondrous establishment which offers different styles of accommodation and an array of activities not seen on offer at one establishment in the Southern Highlands before.

Other pending accommodation developments that will ease the shortage of rooms in the Southern Highlands include:

- A new 28 unit motel for Moss Vale, under the Country Inn Motel brand, to be established by the owners of the successful Berrima and Bundanoon Motels.
- There is also the development of the Historic Sutton Forest Inn, which will provide a 90 room motel and convention centre in the picturesque southern village of Sutton Forest.

- New life will be breathed into the well known and Historic Poplars Mansion at the northern entrance to the Southern Highlands with a when it reopens a refreshed restaurant and bed and breakfast accommodation.
- And, extensions have recently been approved for the Milton Park Estate in Bowral which will see an additional another 40 rooms to this already magnificent Southern Highlands icon.

Additionally there are also plans afoot for extensions and refurbishments to Peppers Manor House at Sutton Forest and the refurbishment and rebranding of one of Bowral's landmark establishments, Craigieburn Resort by the Peppers Group.

**Ends**

---

**Interview available with:**

**Vickie O'Brien, General Manager, Grand Mercure Apartments Heritage Park, Bowral  
Mobile 0409904942**

**OR**

**Steve Rosa, Executive Manager, Tourism Southern Highlands  
Mobile 0429045207**

**NB. Images of Grand Mercure Apartments Heritage Park, Bowral available**