



**FREEMAN**

On Ford  
B&B

## Media Release

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### **FREEMAN ON FORD FEATURES IN HISTORIC HOTELS BOOK**

Freeman on Ford, Beechworth's only 5 Star accredited Bed and Breakfast, is the only north east Victorian property to feature in a new book called *Great Australian Historic Hotels*, by Barry Stone.

The book features 30 historic properties from across Australia, with Freeman on Ford being one of 8 located in country towns.

Freeman on Ford owners, Heidi Freeman and Jim Didolis said they were delighted to be included in the book and to have someone of Barry Stone's experience document and appreciate the history of the building.

"We have worked hard to maintain the integrity of the building in all that we have done," Ms Freeman said.

"Mr Stone has picked up on this and it's great to meet people like him who appreciate the attention to detail," she said.

"The former bank has to rate as one of the state's most beautiful commercial buildings. Small though it may be, its proportions are perfect and its meticulous, ongoing restoration has seen nothing overlooked. Compromise just isn't in Heidi's vocabulary."

*Quote from Great Australian Historic Hotels, page 167*

The two-storey brick building which fronts Ford Street was built in 1866 and served as a bank and then a convent before reverting to a bank and then being sold as a private residence in 1988. Ms Freeman purchased the building in 2002 and renovated it - in keeping with the Victorian era of the building - for nearly two years before opening the doors as a bed and breakfast in November 2003.

More recently Ms Freeman has completed the renovation of the downstairs addition to the original building, which dated to the 1930s. This extension includes a private swimming pool and spa, two new bedrooms, a lounge room, an extended dining room and undercover parking.

"We have a passion for bringing visitors to Beechworth and offering them the high standards of service and facilities they can usually only access in city hotels. We also have a passion for history and have spent years restoring this building in keeping with the eras," Ms Freeman said.

Freeman on Ford Bed and Breakfast has four Victorian era rooms upstairs and the new renovation features two 1930s classic rooms overlooking the new swimming pool and spa in a landscaped private garden.

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**For more information contact:** Heidi Freeman on (03) 5728 2371