



This timeline highlights some of the highs and lows of Rascal's development. The information was extracted largely from Newsletters and AGM Minutes.

There are many gaps in this RASCAL story, but we hope you find these snippets interesting.

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Volume: 2000 to 2016 inclusive



## Rascal in '00

President Richard Emerton

AGM was held at the Yacht Club and included dinner and wine tasting — best attendance in years!

Certificate of Occupancy issued for deck.

Very successful 30<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration held on 28-29<sup>th</sup> October at the Lodge. It was organised by Mike Vale and was attended by about 80 people, including the guest of honour and first President, Senator Bob Brown. Senator Brown formally opened the new deck

Anniversary port and wines were available for members' enjoyment

The Club's financial situation is healthy.

The loan for the kitchen upgrade is largely paid off.

Three sets of outdoor tables and chairs were purchased for the new deck, about \$1000 each set.

Hike de Femme held 8-9 April with 9 participants

Best snow conditions for years — Lodge occupancy highest for 10 years.

Lodge professionally valued at \$350,000, \$240,000 for the two blocks and \$110,000 for the building

Council valuation of land at \$153,000 for the combined blocks.

The Lodge sleeps 24 people in two and four bunk rooms. It features:  
✓ new communal kitchen  
✓ quality furnishings  
✓ drying room  
✓ games room  
✓ ski preparation area  
✓ lockable ski & gearboard racks  
✓ leather lounges  
✓ large deck with sail shades  
✓ pop-up BBQ  
✓ off-street parking  
✓ much more.

Rascal had a continuous program to upgrade and extend Lodge facilities.

Rascal Lodge is owned and operated by Rascal Inc., a Canberra based non-profit social club. The club was founded by residents and sailors of Canberra's Hospital. Membership has long been open to the public.

Lake frontage and close to town centre

Rascal is now offering a limited number of memberships.

If you would like further information please contact the Office Manager on 02 6255 3411, visit us at [www.rascal.lodge.au](http://www.rascal.lodge.au) or write to Rascal Inc., PO Box 99 Gurrin ACT 2608.

[www.rascal.lodge.au](http://www.rascal.lodge.au)

2000 brochure.

## Rascal in '01

President Ian McNeill

Improvements to the lodge included

- New leather lounge (teal colour) and coffee table for alcove near top of stairs
- New carpet in living area
- New windows for the living / dining area
- Deck sail area extended with purchase of additional sail
- Paving of outside BBQ area
- Concrete poured in driveway to reduce water seepage into games room
- Front of lodge re-painted
- Refurbishment of games room with addition of "soccer game"

Pre-season BBQ was held at Southern Cross Yacht club and was attended by about 50 members



5 Rascal Presidents cut the birthday cake at the opening of the deck – from l-r, Bob Brown, Greg Fraser, Tony Booth, Richard Emerton and Monty Fox

Formal opening of the deck by Senator Dr Bob Brown, at Rascal's 30th birthday party, September 2000.

A decision was made to revise and update the 1996 strategic plan.

Another member survey was undertaken

Hike de Femme held on 9-10 March with 9 participants.

## Rascal in '02

President Ian McNeill

Mike Vale resigned as Officer Manager

Bank loan for deck paid off

Introduction of vacancies and cancellations via email

Results of member survey indicated majority wanted no major changes to the way Lodge was operating

Continued decline in Junior memberships due to change in rules for 18-20 year olds

There was a small increase in full and summer members

Changes to block booking rules due to the growing number of requests.

Restrictions imposed in addition to peak July / August months to public holidays, weekends adjoining public holidays, consecutive weekends, Christmas and New Year periods.

Further landscaping and upgrading of car park

Hike de Femme held on 22-23 March with 19 participants

Snow Safety Course conducted in August by Rod Roberts for the Southern Tablelands 4WD Club

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## Rascal in '03

President Ian McNeill and Jennifer Bryden commenced as Office Manager

Alan Laird and Marg Sharp, two of the lodge's most dedicated members lost their home in the Canberra bushfires. Many of the RASCAL documents were also destroyed

"New Beginnings" party held at Southern Cross Yacht Club on 29<sup>th</sup> March to help Alan and Marg establish a new home

Bushfires also endangered the lodge but it came through unscathed. John Kennard and Bruno Zimmerman made an emergency trip to Jindabyne to check that all was well and to clear combustible material away from the building

Hike de Femme held 8-9 March with 14 participants

Pre-season working bee and BBQ held in June

Improvements to the lodge amenity included lighting and power to BBQ area, new and additional kitchenware and doonas for all beds

Decision made to trial having no resident care-taker in order to free up more accommodation space. The plan was to:

Employ professionals to clean lodge every week

Decision to appoint a lodge member as captain for the week to ensure smooth running during winter.



### Farewell Melanie O'Halloran



during her time away from Rascal this last summer, Melanie O'Halloran found a new man and true love

Accordingly, as much as she loves all Rascals, she has decided to follow her heart and will be moving to Mt Hotham this winter to be with her new love, rather than taking care of Rascal Lodge (what a hard choice!!!).

Extract of 2002 Newsletter

Those that have e-mail access would already know that Alan Laird (our Treasurer) and Marg Sharp (our Vice President) and their son Rahn (who is also a member) lost their home in Duffy, fleeing the fire with their vehicles and with only the clothes they were wearing. Thanks to Mike

and his e-mail broadcast, Alan and Marg now have a fully furnished rental home courtesy of another Rascal Member. Mike tells me that he has had a huge response from members wanting to help, and one particularly generous donation. Please note that we will be staging a "new beginnings" party sometime in the next few months to help set Marg and Alan set up their new household. Details will be distributed to members to enable all who want to participate to do so.

Extract from 2003 Newsletter describing impact of 18 Jan 2003 firestorm on Rascal.



2004 was a good snow year

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## Rascal in '04

President Richard Emerton

Trial of having no live-in caretaker and employing professional cleaners proved successful and to continue

Increase in number of new members

New water heater installed

Hike de Femme held on 12-13 March with 5 participants

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## Rascal in '05

President Richard Emerton

Jack and Angela Cornell commenced as Office Managers

Decision to suspend any new full memberships for 12 months due to high occupancy rates over previous winter. New summer memberships and upgrades of Junior members still allowed

Building compliance and fire safety audit conducted in September. Results indicated significant additional work was required to meet the standards

Problems with water damage at ground floor level. Following an engineering report remediation work carried out on wall in games room

Snowgum Lodge sold for \$650,000 but later found to have white ants

Commencement of RASCAL white ant treatment programme

Bunk beds installed in Room 2 to provide additional accommodation

Major clean up of dead and dying timber on the block. This material was converted into mulch for use on the top level garden.

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## Rascal in '06

President Richard Emerton

Options canvassed to meet building and fire safety compliance issues

Rascal was required to demonstrate compliance in 15 areas some of which entailed significant expenditure in order to avoid closure of the Lodge.

Discussion was had with regard to the future of the lodge given the amount of anticipated expenditure and the age of the building

Immediate compliance issues were addressed including installation of a sprinkler system and new doors to all rooms and exits, upgrading of smoke / fire detection system, emergency lighting to external stairs and upgrading of signage in lodge

Lodge was closed for several weeks over summer to allow for work to commence on the fire safety systems.

Decision to develop a 5-10 year plan for the lodge following the completion of the

essential compliance work

Hike de Femme celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> year since the inaugural hike with an anniversary dinner at the lodge on 25-26 February for 20 participants

I can now advise that Rascal has signed a contract with a Sydney based fire services company, Bettafire Protection to undertake the work. We have been advised that work will commence mid-February 2007 and should take 2-3 weeks. Unfortunately during that time we will have to close the lodge to members and that means some bookings will be affected. On behalf of the Committee, I apologise to those impacted, but it is essential that we complete this work urgently. We have struck a deal with Brindabella Ski Club to offer as alternate accommodation one of their lodges at Guthega which may be of some help.

Extract of 2007 Newsletter

In late September 2005 the lodge was subjected to a Council inspection. The inspection was for two purposes: building compliance with lodged plans and fire safety compliance with current NSW regulations. The written report relating to fire safety was received in November 2005, and requires that RASCAL demonstrate compliance with a list of 15 items. Initially we sought assistance from TT Architects and Chubb and subsequently from AE&D (Active Environmental and Development Pty Ltd). The initial assessment was that for some items we already comply, others will require some work that is relatively minor, and others could require major work. This work could involve substantial expenditure. The construction of the lodge as a three storey building presents additional compliance issues compared with two storey buildings.

Extract from 2006 Newsletter describing Rascal's fire compliance issues

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## Rascal in '07

President Alan Laird

Kim and Tim Dunnet welcomed as new Office Managers

On-line booking/payment and membership renewal system introduced

Fire sprinkler system connected to ensure compliance with current regulations

Coded key pad installed at front door to avoid the need for keys

Hike de Femme held on 21-22 April with 13 participants

Last year we started work on some of the improvements at the lodge, but got side-tracked somewhat with the bulging wall in the games room. We have subsequently discovered in some old Rascal papers that this "problem" had been identified way back in 1973! However, we don't know if it has got any worse, so we are going ahead with the remediation work, hopefully to be completed by winter.

Extract from 2005 Newsletter describing the games room bulging wall.

## Rascal in '08

President Alan Laird

Problems with water leakages in both bathrooms with considerable remediation work undertaken.

New carpet installed in middle and bottom levels of the lodge once the water leakage problems had been corrected.

New security screen doors installed on top level to improve air flow.

E-mail distribution of the newsletter trialled to cut down on printing / postage costs

Constitution amended at AGM to allow summer members the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as full members for all months except July and August. Summer members now able to make bookings for 10 months of the year.

Booking rates were restructured to align with actual seasonal demand, with peak rates to apply for the months of July and August only. This change was intended to attract more summer members

Frequent fire brigade call outs at considerable expense to the Lodge due to overly sensitive smoke detectors

Hike de Femme held 29<sup>th</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> March with 12 participants

Initial RASCAL Kosciusko walk conducted on 22-23<sup>rd</sup> November

**The Gold Phone is being discontinued**



Telstra has advised that it will no longer be offering the Gold Phone service.

In pre-mobile days the Gold Phone provided a convenient and useful means of phoning to and from the Lodge. The phone also served as a means of contacting emergency services should that be necessary.

The phone service costs Rascal \$420 just to rent the line and the number of calls made is relatively small. Mobile usage is increasingly popular, and usually someone, even in a small group, will have a mobile phone that can be used in an emergency. Phones are also available in the immediate neighbourhood should the need arise.

For these reasons the Committee felt the need to maintain an expensive phone line was no longer warranted. The Gold Phone will be disconnected early this year.

### Extract of 2009 Newsletter



Rascal wine label. Introduced in 2009.

### Changes at the Lodge - Keyless Entry

The new keyless entry system has been working very well. A number of members have commented about the ease of accessing the Lodge by using the internet to make and pay for a booking and of not needing to pick up or drop off a key. You can book right now and leave in five minutes if you like. For security reasons the key code is changed every week.

### Extract of 2008 Newsletter

## Rascal in '09

President Alan Laird, Patron: Dr Bob Brown

Senator Bob Brown elected Patron

Carpet on the middle and lower levels replaced

Continuing problems with water leaking from ladies' shower due to lack of lagging around hot water pipe and consequent splitting of pipe joints

Hike de Femme held 21-22 March with 15 participants

Pre-season function held in July at the home of Linda and Alan Swift.

Gold phone removed. Service discontinued by Telstra.

RASCAL red and white wine wines re-introduced

New gas BBQ installed on outside deck

Evaporative air cooler installed to improve comfort during summer months

## Rascal in '10

President Alan Laird, Patron: Dr Bob Brown

Decision to commission a Building code of Australia audit of the Lodge and to incorporate its findings into the development strategy for the Lodge. It is considered there is a growing need to improve the Lodge amenity for an ageing membership and for outdoor Summer activities

40th Birthday party held. The major sponsor was Snowgum,

Kosciuszko walk held.

Pre-season function held in May at home of Linda and Alan Swift

Well Rascal's 40th Anniversary Celebration was a wonderful success. About forty people attended and ranged from our founding members to our most recent new member. The event received local newspaper coverage and will help to cement our standing as part of the local community.

Special thanks go to those who organized the event: Lynne Bentley (Chair), Linda Swift (catering), Judy Roberts and Julie Pettit (Club time line), Wendy Zarb (accommodation and MC) and Marg Sharp (commercial sponsors). Thanks also to all the members who attended. I hope you all had a great time.

Extract of President's message in 2010



Rascal Inc ~ Newsletter December 2010

### Images from Rascal 40th

Here are just a few images from the Rascal 40th Celebrations held at the Lodge October 2010.

More images can be found on the Rascal website.



Above: 'Preparations' - Wendy Zarb & Sandra Ross helping to get the celebrations ready



Left: Guest Speaker and one of our founding members - Patricia Schmidt



Above: Moir and Gavin Holmes and Alan Swift providing mellifluous sounds that permeated the gathering

Below: One of the magnificent cakes created and decorated by member Linda Swift



Concern over declining membership (492 in 2000 and current level of 468)

Plan for new membership drive with freshly designed brochure

Hike de Femme held on 9-10 April with 22 participants

Major heater safety upgrade undertaken by MDM Electrical in Fyshwick

Upgraded web program launched.

Snowgum—Rascal partnership established

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## Rascal in '11

President Alan Laird, Patron: Dr Bob Brown

Pre-season function held in May at home of Marg Sharp and Alan Laird. Twenty seven members and guests attended. Snowgum donated significant prizes, including polarfleece jackets.

Heater motor failed. Lodge without heating for three nights in winter school holidays. Oil filled electric emergency heaters purchased.

Wifi modem installed in Lodge to enable internet access

Major thinning of front and back gardens to generate a more 'Park like' appearance.

Hike de Femme run in March and well attended by 16 members and guests

Kosciuszko walk run again by Lynne Bentley.

New constitution, based on the ACT Government's Model Rules, proposed for adoption at the 2012 AGM.



John Ridley excited about his Snowgum prize with Sue Williams sharing the enjoyment. At the 2011 Pre season function.

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## Rascal in '12

President Keith McLaren, Patron: Dr Bob Brown

AGM agrees to new constitution based on the ACT Government's Model Rules.

ACT Government rejects our new constitution because it has both minor modifications to the model rules and refers to the Model Rules. Minor changes were made and new constitution accepted by ACT Government.

Pre-season function held in June at home of Marg Sharp and Alan Laird. Twenty members and guests attended. Alan and Marg spoke about skiing in Sjusjoen, Norway and in the Sylarna Mountains in Sweden. Noel Ward spoke about his trips to Antarctica. Door prizes were funded from our Snowgum vouchers.

## About RASCAL

The RASCAL lodge was established in the 1970s by the staff of Canberra Hospital, hence the name RASCAL - Residents And Sisters Club for Activities in Leisuretime. It has been upgraded and modernised regularly.

Whether your passion is:

- Hiking
- Sailing
- Fishing
- Rock climbing
- Mountain biking
- Water skiing
- Bushwalking
- Tennis
- Just relaxing among the mountains

RASCAL lodge gives you easy access to the many mountain, river and lake activities available in the area.

**SUMMER MEMBERSHIPS  
ARE NOW AVAILABLE!**

## Location

7-9 Banjo Paterson Crescent  
Jindabyne NSW



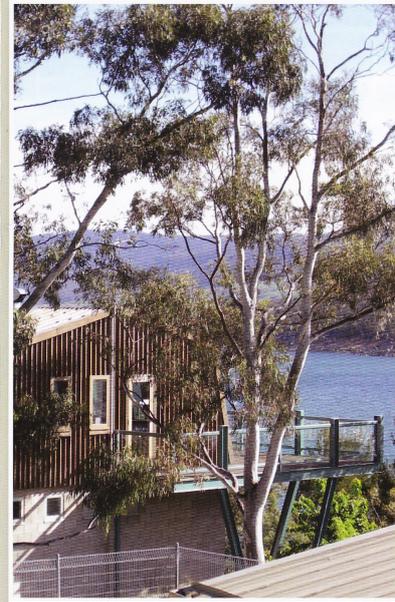
## Membership

Summer members (there are senior and junior rates) have full membership status and access to the Lodge and all its facilities for any time of the year except July and August, and can book the Lodge for themselves and guests outside of July and August. Summer members pay a significantly reduced joining fee and a slightly reduced annual subscription compared to Full members.

For more information about RASCAL Lodge and to become a Summer member, check us out at: [www.rascal.asn.au](http://www.rascal.asn.au) or contact us at: [OfficeManager@rascal.asn.au](mailto:OfficeManager@rascal.asn.au).

Become a member of

## RASCAL LODGE JINDABYNE



*A lodge for mountain enthusiasts*



**Reliable accommodation at  
reasonable rates**

**Relax with friends and family**

**Friendly atmosphere, run for  
and by the members**

**On-line bookings**

**Lodge available to RASCAL  
members for private functions**



## Facilities

- A double block with sweeping northerly views over Lake Jindabyne
- Direct frontage and access to the lake, with boat pull-in
- Sleeping for 28 people in two and four bed bunkrooms
- A large modern communal kitchen with everything you would expect
- Quality furnishings including leather lounges
- Evaporative air cooler in lounge/dining area, central heating system
- A large deck with sail shades overlooking the lake
- Free wifi access
- No TV so members can enjoy a communal atmosphere or a quiet space
- A games room with fusbball table
- Complimentary laundry facilities and a drying room
- Pergola and two gas BBQs
- Off street parking



By-Laws succinctly rewritten to conform with new constitution

Building sub committee established to develop refurbishment/building strategy for next two decades.

Summer membership brochure produced.

Member survey undertaken as part of building sub committee work.

Earth leakage devices installed at Lodge.

Extensive flooding prevented the scheduled Hike de Femme on 3 March. It was later run very successfully in October.

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## Rascal in '13

President: Jack Cornell

Rascal driveway sign replaced after vandals removed the previous one

Seventeen femmes participated in the Hike de Femme

Matthew Higgins spoke at our Pre season function about Wragge's Weather Station on top of Mt Kosciuszko. The function was very well attended.

Rascal Strategic Plan launched at the AGM.

Committee decided not to extend Lodge for financial reasons, rather to upgrade existing facilities.

Marg Sharp and Barbara Dawson curated a Rascal display at the Thredbo Ski Museum's 'Skiing in the Brindabellas and ACT Clubs' exhibition.



Room 2 upgraded in 2014

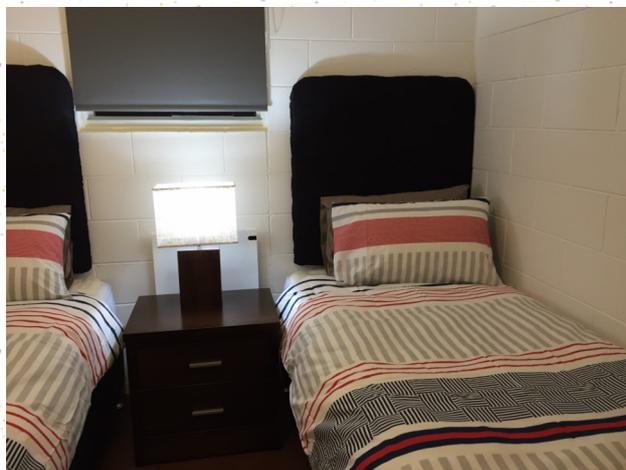
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## Rascal in '14

President: Jack Cornell

Room 2 upgraded with new paint colours, new synthetic wood floor, queen bed, bunks removed, built-ins removed, bed head and bedside lamps added. It looks very impressive. Interior design by Rascal member Warwick Mann.

Mains water pipe burst as it entered the Lodge near the front door. About 44 years ago the pipe had been heated and bent where it entered the bottom slab of the building. Ground movement over time resulted in a fracture at the bend.



Room 5 refurbished from four bunk room to twin beds.

Booking arrangements changed to provide members and guests with a bottom bunk should they required one.

Option to pay for bookings or renewals on-line using the secure CommWeb portal provided.

Jeff Brichacek donated his time and tools to make top level balustrade child-climbing-proof by replacing the horizontal bars with vertical wooden slats.

Electric panel heaters installed in all rooms. Electric furnace in the Games Room (RM1) removed.

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## Rascal in '15

President: Jack Cornell

Rooms 3 and 5 refurbished and Room 1 gutted in preparation for refurbishment.

Two reverse cycle air conditioners installed in top level. These were very successful in keeping us cool during summer.

Hot water system replaced with three separate instant gas systems.

The water main near front door again leaked so the line was rerouted under the driveway gravel to the instant gas hot water systems.

Garage installed for storage of bicycles, kayaks etc and maintenance tools.

Membership continues to decline slowly.

Room 1 cupboards removed now that hot water tanks, tool cupboard and Lodge heater all removed.

Summer usage going up

Japan attracts many a Rascal member during the Australian summer.



2016 Hike de Femmes about to embark on a walk from Charlotte Pass to Blue Lake and onwards to Mt Lee.

Continued pressure on winter beds, especially now that the refurbishment has reduced the bed numbers until Room 1 is completed.

Fee structure changed from a mix of room rate plus individual fees to primarily room rate plus an individual fee for non members.

Some members were unhappy with their room being reassigned by the computer as a result of booking churn. The refurbishment of some rooms increased the range and quality of rooms available and this exacerbated the issue. Members now required to choose which room they want.

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## Rascal in '16

President: Noel Ward

Twenty year anniversary of Hike de Femme held. There have been walks every year except, for unknown reasons in 1999. Even in 2012 when flooding closed the road on the Friday night of the HdF weekend, the femmes rallied around an October replacement.

Judy Roberts was thanked at the AGM for her many years of effort in making the Hike de Femme so successful. This year sixteen femmes attended with walks to the Porcupine and to Mt Lee via Blue Lake.

Some issues with the new room rate and booking process were raised at the AGM.

Phil Price again volunteered his time , expertise and plants to revamp Rascal;s gardens.



