

R.A.S.C.A.L. inc.



Telephone 824914

Woden Valley Hospital
PO Box 11
WODEN ACT 2606

FEBRUARY 1986 NEWSLETTER

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE NEWSLETTER?

Some members may have wondered. Well, first of all, an apology for such a lengthy gap between editions of the Newsletter. It is disappointing that this is only the second full Newsletter in the last nine months. Production has partly been delayed by the finalisation of a discussion paper on membership, the pressure of work commitments and the intervention of Christmas/New Year holidays. So much for excuses!

Members can be assured that the editor has made very firm resolutions (with assistance from his wife and Jan) to perform better during 1986.

KEY DATES

You should put these dates in your diary before reading on:

. Annual general meeting

25 March 1986 at 8.00 pm at Woden Valley Hospital Auditorium

. Work parties

8/9 March 1986 Ann Didcott will lead this party which will concentrate on the garden

5/6 April 1986 Bill Burch will lead this group which handle general maintenance and electrical work

30/31 May 1986 Bernie Hughson will be leader of this group which will prepare the Lodge for the 1986 season

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MEMBERSHIP RULES

The AGM on 25 March will once again be an important Club event. The Committee wishes to make some further refinements to the rules governing membership.

Since the last Newsletter the Committee has devoted a lot of time to considering applications from new members and the appropriateness of existing rules governing membership. Since the last AGM and the widening of the eligibility rules for membership we have added 74 new members bringing total membership to 244, just six less than the maximum allowed under the RASCAL Constitution. Our books are likely to be full by the AGM.

Some of the matters which have concerned the Committee about membership have included:

- . . rules governing nomination of new members
- . rights of spouses/single members
- . rights of new members
- . numbers to be nominated annually
- . restrictions on numbers of non-health based and non-Canberra based members
- . access rights of non-members to use Lodge during ski season
- . continuation of debentures and the need for a levy-raising power
- . requirements for the operation of a waiting list

There has been considerable discussion on these matters within the Committee and it is proposed to submit some further changes to the Constitution at the next AGM on 25 March 1986. A copy of the proposed changes will be forwarded with other AGM papers shortly.

The background to these proposals are as follows:

Nomination of members

The present requirement to require a seconder discriminates against single members. The requirement for a seconder has been removed.

At present there is no restriction on the number of new members who can be nominated by a member over a 12 month period. A limit was not considered necessary when the objective was to actively recruit new members. Now that membership is full a limit is considered desirable to avoid "stacking" and to give all members an opportunity to nominate new members. The By-Laws have been amended.

In addition there is no limit on a new member being entitled to immediately nominate additional new members. There is concern in the Committee that new members should establish their own commitment before being entitled to nominate new members. The By-Laws have been amended.

Hospital/Canberra Based Limitations

The Club was originally set up by Canberra Hospital people for Canberra Hospital. The changes to the Constitution at the last AGM have seen a rapid increase in membership with a number of new members residing outside the ACT. There is concern that the common interests which formed the original basis of the Club will be lost and that this will be to the detriment of the Club. The Committee's proposals deal with these concerns.

Financial Issues - Debentures/Levies

The Committee has questioned the appropriateness of continuing to provide Club capital through refundable debentures. Debentures were appropriate in the foundation days of the club when there were few assets and membership was keenly sought. However, they represent a liability for the Club in the sense that they are required to be repaid, albeit at the discretion of the Committee as to when.

The Committee believes that members joining the Club in the future should pay a non-refundable joining fee at a rate to be fixed by the Committee from time to time. Such an approach is followed in very well established clubs. The joining fee would be set initially at around \$500. The rights of existing debenture holders would be preserved.

Most clubs have provision for the Committee to levy members from time to time. Generally levies are imposed when funds are required to cover extraordinary events or items of expenditure. Although there is certainly no need for such a provision at present - the Club's finances are in good order - it would seem to be prudent to provide for such a provision. Any Committee seeking to impose a levy would need to have it agreed to by a majority of the members eligible to vote at a General meeting.

Waiting List Requirements

The proposals relating to a waiting list recognise that we could have one before too long. We need some clearly defined means of dealing with the situation.

Rights of Non-Members to use the Lodge

The current rules for non-members use of the Lodge during both winter and summer are fairly liberal (see the By-Laws). There is no requirement that members accompany their guests nor any restriction on the numbers of guests a member can sponsor. There were several occasions during the season when members were not able to obtain bookings, especially on weekends, because the Lodge had been booked-out but with a high proportion of non-members occupying bunks. The Committee believes this is unacceptable and that members must have every

opportunity to use their club's facilities. This is particularly important now that we have a greater number of members. This can only be done by changing the existing rules to protect the rights of members. The Committee's By-Law changes do this.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Committee has decided that the 1986 Annual Subscriptions will be:

Family	\$37
Couple	\$32
Single	\$27

The increases will help to meet the additional costs of running the Club over the next year.

Members are reminded that subscriptions fall due as from 1 January each year. Members are required to be financial to use the Lodge and to participate in the AGM.

LODGE IMPROVEMENTS/MAINTENANCE

The three Autumn Work Parties will be an important part of the Club's programme for keeping the lodge in good condition for members. We hope members will respond generously by volunteering for a weekend. If you want further information about any of the Work Parties contact the group leader. Members wishing to attend a Work Party should book their accommodation with Jan Murdoch. This is most important. It ensures that all participants have adequate accommodation. It also facilitates the work of the leaders in planning the Work Party.

The Committee has been concerned to ensure that the Lodge and its facilities are maintained at a high standard. During the Spring the bedrooms and bathrooms were painted. We are also looking to:

- . re-carpet
- . replace some of the furniture
- . improve lighting and ventilation in the kitchen/lounge area
- . instal external new doors on levels 1 and 2
- . instal a fly screen door onto the balcony
- . instal an awning over the front door
- . purchase some new garden tools.

We would be pleased to hear from members about any other improvements which could be made to the Lodge.

BOOKINGS FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS

Following a review of bookings by children and students of non-members the Committee decided to alter the By-Laws. The changes were prompted by concerns about some abuse of earlier By-Laws. The new By-Laws, which are set out below provide that only children of members up to the age of 21 who are

students can be charged at the rate of a child of member.

The new By-Laws are:

- 6.2 Bookings for persons 18 years or under at the time of booking will be charged at the rate for child of member or non-member as the case may be. Except as provided in clause 6.3 persons over the age of 18 years shall be charged at the rate for adult non-members.
- 6.3 Children of members up to the age of 21 years shall be entitled to be charged at the rate for child of member where that persons is a full-time student.

RASCAL COCKTAIL PARTY

This was held on 27 June 1985 and was a roaring success for the 40 odd people who attended. I think the Committee were sufficiently pleased with the result to try again this year. It was great to see so many new faces.

NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of RASCAL we welcome the following new members to the Club:

Christopher TWOMEY	Gregory Mullens
Hilary LANG	Peter DOHERTY
David ROBINSON	Ian TETLEY
David PEARSON	Robert GILL
Jane KOERNER	David CARPENTER
Jan WIEBE	Leonard TAYLOR
Graeme LAWLESS	Alan SIMON
Mary MCDONALD	Peter FRASER
Win ABERNETHY	John WILLIAMSON
John PITKIN	Judith TURNBULL
Annette DORAN	Erika BURR
David GILLINGHAM	Margaret ROOM
Gerd KLENKE	Christopher ASHTON
Judith LAWS	Pauline RICHARDS
Kathryn WADE	Wendy GRAY
Ailsa KORTEN	John O'SULLIVAN
Fern HINCHCLIFFE	Erroll SIMPSON
Mariana MATTHEWS	Margaret HUDDY
Catriona HOWARD	Alison ELVIN
Robin BLESSING	Monty FOX
Millard COFFIN	Colin FULTON
Winston READFORD	

BOOKING INFORMATION

It is important that members follow the correct procedure in making bookings for accommodation. The following pointers will avoid any disappointments:

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- . Bookings are handled by Jan Murdoch who can be contacted on the Club vocaphone (062824914)
- . Check with Jan whether there are any vacancies before submitting a booking form and money
- . Bookings are not confirmed unless a booking is made on a booking form and the correct booking fee has been paid and received by Jan Murdoch
- . Once you know there are vacancies get a booking form and your money to Jan quickly
- . If there is a problem with the booking once Jan has received your form and money she will contact you. Otherwise you can presume that everything is alright
- . keys to the Lodge can be collected from Jan's home at 91 Brereton Street, Garran (a small wooden box on ground near front door) and must be returned within 48 hours of the end of the booked period.
- . The address of the Lodge is Banjo Patterson Crescent, Jindabyne - overlooking the Lake
- . The Lodge telephone number in Jindabyne is 0648 62169
- . The winter school holiday booking form (August/September) will be in the next issue of the newsletter which will be before the AGM in March.

RASCAL INCORPORATED

ACCOMMODATION BOOKING FORM

All enquiries and applications should be forwarded to
The Booking Officer
RASCAL Incorporated
Woden Valley Hospital
PO Box 11
WODEN ACT 2606
Telephone 824914

	<u>WINTER TARIFF (per night)</u>		<u>SUMMER TARIFF</u>
	<u>FRI & SAT</u>	<u>SUN - THURS</u>	
	& all Public & School holidays		excluding Public School holidays
<u>MEMBERS</u>	\$12	\$10	\$7
<u>CHILD OF MEMBER</u>	\$8	\$6	\$5
<u>NON-MEMBERS</u>	\$18	\$16	\$10
<u>CHILD OF NON-MEMBER</u>	\$14	\$12	\$8

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I wish to reserve the following accommodation at RASCAL Lodge

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

<u>FULL NAME</u>	<u>M F</u>	<u>MEMBER/ NON-MEMBER</u>	<u>AGE</u> if under 18	<u>DATES OF ACCOMM.</u>	<u>COST</u>

I enclose cheque/money order for total cost of \$ _____

Name of member _____

Address of member _____

Telephone of member _____

Signature of member _____

Work address of member _____

Please photocopy if you require any more of these forms

