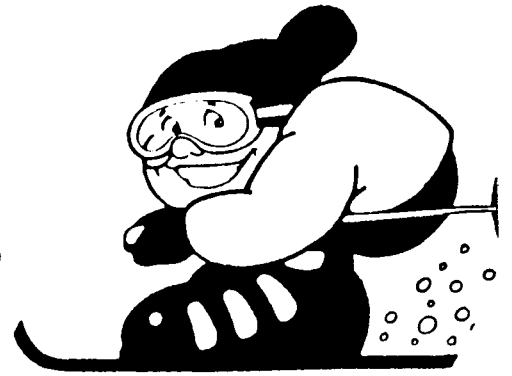


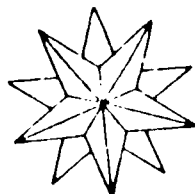
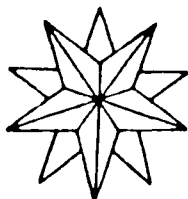
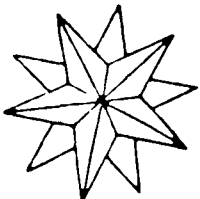
R.A.S.C.A.L. INC. NEWSLETTER



WINTER 1988

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT PRESENTED BY GREG FRASER at A.G.M. 1988.

Dear Rascals

On behalf of your Committee I am very pleased to present a report on your club's activities over the past twelve months.

Overview

The last year has seen a further consolidation of the Club's operations with further improvements to:

- . the Club's facilities
- . administration of the club

There has been a further tidying up of the membership and we are currently below the 250 limit. This has occurred as a result of the purging of "dead" membership, ie. members who have been un-financial for 2 years.

The Committee has had to again spend considerable sums on lodge maintenance and refurbishment.

The appointment of new lodge managers for the 1987 season resulted in some minor problems but I am hopeful that these have been sorted out and will result in a smoother 1988 season.

This will be my last report as I will be stepping down as an office bearer at the 1988 AGM. I have very much enjoyed the last three years as President. We have seen some significant changes to the nature of the Club and I believe some significant improvements to the Lodge's facilities.

I have been extremely lucky over this period to be supported wholeheartedly by all the Committee members. They have been very generous with their time and efforts and provided co-operation and encouragement. Over the last three years we have seen a considerable sharing of the workload amongst members, which has helped greatly in running the Club's affairs.

The running of the Club has been made considerably easier by the outstanding work of Barbara Brown, Secretary for the last four years. Not many people appreciate the tremendous effort she has made over this time. I doubt we would have achieved half of what has been done without Barbara's dedication. The Club will be a lot poorer for the fact that she too will be stepping aside at the AGM.

During the last year I have also had tremendous help from:

- . Jack Walters, Vice President
- . Bernie Hughson, Treasurer
- . Chris Acker, Lodge maintenance
- . Ann Didcott, Newsletter
- . Sue Gibson, Social functions
- . Daryl Lawrence, Lodge Supplies

Jan Murdoch has continued to support the club well.

Lodge Maintenance and Repair

The emphasis on maintenance and refurbishment has continued this year. Action taken or set in train during the year includes:

- . installation of sliding door and screen to top landing
- . additional lounge furniture
- . resurfacing of kitchen floor
- . new refrigerators
- . new table tennis table

There have also been several items of major repair, eg. new hot water service. As the Lodge ages we will continue to have such items come up for replacement.

During the year the Committee agreed to a basic philosophy regarding work at the Lodge. Major items of repair/maintenance will be undertaken by professionals. Work parties will be used only for minor works. We have sought to "retain" some key trades people in the Jindabyne area to assist in having work done.

Chris Acker has continued to do an excellent job on co-ordinating maintenance and repairs. He has continued to spend lots of time ensuring that things at the Lodge work well.

Work parties were well attended in Autumn and poorly attended in Spring despite the early notice. The Spring work parties were extremely disappointing to the Committee and those few members who supported them. Proposals to reward those who do support work parties will be implemented.

Communications and Social Activities

We have continued with the pattern of 3-4 Newsletter and at least one Social function each year. The latter was fairly well attended and by all accounts very successful - I was overseas at the time! There does not seem to be a greater need for more to be done at this stage, although some feed back from members would be useful.

Club Administration

A major change in procedures has tightened financial administration by giving the Treasurer more direct control over expenditures. Although there have been some teething problems I believe this worked well.

The Committee, with considerable effort from Barbara Brown, has prepared a manual for the next Committee on the various responsibilities and duties of the Committee. We believe this will facilitate changeovers from one Committee to another.

The Future

I continue to be optimistic about the future of the Club. We have a solid membership base and the finances are in good shape.

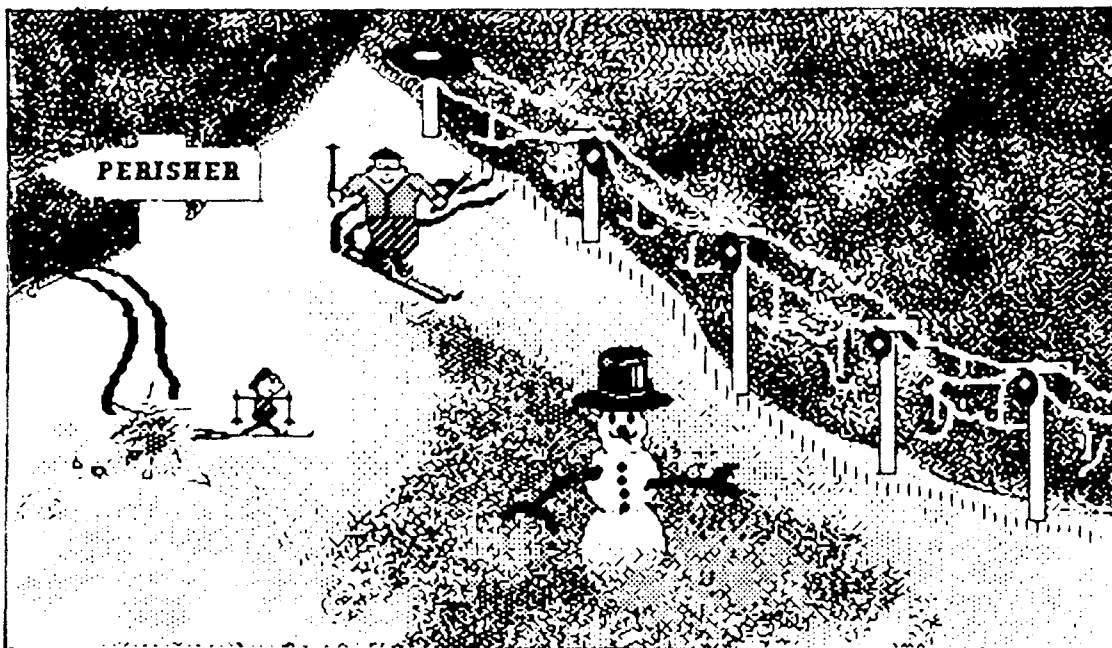
There are a number of areas where I think we should be moving:

- providing for the voluntary cancellation of debentures and allowing members to contribute these to the Club's funds - I will donate mine as soon as this occurs!
- examining how competitive our tariff structure is - I suspect we are becoming expensive for what we offer;
- reviewing what we offer members in terms of facilities and activities:
 - comfort
 - sauna/spa
 - boating
 - other
- looking to develop better/more flexible accommodation at Jindabyne
 - perhaps something that could be commercially let.

Some of these may sound a bit radical but I think they deserve consideration. I would like to see them discussed at the AGM and perhaps taken up by the new Committee.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM on 29 March.

Greg Fraser
President



Drawing by Helen & Robbie Gibson

List of Committee Members 1988

President	Jack Walters
Vice President	Christopher Fogarty
Secretary	Barbara Brown
Minute Secretary	Sue Gibson
Treasurer	Stephen Aherne
Assistant Treasurer	Michael Woods
Committee	Chris Acker Ann Didcott Monty Fox Greg Fraser Bernard Hughson

Winter Lodge Managers- Jane and Parvo Parviainen.

New members

The following people have been admitted to Rascal membership: Narelle Booth, Ray Dickson, Susan Hamilton, Marilyn Hutton, Patricia McCallum, David MacKenzie, George Malecky, Marelle Rawson, Anthony Tuckett, Doris Zonta.

Margitta Acker's Life Membership has been changed to Ordinary Membership.

The committee welcomes these new members and trusts that their involvement and commitment to the club will be an active one.

New members, we hope to see you participate in the May or Spring Work Parties, and come to the June Social function so you can meet other members and become integrated into the club. Bring your sponsors along with you!

Rascal constitution only allows a certain percentage of members to be in residence outside the A.C.T. At present we have reached this limit, so although we only have 228 members to date (maximum allowable is 250), we do have one person on the waiting list because this person resides outside the A.C.T.

Our club membership is not full; so current members do feel free to sponsor new people - see by-laws 2.4 & 2.8. The next intake of new members is in November. Participation at the Spring Workparties of intending new members will most obviously be noted and recognised by the committee when considering applications.

Report of RASCAL Working Bee 16/17 April 1988

Quite a variety of tasks were tackled on this weekend. Some members, revelling in Sunday's sunshine, took to the garden and cleared a lot of dead wood and weeds away. Others busied themselves painting the new BBQ table and repairing and painting the pine setting in the lounge, and starting to scrape off the flaking paint on the verandah rails.

With Saturday being a bit on the cool side and overcast, the 'inside' jobs seemed to be more favoured. The tool cupboard was moved back under the stairs and thoroughly cleaned out and reorganised. All flammable liquids and paints and garden tools were moved from under the stairs to the outside enclosure under the ramp. This enclosure is padlocked, one key is with the verandah key, the other hangs above the telephone. Feel free to make use of the gardening tools if you have a few minutes to spare!

Luckily there was one more male volunteer besides myself, as both the hot water service and the old fridge from the flat had to be carried outside and taken to the dump. And the two of us couldn't manage that without the assistance of the lady volunteers.

Present at this working bee were: Sue Gibson with 2 youngsters, Ann Didcott, Meena Koerner, Margot Huddy and son, Margitta Acker, and Bill Burch. Many thanks to all of them for a productive and enjoyable weekend.

Chris Acker

One important point I would like to make to all members of RASCAL - Please do not interfere with the thermostat and the time clock of the heating system. They are set to operate automatically to start and stop at given times and temperatures. If the setting is not satisfactory, please inform the *Booking officer* or the lodge manager, and changes will be made by those who know how to program the timer and controller.

Work Party in May

Steve Aherne is leading the work party on the weekend 28-29th May. Contact the Booking Officer if you are coming. No accommodation charges are made to hard working members who participate in work parties. Contact Steve Aherne Phone 544722(H) or 581033(W) for more details of what to bring etc.

The club pays \$30.00 per vehicle towards the travelling expenses of participants of work parties. You are expected to devote at least one full day or two half days working to clean or fix up the Lodge. It's not all work and can be lots of fun, and you do get to know other club members whilst sharing in a very worthwhile activity.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY BOOKINGS

School holiday dates for your diary are July 2nd - 17th and Sep. 24th - Oct. 9th. The 9th - 17th July is booked out at the moment, although cancellations may occur.

Smoking in the Lodge

This matter was raised at the A.G.M. and has subsequently been discussed by the committee. It is resolved to alter Bye-law 7 to prohibit smoking in the lodge except in the front foyer, provided that not more than one third of its members notify the committee in writing by 25th June '88 that they do not agree with this alteration of the Bye-law.

So, take note of the need to write in if you do not wish this Bye-law to be changed

PHONES.....PHONES.....PHONES.....

Gold Phone at Lodge

A Telecom "Gold Phone" for coin in the slot operation has been installed in the kitchen/dining area of the Lodge. The telephone number is unchanged. No longer will you be able to put paper money into the jar and help yourself to change. So if you are a phone addict, don't forget to take up lots of coins with you next time you stay at the lodge.

The Booking Officer's Answering Service.

Often the booking officer has had difficulty in answering calls because people do not say whether their contact phone number is work or home. Please make this clear.

The answering service is activated by the voice so if your message is cut short you are either speaking too softly or have paused for too long. As long as the recording machine is registering your message you could talk up to half an hour, if you have that much to say! So speak up and speak out!

JUNE SOCIAL FUNCTION

- WHEN; Tuesday 28th June 6.00pm-6.30pm.
WHERE; Canberra Yacht Club.
WHAT; Food will be provided by RASCAL ; pay for your own drinks.
Meet our club managers, old friends, new acquaintances; get into the pre-season mood; get with it!
.R.S.V.P. to Booking Officer by Monday 21st June. This is important because food has to be ordered and we need to know exact numbers coming otherwise some may go hungry!

The Lodge Gardens - Botanical Notes - Sue Gibson

The plants in the front garden between the lodge and the road grow much more vigorously, and die much more frequently, than those in the back garden between the lodge and the lake. One may wonder why this is so? Several factors could be contributing to this. The top garden is mulched with tanbark, supplied with an underground watering system, and probably gets more attention by work parties. The lower garden has a thin covering of soil, no mulch, has been burnt during work parties in an effort to eliminate weeds and clear up the area, and may be affected much more by frost due to drainage of cold air downhill in winter.

During the April work party this year it was discovered that the Grevilleas in both gardens had grown very large. The one at the top by the garbage bins has spread out with new growth, the centre was dying, so we pruned it out. A briar rose was also growing in the centre of this Grevillea. The Grevilleas in the lower garden had grown so large that the branches had broken and were sagging to the ground. Several of the outer branches had died completely. We pruned these shrubs rather severely in the hope that they will recover with new growth.

In both gardens the Kunzeas (or are the Melaleucas?) had grown very tall and in the wind the weighty branches had bent and snapped. These were also pruned out in an attempt to get the bushes to thicken up. It was interesting to note that the variegated Contoneaster is spreading with new branches but these are bright green - they have lost the yellow and green variegation.

We are "blessed" with several noxious weeds in our lodge gardens. One is Skeleton Weed, but this is not a real problem. Due to C.S.I.R.O.'S biological control programme a parasitic rust keeps it under control. St. Johnswort seems to be getting more prevalent. It has quite a strong hold in the lawn around the Bar-b-que. It has spread up into the native garden below the drive and is creeping downhill towards the lake. This weed is poisonous to stock. It's a good thing we don't have an animal lawnmower. It has yellow star shaped flowers and brown seed heads. Pattersons' Curse is easily recognised when it is flowering and has purple reddish flowers in long blue spikes. The form in the High Country is different from the types growing around Canberra. The plants seem to be more upright and the flower stalks are more spikey. The rosettes of bright green leaves, rough to touch, are coming up more prevalently in the lower garden, although we did weed out some from the upper garden too. The Briar Rose is a rather tiresome thing to eliminate. It is seeded by birds wiping their beaks on a branch of a tree or

shrub. The fleshy rosehip contains several hairy seeds- you should try eating some yourself. They are very irritating, especially to the birds eating the rosehips. Thus they get planted right in the centre or close to our shrubs. They cannot be dug out, and pruning them causes them to grow more vigorously; poisoning them could also kill or damage the shrub. Briars are rather difficult to kill with sprays, they go on resprouting and need several successive treatments. Isolated briars can be killed by injecting a poison into the soil on the uphill side of the plant.

During the April workparty Annie Diddcott spent a whole day digging up weeds, and we then mulched over the disturbed ground with barrows of dead leaves which had fallen from the branches left beside the Bar-b-que by the previous workparty.

Weeds like bare ground and grow well where the soil has been disturbed or burnt. They are colonisers of bare ground. Many of them do not like strong competition from other plants and disappear when other plants, such as grass, take over. St. Johnswort, Pattersons' Curse and Briars do not fall into this category, they grow vigorously crowding out grasses and more desirable plants. We shall have to poison them to eliminate them.

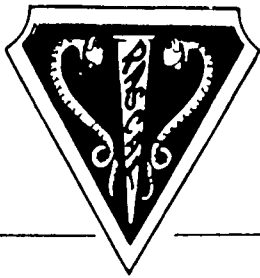
The best form of weed control, in the long run, is to mulch the lower garden with leaf litter or compost. If we decide to buy mulch let it be Eucalupt chips not Tanbark. Please let's cut the grass by hand and not take the quick and easy way of burning - in the long run this will encourage further loss of what little soil there is.

Burning completely destroys the leaf litter and mulch that has developed around the shrubs and trees. It quickly releases minerals to the soil, these then get blown away in the wind or wash down to the lake. It also releases yet more carbondioxide to the atmosphere, helping, be it in a small way, to increase the greenhouse effect of our environment.

Last workparty we took the briars to the tip (to get rid of those hips and seeds) and unfortunately we did had to burn a lot of the prunings, just because we have now lost our compost heap. The lodge next door has covered it with gravel so they can have a driveway to the lakeside of their block. Can anyone think of a new location for a compost heap?

Several thorns were removed from sore fingers during the weekend. There's a rather fine implement in the First Aid kit for this job. However, all this was worthwhile, the lodge gardens continue to enhance the beautiful lodge setting beside Lake Jindabyne.

P.S. Due to lack of space in this Newsletter, more detailed botanical notes on the weeds in our lodge garden will be published (for the sake of all those keen gardeners who go to the workparties) in the next newsletter.



R.A.S.C.A.L. INC

ACCOMMODATION BOOKING FORM 1988

	<u>WINTER TARIFF (\$)</u>		<u>SUMMER TARIFF (\$)</u>
	<u>FRI & SAT & all Public & School holidays</u>	<u>SUN - THURS excluding Public & School holidays</u>	
MEMBERS	15	13	10
CHILD OF MEMBER	10	8	6
NON-MEMBER	22	19	13
CHILD NON-MEMBER	17	15	11

BLOCK BOOKINGS \$290 PER TWO NIGHTS (5.00PM FRIDAY TO 5.00 PM SUNDAY)

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RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Dates of Accommodation Required _____ to _____ (_____ nights)

<u>FULL NAME</u>	<u>M or F</u>	<u>Member or Non-member</u>	<u>Age if under 18</u>	<u>Cost (\$)</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Name of member _____ Signature _____

Telephone work _____ Home _____

I enclose cheque for total of \$ _____.

Forward to: The Booking Officer, RASCAL inc, PO Box 25, GARRAN 2605 Telephone 824914