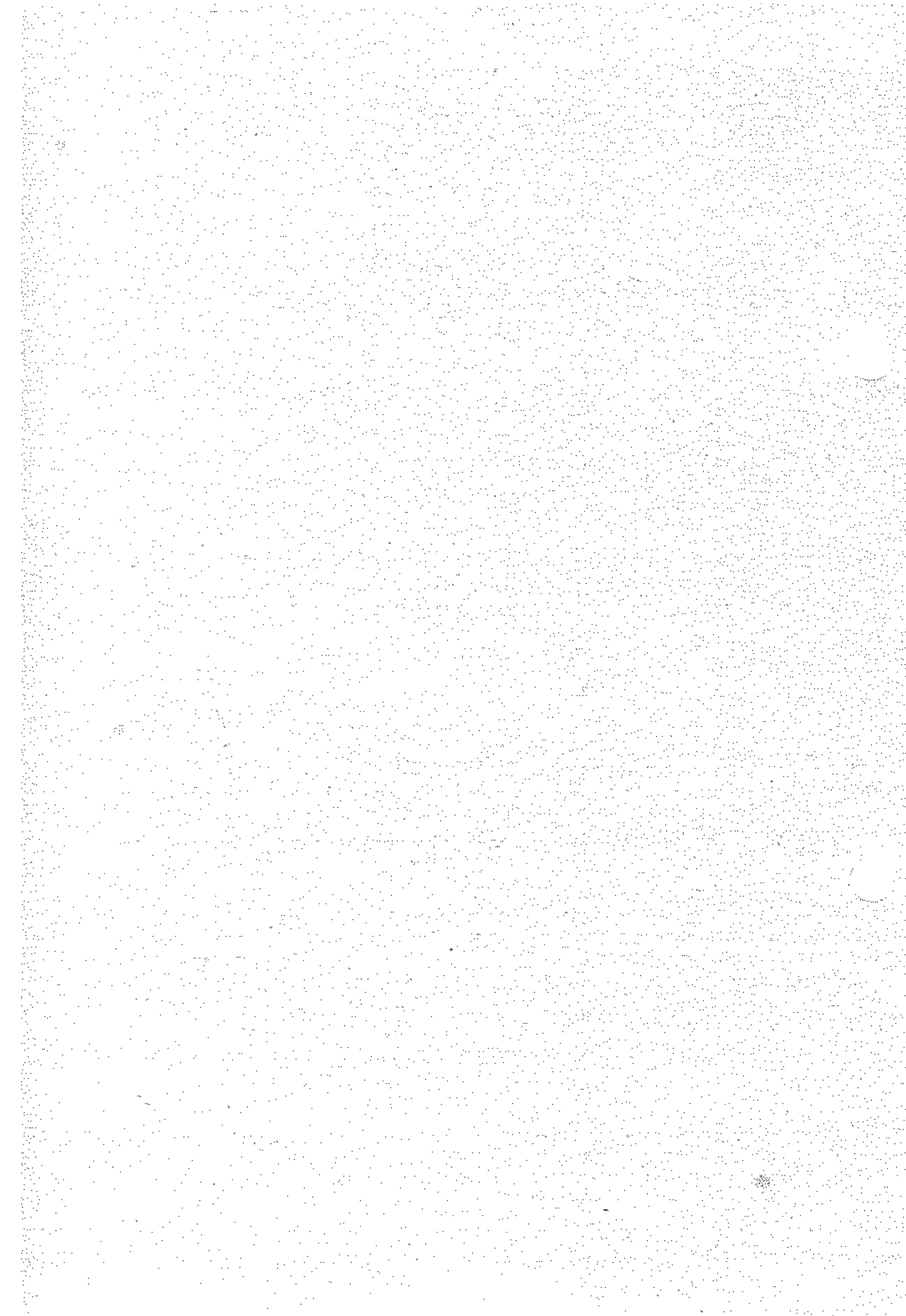


Rascal Inc

Winter Newsletter Aug 2004

In this issue

- Post season lodge working bee 23/24 Oct.....p.3*
- RASCALS in hot water?.....p.3*
- Ski the Dolomites in 2005p.4*
- Lodge key returns.....p.5*
- KNP draft plan of Management.....p.6*



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President's message

Not a lot from me this time as Jenny and I have just returned from a holiday in England -helping my father celebrate his 90th birthday.

A couple of observations from our trip that might be of interest. We were quite jealous of how green the English countryside is compared with our drought-hit landscape - we could benefit from some of their rain. On the negative side, there are so many people and so much traffic, and goods and services are quite expensive - a pound there buys what a dollar buys here. On balance Australia is the place to be.

Particularly as it's the winter season with some good snowfalls and we are looking forward to some skiing. I hope the skiers amongst our members are enjoying the conditions and your time at the lodge.

More from me next time.

Richard Emerton
President

HIKE de FEMME 2005 - early reminder!

Rascal Femmes and Friends

Judy Roberts and I would like to invite interested Rascal Femmes and friends to start "fitness programs" for the 2005 Hike de Femme.

Following feedback from disappointed people who wanted to come in 2004

but who also wanted to spend the Canberra weekend with families, we have made a temporary arrangement to pencil in the 2005 Hike de Femme for 6/7 March ... we understand that the Canberra weekend will follow this and 6/7 March is close enough to International Women's Day. If

anyone knows of any other local event on this selected weekend which may prevent people from coming, please let us know.

We would be interested in hearing suggestions for the weekend planned ... one idea was to invite an interested masseur for a free weekend of accommodation ... another was to ask someone to talk about

some area of interest, perhaps before/after dinner on the Saturday night. Of course, our weekends up to this year have been enjoyed anyway in the relaxed format which has evolved, so maybe everyone would just like to leave the casual arrangements as they now stand. We look forward to seeing you all there and remember that all levels of fitness are welcome.

Further information / enquiries to Colleen Fox on 6288 3153

Lodge working bee 23/24 Oct 2004

The post season working bee on the weekend of 23/24 Oct sorts out those winter season niggles! A variety of maintenance tasks will be needed to get the lodge ready for summer. Rascal members and friends are invited to attend.

- *Free accommodation is provided for workers on Friday and Saturday night,*
- *Free lunch on Saturday and a BBQ dinner on Saturday night.*

Work is usually undertaken on Saturday only, with Sunday free for your time like that late cross country ski, walking, sunbathing on the deck etc.

Contact Mike Law- Smith 0262572278 for more details or just book with our Office Manager, Jennifer Bryden.

RASCALS in hot water?

Well, we sure hope so!

During the May 22 Working Bee it was noted that the left hand water heater (main tank) had a small water leak coming from it's base. It appears the tank had come to the end of its useable life. A new water heater has now been installed.

Since the beginning of the ski season, some members have reported hot water shortages in the showers. The reason this occurs is because the water flows from the two water heaters are not balanced with only one heater flowing at a time, rather than both heaters flowing at the same time.

The Committee is currently investigating possible solutions to this problem - *thanks to expert help from Simon Matthews ably encouraged by Mike Stomps!*

People staying at the lodge can help alleviate this problem by keeping showers short and by showering outside times of peak usage (probably 5:00pm to 7:00pm).

Mike Law-Smith

SKI the Dolomites Jan 2005 - with Sharen

SKI ITALY - Dolomites - in January 2005 for 2 weeks,

Contact: Sharen Mack

on smack@austarmetro.com.au

or phone 0412 481982

for more details:

September/ October lodge vacancies

There are plenty of vacancies ... and the snow will last. Low season rates after Monday 4 October !

In September, the only full days so far are

- Wednesday 1
- Friday 3
- Saturday 4
- Friday 10
- Saturday 11

October, the only reserved days so far are

- Saturday 16
- Sunday 17
- Friday 29
- Saturday 30
- Working bee 23/24 Oct

More Lodge news

Snowing in Jindabyne!

Well, on Saturday 17 July at 9pm I had to shovel 10cm of snow off the steep Rascal driveway to get the Peugeot, wheels spinning, neighbours children leaping out of the way, out to park on the street before the overnight freeze! It had taken two hours to drive the normal 1/2hr drive from Perisher to Jindabyne. Cars were off the road at various angles at numerous new and old danger spots. Jindabyne was blanketed all ground down to the lake. The lodge was lovely refuge from the severe conditions.

Like Stomps

Gabe Bloxham has suggested we need some small snippets of news with pics of the snow in Jindabyne on 17 July Saturday. If you were at the lodge please send us your photos. We could put them on the website.

Lights

Paul Room has replaced the outdoor floodlight and Clive Styles has replaced the drying room fan in their own separate holiday/ mini working bees in July.

Drains

Since we spent \$1000 last winter on the drains some major drain work has been carried out by Rod Roberts and Michael Law Smith just before this ski season. A hard way to stay for free digging and working in a 1 1/2 metre hole. The drains are a worsening chronic problem and a health and safety issue. The committee has agreed to a permanent solution and hopefully the drains will be replaced next spring.

Lodge Key Returns

Lodge users are reminded of the arrangements for key returns.

- If you pay for postage (ie.\$6 on booking form) the you will have a return paid sticker & are entitled to post your key back using that address label.
- However if you opt to pick up your key & then want to post it back to Rascal - you are responsible for the postage & have not paid to use the "reply paid" facility.

Please take this in mind when returning keys.

Difficulty driving into Jindabyne this winter?

Members travelling to Jindabyne over this winter may find the information on this site of interest, re the proposed dam works at Jindabyne and the time delays and road closure times as applicable for blasting, during the coming "season".

You will find a lot of information and details, in the web site below.

Items most applicable are;

Timing of activities

How you may be affected

Road Closure Tables

<http://www.snowyhydro.com.au/LevelThree.asp?pageID=56&parentID=52&grandParentID=3>

Making the games room more kid and big kid friendly

Thanks to Sara Matthews there are now some great children's books and toys (for all ages), games (including jigsaws, board games, crayons) and some adult novels and board games.

KNP Draft plan of Management update - submission in by 20 August, 2004

A draft plan of management for KNP has been prepared and is available free of charge by contacting NPWS, Kosciuszko Plan of Management Office, on 1800 200 208, or logging on to the NPWS website at www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au.

The draft plan is also available for inspection at the following locations:

- NPWS Head Office Library, Level 7, 43 Bridge Street, Hurstville, SYDNEY
- National Parks Centre at the Rocks, 102 George Street, The Rocks, SYDNEY
- NPWS offices and/or visitor centres:
 - 7 Adelong Road, Tumut
 - 6 Rutledge Street, Queanbeyan
 - Kosciuszko Road, Jindabyne
 - Scott Street, Khancoban
 - 119 Maybe Street, Bombala

Written submissions on the draft plan must be received at the National Parks & Wildlife Service, Kosciuszko Plan of Management, PO Box 733, QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620 by Friday 20 August 2004.

All submissions received by NPWS are a matter of public record and are available for public inspection upon request to NPWS. Your comments on

This draft plan of management may contain information that is defined as "personal information" under the NSW Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. The submission of personal information with your comments is voluntary.

National Parks & Wildlife Service is part of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Agenda Items for Committee meetings

Committee meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesdays for 2004. Please get your agenda items to John Kennard.

**Close off date for articles for next NEWSLETTER is
November 30th 2004 - Send contributions to
anne.robinson@defence.gov.au**

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RASCAL NEWS

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RASCAL NEWS Winter 2004 Edition

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