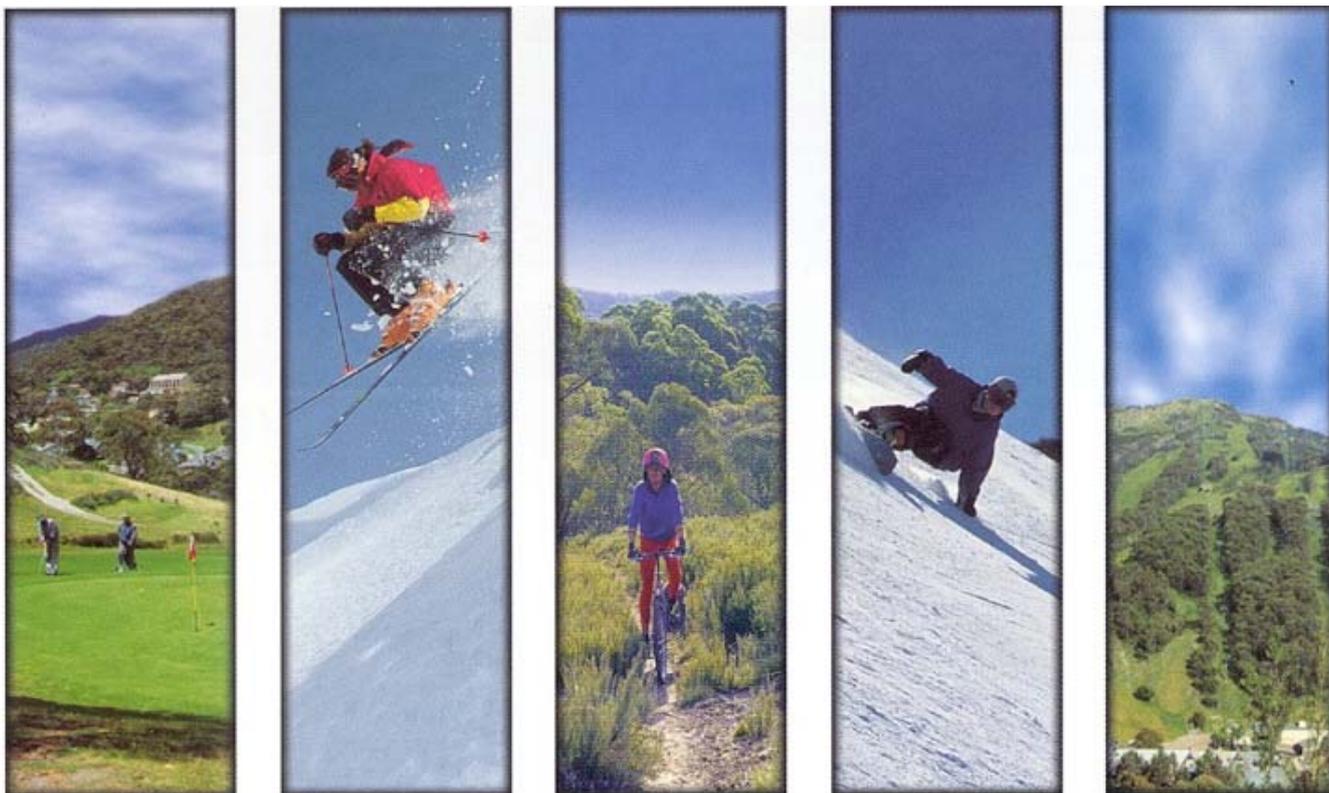


Rascal

incorporated

7–9 Banjo Paterson Cres, Jindabyne, NSW, 2627

... summer, autumn, winter, spring ... summer, autumn, winter, spring ... summer, autumn, winter, spring ...



... skiing, snowboarding, hiking, bike riding, sailing, photography, fishing, relaxing, golf, swimming ...

Winter Newsletter – June 2008

Rascal Inc Information Board

Rascal Lodge
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Jindabyne, NSW 2627
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2008/09 Committee

committee@rascal.asn.au

President

Alan Laird

Vice-President

Rod Roberts

Secretary

Lynne Bentley

Michael Stomps (Assistant)

Treasurer

Linda Swift

Public Officer

Ian McNeill

Lodge Manager

Ray Atkin

Committee Members

Clive Styles

Keith McLaren

Wendy Zarb

Co-opted Member

Richard Emerton

PRESIDENTS REPORT



I am envisaging the mountains cloaked with a sheet of white, gently enfolding the rocky roughness and blending with the softness of the luxuriant fire stimulated re-growth to provide a smooth crisp awakening of the soul.

So much is our love of the mountains and the thrill of the biting icy chill across our faces. Ah, it is nice to keep alive the hope of a great winter ahead.

AGM

Welcome to the 2008 Committee, and congratulations on being re-elected! Congratulations also to Richard for surviving his year as Immediate Past President and thank you for making such a strong contribution during the year. A contribution for which I am deeply thankful.



Summer Members can now book the Lodge for 10 months of the year

In addition to the reelection of the Committee, the AGM agreed to amend the Constitution to enable Summer Members to book the Lodge at Member rates for all months of the year except July and August.

The new arrangements reflect the Committee's view that the peak demand is in the July and August part of the winter season. Outside this period the Lodge is not heavily booked and it made sense to encourage greater usage by having a reduced accommodation fee and by opening bookings to Summer Members.

Greater Member usage of the Lodge is a win-win situation for all Members and for the Club.

2008 Renewals



2008 Membership renewals are well advanced. Renewals can be made on the web site in the usual way.

Hike de Femme

This annual feminine pilgrimage to the mountains was a great success this year.

Congratulations to all who participated and to Lynne Bentley for her organisation. Images of the event are shown on the Rascal web site.



Working Bee

Working Bees provide a great opportunity for Members to work together as a team and contribute to their Lodge. Working Bees are always great fun and it is a shame that more Members do not offer their time. It is often the same Members who turn up and there is a feeling that others have a responsibility to contribute. Martyrdom only goes so far. Images of the working bee are shown on the Rascal web site.



Lower level bathroom

Lodge users will notice that the middle level showers have been re-waterproofed and the lower level is due to be done in early October. The Lodge will be closed for this work.



Thanks to Ray Atkin for organising and managing these two repair jobs. The re-waterproofing will stop water leakage from the showers into the hallway and the adjoining bedroom and paves the way to replace the worn out carpet. The intention now is to replace the carpet in late October.

All the best for the winter season.

Alan Laird

President

On-line Services

www.rascal.asn.au

Rascal Members Only Pages are accessed logging on to the above address.

On-line Services available to Members are:

- Make, change or cancel bookings
- View when the Lodge is booked
- View the key code applying to the week of your booking
- Renew or upgrade yourself and family members
- Change your contact details
- Make payments through your own bank's web site.
- View your invoice and past invoices
- Discuss issues of interest to the Club
- Change your password and provide a comment that will remind you of your password

On-line Payment

Members are strongly encouraged to use their own bank's internet banking facility to make payments into the Rascal account. The information your bank requires is provided in the Invoice page of the Rascal web pages. If you forget the details then you can always view your invoices using the link on the Main Menu of the Rascal web pages.

Internet banking avoids the need for the Office Manager to key in your credit card or cheque details and minimizes paper work and a weekly visit to the bank. Internet banking also automatically provides you with a receipt.

On-line address changes:

If you are unsure about what information Rascal holds about your current contact details then please request a copy by email from the Main Menu of the Rascal web pages. Much of this information is not stored on the web system (it is on the Office Manager database) and so you will not receive a reply for a few days.

You may also change your contact details on-line – again from the Main Menu of the Rascal web pages.

Hike de Femme



“At the start, with midget” *left to right* : Deb Heath, Marg Sharp, Colleen Fox, Barbara Lawson, Vivienne Audus, Alison Bell, Janet Manley, Carol Pearson, Sharon Schulz, Kathy Tracy. Photo Lynne Bentley

12 Rascals gathered at the Lodge on the night of Friday 29 February, an auspicious date, we thought, which deserved celebrating with an extra glass of red as we discussed which summit to conquer the next day. As this was our twelfth year it was difficult, at first, to find a route that hadn't been covered before. We considered attempting again the route which had defeated us last year when we ran out of time: the walk from Guthega Dam up to Guthega trig, then through Consett Stephen Pass to Mt Tate. However the weather forecast was for moderate winds and possible snow showers next day, so we opted instead for a more sheltered challenge, and finally decided on Rennex Walk. This had been attempted the year after The Great Fires but had ended unsatisfactorily when the path was blocked and lost in the confusion of burnt and fallen timber.

That decision made, we all slept snugly under our doonas while the temperature plummeted outside to the lowest since last winter. Saturday dawned clear and sunny with a gentle breeze, perfect for bushwalking anywhere, but with the forecast in mind, we stuck with our decision of the previous night and drove up to the start of the walk at Rennex Gap, on the right just before the main turn-off to Guthega, and about a km before Sponar's Inn. The walk can be done as a 10km walk across fields and hills with a final 3 kms of easy bushbashing down to Snowy Adit near Island Bend, or as a 14 km return walk to the “Giant's Castle” at the 7 km mark. We chose the latter, as walk directly down to Snowy Adit would have involved a time-consuming car-shuffle to get us back to our starting point and our cars.





Rennex Walk is easy, following a two-wheel maintenance track to the Giant's Castle, a collection of enormous boulders with a radio communication tower, looking like the screen of the old Starlight Drive-in, perched on top. The track leads through wild-flower covered open woodland and heathland dotted with small mossy bogs, and large stands of burnt-out gums slowly disappearing into the new regrowth around their trunks. The most common flowers were Billy-Buttons and bright yellow paper daisies which lit up the track all the way.

En route the track offered beautiful views to the east over the blue waters of Lake Jindabyne and the settlement of Kalkite. There are a few steep climbs along the way so we were happy to finally see our destination ahead of us. We had lunch perched under the radio beacon on top of the Giant's Castle and admired spectacular views to the west towards Smiggin Holes and Mt Blue Cow, and northwest over Island Bend. We then retraced our steps to our cars and returned to Jindabyne for the traditional celebratory cappuccinos at Nugget's Crossing. Later we all pitched in a few dollars and had an DIY extended gourmet three-course barbecue dinner at the Lodge, accompanied as usual by much stomach-aching hilarity while we decided who should be this year's winner of The Order of the Boot. It was finally decided by a show of hands that Vivienne Audus, last year's winner, should receive the Order for the second time, for her unique contribution to the weekend.



Last year Vivienne provided yoga on the deck and much hilarity during the hike. This year it was not yoga, but yoghurt – her special after-dinner facials comprising a bizarre mixture of natural ingredients including cucumber rounds placed over the eyes. Those who were brave enough to take the facial challenge said their skin felt better afterwards, but the honey dripping into their ears had caused some degree of hearing loss.



Next morning, as tradition demanded, it was time for the hair of the dog - not more yoghurt facials, but a drive to Perisher Valley and a short walk of 5kms to Porcupine Rocks and back. It does not matter how many times one visits these rocks perched on the edge of escarpment, the view remains exhilarating. Those who had not seen it before were awed into (brief) silence. Then it was back to Jindabyne to the washing up, vacuuming up the millipedes and putting out the detritus of another fab HdF weekend.

Lynne Bentley

Consider Joining up a friend as a Summer Member!



For much of the year the Lodge is not heavily used. Indeed outside the busy period of July and August the Lodge usually has plenty of rooms available.

Summer Members can now book the Lodge at Member rates for all the year except for July and August - this means 10 months of the year! The reduced cost of Summer Membership makes this an attractive option for potential members who are not skiers.

Jindabyne, its lake and the surrounding mountains are a terrific place to spend time during spring, summer and autumn. Activities you can enjoy include bush walking, fishing, bike riding, canoeing or just relaxing - what better way than by lunching with friends or family in the outside freshness of the deck !

For all inquiries please contact the Rascal Office either by Phone: 02 6282 6912 (leave a message if unattended) or by email at: OfficeManager@rascal.asn.au

Working Bee

A fruitful weekend at Rascal.

A small but hardy group of Rascal members enjoyed a weekend of camaraderie, good eating and joint enterprise at the working bee held on Saturday 4 May.

Enjoying my three day working week, Marg and I took a leisurely pace driving up to Jindabyne and again marvelled at the magnificent granite tors standing proudly and supremely in the folds of the ancient Berridale hills. Once buried deep in the earth's crust the megalith of magma crystallised as it slowly cooled. The granite bears the tell-tale signs of regular patterned cracks as the rock expanded from its highly compressed formation state deep underground to now, where it lies, rupturing the surface and free of the pressure of eroded overlying strata. Exfoliation and weathering take advantage of the patterned weak spots and the tor takes shape. And this picture is repeated a thousand times in the Berridale hills. What a magnificent sight.



I am sure John and Ruth Beveridge would have ridden their bikes through this inspiring landscape. Indeed it turns out that the Beveridge family have ridden their bikes just about everywhere it is possible to ride a bike. Their descriptions of the various rides they have undertaken, the camaraderie of the tours and their intimate knowledge of bike paraphernalia was an inspiration to those of us who do not ride as much as perhaps we should. I think bikes to John and Ruth are a bit like the Visa card motto: Never leave home without one.



The camaraderie continued as our small team scanned the to-do list on the Saturday and selected items of interest. We were much pleased with our efforts and the Lodge is in a better state because of them.

Linda took on the most important role of a working bee – that of chief cook and selector of what delicious snacks we would partake at morning and afternoon tea. Everything



sustenance. Like Pavlov's dogs insulin immediately surges through the body, blood glucose drops and we replenish our lost energy.

It was a great weekend and the Club owes a debt of thanks to Ray Atkin, Ray Johnson, John and Ruth Beveridge, Mike Stomps, Barbara Lawson, Alan and Linda Swift, Marg Sharp and Alan Laird for their efforts.

stops then. Nothing happens as we congregate expectantly while Linda snaps the tea towels off the plates to reveal a colourful spread of morning

You can view images of the working bee on our web site www.rascal.asn.au.



Time Wasters.....

Q. Three brothers entered a shop, each needing a pair of shoes re-soled and a key cut. There are two assistants in the shop, both of whom work at the same



speed. It takes 15 minutes to re-sole a pair of shoes and 5 minutes to cut a key.

How quickly can they finish?

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 9 | 1 | | 4 | 2 | | |
| 8 | | | 2 | | | 9 | | |
| 7 | 3 | | 6 | | | 5 | | |
| 6 | | 5 | 9 | | 2 | | | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | | | 4 | | | 5 | 9 |
| 4 | | | 5 | | 6 | 4 | | 7 |
| | | 7 | | | 5 | | 9 | 2 |
| | | 1 | | | 9 | | | 3 |
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| 5 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| 8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| 7 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 2 |
| 3 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 5 |

A1. 30 minutes (one assistant does 1 pair of shoes and 3 keys the other assistant does 2 pairs of shoes.)

Rascal Committee Members 08/09



From Left to Right: Linda Swift, Alan Laird, Rod Roberts, Wendy Zarb, Ray Atkin, Ian McNeill, Clive Styles, Lynne Bentley.

(Absent: Michael Stomps, Keith McLaren, Richard Emerton)



Building Sub-Committee Report

19 May 2008

Building activity over the last month consisted of a working bee and further progress on general maintenance items.

1. The pre winter working bee was held on the weekend of 3rd and 4th May with ten members attending. The lodge was prepared for winter conditions with the sails being stowed away, cleaning of ablutions areas and bedding and miscellaneous repairs completed.
2. Dennis Burrige called in to finalise arrangements for the repair of the damaged drainage pipe and installation of dual-flush cisterns in the toilets. The cisterns are now installed and the drainage repairs will occur either late this week or early next.
3. Rob Johnson will renovate the men's shower room commencing 7th and finishing 16th October.
4. I am seeking spare parts for the bathroom exhaust fans, two suppliers think they can obtain parts for the older fans, not yet confirmed. The exhaust fan in the lower level uni-sex is missing it's protective cover, no longer available; I am arranging with GT Mountain Screens to install a steel fly-wire screen across the window frame to prevent people suffering mishap.
5. A small selection of hand tools were purchased to replace items gone missing or damaged.
6. New plastic coated shelves are to replace those currently in the refrigerator.

Ray Atkin

Member, Building Sub-Committee



Give us some feedback by:

Writing to: Rascals Inc Feedback
 PO Box 1700
 WODEN ACT 2606

OR

Emailing us at: rascal@rascal.asn.au:

If undeliverable, return to:

**Rascal Incorporated
PO Box 1700,
WODEN ACT 2606**