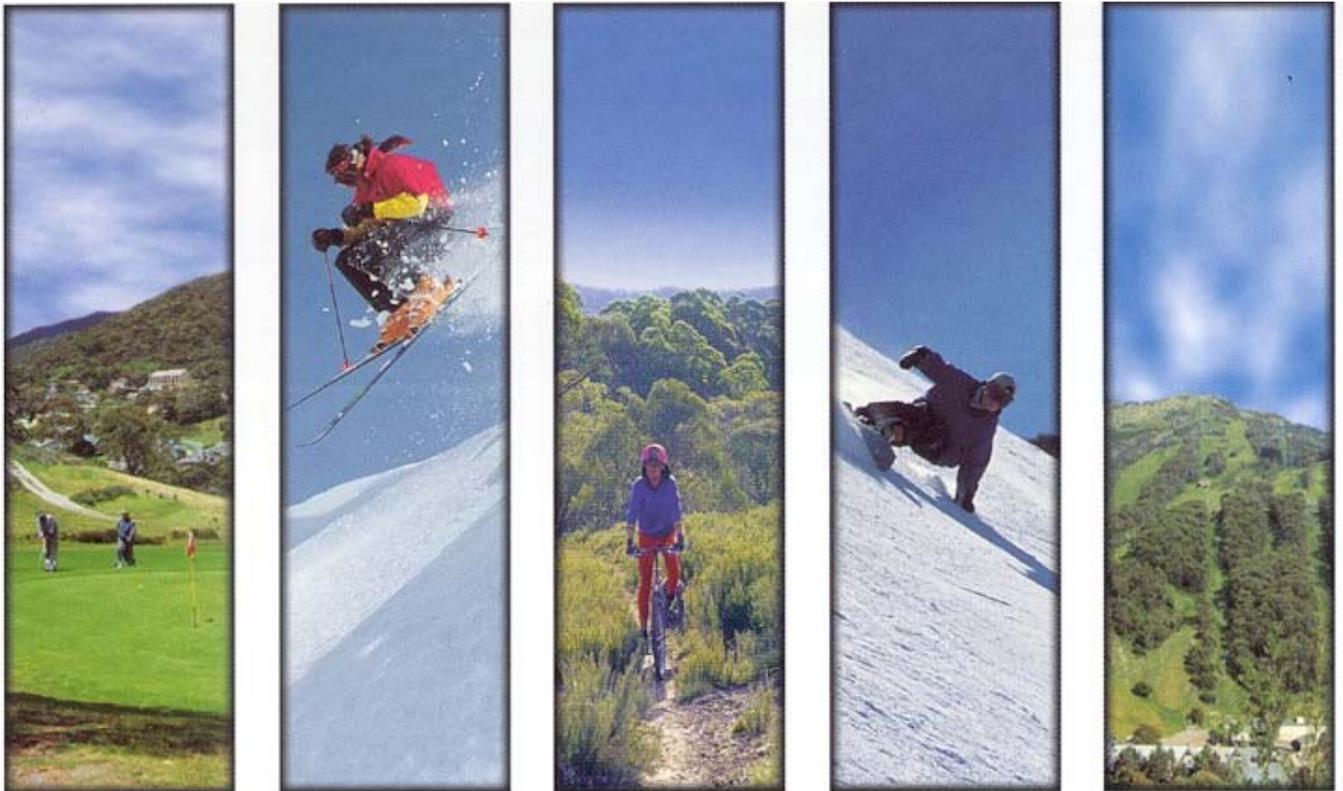


# Rascal

*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 ...

*Autumn Newsletter – March 2009*

**Please find enclosed RASCAL Inc. AGM Notification Details.**

## Rascal Inc Information Board

### Rascal Lodge

7 Banjo Paterson Crescent  
Jindabyne, NSW 2627  
Ph: (02) 6456-2169

### All telephone inquiries

Kim & Tim Dunnet  
6282 6912

(Leave messages on the answer phone  
when number unattended - please include  
BH and AH contact numbers)

### Mailing address

PO Box 1700, WODEN, ACT, 2606

### Internet address

<http://www.rascal.asn.au>

### E-mail address

[rascal@rascal.asn.au](mailto:rascal@rascal.asn.au)

### 2008/09 Committee

[committee@rascal.asn.au](mailto: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

Rod Roberts (a/g)

#### Committee Members

Clive Styles

Keith McLaren

Wendy Zarb

#### Co-opted Member

Richard Emerton

### PRESIDENTS REPORT



The Rascal 2009 year has got off to a great start with Lynne Bentley organizing another Kosciuszko walk, for 28 February, Judy Roberts organizing a Hike de Femme for 21 March, and the Committee organizing a pre season function sometime in June. These functions will be a great time to meet other members and their guests and I encourage you to join them. Thanks Lynne and Judy.

### Goodbye to Ray Atkin

On a not so great note I was sorry to hear that Ray Atkin, Rascal's Lodge Manager, has decided to discontinue

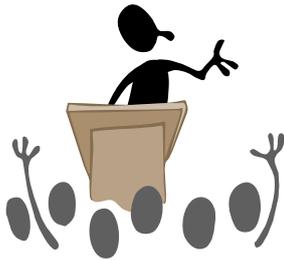


his membership of the Club. Ray has put in a great effort as Lodge Manager and was instrumental in fixing the water leak, install-

ing child safety barriers on the deck, installing rain deflectors on the bathroom windows, installing the top level screen doors, and a number of other actions that have made the Lodge a better and safer building. I am sure I can speak for all Rascal members in saying "thank you" to Ray and wishing him well in the future.

**AGM**

The Rascal Inc AGM will be held on Wednesday 29 April 2009 and will be preceded by dinner. New members of the Committee would be greatly welcomed as all committees require an infusion of new blood. Further details about the AGM are described from page



**The Changing Culture of the Club has Cost Implications**

Since the Club was established in the late 1960s the whole environment in which it operates has significantly changed. Social attitudes, Member expectations, Member wealth, Member sense of obligation to the Club, and the presence of other accommodation and outdoor opportunities have shifted enormously. These changes are real and the Club needs to continually move with the times.

What this has meant, and continues to mean, is that the Club increasingly pays for services that would otherwise have been done by

Members. Lodge cleaning was previously the responsibility of the Lodge Caretaker with the assistance of Members in winter, and solely by Members for the rest of the year. Now we pay a cleaner all year round and expect members to do their bit during their stay. We now pay for the lawns to be cut and pay a nominal amount for information technology services. The Committee has just introduced a financial reward for working bee participation to address low Member attendance. The shift is from a moral obligation made on Members to a financial obligation. Volunteers are harder to find these days and our costs are accordingly increasing.

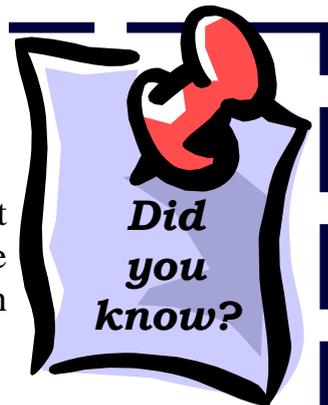


**Alan Laird**

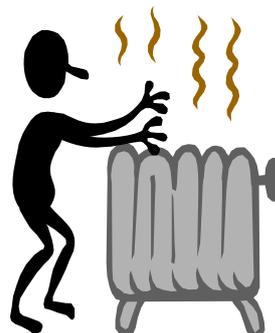
President

**Room heater vents**

Did you know that there is an adjustable heater vent above each bed room door?



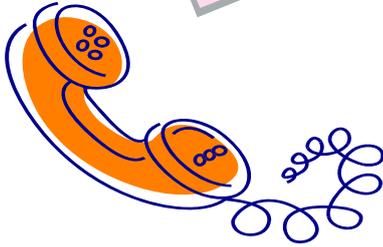
You can adjust the room heating in winter using the vent rather than opening a window to cool the bed room at night.



Opening the window in winter to cool the room wastes heat and this adds to Rascal heating costs.



## For Your Information



### 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.

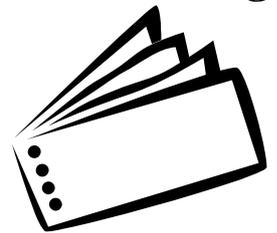
### Wait-list bookings

Bookings are automatically wait listed if rooms cannot be found. Later, if rooms are found, say because someone cancels, then the web server will set these rooms aside for you and send you an email notification.

Wait-listed bookings expire three days before the booking's first night.

### Vouchers can now be used for any casual (non-block) booking

Early renewal vouchers and vouchers from attending working bees can now be used for any casual booking, including High Season bookings.



**NB.** Vouchers cannot be used for block bookings.

### If you see something that needs to be done in your Lodge, then do it.



Rascal is a communal Lodge and depends on the efforts of its Members to keep the place looking clean and tidy. If a waste bin is full then empty it yourself – don't wait for someone else to do it. If the kitchen floor is dirty then take the initiative and sweep it or use a mop.

Rascal is not a commercial Lodge with the resources to maintain full cleaning and maintenance staff. If we were then you would be paying far more to maintain your membership and to use the Lodge.



# Rascal Inc

## Rascal AGM

<p><b>Wednesday 29 April 2009, 8 PM</b></p> <p><b>Southern Cross Yacht Club</b></p> <p>Lotus Bay, Mariner Place</p> <p>Yarralumla ACT 2600</p>	<p><b>Join us for a pre-AGM dinner at 6.15 PM at the Southern Cross Yacht Club.</b></p> <p>A table has been reserved for Rascal members. Order your meal on the day from the Yacht Club menu.</p> <p><b>RSVP:</b> Linda Swift (<a href="mailto:laswift@ozemail.com.au">laswift@ozemail.com.au</a>) or the Rascal Office Manager (<a href="mailto:OfficeManager@rascal.asn.au">OfficeManager@rascal.asn.au</a>).</p>
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This year's Annual General Meeting of Rascal Inc. will be combined with the annual dinner at the Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club, Lotus Bay, Mariner Place, Yarralumla ACT 2600.

The date is **Wednesday 29 April 2009.**

All Rascal members and their guests are invited to the pre-AGM dinner at the restaurant from 6:15 pm. A table will be booked under 'Rascal members' at the restaurant. Members can order from the restaurant menu and pay for your meal on the night. The menu can be viewed on the Yacht Club web site. To help with the booking numbers could you email Linda Swift on [laswift@ozemail.com.au](mailto:laswift@ozemail.com.au) or the Rascal office manager, however bookings are not essential.

**The AGM will start at 8pm in the function room.** Members wishing to attend the AGM but not the dinner will be welcomed with complimentary tea/coffee and a cake trolley.

The evening promises to provide a great opportunity to meet with old and new Members, catch up with friends and elect your new committee for 2009.

Make a note in your diary now for **Wednesday 29 April from 6:15 pm.**

### Attached:

- AGM Agenda
- Motion to change the Constitution.





# Rascal Inc

## Rascal 2009 AGM

### AGENDA

Wednesday 29 April 2009, 8:00 PM

Southern Cross Yacht Club,  
Lotus Bay, Mariner Place, Yarralumla ACT 2600

1. Apologies
  2. Minutes of 2008 AGM
  3. Business arising from the Minutes
  4. Correspondence in/out
  5. President's Report
  6. Treasurer's Report
  7. Public Officer's Report
  8. Lodge Manager's Report
  9. Motions to change the Constitution
  10. General Business
  11. Election of Office Bearers for 2009
    - i. Appointment of Returning Officer to conduct election for President
    - ii. Election of President
    - iii. Election of following Committee Members conducted by newly appointed President
    - iv. Patron
    - v. Vice President
    - vi. Secretary
    - vii. Assistant Secretary
    - viii. Treasurer
    - ix. Public Officer
    - x. Lodge Manager
    - xi. Immediate Past President
    - xii. Up to three Committee Members
- The Rascal Constitution provides that:***
- Only Financial Members of the Club may vote.
  - Junior Members are not eligible to vote.
  - Proxy voting is not permitted.
  - Items of general business may be raised from the floor at the meeting.
  - Nominations for Committee positions must be proposed and seconded, and may be put in writing or may be made from the floor at the meeting.
12. Close



# Rascal Inc

## Proposed Amendments to the Rascal Constitution

### Rascal 2009 AGM

The Rascal Committee agreed at its 16 February 2009 meeting to recommend to the 2009 AGM the following amendments to the Rascal Constitution.

#### **Clause 6.3.6.1**

To replace:

- 6.3.6.1 Junior Members who have been financial Members of the Club for at least 1 year immediately prior to making an application for Full membership pursuant to rule 6.3.6 shall, if their applications are accepted by the Committee, only be required to pay a Joining Fee of \$220.00, or such other amount as the Committee may from time to time decide. Payment of the Annual Membership Fee at the applicable rate shall also be required.

With:

- 6.3.6.1 Junior Members who have been financial Members of the Club for at least 1 year immediately prior to making an application for Full membership pursuant to rule 6.3.6 shall, if their applications are accepted by the Committee, only be required to pay a Joining Fee as the Committee may from time to time decide. Payment of the Annual Membership Fee at the applicable rate shall also be required.

**Rationale:** The proposal enhances the principles based nature of the Constitution. The Constitution need only refer to who is responsible for determining the Joining Fee, not as well include the (now) out of date Joining Fee.

#### **Clause 6.3.7**

To replace:

- 6.3.7 A person's Junior membership shall cease on the last day of the February after that person attains the age of eighteen (18) years.

With:

- 6.3.7 A person's Junior membership shall cease on the last day of the February after that person attains the age of twenty four (24) years.

**Rationale:** The proposal formalises the maximum age of Junior members. Since the 1996 AGM Juniors have been permitted at age 18 to continue as Juniors or to upgrade to Senior Membership. No maximum Junior age was ever actually stipulated, however the practice has been that Junior membership cannot be renewed once the Junior attains the age of 24 years.

**Proposed Amendments to the Rascal Constitution Continued next page...**

**Clause 6.3.8**

To delete clause 6.3.8

- 6.3.8 Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 6.3.7, financial Junior Members who were 18 or over on the day of the Club's 1996 AGM shall, subject to Rule 6.3.8.1, be entitled to retain all of the rights and privileges of Junior membership that they enjoyed at that date
  - 6.3.8.1 Junior Members who satisfy the criteria in Rule 6.3.8 shall, as soon as possible after the Club's 1996 AGM, be invited to elect to retain their rights and privileges pursuant to Rule 6.3.8, or, as an alternative, to apply for Full membership at the concessional Joining Fee rate specified in Rule 6.3.6.1.
    - 6.3.8.1.1 Where a Junior Member elects NOT to apply for Full membership pursuant to Rule 6.3.8.1, and opts instead to continue as a Junior Member, that Junior Member shall not subsequently be eligible to apply for Full membership at the concessional Joining Fee rate as specified in Rule 6.3.6.1
    - 6.3.8.1.2 Where a Junior Member elects to apply for Full membership pursuant to Rule 6.3.8.1, the Annual Membership Fee that they shall be required to pay to become a Full Member shall be the difference between the Annual Membership Fee applicable for Full membership and the Annual Membership Fee they have already paid as a Junior Member for the 1996 Club year
    - 6.3.8.1.3 Where a Junior Member does not respond to the invitation to elect within the time specified in the invitation, that Junior Member shall be regarded as having elected to remain as a Junior Member.

***Rationale:*** The clause refers to the transitional arrangements applying in 1996 only whereby Juniors were could elect to upgrade to Senior Members at a concessional rate or could elect to remain Juniors. The clause is only of historical interest and has no current applicability.

**Clause 8.3.1**

To replace:

- 8.3.1 The Joining Fee to the Club for each category of membership, is as follows, or if any other amount has been determined by resolution of the Committee, such other amount:
  - a) Full Member - Seven Hundred and Seventy dollars (\$770)
  - b) Summer Member - Two Hundred and Seventy Five dollars (\$275)

With:

- 8.3.1 The Joining Fee to the Club for each category of membership is as determined by resolution of the Committee.

***Rationale:*** The proposal enhances the principles based nature of the Constitution. The Constitution need only refer to who is responsible for determining the membership fees, not as well include the (now) out of date fees.

**Proposed Amendments to the Rascal Constitution Continued...**

**Clause 8.4.1**

To replace:

- 8.4.1 The Annual Membership Fee of the Club for each category of membership, is as follows, or if any other amount has been determined by resolution of the Committee, that other amount:80
- a) Full Member - Eighty dollars (\$80)
  - b) Summer Member - Eighty dollars (\$80)

With:

- 8.4.1 The Annual Membership Fee of the Club for each category of membership is as determined by resolution of the Committee.

**Rationale:** The proposal enhances the principles based nature of the Constitution. The Constitution need only refer to who is responsible for determining the membership fees, not as well include the (now) out of date fees.

**Clause 14.12.2**

To replace:

- 14.12.2 The Auditor shall be a registered company Auditor.

*(The Rascal constitution defines a registered company Auditor as a person registered as such under the Companies (A.C.T.) Act 1981 as amended from time to time.)*

With:

- 14.12.2 The Auditor shall have qualifications as required by the *ACT Incorporated Associations Act 1991*.

**Rationale:** The proposed change will decrease the cost of the audit, increase the choice of auditor and not decrease the stringency of the audit.

The cost of auditing Rascal's accounts by a registered company auditor is in the order of \$2,500 to \$3,000 compared with approximately \$1,500 for an auditor with qualifications complying with the *ACT Incorporated Associations Act 1991* (the legislation).

The legislation requires that incorporated bodies with gross receipts and/or assets exceeding \$150,000 use an auditor that is either a registered company auditor under the Commonwealth's *Corporations Act 2001* or is a current member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia or the National Institute of Accountants or CPA Australia.

Rascal does not have receipts exceeding \$150,000 but it has assets (Lodge and land) valued at over \$150,000.

Rascal's accounts are simple in relation to those of a company, and advice from a number of accounting professionals indicates that the level of stringency required by Rascal's constitution is unwarranted and that the legislation provides a more appropriate level of audit stringency.

**Alan Laird**

President 18 February 2009.



## Rascal Working Bee Schedule 2009



The Club normally holds three working bees a year. The 2009 dates are:

- Sat 14 February 2009 - Summer : focus on gardening, including removing cotoneaster, and Lodge maintenance and cleaning
- Sat 16 May 2009 – Pre Winter : focus on un-installing the shade sails and pre-winter maintenance and cleaning
- Sat 31 October 2009 – Post Winter : focus is on installing the shade sails, washing bedding, post winter maintenance and cleaning

Rascal members and friends are encouraged to contribute to the Lodge and meet other members by attending a working bee in 2009.

- Participating Senior Members receive \$32 accommodation vouchers
- Adult guests receive \$32 accommodation vouchers credited to the Senior Member account
- Participating Junior members receive vouchers as determined by the Working Bee Coordinator.

Vouchers can be used to offset the cost of any casual (non block) booking.



Michael Bentley liberally applying water proofing sealant to the wall of bedroom 6.



A load of green waste going to the tip, (L to R) Rod & Judy Roberts, Keith McLaren, John and Alan

## 13th Annual Hike De Femme 2009



**Calling all Rascal femmes, especially those who enjoy a bit of a prolonged stroll.....**

The weekend of March 21/22 has been set aside for Rascal's 13th annual Hike de Femme and we hope you will be able to join us. Only an average level of fitness is required. For those femmes who come regularly, it'll be fun to catch up with you all. For those who've never participated before, here's



your chance to have a lot of fun and get a bit of heart-boosting exercise at the same time. What more could one want?

Following the usual routine, we'll meet at the Lodge on the Friday evening of the 20th of March and depending on the weather, choose a route for the next day. We usually try to find a fairly easy route covering 12-15 kms. Next morning we'll pack (or buy) a picnic lunch and head for the hills. In the evening we'll eat out or cook up a storm in the lodge, and present the (magnificent) "*Order of the Boot*" to the person who has made a unique contribution to the day's hike. Next day, those who are up to it organise another (gentle) excursion of some kind. Then it's back to the Lodge for a clean up before heading home.

So, will you be in it this year? Because we'd love to see you!

All you need to do now is make a booking, and turn up at the Lodge on Friday night 20 March, (or Saturday morning before 9.30am).

And if you have any queries, give **Judy Roberts** a call **(02) 6230 2436**

**See you there!**



**Stay in touch - Update your contact details on the web**

Go to [www.rascal.asn.au](http://www.rascal.asn.au) and select 'Log on' to take you to the Members Main Menu.

Look in the 'My details' column and click 'Change my contact details'.



**If undeliverable, return to:**

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

**NB: Please find enclosed RASCAL Inc. AGM Notification Details.**