

ACTNC NEWSLETTER

ACT Nudist Club



Presidents Report

Hello and Welcome to one of the final few newsletters articles I will write as president. It seems after a honeymoon period of warm weather we have winter finally delivered to us, and what a shame, except for the rain which is MOST welcome.

A few of us have been testing the pizza oven's capabilities and we have worked out it is mis-named. After cooking pizzas, scones, bread and roast meats and vegetables we have decided it is an excellent all purpose oven. There is a trick to getting the fire going just right, and if you want to have a play yourself, see me, Terry, Ray, Richard or Peter G for advice on how to lay the fire and what to look for.

As we approach the end of the financial year we have had to take the step of increasing our yearly fees for the year '07/'08. Despite our best efforts our bills keep going up and our base income has not.

We believe the increases are fair and in line with annual CPI since the last time we had a fee increase.

In order to put the increases in perspective, I would like you to consider the following:

We are increasing a single membership from \$100/year to \$120. If this is considered on a monthly basis, this means we have an increase from \$8.33/month to \$10/month. The price of a van site is to increase from \$265/year to \$300. Monthly this goes up from \$22.08 to \$25. So not huge increases to give our coffers a well needed boost in the light of the increases in cost of keeping our club alive and well.

We have also increased the fees for visitors and camping to make sure the burden is not totally borne by our club members. For a full rundown of the fee structure, see the table in the body of the newsletter.

To take away the 'lump-sum' impact of the club

fees every July, we are offering a quarterly electronic payment plan, to move us into the 21st century. Please see a committee member if you want to adopt this method of payment, and we will advise you on ACTNC bank details and how best to make your payment obvious to us.

So as we approach the end of my term as President, I would like to remind all members that the AGM is fast approaching on the 1st of September. We need people to step forward and assist in the running of the club for the next few years. We have several people on the committee who have been at this for a while and have indicated they'd like a break, so if you're an enthusiastic, forward looking person with a keen interest in advancing the club's standing in the nudist movement, nominate yourself for a position on the committee.

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Jun 2007

ACTNC NEWSLETTER



President Pete

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Secretary Report (Winter Already?)

The club has been approached by the ACT Heritage Library, asking to be included on the mailing list for our newsletter. The ACT Heritage Library is part of the ACT Library Service and it specializes in collecting, preserving, promoting and providing access to the documents that record the history and development of the ACT and the lives of Canberrans. As some of you will know, an extensive set of the club's newsletters was donated to the National Library. We will be writing to the ACT Heritage Library shortly.

Those visiting the website will have seen a couple of trips I've offered to organise later in the year. The first is a weekend at the fabulous Temora Aviation Museum where every historic aircraft on display is in full working order and takes to the sky right in front of you. The second is a whale-watching weekend at Bermagui. Let me know if you're interested in coming along to these events.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is an article about the real issues facing the club's finances into the future. I urge you to read the article and to consider its implications. This is likely to be a topic for discussion at the AGM in September. Meanwhile, the ACTNC Forum, available via the club's website (www.actnc.net) is another venue for you to discuss this article, and any other club issue, with your fellow members and the Committee. We welcome and value your input. I vet all registrations to use the Forum to ensure that the members' only section of the Forum is only seen by ACTNC members. Drop me an email if you need assistance with the Forum.

Another issue the Committee has been considering is the best way to share the work associated with organising and running the regular club functions. We

have a core group of members who are happy to organise the catering for functions and we have others who have ideas for the activities and themes of functions. The job of organizing a function is lighter when these roles are split and the organiser can get on with the theme and activities side without having to also purchase, cook and serve meals. The catering group has experience in creating meals within a budget and with an eye to fundraising. Of course the organiser and the 'caterers' can and should work together and each would play a key role in ensuring a successful function. Hopefully more people will come forward with ideas for functions knowing that half the load is not on their shoulders. Again, feedback and discussion is welcome.

Terry



Terry and Ian re-living the 70's

Membership Report

Financial members	107
Life members	10
Members on probation	14
Waiting list	1

Membership is currently tracking well with on average one new enquiry each week even in these colder months.

New Gate Number

The gate number will change this year on 2 September 2007 the day after the AGM.

The new number will be sent to those financial members in the AGM newsletter due out mid August at the latest.

Don't wait for the AGM to pay your dues get in early and avoid the rush.

Ray

Treasurer Report

First let me say welcome to my first report as Treasurer. I am currently in the process of reconciling our accounts ensuring that each receipt is linked to a deposit and each account paid is linked to a committee minute or convention minute. This is a time consuming activity involving not only me but your every busy secretary as well.

I can report that we made a modest profit from the convention it will not allow us to build a new pool or finish the club house but it has helped to keep our head above water for this year.

As you may have noticed in the presidents report we have had to increase the fees this year after no increases over the last 2 years, I can assure you I as a member and van owner do not like increases but I can see we had no option but raise the fees.

In my other role as the newsletter editor I have included a discussion paper debated by the committee at length over a period of weeks which forms the basis on why we had to increase the fees.

I have also been instructed by the committee to investigate the possibility of setting up arrangements for members who may have any difficulty in paying these fees as a lump sum the ability to pay quarterly by direct deposit into our account. I will advise once I have worked it out.

For those that want to pay your fees on line it is possible but please include your name in the reference or details field so I can tell who paid us and for what.

The bank details are:

Bank St George

BSB 112-908

Account No 040635991

Account Name Act Nudist Club

Ray.

Club Birthday

The Birthday this year has been celebrated in May rather than October as has been our recent custom. During the convention it came to light that our birthday was in fact May 1976 and to this end we had a back to the 70's themed birthday party.

Through this newsletter you will see many images of the committee dressed for the occasion. They were not the only members and visitors who embraced the theme with lots of energy especially the Bare Tracks visitors.



It was amazing that some of our members were able to raid their wardrobes and find clothes from the 70's that still fit!

It was another great night and thanks to Glenda and Terry for getting it off the ground also many thanks to all of Glenda's helpers which without your help these functions will never happen.



Your Treasurer

Just for Fun

The Blonde and the Attorney

An attorney and a blonde are sitting next to each other on a flight from LA to New York. The attorney asks if she would like to play a game. The blonde is tired and just wants to take a nap, so she politely declines and rolls over to the window to catch a few winks. The attorney persists. He explains how the game works. "I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer, you pay me, and vice-versa."

Again the blonde politely declines and tries to get some sleep. The attorney figures that since his opponent is a blonde he will easily win the match, so he makes another offer. "If you don't know the answer, you pay me only \$5.00, but if I don't know the answer, I will pay you \$500." The blonde agrees. The attorney asks, "What's the distance from the Earth to the moon?"

The blonde reaches in to her purse, pulls out a five dollar bill, and hands it to the attorney. Then she asks the attorney, "What goes up a hill with 3 legs, and comes down with 4?" The attorney is puzzled. He uses his laptop to search for references. He taps into the air-phone with his modem and searches the Net. Frustrated, he sends emails to his coworkers and friends. No luck. After an hour, he gives up. He wakes the blonde and hands her \$500.00.

The blonde politely takes the \$500.00 and turns away to get back to sleep. The attorney, who is going nuts trying to figure it out, wakes the blonde and asks, "Well, so what goes up a hill with 3 legs and comes down with 4?" The blonde reaches into her purse, hands the attorney \$5.00, and goes back to sleep.

Vice Presidents Report

It's been a while since I've put pen to paper for the newsletter, with my last couple of installments concentrating on working bees and related issues. While this is still important, I thought I would lighten the tone a bit this time and focus on social activities.

Most casinos tempt their 'punters' with cheap drinks in the hope that they spend more money at the gaming tables. A certain cocktail bunny at our Las Vegas night must have had this in mind and decided that half of 50ml was 100ml. As a result, the cocktails packed a real punch! Even so, the club still made a healthy profit on the night, thanks mainly to the donations of food and raffle prizes by various Club members.

The 70s night was also a great success – it was an audio-visual extravaganza with great food, music, dancing and fun. I must admit that some of the retro 'costumes' brought back memories of my childhood. We also had the company of many of our Bare Tracks friends and that made the night particularly enjoyable.

Speaking of functions, one of my colleagues owns Greystones Estate which is a winery in Murrumbateman, and is keen to present his wares (wine that is) to the Club. As such, there will be a wine-tasting included as part of the July monthly function (Christmas in July I believe). Greg will bring a sparkling white, two whites, three reds and some Ice wine (a desert wine – sounds interesting). For those of us new to tasting, Greg will walk us through the process and explain what to look for. There will also be an opportunity to place orders if you like the wine and the price. A meal without wine is like a day without sunshine!

We have also had a couple of impromptu get-togethers at the Club recently. Just because it is winter, it doesn't mean that your Club activities should be curtailed to monthly functions. If

you are in the mood, do a quick ring around and get something happening. There were about 20 members at the club one afternoon putting the outdoor oven through its paces. It was almost like a function in its own right. If you are not having fun, you are not doing it right!

Some of you have commented on the 'airport landing strip' between the clubhouse and a certain VP's van (that would be mine I guess). This again is related to functions. There have been instances in the past where, after flying home from a function, the VP's night radar severely malfunctioned, causing a crash landing near the Oasis. So the lights are actually 'Nudo anti-landing lights'. At only \$5 each, they have already prevented a couple of crashes.

On another note, I went to the Zoo the other day and it suddenly dawned on me that all the animals were naked. Since it was a warm day and there was no-one else around, I thought I would get back to nature and nude up. As soon as I began soaking up the Vitamin D, an elephant casually strolled over to me and said, "How can you possibly breathe through that?"

Till next time,
Cheers,
Nudo



Ladies Only Open Day

The female members of the committee have been talking about a Ladies Only Open Day in an effort to flush out those that may be a bit embarrassed to attend the full on open days we have been having.

We need ladies to help run this function, sorry guys we will be limited to manning the front gate or be locked up in our caravans for the day.

If you can help please contact Leanne who has expressed the desire to get this off the ground.

Just for Fun



A 2007 study found that the average Australian walks about 900 miles a year.

Another study found that Australians drink an average of 22 gallons of beer a year.

That means, on average, Australians get about 41 miles per gallon." (6.9L/100km in metric)

Not bad eh!

For his birthday, little Joe asked for a 10-speed bicycle.

His father said, "Son, we'd give you one, but the mortgage on this house is \$280,000 & your mother just lost her job. There's no way we can afford it."

The next day the father saw little Joe heading out the front door with a suitcase. So he asked, "Son, where are you going?" Little Joe told him; "I was walking past your room last night and heard you telling Mom you were pulling out. Then I heard her tell you to wait because she was coming too.

And I'll be damned if I'm staying here by myself with a \$280,000 mortgage & no bike.

The Fee Increase the Full Story

Managing our money and maintaining our facilities into the future

The Committee has been considering both the short term and longer term financial direction of the club. While the Convention gave a welcome boost to the coffers and the club pays its way, day to day, there are some issues we face in the longer term which we should start considering today.

The Club faces the prospect of some major infrastructure replacement costs in the not too distant future, yet has only limited resources upon which to call for funds.

First of all we looked at the typical yearly income for the club and came up with an estimate of around \$18,000, based on membership fees, site fees, camping and accommodation charges and income from social functions.

Our yearly expenses are typically around \$16,000 and include such things as insurance, rates, gas, electricity, phone, pool chemicals and repairs and incidentals

So our annual pool of spare cash is likely

to be around \$2,000 (or looking at it another way, \$20 per member assuming an average of 100 members). As you may know, in recent times we've been hit with major expenses such as the replacement of the bore and amenities block pumps which immediately wipe out uncommitted funds.

In short, despite the Committees efforts to source the best deals on power, insurance and so on, we just break even year to year. There's almost no money from our current income for any improvements, or replacements.

Turning to that, the likely areas that the club will need to spend money on in the next 5 years are:

- \$20,000 pool replacement
- \$5,000 deck replacement (the pool can't be removed/replaced without taking out the deck)
- \$3,000 power reticulation safety modernization
- \$2,000 mower/slasher, identified as a desirable acquisition

So there's up to \$30,000 without finishing lining the club house (to make it warmer, and more presentable) or any unforeseen major repairs.



We need bucket loads of this

To Increase the fees or go under this is the problem

How did This Problem Arise

The problem we face derives from the original funding source for most of the current club infrastructure – namely, grants. While the membership has benefited for at least 15 years from the infrastructure purchased with the grants (playing courts, pool, clubhouse etc), and built with the hard work of members, some of these facilities become unsustainable over time while the club's income remains essentially static. We simply don't have the financial resources to do more than pay the regular bills. If you like, we've been given a yacht when we have only ever really been able to afford to buy and run a dinghy.

Increasing membership within the current fee structure doesn't benefit the club because while there's extra income, there's additional expenditure and wear and tear, and at just \$20 'profit' per year per member we'd need 400 members to pay for the looming costs.

Putting aside the windfall of extra cash from the convention, we probably need an additional \$6,000 per annum to meet the likely costs outlined above. The figure for the pool is possibly conservative, but the mower is optional so the numbers are probably about right, but they

don't allow for any major repairs to other facilities.

There has been no increase in fees this year, nor last year or the year before that. Meanwhile, in Canberra, the CPI increased by 2.5%, 3.5% and 2.3% respectively - a simple total of 8.3% (applied to our expenses that's nearly \$1200 extra cost per year with no new income).

What to Do

An increase to \$120 per annum membership fees will bring in an additional \$2,000 p.a. - again assuming 100 members.

We could have quarterly payments of fees to spread the impact of any fee increase - minimizing the loss of members from any fee increase and making membership more attractive financially.

We could avoid the purchase of the mower/slasher by hiring one say twice

per year - and the price could be reduced through an advertising deal with the hire company - such as signs around the clubhouse / grounds.

We could look at ways of reducing the costs of functions, e.g.. have a dedicated team of members do the catering, realizing savings through experience in purchasing and serving, while the 'organizers' get on with the activities of the function (livening up functions in the process)

We could have pre-cooked snacks / cakes in the freezer for sale to members at any time. We could do brunches a couple of times a month, e.g.. starting mid-morning on Sundays.

We could subscribe to purchase regular lottery tickets with winnings going to the club coffers (hey, you never know!)

What Have We Done

As a first step, the Committee decided to increase fees. This is the first increase in 3 years. To assist members, we are planning to provide an option to pay fees quarterly via direct deposit for those using Internet banking.

The new fees applying in 2007 are shown below:

	2004/5, 2005/6, 2006/07	2007/08
Joining Fee	\$60	\$60
Membership Fee	\$100	\$120
Powered Van Site Fee	\$260	\$300
Un-powered Van Site Fee	\$170	\$200

All other fees increase by \$5 per night across the board for Bunkhouse bookings, camping sites, day visits etc.

What Next

The Committee feels that this is a very important issue which should be carefully considered by the membership. Likely options available to the current and future Committees are to explore avenues for further grants, although it appears that those sources are far fewer than in the past, seek loans from commercial lenders but being mindful of our ability to repay, or to impose significantly increased fees. Given the impact any of these options would have on members,

we plan to include a discussion of the club's financial future at the AGM.

The worst-case alternative is to withdraw facilities as they fail in coming years. The current Committee is concerned that adopting that approach would see the club fail as well.

While there aren't many people venturing out to Thullande in winter, the club's secure online forum, available via the

website, is a convenient venue to discuss this with the Committee and membership.

Christmas In July

This is a new one for us and is being organized by Jeff and Dee once again.

There has been much testing of the new wood fired oven cooking roast dinners in preparation for this night with varying success.

We will once again get a flyer out in early July to remind members of the function and provide more detail.

You will have read in the VP report there will also be a wine tasting of

Greystones wines. I can recommend these wines having had the pleasure of tasting and buys some to the reds and the Pink Ice is a real winner with the ladies, but watch out it is a powerful brew.

Main things to remember are:

When: 28 July 2007

Time: Happy hour 6 PM Function at 7 PM

Cost; \$15.00 per adult Kids free

RSVP to info@actnc.net

Ray



Christmas in July

AGM Beatles Night

This year for something a little different we are having a function after the AGM on 1 September 2007.

We have been back to the 80's and recently back to the 70's and now to test our memories even further we are heading back to the 60's for a night of fun and excitement with music provided by the Beatles.

Your band master for the night will be Terry ably supported by Glenda, Ray and Lynne.

Full details will be sent out on a flyer closer to the date along with the AGM notices.

They tell if you can remember the 60's then your weren't really there, I recon it is just that I am getting old and my memory is failing.

New Years Eve

This year to be different Nudo and Leanne are in the process of organizing a New Years Eve function.

I have been told they have booked a band who are prepared to play nude.

Depending on weather the Oasis is the place to be, full details will be sent out in the next newsletters and flyers.

Working Bee

We have scheduled two working bees for the remainder of this year the dates are on the events list on the next page.

The main intention of these working bees is to prepare the grounds for the coming summer months so we can sit back and enjoy the sun and not have to work each time we visit the

club.

Some of the tasks to be undertaken are:

Clean all water filters

Remove blackberry growth near bore.

Cut more wood for the oven and fire.

The pool will need a clean and the

deck will need some attention as usual.

Look around I am sure you will find something to do.



Working Bee

2007 Functions

DATE		HOSTS	CONFIRMED / SUGGESTED THEME?
	Open Day and Triple J Hottest 100 Pool Party	Richard and Glenda	Confirmed
17 Feb	Mardi Gras		Confirmed
17 March	Autumn Equinox / Pagan Faeries	Peter & Val	
14 April	Las Vegas at Thullande	Jeff & Dee	
19 May	Club Birthday Party		Confirmed
23 June	Mid Winter Ball	Nil	Cancelled
28 July	Christmas in July	Jeff and Dee	Confirmed
1 September	AGM and Beatles Night	Lynne, Glenda & Terry	Confirmed
8 September	Working Bee	Udo	Confirmed
15+16 September	Trip to Temora Aviation Museum	Terry	Proposed
22 September	Toga Party	Ian & Julie	Confirmed
13 October	Middle Eastern Night	Leanne/Brian	Confirmed
27+28 October	Trip, Whale Watching, Narooma/Bermagui	Terry , Volunteers?	Proposed
10 November	Trivia Night	Ian & Julie	Confirmed
24 November	Working bee	VP	Confirmed
8 December	Christmas Party	Committee	

COMING EVENTS

ACTNC

Date	Function	Organiser	Remarks
23 June	Mid Winter Ball	Nil	Cancelled
28 July	Christmas in July	Jeff & Dee	Confirmed
1 September	AGM and Beatles Night	Lynne, Ray	
		Glenda & Terry	Confirmed
8 September	Working Bee	Udo	Confirmed
22 September	Toga Party	Ian & Julie	Confirmed
13 October	Middle Eastern Night	Leanne/Brian	Confirmed

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EDITOR'S CORNER

This is my last newsletter as the editor, an long process with many volunteers Richard submitted the best bid to take over from the next newsletter. I am sure Richard will be able to bring a new look and direction to the newsletter. A freshening up of the newsletter will do the club some good. The next newsletter should be the AGM Newsletter.

I have enjoyed my time as the editor and I wish to thank all those that have contributed and offered direction and advice over the past few years I have been doing it. I am sure Richard will appreciate your continued support.

From now on please direct all contributions and ideas to Richard at

newsletters@actnc.net.



Ray

Your Committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:	Peter	Phone: 0438 421113
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