



Institute of  
Strata Title  
Management Ltd

## Media Release

Tuesday, 2 December 2008

### 10 tips for Christmas cheer as cash crunch prompts parties at home

With 35% of Australians planning to spend less this Christmas<sup>1</sup> there could be a lot more parties in your neighbourhood. As more people choose to party at home, next door may be a lot louder this festive season.

With this in mind, David Ferguson, President of the Institute of Strata Title Management (ISTM) has advised apartment dwellers to inform neighbours of any parties they've planned, to ensure a festive season for all.

"When you live in an apartment, your neighbours are much closer; literally across the hall or behind the wall. If you're having a party, consider the number of people you are inviting, as it will increase noise levels and potentially create parking issues," Mr Ferguson said.

"We all want to enjoy the festive season without aggravation. I'd encourage apartment dwellers to consider their neighbours, whether they're hosting a party or attending a party in an apartment," he said.

ISTM has some tips for owners and tenants thinking about hosting a party in their home, to ensure it is a Merry Christmas for all.

#### Five Festive Season Tips for Apartment Dwellers:

1. **Noisy Celebrations:** Every party generates noise. Tell neighbours you are holding a party so they expect a noise increase. As the night continues, consider those neighbours who probably don't want to hear your rendition of Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, again.
2. **Parking:** Think about the number of guests you have invited and if there are enough parking spaces available, so that it won't inconvenience to other residents. Advise guests where they can and cannot park. If you're concerned about parking, discourage your guests from driving.
3. **Common Areas:** A summer party isn't the same without a barbecue by the pool. If you and your guests are going to use the communal areas, leave it clean and tidy, ready for other residents to use. Also remind your guests to obey any rules in this area for everyone's safety.

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<sup>1</sup> Age/Nielson Poll, 'Get it Right or Else, Rudd Warns', The Age, November 17, 2008.



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- 4. Rubbish:** Post-party, there is sure to be a lot more rubbish than usual. Be considerate when disposing of seafood and other meats. Try to freeze your prawn heads and put them in the bin the night before garbage collection to keep the smell to a minimum.
- 5. Jolly Neighbours:** It's always courteous to inform your neighbours that you will be having a party, or better still invite them to join in the Christmas cheer and maybe make new friends.

ENDS

### About the ISTM

The Institute of Strata Title Management (ISTM) is the peak industry body for strata title management in New South Wales; promoting the role of the professional strata team and the value such a team adds to owners corporations in managing risk and a creating a harmonious strata living experience.

### For further information please contact

Jennifer Ross, Cox Inall Communications  
[jenniferr@coxinall.com.au](mailto:jenniferr@coxinall.com.au) Tel: 02 8204 3872