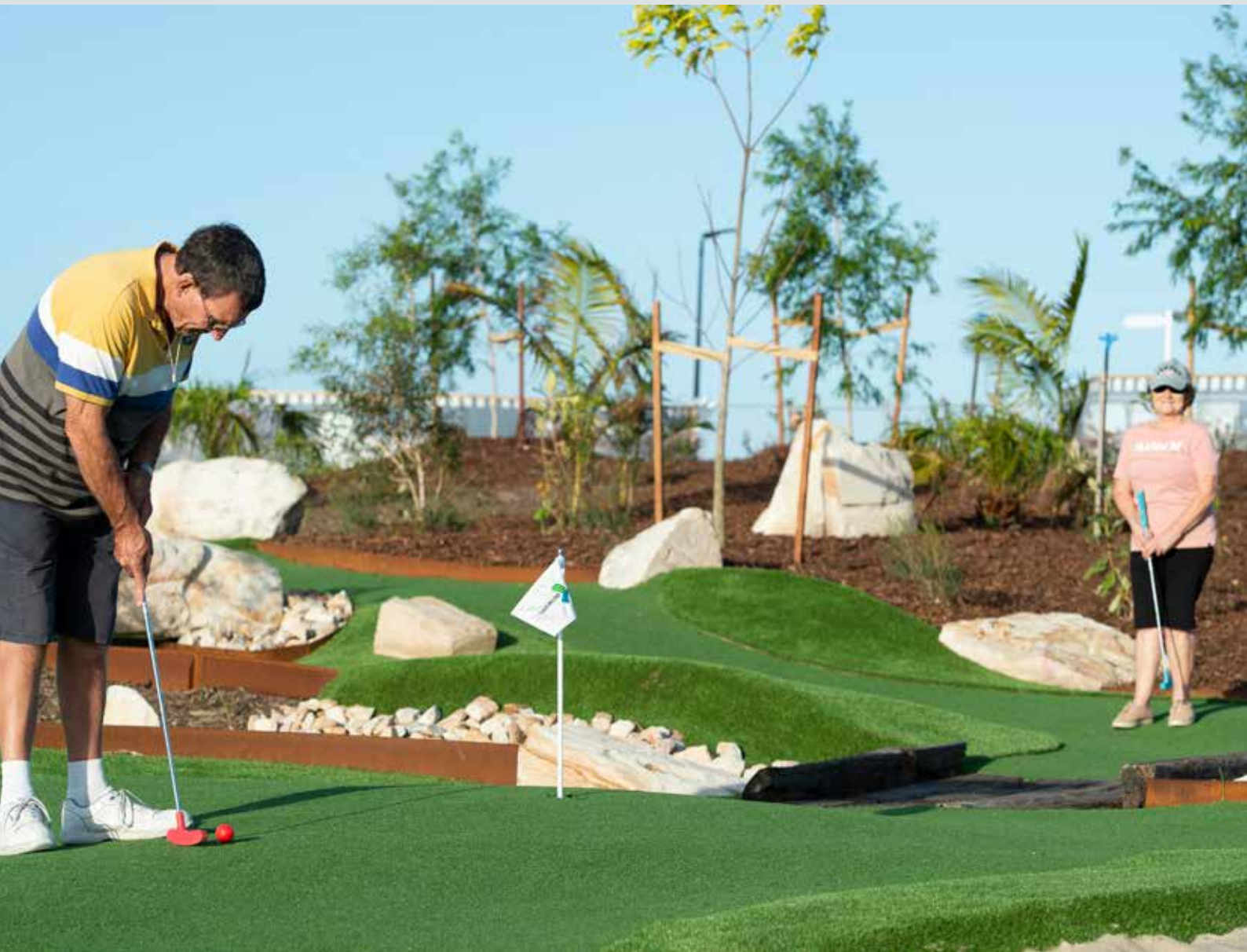


The Gatsby



Catch up on all the festive fun

From Christmas Day to New Year's Eve, our resort was the place to be this festive season

Giddy-up for the Cup

On Page 4, see all the fun we had celebrating Melbourne Cup Day in November

Refer a friend, earn a reward

Do you know someone looking to move here? Refer them, for a cash reward



Welcome.

Welcome to the first edition of The Gatsby for 2026!

We would like to welcome our new homeowners to the resort, and hope you are settling in well. Please don't hesitate to ask your neighbours and committee members for any advice you are needing. Genine will still be in the office and – though very busy while she waits for the new caretakers to arrive – I know she is always happy to help in any way she can.

We are writing this a couple of weeks before Christmas and the week that we retire. Hasn't that four years gone quickly! We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and enjoyed some time with family and friends. We'll be spending Christmas with our family before heading to our home in Northern New South Wales.

We have certainly met a lot of wonderful people here. We appreciate the efforts of the volunteers and committee members who have helped us enormously over our four years here. Without your community spirit, I'm certain Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay would not be the fabulous community that it is today.

I'm sure the new caretakers will have lots of ideas and different ways of going about the day-to-day business of the resort. I'm sure you will offer them the same support as you have offered us and help to make them feel welcome.

We would also like to thank Genine, Suellen, Leanne, Kelvin, Richard, Craig, Jake, Brian and Julie-Ann for their endless support and hard work.

A special thank you to Keith Arnfield for his unwavering support during our time here.

We wish you all good health and fun times for the future,

Until next time,

**Sue and Steve Babbage,
Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay Caretakers**

This newsletter is intended to give general info only. All liability arising directly or indirectly from the use of, or for any error or omission in the information given, is expressly disclaimed.



Contact us.

Looking for more information about Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay? Here's how you can reach us:

FREECALL: 1800 338 382

Street address:
194 Bishop Road
Beachmere QLD 4510

Office hours:
10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday
(outside those hours, by appointment)

Email:
beachmerabay@pallake.com.au

Online: Visit our website
pallakeresort.com.au

Get social:
Follow us on Facebook
(@pallakeresort) and on
Instagram (@palm.lake.resort)



News in brief.



Name that tune!

A 'Lazy Sunday Afternoon' in the Hamptons clubhouse in Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay saw homeowners wracking their brains to identify the tunes being played by a smiling and enigmatic DJ (who wasn't giving away any clues!). So many ageing rockers, so many opinions, so many hazy recollections, and so many off-key tunes being hummed or warbled around the room... We were even visited by somebody who may have been a distant cousin of Mick Jagger, and possibly also by the ghost of Freddie Mercury – captured on camera!

It has been said that if you can recall the sixties and seventies, you weren't really there, but our determined participants apparently

had been there, and were doing their best to prove it. Competition was fierce. Groups huddled around tables humming, beating time on the tables, and trying to improve their fond memories with the aid of a drink or two. We were required to name not only that tune, but also who sang it. The final scores proved that many, indeed, could name both.

This event is just one of many arranged by members of the Social Committee and other enthusiastic helpers, and provides opportunities to socialise, make new friends, catch up with community members, and have fun. Don't forget to check out the fortnightly editions of 'WHEN' – edited and updated by Sue Stewart – which are circulated to all homeowners by email.

Weekly activities.

MONDAY

- 7.30am Sands golf competition
- 9am Zumba. Lawn bowls: Ladies' morning
- 10am Mah-jong. Social golf. Yoga
- 11am Slice of Life (fourth Monday of month)
- 1pm Cards (Hand & Foot). Lawn bowls (Triples)
- 2pm Ukulele practise
- 4.30pm Mixed tennis
- 5.45-6.30pm Lawn bowls: Coaching

TUESDAY

- AM, TBC Ladies' golf competition
- 8.15am Senior exercise class
- 9am Lawn bowls: Novice Pairs
- 9am Ladies' pickleball. Ladies' social golf
- 10am Book Club (second Tues of the month)
- 1pm Cards: Hand & Foot
- 3pm Lawn bowls: Scroungers, Mixed social
- 7pm Cards: 500

WEDNESDAY

- All day Social golf
- 7.30am Aqua aerobics
- 8.15am Mat Pilates
- 8.45am Chair yoga
- 1pm Lawn bowls: Self-selected pairs
- 1pm Duplication Bridge
- 7.15pm Movies at The Bay

THURSDAY

- All day Social golf
- 8.15am Yoga
- 8.30am Mixed tennis
- 9am Lawn bowls: Pot luck games, skill sessions
- 1pm Cards (500). Supervised Bridge
- 1.30pm Craft, coffee and chat
- 6pm Mixed pickleball
- 7pm Lawn bowls: Winners & losers, mixed

FRIDAY

- AM, TBC Mixed golf competition
- 8.15am Mat Pilates
- 9am Chair yoga
- 9.30am Tai chi
- 10am Mah-jong
- 1pm Social golf. Line dancing (beginners)
- 1pm Lawn bowls: Men's
- 2pm Line dancing (intermediate)
- 4pm Happy Hour (second Friday: Raffles)

SATURDAY

- All day Social golf
- 9am Mini Bridge
- 10am Remote-controlled boats
- 2pm Men's pickleball
- 2pm Lawn bowls: Scroungers, Mixed social
- 3-5pm Live music (fourth Saturday of month)
- 4pm Lawn bowls: Scroungers
- 5.30pm Villa draw (third Saturday of month)

SUNDAY

- All day Social golf
- 8am Mixed pickleball
- 1pm Mixed cash triples competition
- 2.30pm Trivia (second Sunday of the month)
- 4pm Croquet. Happy Hour



The race that stops a nation...

And it certainly did! The Hamptons Clubhouse may have contained more excitement than Flemington Racetrack, as one hundred and forty-six residents arrived early to jockey for positions among the many tables laid out in readiness. The Melbourne Cup had nothing on the scene at the Hamptons, as the residents sought their starting positions, and the field filled with many fillies, and stallions, decked out in their glamorous best.

Fortunes were won and lost on the "pretend" races which occupied the earlier part of the day, and some lucky punters actually made small fortunes through the Calcutta and sweeps which had been keenly patronised. Then came Fashions on the Field, and the judges were overwhelmed by the numbers of fabulous contenders, so they had to award numerous prizes.

Nobody had to don a nose bag for lunch, although there were some rumblings about the quality of lunch, and you may rest assured, the Social Committee have taken note! Fortunately, the Fruit Table, and especially the Lolly Table, were overwhelmed by enthusiastic nibblers, and many had to queue to get at those jars of lollies.

It was a fun day, full of fashion, food, and laughter, made possible by the hard work of many whose efforts made the event a runaway success.

BY TRISH KARVELIS, SOCIAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY



Think pink!

THE RESIDENTS OF PALM LAKE RESORT BEACHMERE BAY HAVE YET AGAIN DEMONSTRATED THEIR GENEROSITY AND WILLINGNESS TO GIVE BACK IN MANY WAYS TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

One of the many recent fundraising events was organised by Deanna Cruickshank, the mover and shaker behind a Charity Golf Morning, followed by a Morning Tea, held in the Bowls Club.

Golfers, attired in pink, teed off early on a warm morning, before making their way back to the Bowls Club for much-needed refreshments. Those of us who don't golf made a head-start on the morning tea, which was provided by residents, and was delicious.

The event raised several thousand dollars, and was one of many held in recent months, which highlights the positive impact many of our homeowners have through their support of various charities.

BY TRISH KARVELIS, SOCIAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY



Deck the halls...

AND THE HAMPTONS CLUBHOUSE, AND ALL THE TABLES INSIDE AND OUT!

At our resort Christmas party – our biggest of the year, with 243 enthusiastic revellers in total – homeowners embraced the opportunity to decorate their tables with Christmas tableware, bonbons and even glowing lights.

Sue Stewart had laboured for hours to process the bookings and figure out the seating plan, while Jeff Irvine and trusty helpers wrestled with tables and chairs to provide us with a place to sit and enjoy the evening. Every table was proudly set, and was soon groaning under the weight of the superb feast which homeowners made and brought to share.

Our MC Geoff Shepherd led us through the evening, which included a Christmas game that had people in fits of laughter as they tried to keep up with the instructions. He also led the team selling raffle tickets, for which there were multiple prizes, and eventually many happy prize winners.

Infectious songs and music were performed by our entertainers, Paris Inc, and quickly had us tapping our feet, singing along, and dancing like nobody was watching. Lorraine, the lead singer, dazzled us with her talents, and she was very nearly upstaged by some "artists" who subsequently joined her on stage. Our very own saxophonist and two extremely energetic guitar players all clutched their plastic inflatable instruments, which looked remarkably realistic but (fortunately!) didn't produce any music.

The many people who made this event possible have done a fabulous job, and given much joy to the community.

BY TRISH KARVELIS, SOCIAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY



Happy New Year!

THEY SAY TO START THE YEAR AS YOU MEAN TO GO ON – AND IF 2026 IS ANYTHING LIKE OUR NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION, IT'S GOING TO BE A BIG (AND FUN) ONE.



Homes for sale.

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT PALM LAKE RESORT SALES CONSULTANT JULIE-ANN
ON 1800 338 382 OR EMAIL HER AT JULIEANNH@PALMLAKE.COM.AU



Home 63: \$1,165,000

- Beds 3
- Bath 2
- Study 1
- Living 1
- Garage 2
- Outdoor Living



Home 279: \$1,070,000

- Beds 2
- Bath 2
- Study 1
- Living 1
- Garage 2
- Outdoor Living



Home 191: \$1,139,000

- Beds 2
- Bath 2
- Study 1
- Living 1
- Garage 2
- Outdoor Living



Home 116: \$985,000

- Beds 3
- Bath 2
- Living 1
- Alfresco 1
- Garage 2



Home 157: POA

- Beds 3
- Bath 2
- Study 1
- Living 1
- Garage 2
- Outdoor Living



Home 286: \$995,000

- Beds 3
- Bath 2
- Study 1
- Living 1
- Garage 2
- Outdoor Living



Home 204: \$985,000

SOLD



Home 162: \$992,000

SOLD



Home 31: \$895,000

SOLD



Home 35: \$995,000

SOLD



Over the back fence.

THE PALM LAKE GROUP SPANS 27 RESORT ADDRESSES ACROSS THREE STATES AND SOME 12,000 PEOPLE CALL PALM LAKE GROUP HOME, SO THERE IS ALWAYS PLENTY OF GOOD NEWS AROUND OUR GROUNDS.



The Toy Boys make prime time TV

WE'VE COVERED THE WONDERFUL WORK OF "THE TOY BOYS" AT PALM LAKE RESORT WATERFORD IN THESE PAGES BEFORE, BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BOYS MADE TV HEADLINES OVER CHRISTMAS?

This group of merry toymakers spend all year in their **Palm Lake Resort Waterford** workshop constructing wooden toys for underprivileged local children. At Christmastime annually, they gather a year's worth of handmade goodies and make a large heartfelt donation to Beenleigh Special School as well as The Mitre 10 Beenleigh Christmas tree appeal. And they've been doing this for 15 years!

7News Brisbane heard about The Toy Boys' pending 2025 donation and sent out a camera crew to capture their story. So taken with the Boys' dedication to their cause were producers of the 'Sunrise' television show that they then live-crossed to Palm Lake Resort Waterford to interview the Boys live on air. Workshop President Ray Johnstone says the group was grateful for the recognition and praise, and they look forward to many more years spent in their resort workshop, building wooden treasures for local kids.



HANDMADE TOYS SPREAD CHEER TO NEEDY KIDS

Step inside Santa's Workshop

PALM LAKE RESORT CALOUNDRA CAY HOMEOWNERS PUT THEIR MANY TALENTS TO GOOD USE, COLLECTING (AND MAKING) DONATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL SALVOS CHRISTMAS APPEAL.

In the lead-up to Christmas, **Palm Lake Resort Caloundra Cay** homeowners worked together to assemble 81 Christmas hampers for families in need across the Sunshine Coast. Retired Salvation Army Major and homeowner Maree Strong helped coordinate the effort, which evolved from a simple neighbourly suggestion into a well-organised collection and distribution process.

"What began as one small idea quickly grew into something incredibly meaningful," Maree told Tony Durkin for the Caloundra Cay newsletter, recalling the steady flow of donated food items that filled collection boxes in the library and required regular sorting and storage ahead of final packing.

Adding a new element to this year's appeal, members of the Caloundra Cay Workshop also contributed 40 handmade wooden toys for children from recipient families. Suggested by workshop member Bruce Angus, the project involved hours of sanding, painting and finishing, with each toy requiring several hours of careful work. The toys were distributed alongside the hampers, complementing the food donations and no doubt promising a joyful surprise for recipients with children.



Doing good in The Long Run

Homeowners at **Palm Lake Resort Bargara** recently came together for a meaningful fundraising event. As part of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, homeowners formed a team for 'The Long Run', inviting neighbours to join a ride around the resort grounds to raise funds and spark conversation around prostate cancer awareness.

The ride saw 37 participants cycle a combined distance of more than 300km along the resort's streets, cheered on by fellow homeowners who generously donated along the way. The morning concluded with a well-earned morning tea and a raffle, with the event raising \$1975 for Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia.

The ride also shone a spotlight on the Bargara Prostate Cancer Support Group, which now supports men and families across the Coral Coast. Most importantly, it reinforced a vital message: early detection saves lives, and regular conversations with your GP are key.

Think pink, for a cause

Palm Lake Resorts across Queensland turned pink late last year, coming together to raise funds and awareness for the McGrath Foundation and breast cancer.

At **Palm Lake Resort Upper Coomera**, homeowners enjoyed a lively evening event that raised \$1515, thanks to generous donations from homeowners, the Toucan Club, and local service providers. **Palm Lake Resort Bethania** hosted a beautifully curated Pink Morning Tea, led by homeowner Lorraine Sommerville, raising more than \$2000 with the help of volunteers, prizes and home-baked treats. Meanwhile, at **Palm Lake Resort Cooroy-Noosa**, around 70 homeowners filled the Pavilion Country Club with pink, raising \$1152 and enjoying music, food, costumes and plenty of community spirit as well.

A very special visitor

Residents at **Palm Lake Resort Ballina** recently enjoyed a rare wildlife surprise – a Great Bowerbird, well outside its usual Queensland range. The striking visitor built an intricate bower beside the walking track, decorating it with stones, pegs, marbles and even chilli peppers! While no female arrived to admire his efforts, the bowerbird's unexpected stay sparked curiosity, conversation and delight, offering a fascinating glimpse into Australia's extraordinary birdlife.



Congrats on these big birthday milestones

Best wishes to Palm Lake Resort's latest nonagenarians and even a centenarian, who all celebrated a birthday milestone recently...

Jan Cuskelly from **Palm Lake Resort Bargara** marked her 90th birthday alongside 70 of her family, friends and neighbours. Everyone in attendance enjoyed finger food and refreshments in the Ocean Breeze Country Club.

Palm Lake Resort Caloundra Cay's 'Big' John Williams celebrated his 90th birthday with the help of his regular bowling mates, who put together an afternoon of activities in his honour. Cake was eaten, rounds of drinks were shouted (even by the birthday boy himself!) and many laughs were shared.

And finally, **Palm Lake Resort Phillip Island** birthday girl Joan Menzies just turned 100! She spent the day surrounded by family, many of whom she hadn't seen for years, with friends joining in the festivities later on. What a milestone!

What's over your back fence?

Has your resort got a warm and fuzzy "Over the back fence" story to share with the whole Palm Lake Resort group? We'd love to include it in the next editions of our resort newsletters. **Simply contact your Caretakers or email the details to Belinda at belinda@bellepr.com**

Better,
together.



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