

# The Gatsby

MARCH - APRIL 2023



## OUR COURSE: THEN AND NOW

It's been a big three years for the Westhampton Golf Course. Check out our look back at the history of this impressive resort facility

## WHAT A FESTIVE FEW MONTHS!

Our homeowners do love a social gathering and the past few months have given us many opportunities to kick up our heels!

## PICTURE YOURSELF HERE

If you're looking for a stylishly chic Hamptons home, in a wonderfully warm and social community, look no further than Pages 9-11





# Welcome

The centrepiece of our resort is the beautiful Hamptons Country Club. We have many activities here and facilities available for all our homeowners to utilise. We are very fortunate to have many volunteers who donate their time and skills to assisting with activities, managing clubs and bars, with others offering assistance with table setting and serving the meals (we also have volunteers who drive our buses for shopping outings, trips to the theatre and dinners and lunches out).

Here at the Country Club, we have a hive of activity some days, with coffee mornings and exercise classes keeping everyone fit and up to date with the social activities organised by the Social Club. Our craft room, music room and library are well equipped for quiet, constructive afternoons and Book Club gatherings. The billiards and darts room hosts many games and competitions - fun had by all!

Our volunteer bar manager and his assistants provide excellent service at our Happy Hours, continuing during meal times. Meals on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and lunch on Thursdays, are cooked by our wonderful chef, Jorge (also, Jorge is back from a two-month holiday - he went to see his family in Columbia and was greatly missed. We welcome him back!).

Back to the Country Club and our ten pin bowling alley provides great entertainment and has regular competitions for everyone to enjoy. Our Milon gym is very modern and well used. It is set out in a circuit and simple to follow. Our Milon instructor is available for assistance with personalised programs and updates. The indoor heated pool and spa are a favourite pastime for our homeowners and a great way to exercise.

So, we look forward to seeing you at the Country Club - joining in as much or as little as you would like. It's a wonderful facility and we are very grateful for it.

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

## Contact us

Looking for more information about Beachmere Bay? Here are four places you can reach us:

**Online:** Visit our website [beachmerebay.com.au](http://beachmerebay.com.au)

**Social media:** Follow Palm Lake Resort on Facebook (@palm.lake.resort) and Instagram (@palm.lake.resort) to see what's happening right across all our locations.

**Street address:**  
Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay can be found at:  
194 Bishop Rd, Beachmere.

**FREECALL:** 1800 338 382.  
There's no cost to you and you'll have our experienced Sales Team at the other end of the line. Easy.



## News briefs

### Refer friends for fast cash

We know your friends love coming to visit your Palm Lake Resort home and enjoy sharing our resort facilities with you, right? Refer a friend to join you and become part of our exclusive community, and if they purchase an established Palm Lake Resort home, you'll receive \$250 cash. Easy! Ask about our 'Refer a Friend' incentive at the Sales Information Centre.

### Looking for care?

There are limited vacancies at Palm Lake Care Beachmere available now. Vacancies come and go quickly, and Palm Lake Care prioritises Palm Lake Resort residents and their families. If you have someone needing 24-hour nursing care, FREECALL Care Solutions to discuss their needs on 1800 24 66 77.



### Big inter-resort bowls comp is back!

After taking over Kingaroy in 2019 and Dalby in 2021, the big biennial Palm Lake Resort inter-resort bowls comp is back in 2023! Organised by Joy Williams of Palm Lake Resort Bargara, this year's event will take over Biloela Bowls Club and it's officially time to get your nomination forms in. "If you are expecting big prizemoney and serious competition, this is not for you," she smiles. As Joy explains, this is a friendly, social event for any likeminded Palm Lake Resort homeowners based in Queensland. The week will kick off on Monday, August 28, with a meet and greet at the Bowls Club, followed by three days of bowls and a presentation dinner on Thursday, August 31. Games will consist of teams of three players, playing three bowls each over 15 or 17 ends (depending on the number of teams that nominate). If previous years are anything to go by, while there will be loads of on-green action, the off-green fun will prove to be just as good! Nominations close July 31 or earlier if rinks are filled. Camping and accommodation options, as well as nomination forms, are all available via Joy on 0409 792 912 or [bundabergjoy@gmail.com](mailto:bundabergjoy@gmail.com)

## Weekly activities

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

**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 Armchair 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 social

**FRIDAY**  
AM, TBC Mixed golf competition  
8.30am Mat Pilates  
9.15am Tai chi  
10am Mah-jong  
1pm Social golf.  
1pm Line dancing (beginners)  
1pm Lawn bowls: Men's  
2pm Line dancing (intermediate)  
4pm Happy Hour (second Friday: Multidraw raffle)

**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 the month)  
4pm Lawn bowls: Scroungers  
5.30pm Villa draw (third Saturday of the month)

**SUNDAY**  
All day Social golf  
8am Mixed pickleball  
1pm Mixed cash triples competition  
2.30pm Bingo (first Sunday of the month)  
2.30pm Trivia (second Sunday of the month)  
2.30pm Ballads with Barry (fifth Sunday)  
4pm Croquet. Also Happy Hour





# Social Club notes

By Jaye Barros (Home 84), Social Club Chair

Our New Year's celebrations saw a great turn out of party-goers to see out 2022 and bring in 2023 with singing, dancing, eating and dress-ups. Being "New Year's Eve" the theme was N. Y. E. and the idea was for homeowners to dress up as someone or in something that started with one or more of those letters! We had Nana Mouskouri, Nerds, New Yorkers, Nineteen Eighties, Ninjas and people from the "North", Eggs, Egyptians, and Elvis, and to keep everyone balanced and calm - Yin and Yang - twice! There were also many people who came all in Yellow or Navy! A fabulous effort and loads of fun.

New Year's Day was all about R&R around the barbecue with live music on the deck at the Beach House. It was a well-earned rest after the many, many, many celebrations, parties and get-togethers over the previous few weeks.

After a few weeks' down time, we came together again for a classic pool party for Australia Day. From Thong Toss to Trivia, Lamingtons to Live Music, the perfect weather, beautiful barbecue platter and poolside games were the best way to celebrate our beautiful country and its people.

As always, we will continue with our many regular activities of midweek movies, live music, trivia, bingo, raffles and presentations. There is never a chance to be bored at Beachmere Bay!

**Pictured this page:** Check out our "N. Y. E." New Year's Eve party. Can you pick the dress-up themes? What fun!



**Pictured above and below:** New Year's Day was all about R&R. **Pictured right:** Aussie, Aussie, Aussie? Oi, Oi, Oi!





OUR GOLF COURSE HAS COME SO FAR IN THREE YEARS...

# Golf, then and now



Pictured this page: The 8th fairway in 2020, and now.

## By Quentin Robson (Home 102)

A group of likeminded homeowners met in November 2019 with the objective of establishing the requirements to commence playing golf on the nine-hole golf course then currently being developed to the west of Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay.

A Steering Subcommittee was formed in February 2020, and in June 2020 the inaugural Golf Sub Committee was elected with an objective to form a yet to be named Golf Club.

The Subcommittee developed administrative policy and procedures, which included negotiations with PLR on the club's name, and worked through all the normal requirements to setup and develop a golf club. The Subcommittee also monitored the development of the course as well as the building of the Clubhouse, which turned out not to be just a "storage shed" as indicated at the time, but a highly valued clubhouse with 10 new golf carts and a second room comprising a golf driving range as well as a Golf Simulator.

The Club and clubhouse were officially opened in February 2021. At that time, the Club had about 100 members and now boasts 240 members.

A new Subcommittee took over in May 2021 with the objective of continuing to develop the course (named Shoalhaven Golf Course by Palm Lake Group), to continually improve playing conditions, as well as providing organised social competition for the homeowners of Beachmere Bay.

The Shoalhaven Golf Course has come a long way since those early days. It was literally a series of paddocks with tees at one end and greens at the other. The ladies' tees were added in late 2020. However, with input from Pelican Waters Golf Course staff and our own volunteers, the fairways were shaped and started getting mowed once a week. The rough, which was just long grass, and a haven for lost balls, was also formed.

The course was cored and gypsum spread over the fairways in late 2020 which helped break down the clay and encouraged grass growth. Palm Lake Resort have also spread many cubic meters of top soil around the course which has also helped with grass growth. The Golf Committee purchased fertiliser and this was spread on the fairways in late 2022. Volunteers on working bee days have helped shape the bunkers, spread top soil, sown grass seed and placed turf on some of the bare patches to help promote grass growth. The committee also purchased a mechanical sweeper to sweep the artificial greens which assists in slowing the greens down.

We had a considerable rain event in February 2022 which flooded the entire golf course, however, other than damage to the 8th green and a few of the artificial tees floating away, the course recovered quickly and it was reopened in late March 2022.

Development of the Shoalhaven Golf Course, which we must remember is only just over three years old, still has a long way to go but with the continued commitment of our golf committee, volunteers and Palm Lake Resort, we will get there.



Pictured top row: The 9th hole in 2021 and the 9th hole now. Pictured above: Volunteers spreading top soil and turf on the 7th fairway in June 2022, and the fairway now.

## Remembering the early days

By Rae Densley (Home 119), Jody Sutherland (Home 3), Betty Faux (Home 20) and Laurel Mills (Home 117)

We started playing golf with the ladies from Beachmere Sands in 2019 when we moved to Beachmere Bay, before Shoalhaven Golf Course was built. There were usually about 10 of us ladies playing on Mondays. We played the four holes at the Sands' golf course twice, and then played one more hole to make the usual nine holes of golf. We would always end up having coffee with the ladies after our game at Beachmere Sands.

As the first three holes at the Shoalhaven Golf Course became playable, we started playing those three holes first, followed by four holes at the Sands Golf Course plus another two holes at the Sands to finish nine holes altogether - and continued to enjoy a cuppa and a chat with all the ladies after our game! This entailed lots of walking and kept us very fit!



As more holes were built here and became playable, we eventually changed our playing days to Tuesdays. The ladies at the Sands continued to play on Mondays. Eventually, we were able to play all nine holes at Shoalhaven Golf course.

Three years later, we are still members at the Westhampton Golf Club and continue to play on the Shoalhaven Golf Course in the ladies' and mixed golf competitions. We have our own club room to enjoy a cuppa and a chat after our game. Golf buggies are also available for us to use at no cost if needed and that is a privilege. Yes, we have come a long way in just three years! We hope that we will continue to improve.





# Racquet sports round up

## Pickleball Happenings

By Di O'Brien (Home 113)  
Racquet Sports Sub-Committee Secretary/Treasurer

Pickleball is fast becoming one of the most popular sports for the over-50s. We are lucky to have two outdoor pickleball courts and we are certainly making the most of the opportunity. Mixed doubles social playing days are Sundays at 8am and Thursdays at 6pm.

Just like bowls and golf, there was a need to start a ladies' social day, including morning tea (pictured above right). This commences at 9am. The ladies are really enjoying the morning. We play lots of sets, swapping players around. It's also a good starting point for any ladies who wish to take up playing. New players are very welcome and coaching and equipment is provided. We all have lots of fun and some great rallies.

With a very active Sub-Committee, Pickleball is only going to get more and more players and some competition days going forward. Another new initiative is our monthly breakfasts of bacon and egg rolls. The smell coming from our barbecue on the last Sunday morning of the month attracts lots of homeowners. For catering purposes, there is a list to be filled in and money to be put in our box (at the Sports Club) if anyone wants to join in. For more information about playing pickleball, contact Di on 2313.

## Indoor Pickleball (just to mix things up!)

By Ricci Barros (Home 84)  
Racquet Sports Sub-Committee Chair

On February 3, 11 of us ventured out to Morayfield Sports and Events Centre to play some indoor pickleball (picture top right). Six courts were set up on multi-purpose courts with numerous court markings (pickleball, basketball,



indoor soccer, volleyball and badminton). A great time was had by all, experiencing the difference in bounce with the indoor balls and wooden courts, not to mention the absence of wind - but, boy, it was warm in the unairconditioned space and outside temperature of 36 degrees! Afterwards, we had a cuppa and a chat and learnt that we can hire courts in an airconditioned space. We all agreed another new experience is in the wind in 2023...

## Anyone For Tennis

By John Davis (Home 27)  
Racquet Sports Tennis Captain

Now that the Australian Open tennis is over, it may be a good time for homeowners to think about having a go at tennis at our lovely resort. The new Bay tennis pavilion is now complete with toilets and a barbecue all convenient. The courts precinct is an excellent place to have a picnic barbecue by the lake - even if you don't play tennis. If you would like to have a hit however, tennis racquets and balls are there for your use.

The tennis group has regular mixed play every Monday at 4.30pm and Thursdays at 8.30am. All standards of players are welcome. If you are new to the game, our resident coach, Nick, will get you started with some easy lessons.

This year we are planning some new and exciting events. Starting with a ladies' days, which may include a double-bounce rule (if you don't wish to run fast!), night tennis and competitions for the more serious players etc. In March, we are planning to invite the local tennis group from Beachmere for a day of friendly play and a barbecue and all homeowners are invited to come and participate or just watch. For further information about tennis, contact John on 2227.

# Homes for sale

Home 158, Holbrook: \$865,000



An exciting opportunity is here to purchase an almost two year old Holbrook in immaculate condition. Situated just a five-minute walk to the beach. This two bedroom home, plus multi purpose room, is energy efficient with ducted air con and ceiling fans in every room. Featuring a relaxing north facing alfresco and high raked ceiling in the living/dining area. The kitchen is 2pac with soft-close drawers and Italian appliances. The primary bedroom is at the rear of the home with sliders opening out onto the alfresco.

FREECALL Nicole on 1800 338 382 to arrange an inspection.



Home 262, Holbrook: \$1,075,000



From the moment you step inside, you'll be greeted by a warm and inviting open-plan living area that features beautiful luxury tiled flooring and windows allowing an abundance of natural light to flow through. The spacious kitchen is a chef's dream, with top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances, custom cabinetry and large 40mm stone benchtops, perfect for entertaining guests. The two bedrooms are located at opposite ends of the home and offer a private oasis with plush carpets, ample closet space. The primary bedroom features a walk-in robe and ensuite with tiles to the ceiling.

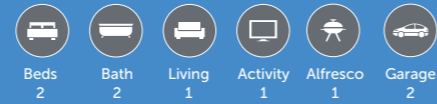


TURN OVER FOR MORE HOMES...



# Homes for sale

## Home 29, Holbrook: \$840,000



**SOLD!**



Situated on a sought-after corner block, this Holbrook is a spacious home with a stunning raked ceiling. Two bedrooms plus a multi-purpose room. The principal bedroom has a fully fitted walk-in robe and ensuite with two basins. The Hamptons-style kitchen is 2 pac finish with European appliances and a Billi tap. Ducted air conditioning throughout and ceiling fans in every room. This gated community delivers the Hamptons style with all the activities including a nine-hole golf course, bowling green, swimming pools and spas and so much more.

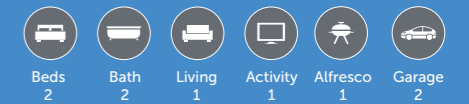
FREECALL Nicole on 1800 338 382 to arrange an inspection.

## Home 161, Eastport: \$865,000



Almost brand new at just 18 months old, this stunning Eastport home is in mint condition. The colour scheme is classic Hamptons theme with a fantastic entertainers' kitchen featuring 40mm stone benchtop, Italian SMEG appliances, Billi filter tap, induction cooking and a large island bench for prepping and entertaining. The Eastport has two good sized bedrooms and a multi purpose room with the primary bedroom opening out to the private alfresco fitted with retractable blinds. The home also includes a security alarm, ducted air conditioning, plantation shutters and so much more. Don't wait long to book your private inspection with Nicole on 0499 995 103.

## Home 265, Eastport: \$1,250,000



Here is a rare opportunity to purchase a stunning Eastport home on a substantial north-facing block. It offers two bedrooms with an extra MPR. The style of this home exudes the Hamptons with a stunning kitchen, feature island, 40mm stone benchtops, Italian SMEG appliances, Billi hot/cold water filter, bosch alarm system, WIR, ducted aircon throughout and ceiling fans in every room. The double garage has built in storage and the outdoor area is spacious with a fabulous outlook. This premium home won't last long. Contact Nicole on 0499 995 103 to arrange your private inspection.

# Expertise aplenty

Sometimes life has us moving on - we understand that. If your situation has changed and you are thinking of selling your Beachmere Bay home, the best person to help you through that process is local Senior Sales Consultant Nicole Smith.

Nicole is available to provide you with up-to-date information on the current real estate market (specifically over-50s community lifestyle resorts) and can also complete a no-obligations appraisal of your Beachmere Bay home.



**WHETHER BUYING OR SELLING, FOR MORE INFORMATION  
FREECALL 1800 338 382 AND OUR SENIOR SALES CONSULTANT,  
NICOLE SMITH, WILL BE READY TO TAKE YOUR CALL**





# 10,000 REASONS TO CELEBRATE

With more than 45 years' history and properties right along Australia's east coast, did you know that 10,000 likeminded people call a Palm Lake Group address home? Come join our 10,000-strong community in 2023. We welcome you home.



FRECALL 1800 338 382 | [salesbeachmere@palllake.com.au](mailto:salesbeachmere@palllake.com.au)  
194 Bishop Rd, Beachmere QLD 4510

THE BEST IN OVER-50s. THIS IS YOUR TIME.  
[palllakeresort.com.au](http://palllakeresort.com.au)