

MAY - JUNE 2026



Calypso



Take a trip back in time

The cooler months are the perfect time to explore Australia's best historic towns

Stories released from the vault

We take another look back at some of the best stories ever published in the Calypso...

Refer a friend, earn a reward

Do you know someone who wants to move here? Refer them for a cash reward



Welcome.

Welcome to the May-June edition of the Palm Lake Resort Caloundra Cay newsletter, Calypso. We hope you are enjoying the cooler nights and the clear sunny days of the last few weeks of autumn.

Over the last couple of months we've had two new grounds staff join our team – welcome to Peter and Luke, who have joined John in the gardening team. You may have noticed a hive of activity within our resort recently; our thanks to Neil and the team for their efficient work getting through the backlog of gardening and maintenance. Your hard work and gentle care is greatly appreciated!

A reminder of some of the upcoming events to look forward to over the next couple of months:

- **Tuesday May 12:** Mothers Day, Cancer Council Fundraiser at Hemingway's
- **Sunday May 24:** Caloundra Cay Singer & Combined Choir at Hemingway's
- **Sunday June 7:** Paul McKenna Entertainer & Paella Fella Food Van at Hemingway's
- **Wednesday June 10:** Salvation Army Fundraising Dinner at Hemingway's
- **Saturday June 27:** Kitty Kats Burlesque at Hemingway's

Remember: if you have any enquiries, our office is open from 9am to 12pm Monday to Friday and we are happy to assist you. If you are not able to come in within those times, we are available by phone till 3pm weekdays as well.

Enjoy the cooler weather and take some time to enjoy the beautiful flora and fauna that call our resort lake and wetlands home.

Take care and we look forward to seeing you all around the resort,

Neil & Kerri
Palm Lake Resort Caloundra Cay 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.

News in brief.



Looking for local care?

If you're looking for convenient aged care for a beloved family member, your local Palm Lake Care community is ready to hear from you. While Palm Lake Care can't fully guarantee any beds to Palm Lake Resort homeowners and their family members (simply given the ever-changing demand on their service and also your loved one's individual healthcare needs), the very experienced Customer Experience Team is ready to guide you on your family's journey into aged care. For more initial information, visit the Palm Lake Care website at pallakecare.com.au You might also like to complete an enquiry form online? And when you're ready to speak to a Palm Lake Care team member, simply freecall 1800 24 66 77.



Refer a friend

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 a Palm Lake Resort home, you'll receive \$250 cash. Easy! Ask about our 'Refer a Friend' incentive at the Sales Information Centre.

Don't forget to check your speed

Please remember the speed limit around our community grounds is 10km/h. It is not hard to keep your foot off the accelerator so please keep an eye on your speedo as it is very easy for someone to have a mishap. Please slow down - and make sure to remind your visitors and/or invited tradespeople to do the same.

Get social with us!

Are you on social media? Make sure you follow Palm Lake Resort on Facebook (@pallakeresort) and also over on Instagram (@palm.lake.resort) to see what's happening right across our dozens of Palm Lake Resort locations. We also feature many warm-and-fuzzy stories from our seven Palm Lake Care aged caring communities on both social platforms (@palm.lake.care). With more than 10,000 people calling a Palm Lake address home, there's always loads going on!

Wellbeing, on site

Did you know you can now access onsite audiology, physiotherapy and massage services? Audiologist Rachel Deane and physiotherapist Anne-Marie Cavanagh – who was the physio for the Australian Open, and the personal physio of Serena Williams – are available, along with Anne-Marie's partner, who offers massage sessions a few nights each week.

What's on around town

There's always something exciting happening here on the Sunshine Coast. Add these upcoming events to your calendar...

NOOSA MARATHON

Saturday May 23

Runners from all over the world will descend on Noosa for a weekend filled with sunshine and good times. With a flat, fast and friendly multi-lap course set in the heart of Noosa township and multiple distances to choose from, it's a runner's paradise.

NOOSA FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

Thursday June 11 – Sunday June 14

With a fresh program, new collaborations and world-class chefs, the Noosa Food and Wine Festival is back with a bang in 2026. Indulge your senses across three event programs, including signature events and a mouth-watering restaurant series. Tickets essential, book online.

QUEENSLAND GARDEN SHOW

Friday July 10 to Sunday July 12

A must-visit event for seasoned green thumbs and budding gardeners alike. At Queensland's premier gardening showcase, you can browse the state's largest collection of plants in one location, and enjoy free talks, demonstrations, and expert-led workshops. Tickets essential.



From the vault:

Julie's 'reccy' eliminates beer and pies perception.

SHE MAY NOT HAVE USED THE WORD 'YOBBO', BUT WHEN JULIE TENNETT'S HUSBAND PETE SUGGESTED THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUPLE SHOULD ABANDON THEIR STRIFE-TORN COUNTRY AND MOVE TO AUSTRALIA, SHE WAS MORTIFIED.

"My notion of Australians was an uncouth mob who drank lots of beer and ate meat pies, but how wrong I was," confessed the 18-month long resident of Caloundra Cay.

Virtually forced from their native Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) in 1981 by political unrest under President Robert Mugabe, Julie and Peter spent years pondering a future for us, or our children.

Although never unsettled to the point of feeling they were itinerants, the family moved through South Africa and then Swaziland, feeling less and less secure at almost every turn.

"We could not see a future for us, or for our children. The racial unrest and violent crimes were becoming more and more prevalent," Julie explained.

And it was in 1988, during an almost 'enforced' trip to Australia, that Julie realised how mistaken her impression of Aussies was.

"For about 18 months as a boy, Pete had lived in Townsville, and he often spoke glowingly of his life there, and the friendliness of the people," Julie revealed. "So, when the reality hit that we needed to leave Africa, he suggested I put my uninformed opinion of Australia in my pocket, and take a look for myself."

Armed with just a backpack, and an open mind, Julie landed in Perth in January of 1988 on an eight-week 'reccy' tour. And, it was literally love at first sight.

Totally overwhelmed by her first impression, Julie excitedly phoned her husband to tell him she had found 'heaven on earth'. Pete advised her to be patient, implying better was to come.

Julie flew from Perth to Alice Springs, then on to Cairns. And from there the excursion kicked into top gear, with a Greyhound Bus trip down the East Coast stopping at major provincial cities before finishing in Melbourne. But it was in Brisbane where the love affair with Australia blossomed.

"It was February, Expo 88 was about to start, and the city was absolutely buzzing," Julie recounted. "Everywhere I turned there was positivity. People were so friendly and the warmth was easy to detect. I wanted to move here right then."

That defining chapter in their lives would, however, take another three years. Preparation of their application for migration to Australia – 90 pages of varying documentation – was one

month in the making, and they were warned that each time they phoned to 'see how things were going', their paperwork would return to the bottom of the pile.

"Naturally, after seeing what Australia offered our family and making the significant decision to move, we were edgy, and somewhat impatient," Julie said. "But we simply had to bide our time."

When notification of their successful application came three years later, Julie phoned Peter who was working in his role as a Construction Manager on a major project in Botswana. With no mobile phone service, she left the message 'call home urgently'.

"I obviously thought the worst – a family accident or tragedy," Pete recalled. "But when Julie told me the great news, we both shed a tear."

On Valentine's Day 1991, almost three years to the day since Julie had 'found' Brisbane, mum, dad and their eight and ten-year-old children John and Debbie, settled into the Youngaba Migrant Centre at Brisbane's Kangaroo Point.

Two weeks later they started a secretarial business servicing a firm of engineers and eight weeks on from their arrival moved into their new home at Ferny Hills – a tomato box, according to Julie. And in February last year they put down roots for 'hopefully the last time' when they became residents of Caloundra Cay.

"Australia has been wonderful to us, and we are so grateful," says Julie who now enjoys a beer and a meat pie. "And we love it to bits here. We feel so lucky – not just to live in Australia, but to be welcomed by so many friendly, kind and supportive people. Thank God we came to this country when we did."

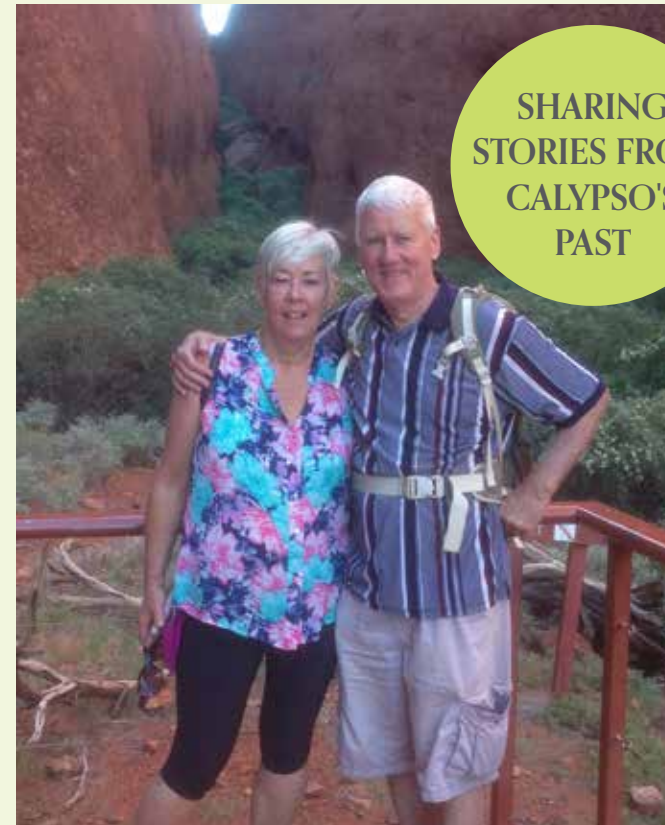
Julie and Peter, who play bowls, tennis and golf, and are keen cyclists as well as being involved in the choir, the workshop and the theatre, say they are so busy in their new lives at Caloundra Cay it seems they are never at home.

"And it feels so wonderful to be able to leave home in the knowledge that everything will still be there when we return," she said.

– TONY DURKIN

First published July-August, 2021

SHARING STORIES FROM CALYPSO'S PAST



Weekly activities.

MONDAY

7.30am Tennis, pickleball round robins
8.30am Pilates
9am Quilters' circle (1st Monday of month)
9.30am Zumba Gold
9.45am Aqua aerobics
11am Tai chi, Qi-gong
12.50pm for 1pm Cards - Hand & Foot
1pm Cards - Bridge
3pm Pool/Billiard Room

TUESDAY

7.30am: Ladies tennis and pickleball
8.30-10am Table tennis
9.15am for 9.45am Lawn bowls (10 ends)
9.30am Bingo
12pm Ladies who lunch (1st Tues. of month)
12.45pm for 1pm Lawn bowls (20 ends)
6pm Homeowners' dinner (book via Portal)

WEDNESDAY

8.30am Pilates
9am Bus trip to Sunshine Coast Plaza
9.30am The Dice Game
9.45am Aqua aerobics
10am Knitters & Sewers
11am-2pm Milon Gym training session
1-4pm Mah-jong (Bowls/Sports Club)
1-4.30pm Mah-jong (The Cove Recreational)
3pm Snooker
3pm, 5pm, 7pm Tenpin bowling (three starts)
7pm Movie night

THURSDAY

7.30am Tennis
8.30-11.30am Workshop
9am Yoga
9am Artist group (not on third Thursday)
9-11.30am Craft (third Thurs of month, \$10)
9.15am for 9.45am Lawn bowls (10 ends)
10am Workshop morning tea
12.30pm Homeowners' lunch (see Portal)
1.30pm Cribbage
1.45pm for 2pm Lawn bowls (16 ends)
2.30pm Bus to Caloundra Rugby League Club
3pm, 5pm, 7pm Tenpin bowling (three starts)
3pm Ladies' fun table tennis
3.30pm Pétanque

FRIDAY

8.30am Caloundra Cay Singers rehearsal
9am Dance practice (The Cove Recreational)
12.50pm for 1pm Cards - Hand & Foot
4.30pm for 5pm Lawn bowls/Scroungers
5pm Happy Hour

WEEKEND

Sat 8.30am Saturday swimming group
Sat 9-10.30am Table tennis
Sat 12.45 Lawn bowls (Pairs 10 ends)
Sun 12.45 Lawn bowls (20 ends)
Sun 7pm Movie night



Bright, Victoria

Travel through time.

AUSTRALIA'S BUSTLING COASTAL CAPITALS TEND TO GET ALL THE SPOTLIGHT, BUT THERE'S A LOT TO BE SAID FOR PLACES WHERE THINGS MOVE A LITTLE SLOWER. IF YOU'RE PLANNING YOUR NEXT ROAD TRIP, WHY NOT STEP BACK IN TIME WITH A VISIT TO ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S BEST HISTORIC TOWNS?

What makes a town historic? Not just any old place (literally) can make the cut. The best historic towns combine both age and atmosphere. We're talking towns, not cities – generally under 15,000 people – where heritage buildings aren't just dotted around, but define the heart of town. Think preserved streetscapes, pubs that have been pouring since the 1800s, and post offices, courthouses and churches from the earliest days of settlement. Here are some of Australia's best...

Charleville, Queensland

If you're looking for classic outback charm – wide streets, federation-era buildings and a strong railway history – look no further than Charleville. Explore its rich heritage at the historic railway station or the remnants of the top secret WWII base (operated by the US Air Force), stargaze at the Cosmos Centre, and extend your stay at one of the historic Hotel Corones or classic Warrego Motel.

Charters Towers, Queensland

Walking down the main streets of Charters Towers, it's easy to believe it was once one of Australia's richest gold rush towns. From the grand Stock Exchange Arcade (Charters Towers is home to one of the world's first regional stock exchanges) and towering bank buildings to the old-school pubs with their classic verandah dining, Charters Towers may be just 90 minutes from Townsville – but it feels like a step back in time.

Braidwood, New South Wales

Many towns have a heritage-listed building or two, but few are heritage-listed in their entirety – that's what makes Braidwood so special. Established in the mid-1800s, Braidwood has become a popular tourist destination – not only for its rich history, but its slightly bohemian feel, too. Browse the bakeries and boutiques, hunt for antiques, and soak up the charm of small-town life (and all just one hour from Canberra).

Morpeth, New South Wales

Established in the early 1800s, this historic river port has been beautifully preserved over time – even despite its decline with the arrival of the railway in the late 19th century. Now, a stroll through Morpeth isn't complete without a visit to the old wharf precinct, a peak inside its sandstone buildings or a stop at the Historic Arnott Bakehouse.

Berrima, New South Wales

Boasting one of New South Wales' most intact colonial streetscapes, and Australia's oldest continually licensed pub (the Surveyor General Inn, established in 1834), Berrima is a must-visit if you're exploring the picturesque Southern Highlands. Visit the historic courthouse and Berrima Gaol, shop for antiques and artisan goods, and find out why Berrima has been frozen in time since the late 1800s.

Beechworth, Victoria

What sets a gold rush town apart from the rest? Some Ned Kelly lore, that's what. Beechworth was the site of Ned Kelly's 1880 trial, meaning a visit to its historic courthouse and 30-plus National Trust-listed buildings is a must-do when you're in town. Find out why they say that Beechworth's paths were paved with gold, then explore its darker history with a ghost tour you won't soon forget.

Port Fairy, Victoria

It doesn't get much more charming than Port Fairy, Victoria's heritage fishing village. Beginning as a whaling station in the 1830s, and becoming one of the country's busiest ports two decades later, Port Fairy has retained more than 50 National Trust-classified buildings. Walk the wharf, admiring its whitewashed cottages, and take in the sea air at a waterside pub. The perfect end to a Great Ocean Road adventure.

Bright, Victoria

Once a thriving gold rush town, nowadays, Bright shines for a different reason – the vivid autumn leaves that line its quaint streets. Close to Mount Hotham, it's the perfect place to go if you're looking for an alpine escape – especially one that includes cosy cafes, a strong brewery scene and rewarding rail trails.

Hahndorf, South Australia

Unique Hahndorf was established in the 1830s by German Lutherans, making it Australia's oldest surviving German settlement. Nestled near the Adelaide Hills wine region, its famous for its 19th century Prussian architecture and delicious German fare, meaning Aussies don't need to travel to Hanover to indulge in authentic schnitzel or pretzels.

Richmond, Tasmania

Tasmania is rich in history, but the fittingly-named Richmond is one of its most famous villages – for good reason. Dating back to the 1820s, when it began as a convict-era garrison town (military outpost), Richmond's streetscape hasn't changed all that much since then. Pay a visit to Australia's oldest stone bridge, one of the country's oldest gaols, and the many cosy tearooms and shops in the town's centre.

York, Western Australia

Western Australia's oldest inland town – with one of the state's best heritage main streets – York was a key stop en route to the 1890s goldfields boom. Set in the beautiful Avon Valley, about an hour and a half from Perth, it provides the perfect day trip destination: country pubs, wildflowers, and heritage stays if you can't bear to leave just yet.

New Norcia, Western Australia

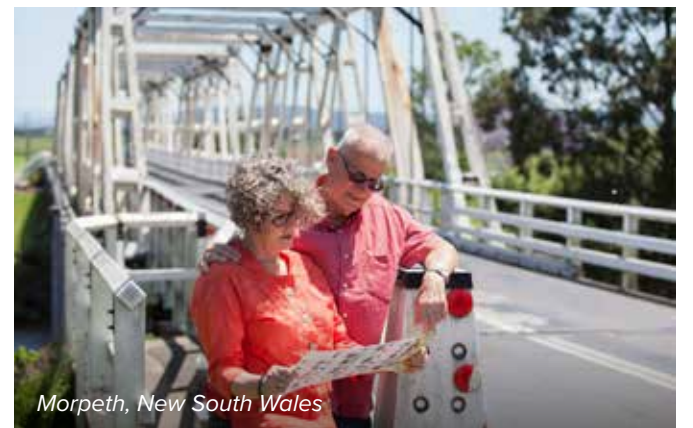
Founded in 1847 by Spanish Benedictine monks, New Norcia is Australia's only monastic town. It was first developed as a mission, but has bloomed into a religious and cultural centre in the decades since. Quiet, contemplative and honestly surreal, its distinct European architecture and classic outback setting make it well worth the two-hour drive from Perth.



Richmond, Tasmania



Charters Towers, Queensland



Morpeth, New South Wales



York, Western Australia



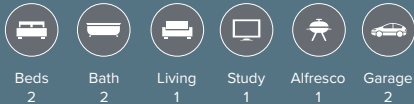
Hahndorf, South Australia

Homes for sale.

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT PALM LAKE RESORT SALES CONSULTANT JULIE-ANN
ON 1800 55 66 77 OR EMAIL HER AT JULIEANNH@PALMLAKE.COM.AU



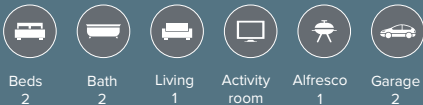
Home 55: Offers over \$1,250,000



Ideally located.

Nestled within a sought-after lifestyle resort, the Fontein design is located in a great position within the resort and proudly sits on a 310.7sqm block. Featuring 2 bedrooms plus a generous activity room, two bathrooms, a double garage, Smeg appliances and ducted air conditioning, it is the epitome of effortless living. The inviting and open floor plan with a high raked ceiling is designed to maximize space and natural light. The heart of the home lies in the gourmet kitchen, which features stylish and functional Smeg appliances and flows through to a spacious dining and living area.

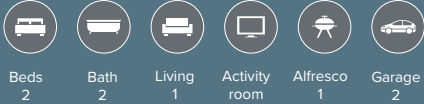
Home 172: Offers over \$1,250,000



Pinnacle of luxury.

Setting the standard for elegance and comfort on the Sunshine Coast, this fabulous property is perfectly suited for retirees or those over 50 in search of a peaceful haven. The Fontein floor plan fuses the coastal environment and lifestyle together perfectly. Inviting you into an expansive open-plan living area bathed in natural light, with a soft, neutral colour palette, it creates a warm and ambient atmosphere to enjoy. The seamless flow between the living and dining spaces offers an ideal setting for entertaining or unwinding in quiet comfort.

Home 75: \$1,165,000

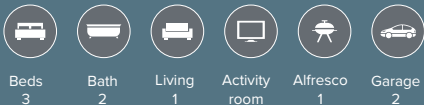


SOLD

Entertainer's delight.

Just 100m from the award-winning Bowls Club, this immaculate Fontein combines space, style and comfort. The king-sized main suite offers a walk-in robe and ensuite with double vanities, ample storage and a large shower, opening to an alfresco framed by lush, low-maintenance gardens. The kitchen features Smeg appliances, a Billi tap for instant hot and cold water, and extensive soft-close storage. Light-filled dining and living areas flow to a second alfresco.

Home 14: \$1,275,000

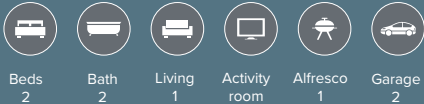


SOLD

Easy living.

Ideally located and well maintained, this home asks nothing of you – simply unpack your bags and start living your best life. The neutral colour palette is welcoming and sure to appeal to everyone's taste, and the layout is open plan with generous dining and living areas that welcome natural breezes.

Home 189: \$1,160,000



SOLD

Effortless elegance.

The Manaboa offers effortless living with two bedrooms, activity room, two bathrooms, double garage, Smeg kitchen, ducted air-conditioning and northwest alfresco. Enjoy light-filled interiors, low-maintenance gardens, resort amenities and proximity to wellness facilities. A light-filled open-plan layout with a high raked ceiling enhances space, while the modern kitchen features stone benchtops, sleek cabinetry, new lighting and Smeg appliances.

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.

AN EVENING
WE WON'T SOON
FORGET!



Truganina bowls us over!

Our **Palm Lake Resort Trugagina** bowlers delivered an outstanding performance during the most recent pennant season, achieving not one but two premierships wins, along with two runner-up finishes. Well done to everyone involved – a great team effort!



Trauma teddies go overseas.

Ladies from the **Palm Lake Resort Hervey Bay** knitting and craft group have been producing these adorable 'trauma teddies' for the local Urangan Branch of the QCWA. The best part? The teddies have been sent to Indonesia, so that they can be distributed among flood-affected children.

Le dîner en blanc.

Over a year ago, the **Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes** community was deeply moved by the story of a young boy's brave battle with brain cancer – especially since the young boy's grandparents call the resort home. Immediately, one question was on everyone's lips: 'Le Dîner en Blanc' (a "White Dinner"). The global phenomenon began in Paris in 1988, but has since spread across 85 cities – and now, Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes.

The 'White Dinner Working Group' spent months planning how to bring their vision to life, holding top-secret meetings to plan every last detail, right down to the elaborate white tablescapes. Without those dedicated volunteers crafting floral arrangements, managing entertainment and handling set up and pack down, the night couldn't have taken place – nor been so successful.

When the night of the dinner finally arrived, it was more than just a visual spectacle – it was a show of community. Homeowners came together, forging new friendships and strengthening existing ones, and all for an excellent cause.

The night was an overwhelming success, and now a new question is being asked: "When is the next one?".

We look forward to seeing this become a much-anticipated tradition, not just to come together as a resort, but to support the grandchildren and families within our special community.



Living the high life.

Our homeowners love living in luxury – and having a laugh! At **Palm Lake Resort Carindale**, a newly-created lounge area has quickly been dubbed 'The Qantas Lounge', and homeowners love using it for downtime, church group and coffee catch-ups. One talented homeowner has even created a wooden sign! Meanwhile, at **Palm Lake Resort Yamba**, homeowners have established an exclusive 'corporate box' (dubbed Bay 13, just like at the Melbourne Cricket Ground), and it's the perfect place to watch pickleball games on the new court.



Cooking for a cause.

Our **Palm Lake Resort Bargara** homeowners regularly join forces with the QCWA Bundaberg Branch members to cook for those in need – and have a lot of fun in the process! Recently, on one day alone, the group cooked enough lasagne and cottage pie to serve 174 people. Thanks for caring for your community, one meal at a time!

Friendly rivalry.

There's nothing quite like a bit of friendly competition to bring Palm Lake Resort communities together – and four of our locations have been doing just that!

Palm Lake Resorts Beachmere Sands and **Beachmere Bay** went head-to-head in their bi-annual intervillage lawn bowls competition on March 29. Despite a windy lead-up, the day delivered fine conditions and plenty of entertaining play. Beachmere Bay took home the win, but both teams could put aside their rivalry to celebrate together over burgers and a cold beer in The Sands clubhouse. Rumour has it The Sands are already sharpening up for the next round – watch this space!

Meanwhile, **Palm Lake Resorts Tea Gardens** and **Forster Lakes** teed off in their annual golf challenge. The tournament is played across four games using the Stableford scoring system – and this was the first. Forster Lakes claimed the day's honours, with a combined score of 230 points to Tea Gardens' 218. Jo Nolan of Forster Lakes was the standout individual performer with an impressive 41 points. The next round is set for Hawks Nest Golf Club on July 20.



We love our staff!

The **Palm Lake Resort Toowoomba** Social Committee put on a morning tea on behalf of all the homeowners to show their appreciation for their staff – much to everyone's delight! Homeowner Leanne Day put together a wonderful slideshow of images of the resort, and performed some songs to compliment them.

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**



Your happy place.



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