

Calypso



Plan a trip using animal instincts

Capitalise on our country's incredible array of fauna when planning your next adventure

Keep your eyes on the skies

How many of these nine elusive and iconic Australian birds have you seen?

Over the back fence

Keep up to date with all the good things your fellow Palm Lake Resort family is up to



Welcome.

Welcome to our last edition of *Calypso* newsletter for 2025. It's been a very busy few weeks since our last newsletter! With Christmas under two months away, we look back and wonder where this year has gone. It's starting to get much warmer now, and the festive season is well and truly with us.

Our wonderful Social Committee have organised loads of activities to finish the year. Make sure you check out the Weekly Activities List and Special Events List in Hemingways Country Club to stay up to date with what is going on. Some things to look out for are:

- **November 3:** Melbourne Cup Calcutta
- **November 4:** Melbourne Cup Luncheon
- **November 11:** Remembrance Day commemoration
- **November 18:** Monthly Morning Tea
- **December 13:** Christmas Dinner Party
- **December 31:** New Year's Eve Party

On that note, make sure you check out Page 8 to read all about who's who across our resort committees following the various most recent AGMs. We thank these homeowners for their commitment and dedication to our community.

In other news, we have had two new gardening staff join our team here at Palm Lake Resort Caloundra Cay. Rob and John have come onboard to help keep the resort grounds neat and tidy. We have such a great team here, with all our resort staff. They do such a great job maintaining the grounds and cleaning the facilities. We appreciate each and every one of them.

We would like to wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a wonderfully Happy New Year!

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.



Contact us.

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

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ONLINE: Visit our website
palllakeresort.com.au

GET SOCIAL:
Follow us on Facebook
(@palllakeresort) and on
Instagram (@palllake.resort)



News in brief.

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.

Weekly activities.

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

8-10am: Ladies tennis and pickleball
8.30-10am Table tennis
9.15am for 9.45am Lawn bowls (10 ends)
9.30am Bingo
10.30am Monthly homeowner morning tea (second Tues. of month)
12pm Ladies Who Lunch (first Tues. of month)
12.30-4.30pm Hong Kong Mah-jong
12.45pm for 1pm Lawn bowls (20 ends)
6pm Homeowners' dinner (book via Portal)



Big John reaches his 90th milestone

One of Caloundra Cay's most-popular, most-respected and most-admired homeowners, John Williams (Home 156), has recently turned 90. New Zealand-born John celebrated his nonagenarian milestone alongside his regular bowling mates, who turned the afternoon of activities at Caloundra Cay Bowls Club into 'Big John' day. A cake – albeit minus the obligatory 90 candles – was shared by his many friends and co-bowlers, alongside other 'munchies'. And to further emphasise why he is held in such esteem, John 'shouted' a round of drinks.

"We came here in 2020, and it has been one of the best moves we have made in our 63 years of married life," says John, referring to the decision by him and his recently deceased wife, Jeanette. "The Bowls Club, in particular, has been a major social focal point for us. The many close friendships we have made will never be forgotten."

The long-retired civil engineer plays bowls three days a week, regularly serves behind the bar at the Sports Club and is an active member of Caloundra Cay's Workshop. After losing a toe on his right foot a few years ago, to distinguish him from the numerous other Johns in the Resort, he gained the moniker 'John Nine Toes'.

"Now I can boast that I have lived as many decades as I have toes!"

– TONY DURKIN

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 (Cove Recreational)
3pm Snooker
3pm, 5pm, 7pm Tenpin bowling
7pm Movie night

THURSDAY

7.30am Tennis and pickleball
8.30-11.30am Workshop
9am Yoga
9am Artist group (not on third Thurs.)
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 (10 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 - Pony Tail
4.30pm for 5pm Lawn bowls/Scroungers
5.30pm Happy Hour

SATURDAY

Sat 8.30am Saturday swimming group
Sat 9-10.30am Table tennis
Sat 12.45 Lawn bowls (Pairs 10 ends)

SUNDAY

Sun 12.45 Lawn bowls (20 ends)
Sun 7pm Movie night



CALOUNDRA
CAY'S OWN
TOY BOYS!

Santa's Workshop, Palm Lake Resort style!

CALOUNDRA CAY HOMEOWNERS HAVE AGAIN PLEDGED TO SUPPORT THE ANNUAL SALVOS' CHRISTMAS APPEAL, BUT THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE A TWIST.

Twelve months ago our own Maree Strong (Home 264), a retired Salvation Army Major – supported by the generosity of fellow homeowners – helped turn a simple suggestion from a Caloundra Cay neighbour into 81 Christmas hampers for the local needy.

"The planting of one tiny seed by Di Clark (Home 119) who asked if she could put together a hamper to support a family with nine children who were experiencing difficult times just before Christmas, made an amazing difference to these needy families on the Sunshine Coast," Maree recalls.

"In came hampers of all shapes and sizes last year. I had to regularly empty the two food-donation boxes in the Library and put them in storage until they were packed into bags on the final presentation day in late November."

In the interim Maree – and the Salvos – has received even more support, this time from members of Caloundra Cay

Workshop, and again following a suggestion. At a recent meeting of the Workshop committee, Bruce Angus (Home 197) suggested that members embark on a 'Christmas Toys for Charity' program, making and then donating toys for children from needy families.

"From our point of view it would be a win, win situation," says Bruce. "Not only are we helping the kids, the families and the Salvos, but we are also promoting the Workshop to our fellow homeowners."

While not an onerous task for the talented Workshop members, whose skills range from engineers, to tradesman to simple enthusiasts, it was time consuming process. From the time the profiles for the 40 toys were completed to the sanding, finishing, and painting, the procedure involved in completing each toy was estimated to have been at least four hours of continuous work.

The 40 toys will be added to the Christmas hampers of those families with young children.

– TONY DURKIN

Sew much kindness to give.

THE GROUP MAY BE SMALL IN NUMBER, BUT MEMBERS OF CALOUNDRA CAY QUILTERS CIRCLE ARE UNEQUIVOCALLY BIG IN HEART.

When the 'Circle' was formed in 2024 with 10 active members, there was a desire among them to adopt a charity cause for domestic violence. And almost immediately, the members started creating their own quilt from donated fabrics. The finished quilt (pictured) – named Aurora Comfort – is now being raffled internally by the group, with the proceeds to be donated to Kyabra, a mobile domestic and family violence service at Nambour.

But that's not all. The CC Quilters have also presented 28 Kindness Kits to the Safe Room Program at Nambour Police Station, which is a first port of call for women and children who have been rescued from an unsafe domestic situation. These kits are in the form of a toiletry bag – handmade by our quilters – and generously filled with basic necessities provided by not just the group members, but also friends, family and neighbours. In general, when affected domestic violence women and children seek help from police, they are offered an environment where individuals can speak with police, be referred to specialists, access resources and plan their next steps. These rooms provide a secure space for survivors to seek help and support in times of crisis, and the Kindness Kits are gifted to them before they are placed in emergency accommodation.

A third donation has also been made by a group member, who preferred anonymity. Over time, and mostly while watching her grandchildren play sport, she made nine small quilts, especially suitable for children. They too will be distributed by police, to children who enter the 'safe' accommodation with their mothers.

While quilting groups fundamentally gather for skill building and sharing of quilting ideas, the meetings are also a forum for friendship and community building. But, as is most definitely the case with the Caloundra Cay Quilters Circle, quilting groups are also known for their charity work and donations, hence the raffle of this special quilt.

Tickets are currently being sold by Quilters Circle members, at \$2 each, and the winner of Aurora Comfort will be announced at Caloundra Cay's Christmas Dinner in December. The CC Quilters Group meets every first and third Monday of the month, at 9am in Caloundra Cay Craft Room, and new members are welcome. Those interested can contact Anne Hunt (Home 269).

– TONY DURKIN



Animal instincts.

PERHAPS MORE THAN OUR BEACHES, OUR SLANG WORDS OR OUR ACCENT, HERE IN AUSTRALIA, WE'RE BEST KNOWN FOR OUR ANIMALS. BUT THERE'S MORE TO OUR FAUNA THAN JUST KANGAROOS AND KOALAS. WE KNOW PALM LAKE RESORT HOMEOWNERS LOVE TO TRAVEL, SO GO WILD WITH THESE AUSSIE ANIMAL ENCOUNTER IDEAS.

Quokkas of Rottnest Island

Unofficially dubbed the 'world's most photogenic animal', the quokka is the small macropod with a big Instagram presence (there are 380,000 posts under the '#quokka' hashtag and counting!). A vulnerable species, they can only be found in a small area of southwestern Australia – most notably, Rottnest Island. This small island off Perth annually draws over 750,000 visitors, all vying for the ultimate souvenir: a quokka selfie.

Whale sharks of Ningaloo Reef

Is it a whale, is it a shark? Technically, it's a fish – the largest living fish species, to be precise. Though whale sharks can be found in other corners of the world, like the Philippines, Galapagos and even Mexico, Western Australia's Ningaloo Reef boasts the highest rate of whale shark numbers and the best accessibility, meaning it's the best place to find these gentle giants close to home.

Crocodiles of Kakadu

Did you know that the Northern Territory is home to the world's largest wild crocodile population? Experts estimate there are around 100,000, which means there are plenty of places to spot them in the wild – Kakadu National Park included. For a heart-racing, blood-pumping croc spotting experience, look no further than a crocodile cruise on the Adelaide River. The cooler months of June, July and August are the best time to see them, when they make their way to the shore to bask in the sun. Our tip: Scared of encountering these prehistoric beasts in the wild? A trip to Australia Zoo's Crocoseum is the next best thing.

Penguins and seals of Phillip Island

Just over two hours from Melbourne by car, Phillip Island is home to the world's largest colony of 'little penguins' (as well as a Palm Lake Resort!). The smallest penguin species, these flightless seabirds are also known as fairy penguins and are best spotted during a 'Penguin Parade'. The best part? They're not the only animals you can spot on the island. At the appropriately named Seal Rocks, you'll also find Australia's largest colony of fur seals – and a boat cruise is one of the best ways to see them.

Wombats of Tasmania

Did you know that a group of wombats is called a 'wisdom'? Or that Tasmania is one of the best places to spot them? From Maria Island to Cradle Mountain, wombats abound on the

island state. While they are a slightly different sub-species to those found on the mainland, don't worry – they're just as round and adorable as you'd imagine. On Flinders Island, for example, they're blonder than most. Perhaps it's all the time they're spending at the beach?

Sealife of the Great Barrier Reef

African safaris have 'the big five' – on the Great Barrier Reef, they have the 'great eight'. Next time you're snorkelling around Lady Elliot Island, Heron Island or the Ribbon Reefs, keep an eye out for the following marine animals: clownfish, giant clams, manta rays, Maori wrasse (behold their 'puppy-like behaviour'), the friendly potato cod, turtles, whales, and over 50 species of sharks (don't worry – some are less dangerous than others).

Dingoes of K'gari (Fraser Island)

Unlike much of the country, dingoes in Queensland's national parks are protected as a native species – especially on K'gari, where they have had few chances to crossbreed with domestic and feral dogs. As a result, K'gari is home to around 200 dingoes – all protected, all 'pure strain' (or purer than anywhere else in the country). While it's beautiful to behold their distinctive golden coat and cute white 'socks', it's important you keep your distance. You're visiting their home, after all.

Cassowaries of the Daintree

Named for the Papuan phrase 'kasu weri' (meaning horned head), the southern cassowary is the third tallest, second heaviest living bird – and, some say, the most dangerous. They're most often spotted in North Queensland – in fact, the Daintree Rainforest is in the heart of a 'cassowary corridor', and you'll likely see them from the moment you arrive at the visitors centre. Just be sure to keep your distance – their vivid colouring belies their aggression if provoked.

Camels of Uluru

Sure, they're not technically an Australian animal, but navigating the Red Centre atop a camel is one of the most memorable outback experiences you can have. After being introduced in the 18th century as working animals, they were released into the wild in the early 20th century – only to become pests. Now, responsible camel tour providers are putting them to work once again, leading 'camel trains' around the desert.



Eyes to the skies.

AUSTRALIA IS A BIRDWATCHER'S PARADISE, HOME TO MORE THAN 800 SPECIES. HERE ARE NINE OF THE MOST ELUSIVE AND ICONIC TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR WHILE YOU'RE ON YOUR NEXT TRAVEL ADVENTURE - OR FOR SOME LUCKY PALM LAKE RESORT HOMEOWNERS YOU JUST MIGHT SPY ONE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD!

SUPERB LYREBIRD: Australia's ultimate mimic, the Superb Lyrebird can imitate everything from chainsaws to car alarms. Look (and listen) for them in the temperate rainforests where males fan their ornate tails in dazzling displays – particularly the Blue Mountains and Dandenong Ranges.

GLOSSY BLACK-COCKATOO: Smaller and rarer than their rowdy yellow-tailed cousins, these shy seed-crackers feed almost exclusively on casuarina cones. They're usually seen in pairs or small family groups among the coastal forests of Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia – including Noosa National Park and Kangaroo Island.

REGENT HONEYEATER: Once common across eastern woodlands, this critically endangered beauty now numbers fewer than 300. Its bold yellow-and-black plumage makes it a breathtaking sight when it appears among the eucalypts of the Capertee Valley and Chiltern–Mt Pilot National Park.

RAINBOW LORIKEET: Vibrant, noisy and impossible to ignore, Rainbow Lorikeets might be common along the coast, but their riot of colour and constant chatter make them one of Australia's most recognisable icons.

AUSTRALIAN KING PARROT: With their striking scarlet chests and emerald wings, King Parrots frequent forested areas and mountain trails and often appear in pairs or small flocks. Keep an eye out in eastern Australia, from Cooktown to Melbourne – especially Lamington National Park and the Otways.

PINK ROBIN: Small, shy and perfectly pastel, the Pink Robin is a cold-climate dweller best found flitting through the shadows of temperate rainforests. When in Tasmania, Victoria and the NSW highlands (including Wilsons Promontory), look up!

BLACK-BREADED BUTTONQUAIL: A ground-dwelling phantom of the subtropics, this elusive bird leaves its tell-tale feeding "platelets" on the forest floor. Spot them in the vine scrub near Gympie and the Scenic Rim.

PALM COCKATOO: Among the world's largest and most charismatic parrots, the Palm Cockatoo uses sticks as drumsticks to court a mate, making it one of nature's great performers. They mostly reside throughout Cape York Peninsula.

AUSTRALIAN FAIRY TERN: Australia's smallest tern is a rare beach-nesting species that breeds along the southern coastline, its delicate form darting over the turquoise shallows of Western Australia and South Australia.





Pictured clockwise from above: We have recently welcomed new Caloundra Cay faces to the Social Committee, Home Owners' Committee and the Bowls Committee.



Welcome new faces.

AS A VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF JUST ON 500 HOMEOWNERS, CALOUNDRA CAY – IN SIMPLE TERMS – DOES NOT RUN ITSELF.

Caretakers Kerri and Neil Bennett manage the day-to-day specifics of running Caloundra Cay resort, and their staff carry out the essential administration, supervision, cleaning and general upkeep of facilities and services. But organising activities, which is a vital component of our energetic community, and overseeing the operation of management decisions, is in the hands of homeowners. And four specific committees have been functioning since the early days of Caloundra Cay to operate the smooth running of the resort in these areas.

In recent months three committees – Home Owners, Social and Bowls – have held annual general meetings, and in each case a changing of the guard has occurred. In relation to the Bar Committee, members are 'selected'.

The overall major change has been the election of Tom Kotze as President of the Home Owners' Committee (HOC). Tom replaces Ken Sharpe, who served in the role for two years. Another 'new' face is Rhonda Poulton, who returns as Treasurer after previously holding the same position on an earlier HOC. Irene Krajewska, a recent addition as Secretary, has been re-elected and Keven Leadbetter is a new committee member.

Sharon Williams has not only been re-elected as Chair of the Social Committee, but has also taken on the onerous role of Treasurer, while Janet Hutchison is the newly-elected

Secretary. New faces on the committee are Hanna Croker, Judy Kelly, Olga Kirkland and Barbara Rilen.

The Bowls Committee has had an almost-total change, with only new Chair Gail Smith and Secretary Christine Hudson, remaining. Chair Gail takes over from John Barber, with David Gaskell, Tony Carey, Rudy Wendt and Paul Martin (a quartet of people who had never bowled before moving to Caloundra Cay) filling other roles.

The relevant committee members are:

Home Owners' Committee: (formerly Management Committee) President Tom Kotze, Treasurer Rhonda Poulton, Secretary Irene Krajewska. Committee Members include Denis Shaw, Lil Wylie, Greg Cassin, Alan Roberts, Kevin Leadbetter and Wayne Matthews.

Bowls Committee: Chair Gail Smith, Deputy Chair David Gaskell, Treasurer Phil Marshall, Secretary Christine Hudson. Committee Members include Tony Carey, Rudy Wendt, Paul Martin and Trish Chapman.

Social Committee: Chair Sharon Williams, Treasurer Sharon Williams, Secretary Janet Hutchison. Committee Members include Carol Heynen, Donna Cassin, Hanna Croker, Judy Kelly, Olga Kirkland and Barbara Rilen.

Bar Committee: Manager Anne McArthur, Buyer Maria Mair, Treasurer Laurel Henry, Rosters Sharon Higginson, Committee member Mike Arundel.

– TONY DURKIN

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.



Collection makes cents

Palm Lake Resort Deception Bay homeowners Pete and Jenny report that they've collected 23,689 containers for recycling so far this year! That means \$2328.90 has gone to Farm Angels, their chosen charity. Farm Angels provides support to outback communities facing fire, flood, plagues, droughts and other calamities. Pete and Jenny say it's surprising how much their collections vary month to month. "In the warmer months, December to March, we get \$75 to \$80 a week – sometimes over \$100," they say. "It's a good job we have a large SUV to squeeze all the bags in!" Last year the pair raised \$4000 for the year by collecting and recycling cans. Let's hope the Deception Bay community helps to get this very dedicated pair to their same target again this year.

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**



Bowlers converge on Roma

A long-standing tradition among a group of dedicated Palm Lake Resort bowlers sees teams converge on a regional town for a few days of greens action. This year, the inter-resort bowling competition hit Roma, which is about 5.5 hours west of Brisbane along the Warrego Highway. Players travelled from Palm Lake Resorts Upper Coomera, Hervey Bay, Bargara and Beachmere Bay for the event. While the point of the event is a bowls tournament, we can tell you that the main attraction is the social connection, with bowlers (and many tag-along non-bowling friends) meeting up with homeowners from fellow Palm Lake Resorts.



The Cup stops by

Check out the special visitor that stopped by Palm Lake Resort Truganina recently - the 2025 Lexus Melbourne Cup! It's an iconic piece of Aussie sporting history and our team was thrilled to have it in their (gloved) hands while it was on its annual Melbourne Cup tour. Giddyup!



65 years of love!

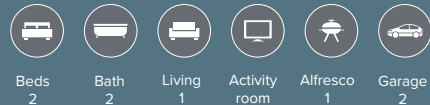
Palm Lake Resort Hervey Bay homeowners Les and Anita enjoyed a lovely resort celebration to mark their 65th Wedding Anniversary recently. What a wonderful milestone!

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 255: \$1,310,000



UNDER CONTRACT

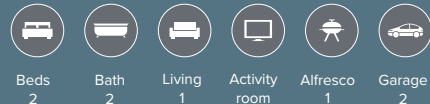
Ideally located.

Located within a prime location within the resort, with no front neighbours in a quiet sought-after street. The “Dominica” design (built 2020) is highly desirable with its generous hall and open plan living offering a sense of luxury living at its finest and an abundance of natural light.

The neutral colour palate is welcoming and sure to appease everyone’s taste. Quality hybrid flooring throughout the main living areas is easy maintenance and adds a point of difference in the home. Ducted air conditioning will keep you as comfortable year round.



Home 75: \$1,165,000

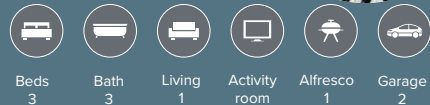


Entertainer's delight.

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. A second bedroom with built-in robe sits near the main bathroom for guest privacy, while the activity room flexes as a home office, third bedroom or retreat. The kitchen features Smeg appliances, a Billi tap for instant hot and cold water, and extensive soft-close storage.



Home 218: \$1,475,000



UNDER CONTRACT

Impressive design.

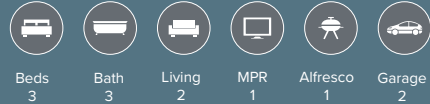
This home was completed in 2020 and is highly desirable with its generous hall and large living space it offers a sense of luxury living at its finest.

Luxurious Master Suite with huge wardrobe, bar/coffee station and a built-in office desk along with a luxurious ensuite with storage galore.

Upstairs you will find a second bedroom upstairs complete with additional luxury bathroom, along with a larger MPR room with the TV and sound bar already in place to watch plenty of your favourite movies.



Home 213: \$1,395,000



SOLD

Prestige living.

Presenting “The Palmira” – Caloundra Cay’s most prestigious home, now available for you to call your own. Immaculately presented, this residence features three generous bedrooms, three bathrooms, and an impressive walk-in robe in the master suite.

Downstairs includes two spacious living areas, a designer kitchen, the third bedroom, and a full bathroom. A stylish internal lift provides easy access to the upper level, where you’ll find the master suite, second bedroom, another bathroom, and a larger-than-expected multipurpose room.



Connections, for life.



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