

The Lakes



May - June 2024



Rhodes is now open, for play!

Homeowners and visitors came together to unveil the Rhodes Sports Club at an action-packed Community Open Day

Hit the water, for fitness and fun

We are blessed to live in such a natural paradise. Have you seen the local beauty from water level?

Over the back fence

The Palm Lake Group is one big 10,000-strong 'family' - find out what your counterparts are up to in our regular series



Welcome

Many people in Forster regard May as the best month of the year, and we're inclined to agree! At the moment, the ocean temperature (21 degrees) almost matches the daytime temperature (23 degrees), which in our view is nearly perfect for visiting one of our many local beaches. Of course, for those who prefer the water a little warmer, our beautiful indoor heated pool here at the resort is set to 29 degrees, and both our hot tub/jacuzzis (one indoors and one outdoors) are set to 34 degrees – delicious!

Our stunning Rhodes Sports Club was officially opened in May and there has been a particularly joyful response to the opportunity to play lawn bowls across our homeowner community. Many are taking the opportunity to learn how to play from our accredited lawn bowls coaches and we have noticed people practising everyday. If you have any doubts about joining in, we suggest observing the people who are playing – better still, close your eyes and listen. The sound of chuckling, encouragement and the occasional cheeky comment will persuade you that this a very enjoyable way to spend your time!

We have had higher than average rainfall this autumn, and the gardens in our beautiful resort certainly put on a spectacular display for our Community Open Day. It was such a pleasure to welcome people from the local community who have been watching our gated resort grow over the past few years and provide them with an opportunity to satisfy their curiosity about this significant development. The stunning homes and facilities we offer and the amazing lifestyle our homeowners enjoy were all on show – as one visitor put it: "My eyebrows are so high, they're around the back of my head!" You can see some of the memories from our special day on Pages 6-7.

The Construction team continue to deliver outstanding homes for our incoming homeowners and are planning a training session with our Sales Team in the new "Zimi" home automation systems that are a standard inclusion in our Precinct 2 homes. This system allows homeowners to do such things as turn on lights and turn off ceiling fans by voice command – much more convenient than reaching for a switch or fumbling for a remote!

Our Sales Team have been kept very busy with more than 16 deposits taken in the first two weeks of May following the release of another 38 homes in Stage 6A and Stage 8. This release includes 10 of our award-winning two-storey Carabelle designs. We would encourage anyone looking for an exceptional home to contact our Sales Team arrange a private tour. We are available seven days a week.

Jen, Jo and Shona - Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes Sales Team

Contact us

Looking for more info about Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes? Here's how you can reach us:

FREECALL: 1800 577 542

Street address:
6 Tea Tree Road,
Forster NSW 2428

Office hours:
9am-4.30pm,
seven days a week

Email:
salesforster@palllake.com.au

Find us online at:
palllakeresort.com.au

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



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News briefs

Ann-Marie is a winner!

Are you following Palm Lake Resort on our various social media platforms? While you can catch up on all the company news on our Facebook page, you may not know that we also have a vibrant Palm Lake Resort Instagram account as well? Ann-Marie of Palm Lake Resort Fern Bay is the lucky winner of our Instagram competition that ran during the month of April. She has picked up a \$200 gift card simply by tagging a friend in our posts. Make sure you keep your eyes peeled for our next social media competition. In the meantime, make sure to be following us on Facebook (@pallmlakeresort) and on Instagram (@pallm.lake.resort)

The cruisy life

When you live at Forster Lakes, there's no better place to be than out on the water, enjoying the natural beauty that is our backyard. Each Thursday, from 9.30-11.30am, join our wonderful homeowners on our resort pontoon boat for a relaxed cruise, before heading back to Belleair Country Club for lunch. RSVP essential. To book, simply FREECALL 1800 577 542.

Refer a friend, to share the fun

We know your friends love visiting your Palm Lake Resort home and sharing our resort facilities with you. Refer a friend to join you and become part of our exclusive community, and if they purchase a new home here at Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes, you'll receive \$500 cash. Easy! Ask about our 'Refer a Friend' incentive at the Sales Information Centre.



Stay a night, on us

Many of our enquiries come from people in distant locations right around Australia. If you are coming from out of town, simply FREECALL us on 1800 577 542 to arrange a resort tour and a complimentary night's accommodation on us. This offer is subject to availability and conditions apply, but there's never been a better excuse to indulge in a Forster stopover to properly inspect our expanding resort.

Welcome new friends!

Big blue bows mean more delightful neighbours! Welcome home..



Laurence & Nikki



Leesa & Steve



Sandra



Tracey & Steve

Rhodes now open!



RHODES SPORTS CLUB IS NOW OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR BUSINESS AND FROM ALL REPORTS IT'S AN ABSOLUTE WINNER!

Hundreds of guests poured into Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes for our recent Community Open Day, to be among the first to experience this stellar sporting facility that supports our community of active homeowners.

The undisputed jewel in this resort's sporting crown is the eight-rink undercover championship lawn bowls green. However, inside Rhodes Sports Club, you'll also find two virtual golf simulators, a snooker room, darts boards and more – all combining to provide many new sporting and social opportunities for our community.

Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes Sales Manager Jen Nichols says Rhodes Sports Club is the perfect addition to the resort's masterplan and a brilliant companion to the resort's Master Builders Association award-winning Belleair Country Club.

A special guest speaker at the Community Open Day was Pelican Waters Golf Club's Head of Coaching, Grant Field. Pelican Waters Golf Club is a Greg Norman-designed course within the Palm Lake Group portfolio. Grant is renowned in Australian and international golfing circles for training some of the game's shining stars, notably Aussie golfing legend Cameron Smith.



All Rhodes
lead to...
sporting
fun!

For the love of sport

PALM LAKE RESORT FORSTER LAKES
UNVEILED OUR HIGHLY ANTICIPATED
RHODES SPORTS CLUB AT A SPORTS-
FUELLED COMMUNITY OPEN DAY LAST
MONTH.

Hundreds of avid sports fans gathered at Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes to watch the Rhodes Sports Club officially opened for business. While there were competitive matches played on the day - to the delight of sporty homeowners and our visitor spectators - the opening proved, in fact, that everyone who lives at Forster Lakes is a winner now that they have access to this impressive facility!



Hope floats



LIVING AT FORSTER LAKES, WE HAVE SUCH INCREDIBLE ACCESS TO NATURE'S LIQUID WONDERS. ARE YOU MAKING THE MOST OF OUR LOCATION, JUST LIKE HOMEOWNER BRIAN HOPE DOES?

Brian Hope and his wife, Margaret, lay claim to being among the first homeowners to move into Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes back in 2021 – in fact they moved into a home that was built on the very first concrete slab laid at this resort. According to Brian, nothing beats this resort address. But about six months ago, he wanted to 'upgrade' to a location that was closer to the access into Dunn's Creek, leading into Wallis Lake. So, the Hopes sold their original Forster Lakes home – and bought another one!

Brian admits he's a mad-keen kayaking enthusiast with decades of experience on the water. He pursues his hobby for the relaxation it brings him, as well as the fitness.

"If you love water, the environment, some solitude, nature and wildlife, as I do, then kayaking is a must," Brian smiles. "Fitness is a big part of the attraction – the paddle action is good for your body from the waist up. And, don't forget, it is great after an active paddle to return home for a beer!"

At 79 years young, Brian says he's always been very physically active. He discovered kayaking, out of the blue, 21 years ago.

"We were living in the UK then but had a summer home in middle rural France right on a beautiful canal," Brian recalls. "France is covered in canals of great history, like a spider's web, and it is possible to take a boat, yacht or kayak from the northern coast of France to the Mediterranean Sea in Southern France passing from canal to canal – about 1300km in distance. I have not done this trip but should have.

"One day in rural Wales where we lived, my wife and I visited Bala Lake in North Wales, saw a kayak shop, thought about the sport, returned a week or so later and bought a 9-foot kayak that I knew I could transport, on a roof rack. I knew nothing about kayaking at that time!"

Brian has fond memories of kayaking France in the early mornings and late afternoon most days. He says he loved the serenity and everything else that kayaking gave him – which is why, decades on, he and Margaret sought out a home and a lifestyle that allowed him to indulge his passion. The best part is that he's found likeminded friends here.

"There are at least 30 people at Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes who already own kayaks and I believe that with the

completion of the kayak access off the resort pontoon, we'll see even more homeowners get into kayaking and more get-togethers for our kayaking community."

If the idea of kayaking the local waterways, Wallis Lake and the Great Lakes region appeals, Brian has some sage advice.

"For the older kayaker, Dunn's Creek and Wallis Lake are perfect. The protected and shallow waters give confidence as one can nearly always touch the bottom with a paddle," he explains.

"There are creeks to explore and several islands. Our local Pipers Bay runs almost to Forster Town and yet all the way along is quiet, and towards the town nothing is to be seen except wildlife and nature.

"Several islands around Wallis Lake are there to explore with an abundance of deer on them. I have actually seen many swimming between the mainland and the islands."

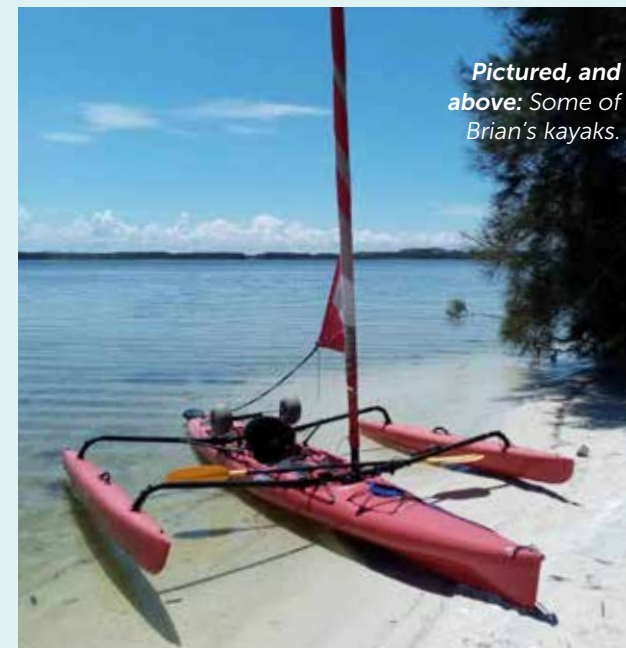
Brian says he's kayaked from Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes to Coomba Park and back, and also to Pacific Palms, but these distances are not for everyone. So, now that you know what aquatic treasures lie beyond our resort pontoon, the question remains: What to explore them in?

"There are basically two types of kayak – the traditional kayak that you sit inside and one that sit on top of," Brian says.

"There's also a faster, more 'tippy' kayak that an experienced kayaker would take out, but I wouldn't recommend it for an older kayaker and someone new to the sport. The 'sit-on-top' kayak is what I would recommend for any Palm Lake Resort homeowner keen to get into the sport, mainly because getting in and out of it is much easier for our age group."

As Brian suggests, a sit-on-top kayak at least 10' long is perfect for older newbies.

"Any shorter than that and your kayak can create a weaving left and right motion whilst you are paddling. All you'll need is a fairly stable kayak, a middle-priced paddle for say \$100, a set of wheels to transport your kayak which is about \$100 and a life jacket. All up, you'll be set for under \$1500, or you can study the second-hand market on the internet and maybe pick up a bargain."



Pictured, and above: Some of Brian's kayaks.

Many Palm Lake Resort enthusiasts also use their kayak as a fishing vessel and Brian says the 'sit-on-top' version is perfect for that pastime as well. Fishing, in fact, adds another very fun dimension to the sport of kayaking in our plentiful local waterways.

Brian says while kayaking remains high on his list of favourite pastimes, there are loads of reasons why he loves Palm Lake Resort Forster Lakes.

"The main reason I came here was for all the facilities on offer," Brian says. "I play snooker and tenpin bowling most mornings and apart from kayaking and kayak sailing most days, I also bike ride the local areas. Now that the Bowls Club is open I will play the great game of bowls – while waiting for the tennis court and the pickleball courts to open also!

"And, at the end of any day, thank goodness for our beautiful Belleair Country Club bar where we can drink for really sensible prices or BYO."

Weekly activities

HERE'S WHAT'S ON AROUND THE GROUNDS EACH WEEK AT PALM LAKE RESORT FORSTER LAKES...

MONDAY

9am Craft. See Lyn (Home 168) or Deb (Home 171)
12noon Librarian in attendance, Sue (Home 185)
2pm Mah-jong. See Robyn (Home 188)
4pm Stretch and Relax. See Janette (Home 225)

TUESDAY

10am Librarian in attendance, Jan (Home 251)
10.15am Balance exercise in the Auditorium
1.15pm Craft: various
2pm Craft: flower tooling workshop with Marcia
2pm Cards (500) in the Belleair Country Club.
New players always welcome!

WEDNESDAY

10am Aqua aerobics in the indoor pool
1.15pm Craft: Cardmaking and scrapbooking, Maureen (Home 217) and Dorren (Home 180)
2pm Tap dancing for beginners. See Lynn (Home 277)
3pm Librarian in attendance, Jenny (Home 283)
7.30pm Movie night, in the Theatre

THURSDAY

9am Art class. See Barbara (Home 230) and Lynda (Home 245)
12.30pm Craft: Sewing. See Diana (Home 180)
2pm Librarian in attendance, Dianne (Home 160)
6.30pm Trivia at the Belleair Country Club
7.30pm Rugby league match, on the big screen in the Theatre

FRIDAY

9am Gentle exercise, in the Auditorium
10.30am Aqua aerobics in the indoor pool
2pm Librarians in attendance, Cheryl (Home 184) and Liz (Home 151)
4pm Happy Hour at the Belleair Country Club
7.30pm Rugby league match, on the big screen in the Theatre

SATURDAY

2pm Librarian in attendance, Jen (Home 274)

SUNDAY

2pm Librarian in attendance, Gail (Home 227)
7pm Movie night, in the Theatre

Over the back fence

THE PALM LAKE GROUP SPANS 30 RESORT COMMUNITIES ACROSS THREE STATES AND SOME 10,000 PEOPLE CALL PALM LAKE GROUP HOME, SO THERE IS ALWAYS PLENTY OF GOOD NEWS AROUND OUR GROUNDS.

Resort workshop home to top flood relief effort!

Resort workshop put to amazing charitable use

IT HAS BEEN A BUSY 12 MONTHS FOR A DEDICATED GROUP OF PALM LAKE RESORT BALLINA RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN HELPING THE ROTARY CLUB OF BALLINA-ON-RICHMOND WITH THEIR TEMPORARY HOUSING PROJECT FOR PEOPLE DISPLACED BY THE BIG 2022 FLOODS.

The waters may have subsided long ago, but many people still remain in very poor living conditions after the severe flooding of 2022. Thankfully though, a project from the local Rotary Club is providing warm, safe, secure and compact homes for people to live in while they are either waiting to have their original homes restored or until they find alternative accommodation.

Palm Lake Resort Ballina resident Col Lee is the coordinator of the Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond's Flood Recovery group. He engaged members of the Ballina Satellite Club, based at Palm Lake Resort Ballina, to assemble kitchenettes in the resort workshop and help with the fit outs of the temporary homes across the Northern Rivers region. All up, 38 homes have been erected, housing more than 100 people across seven affected local government areas.

The satellite assembly team – led by resident Michael Sherlock, a former cabinetmaker – put together the kitchen packs, adding plumbing, sink and hardware to the cupboards. The well-equipped Palm Lake Resort workshop made the job much more efficient and less confined than it would be in a normal garage. Once completed, the kitchenettes are then installed into the



temporary homes to make them ready for occupancy. Under State Government legislation, each temporary home can be occupied for up to five years and must have running water, some form of electricity and a working toilet. A development application is not required, being a temporary dwelling.

Palm Lake Resort Ballina's Resort Manager, Rick Stewart, says it is wonderful to see our residents engaging in such a worthwhile community project.

"The fellowship and sense of commitment among the members has given everyone so much pleasure in our workshop," says Rick.

"Projects such as this give a genuine purpose to all involved in our Resort where we strive to have a close connection to major community projects."

The last of the six homes were erected in the Nimbin area, which many feel has been forgotten by government authorities. This area was very badly affected by landslides – landholders' properties and homes were swept into sunken valleys and roads were covered with up to 15 metres of rock, soil and trees. Their homes and contents have been totally destroyed, never to be seen again. This Palm Lake Resort-based project has been a life changer for those who have suffered severely from the total devastation of their properties and livelihood – finally, thanks to this dedicated, community-focused group, they can begin to move forward. Through their work and expertise, these volunteers have lifted the morale and self-esteem of many people who had all but given up hope.



Leona is driven

GOSH, WE HAVE A VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF RESIDENTS ACROSS BOTH OUR PALM LAKE RESORT AND CARE COMMUNITIES - AND OUR TEAM MEMBERS ARE PRETTY VIBRANT THEMSELVES!

Case in point: Leona from Palm Lake Care Mt Warren Park. When she's not heading up the Lifestyle Team, she's generously giving her time to others, including charity. Leona has just returned from the "Shitbox Rally" – an aptly named annual Cancer Council fundraiser that requires participants to drive a car valued at less than \$1500 across various states of Australia. The rally saw her and husband Scott drive a 1989 VN Commodore from Brisbane to the starting line in Adelaide, through the centre of Australia, and over to Perth. Although the rally finished in Perth, the pair managed to complete a return trip and got their 'shitbox' back home to Brisbane – some 12,000km in total! This was Leona's fifth time in the Shitbox Rally, which has raised \$45 million for the Cancer Council in its 14-year history (Leona and her fellow Autumn 2024 rally participants raised \$3 million alone this trip!). Incredible! Leona's residents at Palm Lake Care Mt Warren Park followed her progress throughout the trip online, via a tracker she had in her car. There was loads of excitement across the community as she and Scott made it to each checkpoint. Bravo Leona – what fun, and what a great cause!

Inter-resort good sports

Palm Lake Resort Eagleby hosted a team from Palm Lake Resort Waterford who put up a good fight, with some great lawn bowls played. However, Eagleby proved to be too strong and ran out winners 91 to 55.

Our Palm Lake Resort Cooroy-Noosa bowlers also took on visitors from Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Sands in a recent inter-resort bowls comp. After the morning session, Cooroy-Noosa were only up one point and one game. After a bit of banter and encouragement over lunch, the Cooroy teams lifted and won six out of eight games and scored 99 to 58 points to comfortably win the day. Final results were: Games won 10.5 to 5.5 and Points won: 196 to 154

Finally, Palm Lake Resort Bethania lawn bowlers took on their counterparts at Waterford recently. Although the final score was 102 to 63, it was no indication of the game. Both teams won three rinks each however one Waterford team won 34 to 5 with a very rare score of 9 on one end. This doesn't happen often – it's a bit like a hole in one in golf. It was a great game that all enjoyed whether playing or spectating.

Sew good

The talented crafters at Palm Lake Resort Deception Bay held their 10th annual Quilt Show in recent weeks. A few of the handmade quilts went home with lucky raffle winners – the rest are to be donated to local charities. Special mention to quilter Coral Welham, who turned fabric that wasn't suitable for quilting into pouches for rescued wildlife. Our Deception Bay homeowners really are sew good.



Cindy's pups empower

Palm Lake Resort Beachmere Bay homeowner Cindy is spending her free time in a brilliant way – training pups to become Assistance and Therapy Dogs. Cindy has opened up her Beachmere Bay home to support this fantastic cause and has an ever-changing variety of the most gorgeous pooches staying with her, via the "Empower Assistance Dogs" organisation.

What's happening over your back fence?

Has your resort got a warm and fuzzy "Over the back fence" story to share with the greater Palm Lake Resort community? We'd love to hear from you! Simply email the details to belinda@bellepr.com

We're all good sports



SALES INFORMATION CENTRE OPEN 7 DAYS | FREECALL 1800 577 542
salesforster@palllake.com.au | 6 Tea Tree Rd, Forster NSW 2428

THE BEST IN OVER-50s LIVING. THIS IS YOUR TIME.
palllakeresort.com.au