

Paradise Press



July

In this edition of Paradise Press you will find details of the last month's events and up and coming events for residents

New Residents
Welcome to our newest
Gemlife Residents:

Kerry & Theodora
Jimmy & Jean
John & Jennifer
Janis
Lisa & Mark
Herb & Vivi
Carol & D'Arcy
Cheryl & Mark
Jenette & Trevor

Please join us at Happy Hour on
Friday or Sunday evenings.

Upcoming Events



Christmas
in
July

Thursday 11th July



July 17

7TH AUGUST



AGM

Annual General Meeting



Thanks again to Jude for putting on another great art show to demonstrate the talent of her students



A fine opportunity to get dressed up



The show brought out the romance period in some of the artists

Ladies LUNCH



Thanks to Gail and her team for organising another successful Ladies Lunch at the Maroochy Golf Club



The Roger Lewis Farewell Concert



Roger has been a favourite with so many people here in the resort. His world class performances have brought so much enjoyment to multitudes over the last couple of years. We wish Roger and Christine all the very best in their new life in Tasmania.



HAPPY HOUR

Every **Friday evening 5pm and Sunday afternoon** at 4pm. Free Villa Draw on Friday evenings, be there to win the **Jackpot**



Was Dave trying to sniff out the Joker or should he have gone to Spec Savers?



Sorry Mary, not this time. The odds go up each week the Joker is not discovered. Will it be your turn next Friday?

Come and join us to cheer on your team for the State of Origin **decider**.

Sports Page

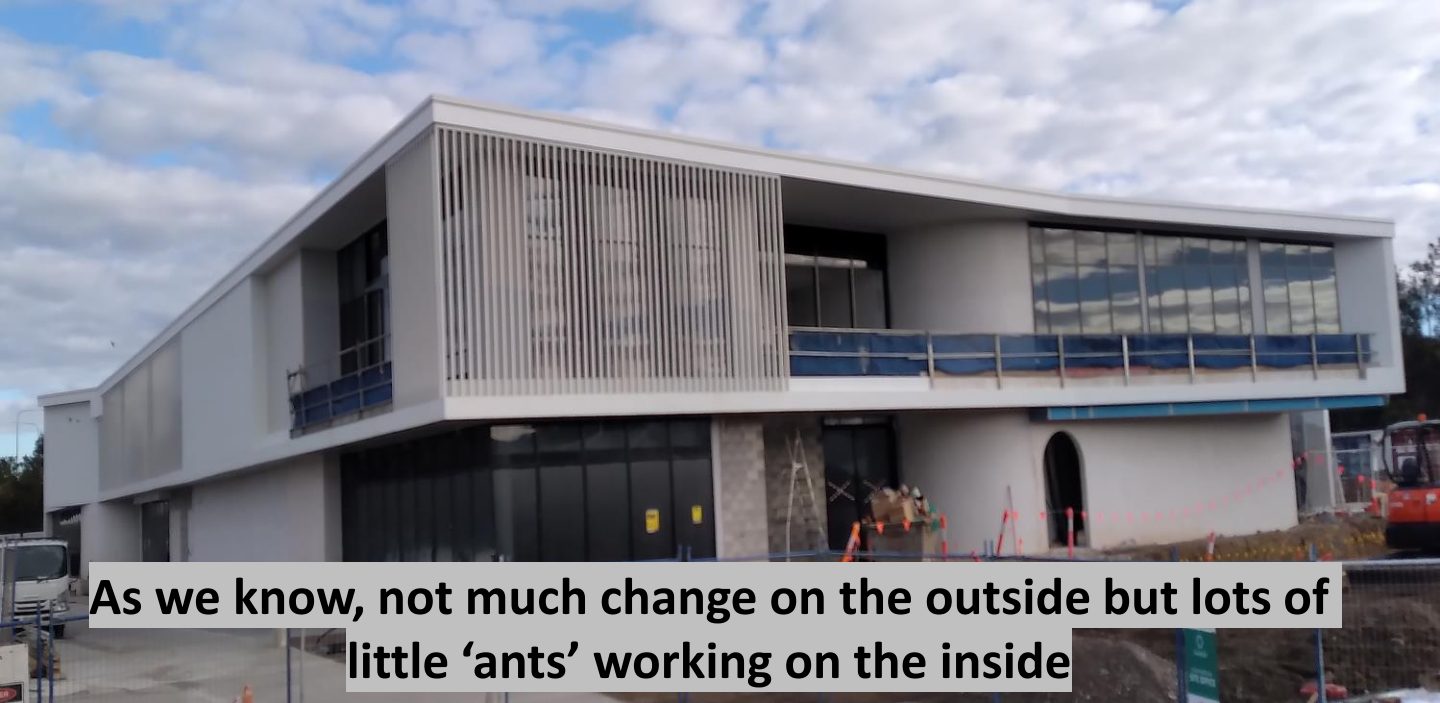


July 17, starting at 7pm in the Pavilion



Sadly, it doesn't look like we will have the facilities to enable us to practice our games. But because we have more residents, we should be able to have more teams to represent us.

Thursday 5th and Friday 6th September at Gemlife Palmwoods – What team do you want to join?



SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY 7TH AUGUST 2024

GEMLIFE PACIFIC PARADISE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PAVILION DOWNSTAIRS COMMENCING AT 10:30AM.

Your attendance and contribution is important.

Education has always been a major part of my life, both as a learner as well as a teacher

Back Stories

Born in Liverpool, UK, my initial teaching qualification was gained in London. Later I was awarded two Graduate diplomas at University of Technology, Sydney and Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, then back in Sydney an MA. My teaching career took me to Malta GC, Hong Kong, Australia, UAE, as well as England but the most interesting, rewarding, challenging post was without doubt, Dubai.

My husband, Peter, had been sent as Operations Manager for the Middle East for a UK shipping company. Along with our four children aged 15 months to seven, we relocated from Sydney to Dubai. In the early seventies, Dubai was going through rapid growth, due to the discovery of oil. No longer a fishing and trading sleepy place, it was expanding into a vital trading hub, with workers from around the world being seconded to build, what is today, an ultra -modern city. With people from all over the world, it made for a colorful eclectic community.

I initially taught English, Geography and Art to classes of 50 students and I also worked in the afternoons as Editor of the children's weekly supplement for The Gulf News. Later, I was offered a position in the Dubai Petroleum Company teaching English to adult Arabs. As English was spoken in the office and the petroleum manuals were in English, my role was to teach these men, who had never been to school, to eventually have greater responsibility in the running of the company.

Donning my hard hat, I went by helicopter to the oil rig, out in the Arabian Sea. I learned about ball valves and gate valves, sumps and pumps and operational language! All the staff were given the opportunity to attend a full time intensive English course. My first reaction on entering the classroom was that they all looked like clones, wearing snow - white dish-dashers and ghutrahs, held by black agals. They all had brown eyes, and black beards and, as I discovered, many were named Mohamed.

I soon was able to distinguish them from each other, with their different personalities, shapes and sizes. and discovered that many of them were highly intelligent and quick to learn. They were polite, generous and respectful towards me and we soon became like a family. I was invited into their homes and sat on the floor eating spicy lamb and rice with my fingers.

They in return would turn up to our villa, in ones and twos, at all hours, and stay for coffee. Peter was very patient. Sometimes, on Fridays, our day off, they would take the company bus, and load food, hookah pipes and my family, and would drive into the desert for a picnic. The temperature was in the forties and there was sparse vegetation for shade.

From this initial group, I had identified those with potential to become a full-time advanced group to be trained to take the TOFEL Test and be sent to Boston to complete their education. As the program progressed, a special training center was built with additional teachers hired. I continued with the advanced groups and supervised the other teachers. Happily, some eventually made it to university, and when I visited Dubai years later, I was taken for dinner at The Burj Al Arab Jumeirah by a former student, who now had a prominent managerial position in the company.

We were sad to return home after five years with so many wonderful memories and highlights, like visiting the palace at Eid, to wish Shiekh Rashid Al Maktoum and his wife Sheikha Latifa and to see the opulence in which they lived - it was amazing.

I feel privileged to have had this unique experience, as today, life has changed for the Dubaian's. Children go to school, and it is now a shopping mecca and popular holiday resort, but I think I liked it as it was, when we lived there.

Rita Isherwood



Did you know that the Social Committee have placed a Suggestion Box in the Pavilion? If you have an idea for a community event, please write out a form and place it in the box.



LCR is played on the 1st Sunday of the month. Starts at 4:30

Our Raffle Nights are usually held on the 1st Friday of the month

Friday Night
RAFFLE

Keep watch for emails of events.



BBQs are held on the last Sunday of each month. This month, burgers will be made as well as sausage sandwiches.

Bingo

Our next Bingo night is scheduled for the 20th July. Come along for fun and fellowship



find positive in everything



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!



Just for Laughs

Communications

There are many ways that you can find out what exciting community activities are happening at Gemlife Pacific Paradise. We have:

Social events emails from Lynn Roper

Our residents website which can be accessed at : glpp.com.au

Our Facebook group can be accessed at :

[GemLife Pacific Paradise Residents](#)

(Please register with Tanneke Booth to join the group)

HOC Updates will be sent out by the HOC Secretary: Julie Hume

Your Social Committee:

Sue Story – Villa 23 **Convenor, Events**

Gail May – Villa 76 **Raffles**

Lyndall Armstrong - Villa 135 **Bar Manager**

Dee Beath – Villa 24 **Bingo**

Lynn Roper – Villa 40 **Communications**

Jude Hall – Villa 15

Greg & Lorei Blunden – Villa 38 **Newslette**

Lorei Blunden – Villa 38

Ian Stittie – Villa 14 **BBQs**

Debbie Whitfield – Villa 166

} **Events**