



RESKOM CHATTER

"Together let's make EVERGREEN the village of our dreams"

End June 2016

Greetings once again all fellow Evergreen Broadacres Residents,

As the clock hit 5.23pm on Tuesday, 21st June, we entered the longest night of the year in the southern hemisphere. I know that because it was my late dad's birthday and he always talked about the solstice. So we are on the way back to spring and summer ☺

➤ CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Another milestone is upon us next month when we hold the 4th Annual Residents Meeting on Tuesday, 26th July. Soon you will be receiving information thereon and I do hope that you have already pencilled 4pm that day in your diary.

AND NOW AGAIN TO THE HARDY ANNUAL>>>>>>>>SPEEDING is a little more controlled now and we thank you for your assistance in this respect. There are STILL some who disregard the pleas and sadly a few of them are among us residents ☹ Here is a report from one of our traffic spotters.

"Past my unit the majority of the residents comply, then there is the 30 -35kph near compliant brigade, (and they need to be brought into line). But there are still a few resident speedsters, particularly around the loop and past the Clubhouse, which we witness at lunch time. There is a mind set with some that 20kph is too slow, and they merrily go along at 30-35kph.

BIG problem, mainly on weekends - last Saturday evening and from Sunday late am through to early evening particularly bad, Fathers' Day celebration visitors no doubt – unrecognisable cars, believe most likely visitors, really HIGH speedsters, the worst I have ever seen.

Significant improvement of service providers and deliveries, majority compliance. A few days ago I reported a speedster to the gatehouse, the same vehicle returned about an hour later, at 20KPH. Thanks, Roy.

Another example – I received a delivery by Dawn Wing Couriers, as the driver was about to depart he commented: 'The guards told me I cannot turn around and leave, I must proceed around the loop to exit, is that right?' My response – 'The guards are under instruction from Management, don't argue with them or you may find you will have to leave the vehicle in the street and enter on foot carrying the goods, and don't speed as you go out, 20kph is the limit'. The driver complied. Once again, thanks Roy, we are making progress in this area.

Volumes are increasing, we need to get a grip on this problem, so I suggest a prominent notice / appeal in Chatter, and I would like to see some 'tough talk' messages from Management. If speed humps are coming to Evergreen, it's going to take a long time, in line with past experience, so the only tool available to us now is COMMUNICATION. Let's maximise it."

FOLKS THE ONLY WAY WE ARE GOING TO SOLVE THIS IS TO COMPLY OURSELVES AND TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS AND VISITORS TO COMPLY. WE ARE THE SOLUTION!!!!!!

➤ SOCIAL MATTERS

The weekly activities continue as detailed in What's Happening and more and more residents are participating in the various activities.

45 residents thoroughly enjoyed the new modern version of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, which has been showing at Monte Casino.

The social evening every Wednesday continues to be very well supported and we welcome all new Phase 3 residents to join us on these evenings, which are enjoyed by all. Reef Caterers cooked a superb Beef Wellington as a Father's Day lunch and we thank them for the new menus they have designed for us.

Evergreen Broadacres Book and Coffee Morning

A bumper crowd turned up for the Book morning on 21st June, a wonderful support for the speakers and our library. And the tasty sausage rolls and cupcakes added to the pleasure of the morning – many thanks, Isabella, your eats were thoroughly enjoyed.



First on the agenda was Adam Rabinowitz, son of Cyril from #123. Adam is the Author of three books, *Lost Soul*, *Slave to the City* and *Garage Band*, copies of which he has kindly donated to our library. He spoke to us with candour and humour, about his journey in writing, about the ideas that sparked the books, each of which tackles a different theme, and how these ideas then developed into structured plots. Intriguingly he wrote by hand, finding this a more creative exercise. He wrote with a 'smart' pen, which when plugged into a computer, downloaded all the written text – including all his spelling errors! Ain't technology marvellous!

But it seems that the actual writing is only the beginning of the Author's journey. It was an eye-opener hearing about the hassles involved in the editing, publishing and marketing of the books. Many thanks, Adam; your talk was entertaining, informative and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We shall read your books with greater appreciation and interest.



Marilyn Maclachlan then introduced us to a new book on the shelves; *I am Pilgrim*, which has received wide acclaim. *Pilgrim* is the code name of the spy-hero of the book, which Marilyn described as a gritty, taut and intriguing story, not a chic read but one that will definitely hold your attention all the way through. She cautioned that its shocking beginning, a description of a corpse steeped in acid, should not deter us from the rest of the gripping tale. Her second choice was JK Rowling's *Causal Vacancy*. This book has been on our shelves, unnoticed, for some time, so it was interesting hear that the story has recently been televised as a mini-series [one which unfortunately most of us missed].

The story is set in a small English Village. A vacancy occurs on the parish council and the subsequent village politics and characters are portrayed in this delightful story. JK Rowling is usually associated with children's stories, especially the *Harry Potter* books, so this book, written for adults, apparently received somewhat of a mixed reception, but Marilyn, urged us to read it and judge for ourselves – she had thoroughly enjoyed it.

Elske Fann recently discovered Deon Meyer's books, *Devil's Peak* and *Tracker*, and is now an ardent fan. She told us about this South African author, who bases many of his stories in and around Cape Town – fascinating reading for many of us who know that city well. His books are written in Afrikaans and have been translated into English and 26 other languages!

His detective, Benny Griesel, who features in several books, is a white Afrikaner, a reformed alcoholic who is trying to put his life together again as well as coming to terms with modern technology and the diverse 'Rainbow Nation' of the SAP. Meyer's books are dotted with 'Cape Coloured' slang and witty sayings many of which are familiar to us as South Africans, but for those who are not, a glossary of terms and phrases is included at the back of the book.

>>>>Then it was onto library matters:

Reader's ratings: Isabella Labuscagne has correlated these from your comments and the list can be viewed on the library notice board.

Hullo magazines: Pam Dean, who buys these magazines each week, has kindly donated them for our enjoyment too. Take them home to read but please return them for others to read as well.

Non-fiction books: Pat Bailey highlighted some of the interesting non-fiction books and urged folk to explore the 'shelves around the corner'. Books selected included:-

- The Elephant Whisperer – an inspiring tale and gripping read;
- Killing Keble – the sensational story of Bret Keble's planned suicide right here in Johannesburg;
- Rod – an entertaining biography of Rod Stewart;
- The Boy – the story of Baden-Powell, the founder of the Boy Scout movement, and the siege of Mafeking;
- I am Malala – Malala, who championed the cause of girl child education in Afghanistan, was shot but lived to fight for the cause again. A truly inspirational character, this is her story.

Many thanks to all for your interest and support, Regards, Libby.

➤ ENVIROMENT



Chirps & Tweets

Bird Walks... Thanks to Chris & Sue (#89) we have a new venue to explore. Monthly on the third Saturday, guided walks are held at Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve in Kibler Park near the Southdowns Country Club, commencing 08.00hrs, and in July it will be on the 16th. If you are interested book this date, and nearer the time, further details will be given. I plan to go and can take four passengers.

Bird Photo Competition:

Reminder to Shutterbugs this is an annual competition for all Evergreen Villages, and there's a prize for the best photo – one birder has been busy – let's bring the prize to Broadacres.



Nile Monitor

Usually seen around the dam and the pond, it seems scarcity of food has forced the monitors to hunt elsewhere, with garden sightings about three weeks ago reported by Lesley (#52) & Pam (#53).

Next Gathering: This will take place in The Bistro on Tuesday, 19th July, at 10.30hrs, starting with a report - back on Bats, a short quiz on bird calls, and more – details

later. All Evergreeners welcome.

Regards, Dick & Libby

And now From Hennie....Nothing to report on in the parkland, but a lot of developments on the village gardening front.

The Namaqualand daisies planted at the entrance gate are about to burst into bloom, and that's going to be quite a show, so watch that space!

Not a single resident put up his or her hand to join the gardening group, so I press-ganged Isabella Labuscagne, Elske Fann, Sue Edwards, Emmy Murray, Kloran Townsend and Ivar Skanke to join me. Elske conceived the plan and Isabella worked with the Four Seasons gardeners to re-model the garden across the road from the Clubhouse – a great effort I'm sure you'll all agree.

The whole team was involved in the planning of the pavement garden from the gatehouse up to the top of Phase 3. The basic concept we are working on is block planting of e.g. Freylinias, Agapanthus, Day Lilies, Wild Garlic etc., with blocks of lawn grass in between. The Freylinias will be moved from the site opposite the new Clubhouse where the contractor will have its site establishment, while the existing plants on the pavement will be grouped and concentrated into blocks. The work will be done by the Four Seasons gardeners over the next 2 or 3 months, while there isn't any grass cutting – and very little maintenance work – to be done in the village. Direction and supervision will be provided by the gardening group.

Arbor Day this year will be on Saturday, 10 September, so please diarise that and be sure to be here on what will surely prove to be another great fun day! Planning will start shortly but I can tell you now, that within the village we'll do little more than replace previously planted trees that have died. The gardening group has suggested that our main effort this Arbor Day should be directed at the pavement garden, so that's probably where we'll concentrate our efforts.

Finally...There is no truth in the rumour that the large, dead blue gum tree, also known as the "Roosting" tree, is going to be cut down! On Tuesday Four Seasons' tree cutter was in the village to cut up a large branch that had fallen off that tree. At the same time he cut 3, low hanging branches off that tree and a large branch off another Blue Gum tree that was threatening to stunt the growth of one of the trees we planted on our very first Arbor Day in 2013. The big branches have been cut up into fire size logs and will be moved to the bottom of the village for future bonfire fuel!

Rainfall report for May & June 2016:

As I was unfortunately out of commission since 20th May, the rainfall report had to stand over until June. There have been some welcome showers during these traditionally dry months, with May exceeding all expectations. In answer to some queries received from other avid rainfall monitors, the published readings are measured up to the 25th of each month in order to meet publishing deadlines. Please still use water carefully.

Rainfall, in millimetres, for 2015/16:

May '16	67.8	Jun '16	13.0
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For comparison, the previous year's readings for June are:

Jun '13	0.0	Jun '14	0.0	Jun '15	1.8
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Regards, Cecil Unit 76

Something of interest from Libby...Yarrow (Achillea millefolium)

In the herb garden between Units 1 and 2, yarrow, a truly wonderful plant is flourishing. Yarrow is an ancient plant, known and revered for centuries. It's said that Achilles, the Greek warrior who fought at Troy, used its leaves and flowers to stem bleeding and heal the wounds of his soldiers - and it was given the name, Achillea millefolium, in his honour.

To treat wounds: apply the leaves, after washing, warming and crushing them, to the wound and hold them in place with a crepe bandage.

A tea made from fresh yarrow leaves helps lower blood pressure, relieves the symptoms of colds and flu, and is an age-old treatment for rheumatism and diabetes.

To make the tea: steep ¼ cup of fresh leaves in a cup of boiling water for 5 minutes. Strain, sweeten with honey if necessary, and sip a daily cup for a week, break for 2 days and then repeat.

In the garden, yarrow has a tremendous tonic effect on all the other plants. Plants and vegetables thrive in its vicinity; they also smell stronger and sweeter.

And while yarrow repels many pests that do not like its pungent smell, it is beloved by ladybirds and parasitic wasps, both of whom prey on aphids.

Yarrow leaves also help to break down compost and a strong tea of leaves is a superb fertilizer.

Quite a wonder plant you must admit.

Please harvest the leaves, and if you'd like some to plant out in your garden, please let me know as it's growing profusely and needs pruning back.

References: Margaret Roberts, Companion Planting: Margaret Roberts, Book of Herbs.

▶ **OUT AND ABOUT**

TEAM EVERGREEN WALKING NEWS – FUTURE RACE INFORMATION:

In an attempt to keep you all Fit so you can remain Evergreen, I have listed below future races which we can enter. Mark the dates in your diaries now.

2 July 2016 Bryanston River Park 5km Parkrun, Saturday at 8am:

You can use this event as a warm up for the event on 16 July 2016. Please enter your names on the list on the notice board at the Bistro so that transport can be arranged? Bring your Barcode cards with you. It is a flat out and back course. No entry fee.

16 July 2016 Otter Estates 6.7km Lone Hill Park Fun Race on Saturday at 15.00:

This is the race that 5 of us entered in 2012 which resulted in Team Evergreen being formed. Shelly, one of the organisers, said they were talking about Team Evergreen just last week and would like to welcome us back again this year. Let's not disappoint them. I encourage as many of you as possible to enter this event. Further details will follow.

14 August 2016: Another 5km Parkrun at either Lone hill Park or Bryanston Riverside Park can be arranged, whichever venue you prefer.

September 2016 Netcare Cansurvive 5km fun walk at Lone Hill Park (Last year held on 6 September):

Last year we had a record 34 participants as there was also a relay race. 4 members were each supposed to have completed 1.25km one at a time. I am trying to find out more details.

8 October 2016 Melrose Arch 5km "Walking on Sunshine" Fun Walk Saturday:

More details to follow.

22 or 29 October 2016 Evergreen Broadacres Residence Fun Walk on Saturday at 4.30pm:

This can be arranged if residents would like to repeat the success of the event held on 12 March 2016. To be discussed in more detail later in the year.

November 2016 Sisters with Blisters Walk held last year on Sunday 22 November at 8am:

This is the race last year that caused me to spend the night in ICU in hospital. No details as yet, but when I do find out about it I will request that the Walk starts at least one hour earlier because of the heat factor.



Newcomers to the village are welcome to join Team Evergreen, no entry fee. Just come and walk with us and enjoy the comrade and fresh air. I still have some Team Evergreen T-shirts which I can give you on a first come first serve basis, but you have to walk in a race to receive one.

Please contact me at #80 on ext. 180, if you would like more details or have any other suggestions?

Keep fit and remain Evergreen,

Ernie

Kiloran has again been out and about with her camera and spotted the following....



Black collared Barbet



Tray load of hungry Wood Hoopoes

Seen below are our enthusiastic Bok supporters. Top left arriving at Ellis Park, top right celebrating the now well know win (or was it get out of jail!). Bottom awaiting the arrival of the rest of the crowd.



Evergreen petrol heads at the inaugural get together at The Pitstop of The Historic Motorsport Group toasting the iconic 1928 three litre Bentley Speed Model.

Peter & Adi (#70), Cliff & Atholie (#24), Catherine (#40).

Photo by the driver of the new initiative Dick Shepherd (#1)



Attention Dog Walkers:

If you have left your 'Dog Pooh Bag' behind, you are most welcome to take one from the box at Nell's tree.

Dear fellow Residents,

Both Elske and I would like to thank all those fellow villagers for their good wishes and encouragement over the past five weeks that I was out of commission.

We are both gratified and humbled by the support we have received from the many residents we have, over the years, come to know as friends.

Clearly we made the right decision in choosing Evergreen Broadacres, to be amongst a community determined to make this "The Village of our Dreams".

Sincerely, Cecil, #76

'Bowls': A few months ago, Graham Langmead sent out a note alerting us to the fact that Bryanston Country Club was looking for Bowls members. They had organized a special membership for Evergreen: 'Bowls Only'. This much reduced membership fee includes Bowls membership and use of all the entertainment, restaurant and pub facilities. It excludes golf, squash and tennis.

Five Evergreen Residents took up the offer: Ivar Skanke, Sue Jackson, Judy Stowell, John Parrott and Marilyn Maclachlan. Those of us who needed lessons were given free lessons, which we can continue having, as the need arises. We play Tuesdays and Saturdays, and sometimes Sundays as well during the mornings. We've taken part in a number of 'Fun bowls days' as well.



Evergreen / AMDEC sponsored one of the fun days. The Club members are very friendly and welcoming, and besides the Bowls, we have been enjoying the 'after Bowls' activities! We pay reduced prices for meals and drinks on the beautiful terrace overlooking the golf course, or in the cosy pub or restaurants. We'd like to encourage other Residents to join us ... great to be outside, enjoying exercise, and meeting people and making new friends ... and so much nicer to have joined as a group, rather than alone. The organiser of Bowls, tells us that 'Team Evergreen' has added quite a lively spark to the bowling club ... **they especially love Ivar's jokes!**

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HATCHES & MATCHES; BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

These are the villagers who enjoy and celebrate Birthdays in July ...

- 1st Dave Nesbitt
- 5th Jean Spurr
- 5th Beryl Sletcher
- 7th Mary Pitt
- 7th Clive Pitt
- 9th Lettie Goslin
- 9th Marion Du Preez
- 14th John Parrott
- 18th Ann Simpson
- 21st Gunnar Svensson
- 21st Pierre Theron
- 23rd Lynn Turner
- 23rd Brian Stowell
- 28th Emmy Murray



May each of you enjoy a wonderful day and a Blessed personal year ahead.

These couples enjoy an Anniversary in July...

2nd Hennie & Marion Du Preez
17th Ian & Elaine Gladstone
30th Andrew & Emmy Murray



Congratulations folks *May the joys of the past be the norms of a blessed future.*

HAVE I GOT WHAT YOU WANT????

This is a new section requested by a few of the residents. So have you got something you no longer want, or a contact you want to recommend, whatever.....send to Graham and it will go into the next Chatter.

.....Nothing on offer this month.....

LAST WORDS



Laugh, and the world laughs with you;



Weep, and you weep alone.....

Thought you knew everything? Well Cliff has some thought provokers for you....

Stewardesses is the longest word typed with only the left hand.

And 'lollipop' is the longest word typed with your right hand.

(Bet you just tried these out mentally, didn't you?)

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'MT'.

(Are you doubting this?)

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

The sentence:

'The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog' uses every letter of the alphabet.

(Now, you KNOW you're going to try this out for accuracy, right?)

The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).

(Yep, I knew you were going to 'do' this one.)

There are only four words in the English language which end in 'dous': tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

(You're not possibly still doubting any of this, are you ?)

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: 'abstemious' and 'facetious.'

(Okay, admit it, you just went through a-e-I-o-u in your head)

TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.

(All you typists are going to test this out)

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds

(And, some days I think I'm right there with them.)

A 'jiffy' is an actual unit of time, 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

(I know some people that could do this too!)

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

(I know some people like that also. Actually I know A LOT of people like this!)

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

The cruise liner, QE 2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

(Good thing he didn't have dynamite.)

The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid .

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

My thanks as ever to all the contributors this month.....

And I ask...have you got something to share? E-mail to graleen@icon.co.za

Cheers for now. Best wishes and warm regards to you all.

Graham Langmead
