

FROM THE MD'S DESK | 10TH EDITION

EVERGREEN *News*

OCTOBER | 2016



DEAR RESIDENTS

While Gauteng is battling a long winter drought, the Cape roses and Bougainvillea's are beginning to flower - reminding us all of the warm promise of summer and the return of the Johannesburg late-afternoon showers. Appropriately, we celebrated Arbour day last month and some villages had a blooming great time! Take a look in our Village life section below.

Prior to WW1 a third generation timberman, Charles Lathrop Pack was one of the five wealthiest men in America. He wrote this gem, "What does he plant who plants a tree, He plants, in sap and leaf and wood, In love of home and loyalty, And far - cast thought of civic good, His blessing on the neighbourhood".

Pack made most of his money investing in real estate! And spent his energies on the war garden movement - an initiative where people planted vegetable gardens on their properties to reduce pressure on the public health supply. In doing so they felt part of the greater civic good. Charles Lathrop Pack put his money where his mouth was and in doing so, inspired a world-wide movement that changed his world. He was a real blessing to his neighbourhood.

And isn't that what Evergreen is all about? When Amdec conceived of Evergreen, they did so knowing that the primary obligation upon a retirement village provider was to create and manage an enduring lifestyle. The name Evergreen was chosen to identify this lifestyle brand, because of its association with the promises of endearment.

Any forester will tell you that to grow a forest you have to plant your own timber. In our instance we planted our saplings at Evergreen Muizenberg back in 2008, and have steadily created the facilities, structures and teams to deliver the qualities that make life evergreen. Forests don't grow overnight. We've turned many sods and planted hundreds of trees, and we've grown the qualities that are beginning to see our evergreen lifestyle flourish. Having learned what we now know - and with the necessary alliances in place - we are looking forward to the new season for Evergreen: a season of significant growth. We know that this growth will be rooted in rich soil of which you are all part: the fabric of our lives and all our learnings.

I'll leave Arthur to expand on what our commitments mean to the business and - by extension - to you.



EVEN HOLLYWOOD ADMIRES WHAT WE HAVE STARTED AT EVERGREEN

Evergreen Group CEO : Arthur Case

I recently enjoyed watching the second Marigold Hotel movie. The storyline features a successful retirement hotel business in

America scouting India for new acquisitions. I was tickled by the fact that the Hollywood scriptwriters named the successful hotel business, Evergreen Hotels. We'll drink to that!

Unlike Hollywood we're involved in real life stories. Yours. The sharing of your stories is a consequence of our owning and managing villages which invite belonging and deliver health, hospitality and care. In anyone's books, it's a real challenge. After all, with ownership come many obligations and we fully understand these. Our name is also our aim. Derek drew a useful forestry parallel for us. Forests are incredible. As a community of trees, each is able to coexist with many and so, thrive; some live

only in the shadows cast by their neighbours. Whilst others may only survive, thanks to the root structures within which they live. There is a delicate balance and an essential strength to be found and enjoyed in community.

We are all aging together - the business, its people and our residents. We're also maturing and we can appreciate that we've made fantastic progress in strengthening many of our village infrastructures and our portfolio of services. Our alliances are beginning to flourish and we have added significantly to our management team. Our team understands their primary responsibility towards managing every resident's experience of the Evergreen lifestyle. These services as well as the hospitality aspects that prioritise the enjoyment of village life for all our residents are delivered and supported at our villages by every member of our team. In a nutshell, we do everything we can to encourage and enable residents to benefit from the enduring pleasure of retirement and to support their sustained health and community living.

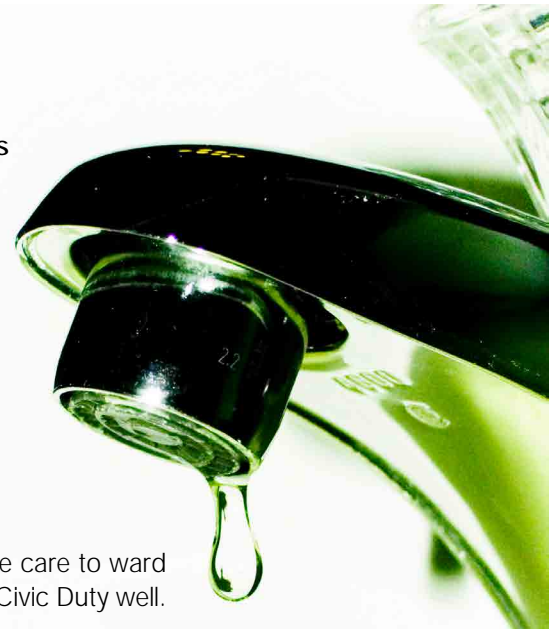
We acknowledge that we can always improve. I'd like to thank you all for your encouragement, patience and allowing us to share this chapter of your story.

WATER ALL LIFE DEPENDS ON IT

The crisis in Gauteng could just as easily be in Cape Town. Our dam levels are well below ideal in the Cape, and our Broadacres' dam is suffering. In case you need reminding, these handy (and timeous) tips on saving water are well worth implementing:-

- Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth – this can save 6 litres of water per minute
- Flush toilets only when necessary
- Plant water-wise indigenous plants
- Take shorter showers
- Only use a bucket, or a hose that has an ON and OFF valve when washing your car

They say that if you want to save water, then treat it carefully. Let's all take more care to ward off a life-threatening crisis, and we may find some satisfaction in performing our Civic Duty well.



By Kyle Knight

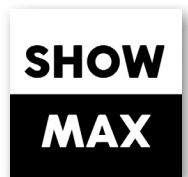
never been this good. Watch the noticeboards to see when the awesome “**TV Series Night**” addition starts! Broadacres will soon also have these features, followed by Diep River.

Bergvliet has also begun planning for “**TED Talks**” evenings, where extremely informative speakers will share their viewpoints on anything and everything around the world from the comfort of our Evergreen Clubhouse!

In Broadacres we have the first batch of our phase 3 residents up and running on their world class fibre to the home offering. This will be the golden standard for communication well into the future. We're proud to provide our residents with a one of a kind **Fibre to the Home** offering and hope to extend this benefit to our other villages in the future.

This month has been really busy for us 'techie's. We've had our first **Skype information session** at Muizenberg and there are more scheduled for other villages in the weeks to come.

Both Evergreen Bergvliet and Muizenberg have **SHOWMAX** up and running on the TVs in their respective clubhouses, and the Movie Nights have



SUNFLOWER DAY

The Sunflower Fund is a South African non-profit organisation dedicated to creating awareness, educating the public and facilitating the registration process for people to join the South African Bone Marrow Registry (SABMR).

On Friday 16th September many of our village and our head office teams donned their brightly coloured Topes which were produced this year by the Sunflower Fund, or their good old fashioned bandanas from previous years.

A Tope is a multipurpose article of clothing, with practical functionality and can be worn in a variety of ways - headband, mask, scarf, cap or armband. Here's the best of the rest of the crazy fun - for a good cause, of course.



Village Life

ARBOUR DAY at Broadacres

An old monk's proverb says 'one who would have fruit must climb the tree'. That's naturally dependent on a prior commitment to planting one. On Arbour Day we took to planting 'trees' of various types and here are some pics of our residents getting down and dirty on the day.



'TEAM EVERGREEN' WALK ON SUNSHINE AT MELROSE ARCH SPRING WALK

They say you cannot tie an old dog down, and on the 25th September, 15 Evergreen Broadacres' 'Team Evergreen' competitors were out there once again proving this old truism in sprightly fashion.

Dick Shepard continued to chalk up the awards, being the oldest competitor to complete the 5Km course (at 90). Elsbeth Hallbauer carried her (now traditional) handbag to everyone's amusement: Dave Nesbitt couldn't run (it was a walk), Hennie set a personal best, Ernie Mutch was the first 'lady' home and it was great to see Judy McLaren back on track after her operations.

Please go to our facebook page to see more photos and the full article by Ernie Mutch of this event.



Dick Shepard being interviewed on Classic FM.



TESTIMONIAL FROM SUE BEELE Resident at Evergreen Muizenberg Evergreen gets a thumbs up on three scores!

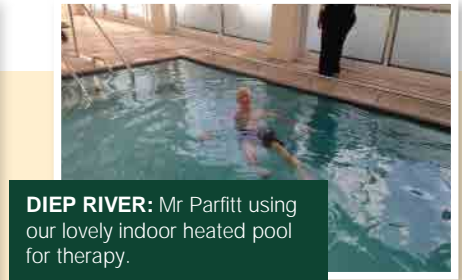
It's always gratifying to get notes of thanks and encouragement – this one from Sue Beele gives us more than a hint that we're getting things right.

"My friend Lisa Poswell has been a regular visitor here and hopes to make a move possibly in 2017. Lisa had lunch with me recently and commented at how smart and friendly all the staff are at Evergreen. She enjoyed the delicious vegetables along with a quiche tartlet and potato wedges. I invited her to the talk on Hydration in the Bistro this month and she was impressed when Melanie kindly came over and welcomed her. When he stayed with me, my son was impressed that the security staff were meticulous in their procedures, well turned out and polite. I feel proud to have family and friends at Evergreen. We have a lovely fresh outlook: our security staff are diligent, the Bistro staff are happy & pleasant and the Evergreen administrative staff are extremely accommodating and helpful in every way." Now that's what we love to hear!

BERGVLJET: Mens Breakfast held on 8 September.



LAKE MICHELLE: Residents took a tour to the West Coast.



DIEP RIVER: Mr Parfitt using our lovely indoor heated pool for therapy.



BROADACRES: Dressing up for Heritage Day celebrations.



LAKE MICHELLE: Residents enjoying a meal at the "Junk Food" party.



MUIZENBERG: Tea party to welcome new residents.



We're getting to the end of an ornithologically great year. With December - and John Wilson, our judge for the first, second & third place, looming - you'll want to do a lot more clicking. Not to mention the fame and admiration from your peers, we will also be posting some of our best bird pics on the **Evergreen Facebook page**. So if you have not already done so, please go online and like our page and share with friends, so that we can grow our virtual community too. Who knows, your pic may even go viral on the internet, and make you famous. **THIS MONTHS FEATHERED FRIENDS**



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PHOTO 1: Egret Hugh Till - Muizenberg **PHOTO 2: Cape Weaver** Jim Raubenheimer - Muizenberg

PHOTO 3: Lilacbreasted Roller Marian Thompson - Muizenberg **PHOTO 4: Cape Sugarbird** Martin Harrison - Muizenberg

PHOTO 5: 2 Ibis in tree Sue Beele - Muizenberg

In conclusion, Maurice Chevalier (one of Arthur's all-time favourites) said that old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternatives. It's hard not to agree. Many of us struggle with the idea of relevance as we age and adapt to post work living. Consider that your work is far from done. What you plant next you plant for posterity, and inside every acorn lies the creation of a thousand forests. Until next month, stay evergreen. *Derek*