



# RESCOM CHATTER

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

End August, 2017 edition



Thank you very much Graham, for this opportunity to carry on your tradition.

I have been reading some of the back issues of Chatter and it is quite clear that you have an empathy with everybody in the village but your quiet manner belies a wonderful sense of humour and authority. I wish you well and may you be able to spend those extra days doing the things you love.  
Cheers, Chris



I am indeed privileged to have been, once again, re-elected as your Chairman. Thank you one and all for the vote of confidence and once again I commit to serve you in the interests of all Residents in Evergreen Broadacres.

And to lead the excellent team of members of ResCom you have voted in for the ensuing year.

Thank you too for your attendance, interest and support at the AGM. Although it is Evergreen's village ownership, it is our village to live, enjoy and to direct in partnership with Evergreen Management.

The 'Dear Mr. Chairman' box in reception is always there for your inputs whether they be concerns, complaints, observations or suggestions. I am and we are listening! Whispering in the secret places does help us overcome whatever it is you have to whisper about...share it even if in confidence (it WILL stay in confidence) so we can ACT with ACTION. That's what I and ResCom are committed to do. As my grandchildren always said 'sharing is caring'. Let's care for one another in openness and transparency.

Happy days ahead with Spring around the corner, Arbor Day a short while into September and the official opening of our long awaited, yet beautiful clubhouse in November. So many a smile to make our day!

So as ever... ***"Together, let's make this the village of our dreams"***

Cheers for now...see you around our beautiful village.





Craig Stacey and his family, who came from far and wide to celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Well done Craig and we hope you have many more. Craig wishes to thank you all as his message below:-

"As the most recent "Evergreen Nonagerian" I want to express my most grateful thanks to all those "Joyful Evergreeners who came to No. 23 Starling Lane on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August to join me and some of my family in celebrating my entry to the "Nineties". A "very big THANK YOU also for the generosity you showed in the number of gifts that I received. I shall certainly not need to make a visit to the Bottle Store for some time unless I have the pleasure of regularly greeting many of you again and again in the future. Please accept this as an "Open Invitation".

My Family locally, three from Australia, three from Cape Town, one from Durban and I, thoroughly enjoyed all the greetings and general chatter that we had before and during the Wednesday Social the following evening.

I must add that twenty-four family members and friends had a most happy and enjoyable Luncheon at a very suitable venue on the Saturday. This was a wonderful occasion shared by all from my Youngest Grandson to his Great Grand Dad. I have seen and heard a sample of the photographic and sound record made by various members of the family and these are going to be a most wonderful memory for me to hear and view from time to time."





Daphné Larkin had a lovely tableful to celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday, yes, she really is 80.... great genes in Daphné's and Beryl's family. Of course, coming from the Southern suburbs helps!

**ENVIROMENT (On behalf of Hennie)**

We had a feeling in our water ... The boring machine finally arrived. A water diviner decided that the hole had to be bored on the path to the compost area, and with lots of snorting and blowing the machine started to drill.





<<<<<<<< AND THAR SHE BLOWS.....

We now have up to 3500 litres per hour to water the common areas around our village.

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**RAIN NEWS FROM CECIL.....**

Unsurprisingly, there is nothing to report on the rainfall front this month. The start of the Spring rains is drawing ever closer which we all eagerly anticipate. The national drive to conserve water is still a fact of life so we all need to continue using water carefully --- Chris says 'Shower with a friend'.

Rainfall, in millimetres, for, 2016/17:

Sep 2016	7.0
Oct 2016	40.3
Nov 2016	130.3
Dec 2016	101.1
Jan 2017	173.4
Feb 2017	205.6
Mar 2017	16.8
Apr 2017	116.4
May 2017	27.0
Jun 2017	0.0
Jul 2017	1.0
Aug 2017	0.0

For comparison, the previous year's reading for August is 3.9 and the average for August month since 2013 is 6.3.

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**REMINDER!!!!**

Residents are reminded to activate the **YELLOW** button on their TeleCare system when needing any form of assistance from our nurses. This applies twenty- four hours around the clock.

We had an incident where a Resident did not inform the nursing staff that they were going on holiday. The blue TeleCare light was not cancelled and this triggered an unnecessary emergency response involving paramedics and an ambulance.

Also, Sister Linda would like to advise any Residents with mobility issues to ensure that non-slip mats are placed in showers and baths.

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**OUT AND ABOUT**

A warm welcome to our latest arrivals at Evergreen Broadacres.

Cynthia and David Lamb now live in No 109. Cynthia is a Geordie from UK and they previously lived in Duxberry. We wish you both a long and happy association with the Village.

At No 114, Ron and Pauline Mackie have just arrived from Salt Rock. Ron is a New Zealander, but we won't hold that against him! Welcome to you both.



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Good morning Tess,

I arrived home at midnight on Saturday evening, had my call to the guardhouse answered on the first ring, and the young guard Regain waiting for me outside the gate with the gate almost open for me. When I told him that I was writing to you to commend him, his whole face lit up. This made a huge difference to my evening out.

A little praise goes a long way and probably does wonders for their morale. Please would you pass my e-mail on to Thorburns so that they can acknowledge his good service.

Thanks and regards,

Idonea No 116

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**I am always amazed at the travels our residents get up to. Here is the first part of Basil Bold's trek to Italy.**

## **The Italian Job**

### Part 1

In mid-July Marlies and I invited ourselves to a 3 week stay with Marlies' sister, Heidi (75) who lives in an unpretentious "Casa Viola" in the rural countryside of Emilia Romagna - a short distance inland from the Adriatic coast and about 20km inland from San Marino (famous for cheap cigarettes and petrol)!

The deal was that we offered our renovation services for some sorely needed renovation work in return for her fantastic hospitality (a gourmet cook of note) and an unlimited supply of Italian wine!

Heidi is one of about 15 German couples who has a summer residence in this charming pastoral setting. Most of the couples migrate for the summer months and then return to home comforts for the winter. Heidi's husband died some 12 years ago, but she has elected to make Italy her home. Almost without exception the summer residents have an artistic bent: saxophonist, guitarist, harpist, trained choristers, painters and potters – to name a few.

Within days we were invited to a musical evening in a quaint church in the town of St Agatha. The little church was packed to the rafters and the performers were an assembly of violinist from Australia, China, Poland, USA (et al). Apparently, they undertake this tour annually and surprisingly the performances are free. The performance was uplifting and the one Chinese violinist was truly exceptional

A few days later we went to a performance of Giacomo Puccini's opera 'Suor Angelica'.



Being familiar with Puccini works such as 'La Boheme', 'Tosca' and 'Madame Butterfly' we were looking forward to the show. The cast comprised 16 nuns and a death visage in sack cloth and ashes. After one hour with no scene or costume change, no action and decidedly tuneless singing the opera culminated in a crescendo of wailing and a general aura of doom and gloom. In fairness, the nun's voices were angelic, but I think Giacomo must have been smoking his socks when he wrote this - not his best effort!

Heidi's house is a solidly built, 100-year-old, 3 storied stone edifice (the walls are over two feet thick). This is fortunate because Italy is subject to continuous earth tremors. This is because the country is scrunched between the African and European tectonic plates. A case of the irresistible force (Africa moving inexorably northwards) meeting the immovable object (Europe). Practically all old buildings in Italy have cracks which are evidence of this ongoing drama.

The countryside is dotted with peaks which, almost without exception, have a castle/monastery or fortress perched atop. Many have been vacated and have fallen into disrepair, but some like San Marino and San Leo are alive and well. We visited San Leo and were shocked to find that, since we were last there, the one side of the mountain had fallen away into the valley, leaving the monastery perched on the edge of a cliff. One must admire the fortitude of the monks living there – knowing that at any time they could experience a sudden relocation to the bottom of the mountain!



< San Leo perched on a cliff

## And this from Sue Jackson

I have recently returned from a five-week holiday visiting my son and his family in Norway. I flew from OR Tambo to Stockholm because my daughter-in-law was attending a conference on an island called Gotland, which is in the Baltic Sea a short 35-minute flight from the Swedish capital.

The 2017 edition of Lonely Planet named Gotland 2<sup>nd</sup> on its list of the best places to see in Europe. Gotland was fascinating and my son Crispin and I and three and half year-old Scott spent one day touring around the island and three days in the wonderful medieval walled town of Visby. There are 100 churches on the island, built between 1100 and 1350. There is a beautiful cathedral in Visby consecrated in 1250 and we were there during a Eucharist service. I sat down to listen and apart from the language being Swedish, the Lutheran service took exactly the same format as our Christian services and I could easily follow it all.



The photograph is of Scott lighting a candle for my late husband, Tim.

We flew from Gotland back to Stockholm, an hour's flight to Oslo and then a two hour train journey to Lillehammer, where Crispin and his wife Torunn have a farm running organic sheep in Lillehammer, which is 190 km north of Oslo. Some of the barns on the farm are 350 years old, and most of the main house was built in 1860. It has been considerably modernised since they took over from Torunn's father in 2009. We spent 10 days on the farm and then embarked on a 6 hour drive southwest of Oslo to Arendal a beautiful Norwegian seaside town which lent its name to Arendelle, the imaginary town where the movie 'Frozen' is set.

Then it was back to Lillehammer for another 10 days.



The evening before I left we went to an outdoor performance of Peer Gynt which has been performed annually over a 9 day period since 1989. It is set in the Gudbrandsdalen valley, one hour north of Lillehammer. The venue is on the shores of a lake, with the Norwegian mountains as a backdrop in an area where the "real" Peer Gynt lived, on whose character Ibsen's play was based. What a treat. I went to an introduction in English before the play started, and followed the play in a summary booklet which described everything that was happening. Ibsen wrote the play and then asked his friend, Evard Grieg, a fellow Norwegian, to write the music. In The Hall of the Mountain King piece was wonderful, with the King being a troll who wants Peer to marry his troll daughter. Peer escapes, but she later brings him an 'ugly child' (with a troll tail) claiming it to be his saying "his thoughts were enough". Norway is a fascinating country, steeped in folk lore, Vikings, trolls and there is a great sense of nationalism amongst its people. It is a beautiful country and is on many a bucket list.

#### **HATCHES & MATCHES; BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

*These are the villagers who enjoy and celebrate Birthdays in September....*

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kathy Möhlig
4 <sup>th</sup>	Wally Ross
5 <sup>th</sup>	Henrietta Dobrowolski
9 <sup>th</sup>	Penelope Rabinowitz
10 <sup>th</sup>	Derek Schuurman
11 <sup>th</sup>	Pat Skanke
11 <sup>th</sup>	Linda Brennan
15 <sup>th</sup>	Heather Mutch
21 <sup>st</sup>	Helen Knowles
21 <sup>st</sup>	Mavis Power
21 <sup>st</sup>	Lyn O'Rourke
24 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy Chemaly
25 <sup>th</sup>	Truus Van't Hof
26 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Stuart



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

*And these couples have an anniversary during the month of September*



4 <sup>th</sup>	Graham & Aileen Langmead
9 <sup>th</sup>	Peter & Angela McMurray
6 <sup>th</sup>	Jay & Erika Barton
11 <sup>th</sup>	Henry & Henrietta Dobrowolski
27 <sup>th</sup>	Piet & Pat Moolman

*May you have a great day and good start to your next year together.*

Dick and I, would like to thank each and everyone for the lovely cards and messages we received on the announcement of our engagement to marry, which will now take place late September.

Love Catherine

#### **HAVE I GOT WHAT YOU WANT???**

***This section was 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 Chris and it will go into the next Chatter***

If anyone is interested in buying a Defy fridge, an automatic washing machine, a tower fan and a vacuum cleaner, please contact me on 140.

Catherine

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#### **Urgent - Midweek Time Share available from 4th to 8th September**

Robin Davey (in Unit 127) has a 2 bed, 2 bath Chalet at the Drakensburg Sun available for the dates above. It is fully serviced and equipped for self catering or you can get all meals at the Hotel. Her husband Wally has had a hip replacement and they are unable to use the facility. The cost would be R750 for 4 nights for up to 4 persons. Please call Robin at intercom 1127, to enjoy a short break in a lovely part of the world with excellent birding and other activities.



*Laugh, and the world laughs with you;*



*Weep, and you weep alone.....*

## Dear Basil,

**a new regular helpful and acerbic advice section. Basil invites questions about all manner of things, including love, life, and motoring.**

Dear Basil,

### Question from Ethel

I have met a wonderful man and we are both well into our 80's. We enjoy long walks in the mountains and trips to the coast. We have fun cooking for each other and relish fine wines. We go shopping together and share such a wonderful life. My question is, should we look forward to an emotional relationship or a social relationship?

### Answer from Basil

At your age I would have no hesitation in recommending a quick relationship.

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### Q.

My tap keeps leaking, there is a drip in the roof and my sprinkler comes on at the most inconvenient times. Can you please recommend a plumber?

### A.

No.

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## Teacher Arrested.

A school teacher was arrested today at John F. Kennedy International airport as he attempted to board a flight while in possession of a ruler, a protractor, a compass, a slide-rule and a calculator.

At a morning press conference, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said he believes the man is a member of the notorious Al-Gebra movement.

He did not identify the man, who has been charged by the FBI with carrying weapons of math instruction..... Al-Gebra is a problem for us', the Attorney General said. 'They derive solutions by means and extremes, and sometimes go off on tangents in search of absolute values.' They use secret code names like "X" and "Y" and refer to themselves as "unknowns" but we have determined that they belong to a common denominator of the axis of medieval with coordinates in every country.

As the Greek philosopher Isosceles used to say, "There are 3 sides to every triangle."

When asked to comment on the arrest, President Trump said, "If God had wanted us to have better weapons of math instruction, he would have given us more fingers and toes."

White House aides told reporters they could not recall a more intelligent or profound statement by the President.



**Ladies, if a man says  
he will fix it, he will.  
There is no need to  
remind him every 6  
months about it.**

Two blondes walk into a building.....

You would have thought one of them would have seen it!

*My thanks as always to all the contributors...have you got something to share? E-mail to [chrisandsue291@gmail.com](mailto:chrisandsue291@gmail.com)*

*Cheers for now.  
Chris*

*Best wishes and warm regards to you all.*