



EVERGREEN BROADACRES RESIDENTS FUN WALK – 4TH NOV 2017

I apologise for sending out this report so late but I have been man down for the past 2 weeks with the flu virus that has been going around the village. While checking to see who was going to take part in this event I was amazed how many Residents were suffering from Bronchitis, flu and other ailments. I guess they left us in the water too long before rescuing us from the Ship Wreck.

At one stage I did not know whether to call off the Walk and have a Residents Sick Parade instead. I should not have been concerned as Residents remembered the fun they had, the Champagne and Orange juice, the Boere rolls and of course Hennie's now famous Pap and Sous from previous events and those who could, did make it to the starting line-up. Well done to all of you for making this another enjoyable event.

78 Residents paid to walk but only 72 made it to the start, although some of those who did not walk came down to watch. There were also 15 helpers and spectators who attended the event. Before the Walk, I gathered all the Walkers in the clubhouse and told them that this was not a race: It was a Fun Walk with no prizes for coming 1st or last as no one cared and no one was going to check how far everyone walked. I told them that it was very hot out there and they should just walk as far as they wanted to at a comfortable pace. The Chairman, wearing his Team Evergreen t-shirt for the first time said that I should add another distance for residents to choose to walk: Once around the new Bistro lounge in the comfort of the air-conditioning.

It was pleasing to see some of the residents who had not taken part in previous events, joining us for the first time – Brian & Pat Morgan and their dog from Unit 11, Ruth Fidler Unit 37, Kay Olie Unit 49, Pat Duthoit from Unit 81, and Dennis & Cynthia O'Connor from Unit 83. Thanks for joining us and I hope you all enjoyed it. We also saw Peta Nesbitt making a welcome return to the road after a long absence due to medical reasons.

It was also great to see so many newcomers joining us and I am sure they enjoyed the event as many stayed afterwards socialising and comparing aches and pains. Mention must be made of Sandy de Villiers who moved into Unit 121 on the Thursday before the Walk, heard all about it and phoned me to ask if she could come down and join us. I told her she was most welcome and could even do the 700 meter dash which she declined as she was exhausted after moving in. She told me afterwards that she had enjoyed the event and the chance to meet so many of the other residents. Welcome to Evergreen Sandy.

There seemed to be a record number of dogs with their owners carrying poo bags this time, many being used within the first 200 meters. I think that the heat may have effected Basil however as he ended up walking his imaginary dog with the other dog owners.

Dave Powell and Wally Ross set off at a brisk pace but Bob showed that his training walks in the afternoons had paid off and soon joined them. Meanwhile the rivalry between Norma and Ron continued behind them with each pushing the other to the limit. However sanity prevailed when they caught up to the leading group and they declared a truce and all walked together and two experienced long distance runners, two Kiwis' and a determined little English lady all finishing together. Well done.

Ian Stuart tried to stay with them but the heat and his lack of training soon saw him lagging behind. However Lettie walked at a brisk pace and kept the leading group within her eye sight most of the way. Afterwards she told me that she had made arrangements to join her family at the Dam but felt she had to walk at least one lap before heading off. She did say that she was very stiff on Sunday morning. That's the spirit Lettie.

I went out onto the route to ensure that everyone knew which way to go. Luckily I did as the leading group were concentrating so much they forgot to turn left into the last Lane before going down and around the clubhouse. I had to call them back and put them on the right track.

When Cecil came past me he thought that he was hallucinating and told me that he was convinced that Elske was behind him but suddenly saw her in front of him. I set his mind at rest when I told him that Elske had wisely decided to miss out a few loops on the way down to the clubhouse because of the heat. Maybe the thought of the Champagne & Orange juice was beckoning her or was it the smell of the boere rolls.

It was good to see that most of the residents had heeded my advice and were enjoying a social walk together. Although everyone started at about the same time, and the Braai Masters, Eddie, Ivar & Taffy started the excellent job of cooking the boere, the field soon split up into groups with large gaps between each group. I think the heat played a big part in a lot of walkers not completing as many laps as they had wanted to.

Tom also took my advice to walk at a comfortable pace. As he was passing his Unit halfway around the 700 meter Dash, he decided that he would rather go for a short nap instead of walking in the heat. Dave B made his traditional stop at his Unit for a drop, or was it for a dop?

I had not seen Angela & Peter around for some time so I went up to their Unit on the Thursday before the Walk. They told me that they had walked in 2 minutes before I arrived having just returned from a great holiday in the Seychelles. Although they were tired from their trip, they said that they would walk on Saturday.

Judy Stowell had booked to leave with her friend, Anna from overseas on the Friday before the Walk to go to Sabi River Sun. I saw her on the Friday and she told me that unfortunately they had had to cancel their trip because her husband, Brian had taken a bad turn and had been admitted to hospital. I asked her whether that meant that she could take part in the Walk. She said that she did not know whether to hug me, kiss me or cut my throat.

Bob told me that Anne, his wife, did not enjoy walking but could walk forever when she was shopping. I suggested that he gave her a shopping bag to encourage her to walk. She surprised both of us by entering her name on the list to walk. She, H and Peta, together with one of the nursing staff did the 700 meter Dash with Ossie to ensure he made it home. I told Anne that I was sorry that she had decided to walk with Ossie as it prevented her from showing us her true colours.

At a Parkrun before the walk, Ron was not wearing his Team Evergreen t-shirt and explained that his wife, Pauline, had forgotten to wash it and that she had also printed his Parkrun bar code numbers but misfiled them. I suggested that she should be punished and made to walk 3 laps in the Residents Fun Walk. And Walk she did without complaining. Atta girl, Pauline

Cliff Preacher said that he had forgotten to have his wheels serviced before the Walk so drove sedately around the course, obeying the speed limit, and did not show off by doing a wheelie over the finish line.

Pierre walked with his “Walkie, Talkie” friend Lilo again but ensured that Kathy & Atholie accompanied him in case he needed help to cross the finish line again. (By the way, Moira came down to the start to show off her new double soled slops but took Graham’s advise and stayed in the comfort of the air-conditioned lounge)

Besides a special thanks to our Braai Maters, I say a big thank you to the following residents:

Kiloran for taking some great photos of the event again

Pat Bayley for controlling registration of the Walkers

Hennie for his now famous Pap & Sous

The ladies who assisted with buttering the rolls and serving the food

Gloria for serving the free Champagne & Orange juice and to all others who helped

Roy for his assistance in helping with the arrangements

My good wife for ensuring that everything went off smoothly and

Last but by no means least, to all the Residents who took part to make it a successful occasion once again

I would like to mention a few things before closing. I have had the pleasure of organising this successful event on 4 occasions now and have never once told any resident that they have to walk. I ask residents if they are going to join us for the Walk. It is not a trick question. All I need is a simple “Yes” or “No” answer or to quote Emmy “Because I don’t want to walk” If you say you will get back to me, please have the courtesy to do so as soon as possible otherwise I will have to keep on asking (nagging) you, each time I see you whether you will be joining us or not. A lot of work goes into organising this event and it is essential for me to know how many residents I need to cater for when ordering the drinks and food for their enjoyment.

Many of you asked if you could invite family to come and join the Walk. While this would be fantastic and would make it a really festive occasion, Amdec have given me permission to hold this event whenever I want to, provided it is restricted to **Residents Only**. Sorry about that.

Please continue to support this event and if you have any ideas on changes that could be made, besides ordering cooler weather, to make it more enjoyable, please let me know so that we can continue to make this the “village of our dreams”

Remember to “keep fit and remain evergreen”

Ernie

- 1) Residents gathering before the Walk
- 2) Pat Bayley checking registration
- 3) Tom, Graham and Clive relaxing
- 4) Raise your hands if you are ready
- 5) All very serious at the start
- 6) Dave B with his ever present smile with John P

- 7) Cecil was surprised to see Pat while Elske soldered on
- 8) Eddie, Ivar and Taffy the experienced Braai Masters
- 9) Robin, Maureen & Val did not walk. New resident Sandy, is flanked by Graham, Aileen, Grace & Derek
- 10) Brian, Pat and their dog set off at the start
- 11) Has anyone seen Basil's dog?
- 12) Linda and Penny with their dogs
- 13) Norma & Ron continuing their rivalry while Ian tries to keep up.
- 14) Lettie about to overtake Craig & Hennie
- 15) Ruth in front of Keith and Sue with Kay in the background
- 16) Trevor, Graham, Heather & Caroline wave as they pass by
- 17) Angela, Peter, Pauline, Jenny and Liz lead another group
- 18) Kathy & Atholie accompany Pierre & Lilo
- 19) Clive stepping it out with Dennis & Cynthia
- 20) Ossie, Peta, & H while Anne is deep in thought
- 21) Cluffy on his wheels with Chris while Ernie looks on
- 22) The Back up team buttering the rolls

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



Kloran Townsend

12.



Kloran Townsend

13.



Kloran Townsend

14.



Kloran Townsend

15.



Kloran Townsend

16.



Kloran Townsend

17.



18.



19.



20.



21.



22.

