



RESKOM CHATTER

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

End March 2018

Easter - means different things to different people. So here's wishing you all a happy holiday, a sacred remembrance and a wonderful family together time.

We had several social evenings and a Village Fun Run during the month. I have chosen some indicative pictures for each occasion and continue to marvel at the ingenuity of the costumes and growing attendance at these occasions.

All the best to you all
Chris



Hello again everyone. There is a well-known saying *it never rains but it pours*". Wasn't it wonderful when it came true over the past couple of days I am told the village experienced about 150 mm. Phew, that is awesome. Everything bright, clean and thriving...beautiful gardens. The dams are in good shape and the wetland is a happy picture. Exquisite place for sure...we should give thanks for the privilege of living here.

As I begin the run down to the end of my 6 years of the privilege as your chairman, I cannot but reflect how the village has grown and matured. Some years ago we shared with AMDEC our vision for the village. Most of it has come in to being or planned to be completed in the near future. So we can look forward to the fruition of our slogan...

Let's make Evergreen Broadacres the village of our dreams"

In July, I will be handing the chair over to your choice of the next generation. That means time for you to give thought to who you want to take it over and who else you want on YOUR ResCom. I am happy to chat if you wish.

In closing may I take this opportunity of personally wishing you a Blessed Easter.



At the last ResCom we agreed to will provide a simple schedule of monthly expenditure for inclusion in Chatter and also a brief summary of items discussed at our meeting held on the 15th March 2018.

For the record:

Summary of ResCom expenses for the month of February 2018

Prizes for 19 th 110+ Club draw	5 000
Complimentary meals for new residents	49
Burn's Night VIP dinner	91
Library operating expenses	190
Total expenditure	5330
Cash on hand at month end	23 170

Best wishes,

Cecil.

The ResCom met this month and some of the more relevant topics discussed were:-

- A resolution to the incident involving dogs and guinea fowl.
- The need for a separate notice board was turned down as the historical photos preserved by Kiloran in folders are available to all in the Library.
- Bulrushes being cleared from the ponds, but we have left 25% behind to attract birds and fish.
- Door bells are being replaced on a trial basis to see if there are any cross communication problems.
- The presence of Cane Rats in the lower areas of the village was noted and it was agreed that they are not harmful, are generally nocturnal and a part of the fauna and flora which comes with our lifestyle. (They are poorly named as "rats", as they are more related to porcupines than "rats")
- The Care Centre entrance has been closed off as a general access to the Lifestyle Centre.
- Residents Annual Meeting set for Friday 20th July.



Evergreen Broadacres Book and Coffee morning

20 February 2018

Attendance at the Book and Coffee mornings, now in their 4th year, has grown as our village and library have grown. But the joy of the morning is in the social interaction and in the sharing of the love of books and their stories.



Grateful thanks were extended to Theo for taking donated books to the SPCA, to Dennis O'Connor for the delightful handmade bookmarks, to Elske for organizing the mounting of the posters (more about them later), and to Jean and Sue for the delicious and very welcome sandwiches.

There are now over 2 ½ thousand books on our shelves, all due to the generosity of Evergreen's residents. A question arose about how books were selected for the library. First, duplicates are identified as space permits that only one copy of each book is kept; then books are sorted according to their age with the newer more recent publications getting preference. In addition the book's physical condition, such its size, print, weight and condition, are all considered.

Our library functions well, relying as it does on the honesty and consideration of residents. However, a common problem seems to be trying to find your initial entry in the log book when returning a book. Pat Bayley devised a simple solution. When taking out a book, write the date on a slip of paper [from the box on the desk]. Use this slip as a bookmark, and then when returning the book, you can find your initial entry using the date as an indicator. Let us know how you find this system.

Please remember to **record all transactions in the log book**. This is important as it enables us to keep track of the books as well as showing us which books are popular or not – and this again assists us in our selection of books for the library. So, please do not pass books onto others without recording the transaction in the log book.

And while there is no time restriction on the borrowing of books, we would urge residents to be considerate and return them within a reasonable time. Apart from others who may wish to read the book, keeping them for lengthy periods can result in books going AWOL in your bookcase and being forgotten.

And then it was over to the reviewers –

Sue Edwards reviewed two books, both of which promise riveting reading.

The Couple Next Door by Shari Lapena, a new writer, was “a different slant on the usual American crime story. As parents and grandparents our hearts do a somersault when we reach page 9.” This story about the kidnapping of a baby girl hurtles along and keeps one guessing right to the end.

Conclave by Robert Harris, concerns the election of a new pope. One hundred and seventeen cardinals are called to conclave in the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican is sealed off from the outside world. Not all the candidates are “church-like men, in fact some are quite obnoxious and worldly and many serious undercurrents begin to emerge...then a surprise; at the last minute an “unknown” cardinal arrives. This is a well-researched book, and according to Sue, “one of the best written and most enjoyable books I have read in ages.” Needless to say it was grabbed the minute it left her hand!

Sue Jackson then reviewed two books by Lucinda Riley, an author whose books are enthralling many of Evergreen's readers.



St Patricks Night Social



Street Braai (part Street part Clubhouse)

Dear Chris

The street braai, eventually in the clubhouse, was most enjoyable and I would like to express Norma and my appreciation to all those who set up the braais and tables etc and then cleared up afterwards. I offer my services for the next event.

Kind regards

Andy Johnston

Unit 111





Dear Chris (from Kiloran)

Please could you add the following to the next Chatter.

A big thank you to the wonderfully positive response I have received regarding the Evergreen photographic albums (A3 black ring binders) that are kept in the library. These photographs record the functions, fun and festivities that the Evergreen residents partake in.

I would also like to thank all those who have donated cash for us to buy the plastic covers. This protection will allow us to keep a photographic record and allow others to enjoy of what this village is about. In particular thanks to Felicity Morgan this month.

I have built up quite a stock of these plastic covers but I need the festivities to catch up. I will purchase two more packets this week before the VAT goes up. For the time being, I have more than enough, but as soon as I start running out may I again appeal to this village's generosity.

Dear Chris (from Kiloran)

The CODP is usually very good with their courses. I have been on 3, the first was on Photoshop back in 2008 so they have been around for at least 10 years. Their branch in Pineslopes makes it very convenient for us. The course that could be useful for a number of people is the " Introduction to Photography" which is free.

Phone: 086 11 74686 or email : photo@codp.co.za

Water Usage (We have two meters, the main and Low Flow)

Water Consumption - Daily March 2018

Day	Date	Main Reading	Low Flow Reading	Main Consumption	Low Flow Consumption	Combined Consumption	Number Residents/Staff	Combined Litres Consumption Per person
	Last Day Previous Month	106652	11247	83000	4000	87000	215	404.7
Thu	1	106739	11252	87000	5000	92000	215	427.9
Fri	2	106835	11256	96000	4000	100000	215	465.1
Sat	3	106946	11261	111000	5000	116000	215	539.5
Sun	4	107058	11266	112000	5000	117000	215	544.2
Mon	5	107145	11270	87000	4000	91000	215	423.3
Tue	6	107247	11275	102000	5000	107000	215	497.7
Wed	7	107348	11280	101000	5000	106000	215	493.0
Thu	8	107441	11284	93000	4000	97000	215	451.2
Fri	9	107514	11288	73000	4000	77000	215	358.1
Sat	10	107585	11291	71000	3000	74000	215	344.2
Sun	11	107642	11294	57000	3000	60000	215	279.1
Mon	12	107723	11298	81000	4000	85000	215	395.3
Tue	13	107819	11303	96000	5000	101000	216	467.6
Wed	14	107898	11306	79000	3000	82000	216	379.6
Thu	15	107979	11310	81000	4000	85000	216	393.5
Fri	16	108089	11314	110000	4000	114000	216	527.8
Sat	17	108178	11319	89000	5000	94000	216	435.2
Sun	18	108263	11323	85000	4000	89000	216	412.0
Mon	19	108347	11326	84000	3000	87000	216	402.8
Tue	20	108438	11330	91000	4000	95000	216	439.8
Wed	21	108523	11334	85000	4000	89000	216	412.0
Thu	22	108594	11337	71000	3000	74000	216	342.6
Fri	23	108654	11340	60000	3000	63000	216	291.7
Sat	24	108703	11343	49000	3000	52000	216	240.7
Sun	25	108733	11345	30000	2000	32000	216	148.1
Mon	26	108781	11347	48000	2000	50000	216	231.5
Tue	27	108823	11348	42000	1000	43000	216	199.1
Wed	28			0	0	0		0.0
Thu	29			0	0	0		0.0
Fri	30			0	0	0		0.0
Sat	31			0	0	0		0.0

We are waiting for some more months statistics to derive any meaningful conclusions from these, apart from the fact that the irrigation does take a lot of water and the borehole will soon pay for it's self

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Down along The Yukon

(thanks to George and Maureen Privett (No 84) for this fascinating insight into life on the other side of the world)

Hi Chris,

You asked if I had anything of interest to tell, regarding Maureen and my annual migration to Canada. So here goes, I hope it is of interest.

Our children and grandchildren (some of whom live in the Yukon Territory of Canada, and the others in Douglasdale Gauteng) have insisted on having "dual custody" of us in our advanced years. So we split our time between them every year.

As such we could not couldn't experience two more divergent climates and lifestyles.

Herewith some snippets around life in the far north and some photos.

Some statistics:

	SA	YT	
Land Mass SQ Km	1,220,000	482,000	So SA is around 2.5 times larger
Population	55,000,000	33,897 (!)	Difference SA Plus +54,966,103

Two thirds of the population of the Yukon live in the "CITY" of Whitehorse which sits astride the Yukon river and the Alaska highway and that is where we have our Canadian home.

It is situated uncomfortably close to the start of the arctic circle so a bit chilly most times.

The coldest temperature ever recorded in Canada was -63C..... and guess where?.... you got it..... in the **Yukon!** Maureen and I have been fortunate enough to have only experienced -50C but even that was not much fun.

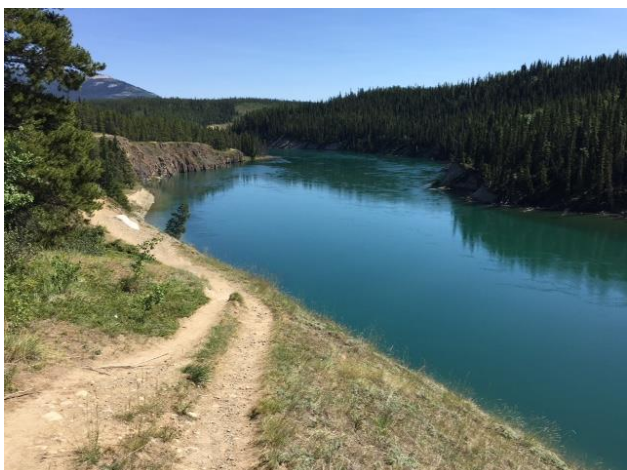
There are however some advantages to living in the cold climate i.e. one never needs to keep a bottle of water in the refrigerator, as it comes out of the tap pre chilled year round. Also chilling the beer that you forgot to put in the fridge is very quick and easy..... just leave it outside.

Essentially, the Yukon economy depends on tourism i.e. hunting, fishing , hiking, road tripping, camping etc. and of course viewing the northern lights from the Aurora Borealis. Other than that mining plays a role and the balance of the cash comes from federal government hand outs.

Whitehorse started out as a fur trading place in the old days, grew a bit in the gold rush years and WW2 really gave it significant growth with the construction of the Alaska highway which was built to counter a possible Japanese invasion of North America.

It also served as the transfer point for aircraft supplied to the Russian army by the Americans. The American pilots would deliver the planes to Whitehorse and the Russian pilots came and fetched them from there.

Before I attach some pictures which you might find of interest, how is this for a coincidence.....here in Evergreen there is another family who have a son living in the Yukon within a few kilometres of my family.





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Building an eBike (part 1) by Chris Edwards



Some time ago, Sue and I decided that having two cars (with one always invariably in our garage) seemed to be a bit over the top, so we cashed in two cars and brought another newer one. With a bit of planning it did not seem to be a problem to share one car but on odd occasions I felt it would be nice for me to be independent.

I have always been a keen bike rider and thought that a pedal bike would be the answer. However, the hill up from the Lifestyle Centre could be a bit daunting on my knees, so I wondered about an eBike (a pedal bike with an electric motor)

I looked around and found that if I had a spare R50 000.00 I could get a very nice competition bike with all the right named bits (Bikers are very Label conscious) and an electric motor. Delving into the Internet I came across the darker sciences of building your own eBike, one person said it could be done for \$500.00! I needed some engineering assistance to do that and looked no further than over my fence to find Chief Engineer Basil Bold, who was keen to come aboard for the adventure.

We started off looking at various bike shops, and wow!, there are plenty in this area. Makro, Sportsman's Warehouse, Cycle Lab, Mellow Velo and Kajejs, just within a 15 min drive from Evergreen. An eBike is a bit more of a rarity and we did not find too many.

A memorable visit to Sportsman's Warehouse with Basil, found two eBikes and two eScooters. As Chief Engineer, he got to ride in-store and soon found the bikes too slow and so he hopped on a scooter with a seat. The motor was a fearsome 800 watt and soon he was whizzing around in between racks of bikes like a pro.

We decided that some more research was needed and contacted a local eBike enthusiast who was connected to a supplier in Cape Town. He put us on the right road as far as size of motor, type of motor and battery type. We had to modify these requirements as my bike would only be necessary to do the Evergreen Circuit and maybe later a trip to the Spar! (Sue cringes at the thought). We set out to use a 350 watt front hub motor and a 36 volt lithium-ion battery pack.

My experience with importing stuff from China came in useful and by late January, early February I had placed orders for the necessary components. Then calamity struck, I fell and broke my hip which was to change the way we looked at this project for ever!

To Be Continued - Next Month

➤ RAIN NEWS FROM Cecil Faan



The village rainfall was improved immensely by the heavy rains that fell over Gauteng on the 23rd – 24th of the month. From what I hear, many rain gauges in the village overflowed during the night!

Hopefully this will stand us in good stead as the dry months draw closer. We await the implementation of the borehole irrigation system with keen anticipation! (see Basil's piece later)

Remember the drive to conserve water remains a national imperative.

Rainfall, in millimetres, for 2017/2018:

Apr 2017	116.4
May 2017	27.0
Jun 2017	Nil
Jul 2017	1.0
Aug 2017	Nil
Sep 2017	3.6
Oct 2017	68.2
Nov 2017	55.4
Dec 2017	126.0
Jan 2018	60.2
Feb 2018	58.0
Mar 2018	172.5

For comparison, the previous year's reading for March is 16.8, and the average for March since 2013 is 126.9
Rainfall for the past 12 months amounts to 688.4 mm

Borehole/Irrigation Update

It is some 7 months since the borehole was drilled and we are all waiting for the installation of the pump and connection to the irrigation system. Unfortunately, coping with the water crisis in the Cape has taken precedence over the finalisation of our Broadacres project. The good news is that the Contracts Manager should be back on site within the next month or two and the borehole is on his list of projects!

Several residents have questioned whether it would be possible to connect the borehole water supply to our private gardens. In this regard there two possible options:

An independent reticulation system feeding all private gardens

This option is not viable simply because the initial capital cost of installing and independent piping system would far outweigh the small cost recovery benefit using the borehole supply

Linking private gardens to the existing verge-based system

This would be a less-costly option but the following need to be considered:

1. The system will only provide water when the particular verge irrigation zone is operating
2. It would be necessary to measure the offtake to individual gardens to provide equitable billing. This would necessitate a water meter at each offtake, as well as a reading and management regime – costly!
3. The estimated borehole yield is about 2,700 l/hour. This is close to the demand of many of the irrigation zones and would therefore preclude the addition of private gardens to the system. Without a costly re-configuring of the irrigation zones, the increased demand in a number of zones would result in an unacceptable drop in pressure

It is therefore highly unlikely that this suggestion could be entertained. I guess it is *‘half a loaf is better than no bread’*! The benefits will be the reduced cost of water for the communal areas and more flexibility in the timing and frequency of watering our communal gardens.

Basil Bold
Special Projects

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HEALTHCARE by Atholie Preacher

Please, ask residents to put cool drink and milk bottle tops (ONLY) into the container in the library to support the collection drive for wheelchairs.

Services offered by the Audiologist, Sashni Munnisunker on site in the Care Centre by appointment only

1. Free hearing test to provide a baseline of one’s hearing thresholds
 - a. The hearing test is used to track and monitor hearing loss due to medical conditions such as diabetes, chemotherapy or accidents.
 - b. It also determines the type and severity of loss to establish what intervention is necessary.
 - c. Should medical management be required, a referral letter is provided for the doctor.
2. A hearing aid consultation is also provided as necessary at no charge.
 - a. For those who have an existing hearing aid - suitability will be determined and a free cleaning will be conducted.
3. Reprogramming and servicing of hearing aids – but will incur a charge
4. Batteries and other consumables such as domes, wax guards and drying capsules can also be purchased.
5. Service, supply and fit all brands of hearing aids.
6. Accepted by all Medical Insurers – Medical Aid tariff for consultations

April

- 2nd André Oosthuizen
- 4th Sheila Schulkins
- 5th Vincent Boswell
- 6th Maureen Slogrove
- 7th Chris Brennan
- 9th Catherine Plaskett
- 11th Maureen Privett
- 13th Sally Branson
- 14th Kiloran Townsend
- 15th Heather Morgan
- 16th Henry Dobrowolski
- 19th Ernie Mutch
- 20th Robin Slogrove
- 21st Dick Townsend
- 22nd Tom Hammond
- 24th Cyril Rabinowitz
- 27th Viv Pike
- 30th Gunther Wrogemann

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

And these couples have an anniversary during the month of April

April

- 4th Brian & Pat Morgan
- 11th Taffy & Elizabeth Davies
- 11th Graham & Caroline Brickett
- 13th Dick & Kiloran Townsend
- 16th Derek & Sheila Heard
- 19th Vince & Gloria Boswell
- 25th Tom & Jenny Hammond
- 30th Robin & Maureen Slogrove

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

HAVE I GOT WHAT YOU WANT????

Have you got any favourite small battery appliances where the rechargeable battery has just died?
I have found a man who does refurbishment of battery packs for a fraction of the appliance replacement cost.
He is operating from home No 3 Church Street, Johannesburg North (its the road running from Witkoppen Road towards Olivedale Hospital.) His name is Graham. Akita Business Systems.
Phone 011 704 2429

For sale: Wooden patio table and six chairs. Table 1.5 metres extending to seat six. In good condition. Looking for R2000.00

Contact: Dick and Catherine Unit 1

▶ LAST WORDS



Laugh, and the world laughs with you;



Weep, and you weep alone.....

Thoughts from Kiloran

- * What if my dog only brings back the ball because he thinks I like throwing it?
- * If poison expires, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
- * Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?
- * Do twins ever realise that one of them is unplanned?
- * Why is the letter W, in English, called double U? Shouldn't it be called double V?
- * Maybe oxygen is slowly killing you and It just takes 75-100 years to fully work.
- * Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.
- * The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".
- * 100 years ago everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today, everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.
- * Your future self is watching you right now through memories.
- * The doctors that told Stephen Hawking he had two years to live in 1953 are probably dead.
- * Many animals probably need glasses, but nobody knows it.
- * If you rip a hole in a net, there are actually fewer holes in it than there were before.
- * If 2/2/22 falls on a Tuesday, we'll just call it "2's Day".
(It does fall on a Tuesday)-

The Cyril and Chris Shootout

Cyril carried on with this:-

No matter what happens, there is always somebody who knew it would. (Anon)

Never say 'Ooops' in the operating theatre. (Dr Leo Troy)

When the cause of the people is entrusted to professors, it is lost. (Nicolai Lenin)

If it jamsforce it. If it breaks it needed replacing anyway. (Basil Bold)

1) Nothing minor ever happens to a car at the weekend.

- 2) Nothing minor ever happens to a car on a trip.
- 3) Nothing minor ever happens to a car. (Charles D. Hartman)

Chris tried with:- (all thanks to Steven Wright)

(I have to repeat this one as Anke found it hilarious and wanted to pass it on to her dance teacher)

Dancing is a perpendicular expression of a horizontal desire.

Shin: A device for finding furniture in the dark.

I put instant coffee in a microwave oven and almost went back in time.

Why don't they make mouse flavoured cat food?

Riddles

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires. The second is full of assassins with loaded guns. The third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is safest for him?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and grey when you throw it away?

4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday?

5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out. Try to do so without any coaching!

Answers:

1. The third room. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead. That one was easy, right?

2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry (shot; held under water; and hung).

3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.

4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!

5. The letter e, which is the most common letter used in the English language, does not appear even once in the paragraph....

These are 9 straight questions now with straight answers

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends. *Boxing*

2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward? *Niagara Falls*

3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables? *Asparagus and rhubarb.*

4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside? *Strawberry*

5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle? *It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.*

6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them. *Dwarf, dwell and dwindle...* (Ok... That's 3 and there are more)

7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them *Full Stop (Period) , comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.*

8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh. *Lettuce*

9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S.' *Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts.*

Many thanks as always to all the contributors...have you got something to share? e-mail to me at :- chrisandsue291@gmail.com

Cheers for now.

Chris

Best wishes and warm regards to you all, thank you for the kind comments.