

MID-TERM REPORT BACK – FEBRUARY 2019

Portfolio Name: *Hospitality*

Leader: *Judy Stuart*

Objective of the Portfolio

The objective of this portfolio is to promote social interaction between the residents of the village by creating interesting and stimulating activities for all. During the months of August to November the Catering side of this portfolio was managed by Bev Jackson and Activities by Judy Stuart. During Judy and Bev's absence, from mid-November to end January, a wonderful group of people stepped up. These were led by Marilyn MacLachlan, Pauline Mackie and Sue Stirton. A grateful thank you to you and your team.

Significant achievements

A vast number of activities took place in the village during the period of August 2018 to January 2019. These include those run on a regular basis, ie bridge, knit and natter, movie mornings/evenings, rummikub, scrabble, line dancing, Bible Study groups, exercise classes, bingo, etc. All these are managed by wonderful volunteers. Our library held six book club mornings (3rd Tuesday of every month) and included a talk by Tape Aids in October. Birding interests were led by Dick Shephard who had several events, including a talk by Wim Spook. During this period Sandy de Villiers held 49 two-hour art classes (Monday and Wednesday mornings) and had 5 to 10 enthusiastic students attend these classes on a regular basis. Ernie Mutch organised and encouraged our fit villagers to partake in many walks and runs, including an internal Village Walk in October which attracted a vast number of people, even though it was very wet, and was followed by a braai that was great fun. Two talks were organised by Kiloran Townsend – A geology talk by Professor J Barton and one by Dick Townsend on Truth and Perception.

Each Wednesday evening a social is held in the Lifestyle Centre and during the last six months special theme evenings included, Christmas in July, Heritage Day, Oktoberfest, Special Birthday Evenings, Early Christmas Day Dinner, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Burn's Night. The catering for these functions is done by Reef Caterers who are contracted to ELV. Their task is complex and it was often felt that more staff is required here. The menus are overseen by the Hospitality portfolio. The perception is that the lunches and A la Carte are not as successful as they should be and It is felt that the catering expectations for the village need to be thoroughly surveyed and promoted. This needs to include the new apartment resident impact.

Besides meeting our own social needs, the residents try to become involved in assisting those who need it and in July we held a Mandela Day Charity drive. A trailer full of food and useful items were collected and distributed through the All Saint's Outreach Programme. With the same objective, at the early Christmas Social Dinner in early December, toys were donated for distribution.

Other special events included: Arbor Day (8th September); Craft Market (10th November) which sold items made by villagers and outside traders; Wine Tasting (22nd January) supported by Liquor City in Broadacres and organised by Marilyn McLachlan.

On 15th of November, with the blessing of ResCom, Dave Nesbitt and Dave Bromfield opened the "Waterhole" in the Lifestyle Centre. This is operated as a refreshment storage service for Members who are Evergreen residents and own the Stock collectively. It is only opened on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings from 5pm so as not to clash with other social events. Members withdraw their stock using pre-bought vouchers. With 55 members to-date the facility is proving to be a popular addition to the social offering at Evergreen.

None of the above activities/events would be possible without the help of so many people in our village who continue to show a great spirit of friendliness and responsibility. Thank you!!!

Future Plans

The Hospitality Team is ever ready to take on new ideas, enhance old traditions and continue to work hard and encourage everyone to join in the amazing social spirit that exists in Evergreen Village. Please let us have your positive criticism and let us know your social aspirations.

Judy Stuart
February 2019