

From your Community Supervisor Merry Christmas!

Christmas is here once again, and it is almost time to bring in another New Year. It's amazing how quickly this year has flown by, and only a few more weeks until we welcome 2012!

During 2011 we saw the introduction of a number of new services in Bellerive - some that have worked and some that have not. We have also had an increase in the number of our bus trips over the last year. We have enjoyed trips to the surrounding areas of Canberra, including tours of the Murrumbateman wineries, trips to Yass, Goulburn, Bredbo as well as visits to local areas within Canberra. I would like to thank Ulli, Geoff Lincoln and Bryan Barlow, who have all given of their own time to volunteer as our devoted bus drivers. Without their contribution Bellerive residents would not be able to enjoy the many and varied trips that they do each month.

I am looking forward to supporting you all in 2012, and also welcoming our new Stage Two residents towards the end of next year.

Staff and Management wish a very Merry Christmas to you all and to your loved ones, and we wish you happiness and prosperity in the year ahead.

Ruth, your Community Supervisor

RVA Accreditation

We have lodged our application to the Retirement Village Association (RVA) to become a fully RVA-Accredited Village.

To achieve this accreditation, we must meet 29 stringent requirements covering such areas as Resident Services and Lifestyle, Organisational Management, Human Resources Management, and Physical Resources Management – which covers your safety and security issues.

To gain accreditation, our Village will be assessed on these established standards by an independent survey team of two people. This survey team will tour the village for a full day, or more if necessary, conducting meetings with Village management, staff and residents to find out how they rate the services, facilities and general Village environment.

Becoming an Accredited Village creates a benchmark that allows prospective residents to know that our Village meets the highest possible service and facility standards.

I believe that Bellerive already operates at this highest standard required by the RVA, and it is just a formality to achieve Accreditation.

We have just received notification on Thursday that our site visit may well be completed before Christmas.

Water Rates Calculation

At the recent AGM I referred to my letter to you from 20 November in relation to the calculation of the water rate used to calculate your water account. I then referred to a table of four different rates being applied by ActewAGL to the Bellerive account. I incorrectly referred to four different tiers, but was in fact referring to the latest Bellerive account which ran from 19 May 2011 to 17 August 2011. Midway this period, on 1 July 2011, a rate change occurred, which caused the four different rates to be applied for that period. Normally, only two different rates are applied. These rates applied by ActewAGL are based on the consumption of water at Bellerive as a whole, and the water account is calculated using the following principles:

- *For the first 0.548 kilolitres of water supplied on average per day of the billing period – \$2.33 per kL*
- *And for all water supplied in excess of 0.548 kilolitres on average per day of the billing period- \$4.66 per kL*

To determine the rate per litre to be used for on-charging the water consumption to you, we take the total cost of water consumed in a period and divide that by the total amount of water consumed in that same period. The result of this equation will most likely always be different from period to period which will explain the change of this rate on your individual water account every three months. Please also be advised that the cost of water increased on 1 July 2011 by 16.5%.

I trust that this explains how your water consumption rate is being calculated.

Erik Boddeus

Site Plan

I have included a site plan of the Village which identifies all the emergency services within the village. The legend at the bottom will explain all areas that you will need to identify. If you have difficulty understanding the plan, please come and see me and I will explain it to you.

General News and Activities

December Bus Trips

Come along and enjoy the company of your fellow residents for the last bus trips for the year 2011 planned for December!

Tuesday 6th December

Music @ Midday.

10am – 12:15pm

We are heading off again to Music at Midday. Canberra Theatre Centre together with the Royal Military College Band host Music at Midday Concerts six times a year with the support of Canberra Labor Club. The proceeds of the concerts support many local charities. The Royal Duntroon Military band will be playing at the Canberra Theatre.

Tuesday 13th December

Federation Square, Gold Creek

10:30am – as required

The popular galleries - Aarwun Gallery and the Aboriginal Dreaming Gallery offer a great range of art in many mediums. There's plenty of speciality shopping for giftware, craft, clothing and gourmet foods, a choice of restaurants, cafes and a lively pub.

Tuesday 20th December

Christmas Lights.

8:30pm – as required

There's nothing quite as seasonal as climbing aboard the Hindmarsh bus and cruising the suburbs looking for the brightest display of Christmas lights. The 2010 Christmas Lights in Kambah – the Bissenberger Lights - will be making a big splash again this year. And it's all go – from the 1st December till New Year's Eve. This year's light display is **unbelievable**, with some of our old favorites and some new surprises as well. You will be amazed at the sea of white and blue lights this year.

Resident Survey

I had the opportunity recently to again study the results of our Resident Survey conducted in January this year. With 48 of the 57 surveys returned, we had an overall satisfaction of 83.9% - a wonderful outcome!

With the implementation of our newly formed Grounds and Garden Committee and the introduction of the Bellerivian newsletter, we feel that the majority of issues raised have now been addressed. We will be issuing the 2012 Resident Survey in late January, and look forward to your response.

December Birthdays

Heather Aspinall	7 th
Bryan Barlow	10 th
Jean Widdowson	11 th
Karl Guenther	20 th
Monica Martyn	21 st
Geoff Cox	22 nd
Maureen Hoyland	24 th

Staff Profile – Douglas Munyoro



I'm of Zimbabwean descent and moved to Australia in 2007 from Malaysia where I completed my Bachelors' Degree in Computing. Some, if not most people, consider me a very generous person in all aspects of my life especially in friendship, family and love. I've been told that I'm smart and proactive, although I also tend to be a bit modest too. Whenever I get the chance to, travelling, reading, sport and the gym occupy my free time. Other than that, I enjoy meeting and socialising with people of diverse cultural and social backgrounds.

Bellerive Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas dinner will be held on Monday evening the 5th December in conjunction with Happy Hour. Booking must be made with Ruth before Wednesday 30th November. All family and friends are welcome. The cost of \$35 includes canapés served before dinner at 5:30. The dinner will be catered by Nibblez, who also catered for our Christmas drinks last week. If you enjoyed the quality of their canapés then come along for dinner - we will be in for a treat! We would like your feedback on the meal, so please let Ruth know, or just pop something into the suggestion box at reception if you prefer to remain anonymous.

From your Committee

Social Committee

Bellerive Street Party

The annual Bellerive Street Party will be held on Friday evening 16th December from 5:30pm. BYO everything. The Social Committee will set up tables and chairs along "Crabapple Avenue" which will be closed to traffic. If you would like to decorate the outside of your villas, it would certainly add to the atmosphere on the night!

Christmas Raffle

The Social Committee has also organised a raffle to be drawn at the Street Party on 16th December. Donations for the hamper may be left in the Leisure Centre, and tickets are on sale for \$1 each. Please note that there is a very valuable painting that has been donated. This artist is our very own Jason Chen from Villa15. Jason's painting sell for hundreds of dollars, so the more tickets you buy, the more chances you have of winning this wonderful hamper!

Garden & Grounds Committee

The Garden and Grounds Subcommittee has recently held meetings with the consulting landscape architect, David Moyle, and separately to discuss the outcomes of this meeting. The Subcommittee is working to secure a greater emphasis on amenity values in the landscape development of Bellerive. David Moyle has been provided with a list of flowering and foliage plants we would like to include in Bellerive gardens. We have also suggested that part of the walkway between the Leisure Centre and the apartment building be made available for redevelopment as a freestyle shrubbery, mainly of native plants.

AGM

We held our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 24th November. Thank you to all residents who attended - we had an amazing turnout. Reports were heard from the Social Committee, Ruth, Residents Committee and Erik. Erik also gave us a rundown on the budget for 2011/2012. All is good and we are very much on track. The nominees for the new Residents Committee were also elected. Your new Committee members are:

Bryan Barlow
Pat Barrett
Warren Colledge
Roslyn Dixon

Ralph Goslin
Helen Marshall
Margaret Sargent
Jean Widdowson

Geoff Lincoln will also be voted in at our next Committee Meeting on Tuesday 29th November. After the AGM, the wonderful pre-Christmas drinks provided by Hindmarsh were enjoyed by both present and future residents of Bellerive. We also had the company of Darren Dougan - Hindmarsh's CEO.

Bird's eye view of Stage two



This is a view from the roof of the south apartment block, of our Stage Two development. I think that it gives you all a different perspective from what you are seeing at ground level! If you hear footsteps on roof of the south apartments on a Wednesday afternoon, it's only me!

Carols by Candlelight

Carols by Candlelight has been bringing the joy of Christmas to Canberra families for more than six decades. Woden Valley Youth Choir (WVYC) would like to invite you and members of your family, to join them in the spirit of Christmas.

Details

What: 67th Carols by Candlelight

Where: Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, Civic, ACT 2601

When: Wednesday 14 Dec 2011, 7:00pm-9:30pm

What's on ...

December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7pm Games Evening Combined with St Albans Supper included	2 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises	3
4 2-3:30pm Craft	5 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour + Christmas Dinner 5:30 pre dinner drinks 6:30 Dinner	6 8:30am Walking Group 10am Bus trip Music @ Midday 2pm Mahjong	7 9am Exercises	8 7pm Games Evening	9 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises	10
11 2-3:30pm Craft	12 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	13 8:30am Walking Group 10:30 Bus Trip Federation Square Gold Creek 2pm Mahjong	14 9am Exercises	15 7pm Games Evening	16 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises Bellerive Christmas Street Party	17
18 2-3:30pm Craft	19 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	20 8:30am Walking Group 8:30pm Bus Trip Christmas light display 2pm Mahjong	21 9am Exercises	22 7pm Games Evening	23 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	27 Christmas Day Holiday 8:30am Walking Group 2pm Mahjong	28 9am Exercises	29 7pm Games Evening	30 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises	31