

The Bellerivian



October 2011

Issue 8

From your Community Supervisor

I would like to begin by thanking Murray Aspinall (Villa 23) for making the extended lever for our side gate. Thank you Murray - a job well done!

There has been increasing movement on the site for Stage 2 and as the weeks pass we will see even more as the development goes into full swing. If you have any questions regarding this, please come and see me. I am happy to help in any way I can.

For those of you who have applied for the electricity rebate and did not receive it on your last levy notice, please note that our invoices from ACTEW were received after your levy notices had been issued. ACTEWAGL are in the process of issuing our invoices for July and August (due to a manual calculation our rebates had been overlooked for both months).

ACTEWAGL do apologise for the delay and will rectify this early next week. I have confirmation that all rebates will be processed on a monthly basis and shown on your levy notices as a deduction.

We have received delivery of our new table tops. This will allow us to have larger group seating for our dinners and brunches, and also gives us extra seating for our Stage 2 residents. Our next dinner will be on Friday 14 October.

Just a reminder to all Villa residents: we are happy to issue you with a fob to give you access to the Leisure Centre over the weekends when for any reason it may be locked. Please come and see me.

We have a few residents who have been unwell over these past weeks. On behalf of Hindmarsh Living Management I would like to wish you well. Our thoughts are with you for a speedy recovery.

Ruth, your Community Supervisor

Garden Maintenance

The weather is becoming warmer, and the desire to get out into your gardens is growing. I would like to take this opportunity to make you aware that there have been an increasing number of leaks in our irrigation system caused by garden forks or shovels. The irrigation pipes in your garden beds are about 60cm apart running in straight lines just under the tan bark. Before digging, please scrape back the bark and make sure there are no pipes likely to be damaged. This will be a great help in keeping our gardening costs down, and in assisting Luke our gardener.

SCAMwatch

This website is run by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). SCAMwatch provides information to consumers and small businesses about how to recognise, avoid and report scams. Many scams originate overseas or take place over the internet, making the perpetrators very difficult to track down and prosecute. If you lose money to a scam, it is unlikely that you will be able to recover your loss. An ACCC representative will be here in our Function Room on Thursday 3 November at 10am to discuss the types of scams and what to look for. The session will run for 30 minutes and then will be opened to questions. Please pre-book with Ruth before 28 October.

Bellerive Walking Group – Recruitment Drive

Join the best walking group this side of Hindmarsh Drive and Launceston Street! The benefits include: No joining fee, contracts, cancellation fees, hidden costs – it's free!

No equipment required – just comfy shoes.

Easy tailor-made one hour walk every week.

Get to know your local area.

Sparkling conversations!

Lucky door prize – everyone wins! (coffee in the lounge)

You are welcome to bring a friend.

Hurry - this offer is limited!

Just turn up at the Leisure Centre every Tuesday at 8:30am (unless it's raining).

For further information, phone Lesley on 521.

Bulky waste Collection

Ruth has organised with the ACT Government, a trial bulky waste pick-up at Bellerive. This will be a free service for residents holding a current Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card, an ACTION Gold Concession Card or a Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card. Items accepted are household furniture and appliances, mattresses, garden tools and equipment, timber, white goods, building materials, metal products and scrap metal. Items not accepted are garden and food waste, sheet glass, mirrors, chemicals or hazardous waste. Televisions will incur a cost \$60 (large). Please let Ruth know if you would like to utilise this service. All information will need to be listed including your name, address, phone number and pension card number, and presented to TAMS prior to the pickup.

General News and Activities

October Bus Trips

Come along and enjoy the company of your fellow residents from Bellerive and The Grange Deakin on our many bus trips planned for October!

Monday October 3 - Tulip Top Gardens:

Tulip Top Gardens is just 15 minutes from Canberra on the Federal Highway.

Special event: Cassidy's Irish Band 12pm–3pm, free tea and coffee, free sausage sandwich between 11:30am–1:30pm. Entry is discounted to \$10 for Hindmarsh travellers.

Tuesday October 11 - Music @ Midday:

Enjoy music of great variety, including the full concert band performing marches and challenging symphonic pieces as well as numbers from the Glenn Miller era through to Michael Bublé. Entrance is by a gold coin donation which will support the ACT Palliative Care Society.

Tuesday October 18 - School of Music:

Visit one of Canberra's schools and listen to a student's concert performing especially for you. Light refreshments will also be available. More information to follow

Saturday October 22 - Bredbo Christmas Barn:

Exciting displays of European and American ornaments will inspire your imagination and supply you with an abundance of creative ideas. You can purchase any of the lights, ornaments, baubles and trees on display. With so much to see you'll want to return time and again. Lunch at the Pancake and Crepe Restaurant.

Saturday October 29 - Weston Creek Uniting Church Christmas Fair:

This has been a feature of the WCUC annual calendar each October for some 18 years and involves most members of the congregation in one way or another. Crafts people and artisans from around the Canberra region exhibit their items for sale.

Hairdressers

Judy and Lizzy will be attending now on Fridays. Bookings can be made by ringing Judy on 0412 471 918 or 6231 45466. Please feel free to make a booking and come along for some pampering and some fun.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Bellerive Spring Fair

Don't forget we will be holding our Spring Fair on Saturday 15th October at 10am. This will include a verity of stalls outside the Leisure Centre as well as morning tea. If you are able to help set up, prepare something for morning tea or hold a stall please fill out the list at Reception to help us organise our Fair!

October Birthdays

Joukje Poels	2 nd
Jason Chen	3 rd
Bev Mills	8 th

Staff Profile – Suzy Arnold

Suzy Arnold has come to us via a globe-trotting life. Now a mother of two daughters, Suzy lived and worked first in Sydney with The Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation and Borg Warner, before moving to Canberra in 1980 to join the international public relations firm, Eric White Associates. She spent a year working



and travelling in Europe and the UK, returning to Canberra to join the personal staff of Federal Minister for the Environment and Women's Affairs, the Hon Tom McVeigh, and later worked closely with the President of the Australian Teachers' Federation. In 1984 Suzy moved to New Zealand, working in a variety of jobs that included the Southern Hemisphere's only hovercraft

manufacturer. Four years later, she was back in Canberra managing the Australian Bureau of the New Zealand Herald, before moving to the Bureau of Meteorology. In November 2010 Suzy joined us as Hindmarsh Living's Assistant Manager Operations. Suzy is still passionate about travelling – particularly to the UK. She has been back over the last few years to spend months backpacking around the exquisite English countryside – and more trips will always be on her "do list"! From her teenage years in Sydney until now, Suzy has enjoyed her motorbikes. Most of you are now familiar with the sight of Suzy coming to spend time here at Bellerive on her blue BMW R1150R.

New Service: Knife Master

Knife Master is a fully equipped water-cooled mobile knife sharpening business. Andrew will visit Bellerive when needed. If you have any knives or scissors that need to be sharpened please let Ruth know and she will organise for Andrew to do a return visit.

Knives \$5 - \$7 depending on size
Scissors \$6 - \$7 depending on size
He also has quality knives for sale.

From your Committee

KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE

Earlier this month I approached the shy and retiring Martin for a quick thumbnail sketch of his background for your interest and “getting to know him”. What an interesting tale he has produced! It was so interesting that it was decided to run the article unabridged and we will be entertained next month with the second half of his story after his arrival in Sydney in 1950. **Harry Hansen**



Martin Poels:

When I was asked to supply a “life sketch” for the Bellerivian I thought: how you can condense 83 years of living into a short article? I will therefore only mention some highlights in chronological order which shaped my life.

I was born in Holland in what was called South Limburg about 10km from the German and Belgian borders. I was the youngest of five. My two brothers and two sisters have all passed away.

10th May 1940: Early in the morning we all awoke to the noise of many aeroplanes. We went outside and looked up. The sky was full of planes like a swarm of bees. We lived next to the

Town Hall which had a large square in front where all the people had gathered together. Someone said: “German planes - their army has crossed the border”. As I often played with my bow and arrow, I looked at the planes and said to my father “I’ll get my bow and arrow and shoot them down”. “Silly boy” he said, “you don’t know what you’re talking about.” Five days later Holland capitulated when the Germans flattened Rotterdam.

After the invasion in Normandy in June 1943 we were not allowed to have a radio. We had one and it was hidden in the cellar under the potatoes. When the English news came on (the BBC) the family listened to the progress of the invasion. I had to play out front of the house to warn them by blowing a whistle whenever a German car came down the street, which was capable of detecting our radio.

1944- 48: I attended the Higher Technical School (HTS) and finished with a diploma in Architecture. The third year was a practical year. I spent a third of that year as an assistant supervisor, a third in an architect’s office and a third as a carpenter in concrete formwork. This came in handy later on in Sydney.

1948-49: Conscripted into the Army I did my basic training in the Artillery which was followed by officer training for nine months before joining the Regular Army. I did a bicycle tour through Belgium and Luxemburg on my way to Paris, where I had some relatives from a few generations earlier. I arrived at the address of a cafe which had the name Poels displayed. I went inside and said to the owner “Je suis Martin Poels de Hollande” (I am Martin Poels from Holland). He dropped his glass of wine and looked at me in amazement. When it came to bedtime he said that he had no room for me to sleep but however he said the neighbours were away on holidays so I could sleep there. I went to sleep in a large double bed. In the middle of the night I woke up when this holidaying couple entered the room. “Who are you sleeping in our bed?” I told them, and their solution was a typically easy French one, ‘Ah well, we can sleep with three in this bed’.

1949-50: I was sent with two other officers to Java, Indonesia, as ‘quartermasters’ to prepare accommodation for three companies to follow. Finished up in Madjalenska, mid Java, near Cheribon. Our company had three patrols and we took turns to patrol the surrounding areas to keep the peace between three rivaling Indonesian parties. One of those parties had an oath not to cut their hair until the last Dutchman had left Indonesia. We were quickly retrained as infantry by some fanatical sergeant. When the Queen granted Independence to Indonesia we received the order ‘not to shoot, unless we were shot at’. Nice that was.

1950-55: These were years of change, affecting me for the rest of my life.

The time came to go back to Holland, but my fellow officer was driving me crazy about going to Australia - a land of opportunity and sunny beaches. I had an interview with an immigration officer in Djakarta. He looked at my hands and exclaimed: “No corns on your hands! We need good tradespeople in Australia”. My answer was “I have a diploma in Architecture, but I also have worked as a carpenter in Holland”. That last bit seemed to please him and my application was approved.

I arrived in Sydney on 13 August 1950 and lived in a guesthouse in Manly for two years - a beautiful place. I bought a hammer and saw and worked as a carpenter in concrete formwork, as my Dutch qualification papers were not recognised. It was then that something happened which would lead to a complete change in my life.

To be continued in the next edition of the Bellerivian...

What's on ...

October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10 am Sunday Brunch 2-3:30pm Craft	31 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour					1
2 2-3:30pm Craft	3 9am Massage 10:30am Bus trip Tulip top gardens 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	4 8:30am Walking Group 2pm Mahjong	5 9am Exercises 2pm Indoor bowls	7pm Games Evening	7 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises	8
9 2-3:30pm Craft	10 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	11 8:30am Walking Group 10am Bus trip Music @ Midday 2pm Mahjong	12 9am Exercises 2pm Indoor bowls	13 7pm Games Evening	14 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises Friday dinner 6 – 6:30 start	15 Spring Fair From 10am At the Leisure Centre
16 2-3:30pm Craft	17 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	18 8:30am Walking Group 10:30am Bus trip School of Music 2pm Mahjong	19 9am Exercises 2pm Indoor bowls	20 7pm Games Evening	21 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises 10am Bus Trip Weston Creek Uniting Church Christmas Fair	22
23 2-3:30pm Craft	24 9am Massage 1pm Mahjong 4.30pm Happy Hour	25 8:30am Walking Group 9am Podiatry 2pm Mahjong	26 9am Exercises 2pm Indoor bowls	27 9:30am Beauty Therapist 4-5pm Book Club - Library 7pm Games Evening	28 9am Hairdresser 9am Exercises Booking need to be completed today for SCAMwatch	29 10:30am Bus trip Weston Creek Uniting Church Christmas Fair