



The Age of Enjoyment

ENJOY LIFE WITH THE LATEST NEWS AT OAK TREE

FREE

JANUARY/FEBRUARY Edition | 2010

NEW YEAR, NEW LIFESTYLE

– It's time for Oak Tree

All too often, when fronted with the consideration to move into a village for over 55's the most common response we hear is "I'm not ready for this yet". This comes down to two main reasons. The first being we associate retirement villages as being for old people. The second reason is, we don't see ourselves as old. In fact, for many in their retirement years the definition of old is ten years from now.

The problem with this is people only really consider a move to a lifestyle village after they have been triggered by an unwelcomed or unexpected circumstance - such as a security breach, a health scare, death of a spouse e.t.c. In delaying this decision, we don't give ourselves the opportunity to enjoy the village, and all it has to offer, whilst we still can.

Women are typically merchants of change so, more often than not, they are the early adopters. Men, on the other hand, are the more reluctant and perhaps fear the change; pride often getting in the way of a need or desire for a low maintenance, easier lifestyle.

Villages today have evolved drastically from the old fashioned "nursing home" we remember - they are typically younger, more vibrant, more fulfilling and more desirable than ever before,

often likened to holiday resorts - but for the over 55's. Many come boasting pools, bowls greens, community centres with hair salons, pool tables and of course there is the very important social club coordinating activities and outings as vast as your imagination. It is a proven fact that those who participate in regular social activity are happier and mentally healthier.

So here are a few helpful questions to see if you ARE ready for a lifestyle change in 2010.

- Are you concerned about security?
- Is maintaining your house/lawn/garden becoming a burden?
- Are you interested in trying new things/making new friends?
- Are you interested in potentially freeing up your capital?

If you answered yes to any of the above then we think it IS time you considered Oak Tree. Join the many who are inspired by the fresh start a new year brings and upgrade to a new home and lifestyle while you can still enjoy it. We encourage you to come by to any of our villages, speak to our residents and hear how they enjoy their new lifestyle. They will tell you it's the best decision they ever made.



IMAGES FROM OUR NEW MARKETING CAMPAIGN.

'HAPPY NEW YEAR' Letter from the Director

WELCOME TO THE 2ND EDITION OF THE AGE OF ENJOYMENT.

We sincerely hope that the Christmas & New Year period was relaxing & well spent by all our residents and their families, friends & of course prospective residents. It's hard to imagine that we are already 10 years into the new millennium - the time seems to slip by so fast that it's hard to keep up! Fortunately for our residents, life at Oak Tree is about doing what you want when you want - and let us take care of the rest. Oak Tree welcomes our newest residents across our villages. As I write, we are fast approaching being fully sold out at our villages at Skye (VIC), Boronia Heights (QLD), Cairns Stage I (QLD) & our newest village at Yeppoon (QLD). Just this month we welcomed our first residents into our Yeppoon village (opened officially November 2009) which is being expertly managed by our latest Manager to join our team, Tarnya Mayes (daughter of Jenny & James Brown who manage Oak Tree Rockhampton). We have now eclipsed 200 sales group wide.

2010 is shaping as another year of great change for

Oak Tree. We'll see new villages opening in 3 states - Warwick (QLD), Armidale (NSW) and Kingston (TAS). As with any new village opening, a great deal of work needs to get done. We extend a word of thanks to all of our staff who go beyond the call of duty to make these Openings happen.

We have had unprecedented interest in our villages as 2010 gets underway. The Oak Tree concept is gaining momentum rapidly - a large part of our success to date is due to our existing residents telling family & friends of the benefits of the Oak Tree lifestyle. We are grateful to you all for this - as we say, our residents are our best promoters!

On a closing note, we would like to communicate to all of our current, prospective and future residents how much we enjoy being a part of your transition to the Oak Tree Lifestyle. We have seen many amazing turn arounds in peoples' health and zest for life since coming into our villages - this gives us a great sense of satisfaction.

The Boys (Marco and Franco) and I as well as our staff look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible throughout 2010. Good luck with your own endeavours this year.

Thank you all for being a part of the Oak Tree vision - don't forget to catch up with Oak Tree News at www.oaktreegroup.com.au

Enjoy the read!
Mark Bindon

This Quarter We Welcome

VILLAGE : PARK AVENUE

Neville & Charmaine Boon
Neville James & Rosemary Ann Somerfield
Norma Jean Barnham
Pauline Jill Flenady

VILLAGE : CAIRNS

Jeffrey & Lyndall Jepson
June and Ernie Roy
Ken and Margaret Aitken
Lorraine Mary O'Callaghan
Stanley and Corinne Carter
Evelyn Rowland
Stella Massey

VILLAGE : SKYE

Argie Elias
Beverly & Granville (John) Letchford
June Jeremiah
Noel and Maree Larrigan

VILLAGE : YEPPOON

Heather Davies

VILLAGE : BORONIA HEIGHTS

Josee Therese Pidial
Leslie & Dorothy Scott
Marilyn Laurie Browning

FIRST RESIDENT MOVES TO YEPPON

New resident Heather Davies is the lucky first to call Oak Tree Village Yeppoon home having fallen in love with the place when she first inspected the village at the open day back in November 09. Making sure she didn't miss out on her villa of choice, Heather made her decision to move to Oak Tree within a couple of days & started the whirlwind process of selling her family home.

"It was a big decision, & the thought of downsizing was a bit overwhelming but I just took one step at a time and I finally made it here at last," said Heather Davies.

"This village was exactly what I was looking for." The 34 villa community commenced sell down officially in November and is

already 64% sold. "People are buying here for many different reasons – they like the coastal location, the villas are a good size and are a practical design, and it is not a big village which means we can enjoy a close-knit community of friends. I liked the idea of being around others the same age & sharing their company," she said.

Heather moved into the village on the 29th of January and looks forward to meeting her fellow neighbours soon.

She is also looking forward to the new village Community Centre and pool which is expected to commence construction in the next couple of months.

WARWICK COMING SOON

Amidst some of Queensland's finest historical sandstone buildings and its pioneer yesteryear nostalgia, Oak Tree is proud to be joining the community of Warwick with its newest village set to open along O'Leary street. The 62 villa village will include a mix of two and three bedroom villas for the over 55's age market.

Displays are anticipated to open in April 2010. Another regional project, Director Mark Bindon says it's about keeping our ageing population at home in the areas they've grown up in, and lived in. "Far too often we lose our seniors to the bigger cities because they are forced out by the fact that

there are limited facilities to support their lifestyles," he said. "In our view this weakens the local community – our seniors are a part of our town's history; their knowledge and their stories should be kept here.

"That's why we intentionally focus on regional areas – building the support structures our seniors need to live a comfortable and care-free lifestyle, near their friends and families, for longer." Prices at Oak Tree Warwick are set to commence at \$195,000 for a two bedroom villa.

For more information please visit our website and stay tuned for the announcement of our display opening date.

SPLASH INTO SUMMER



It may be hot, and it may be muggy, but Oak Tree Village Cairns Residents are set to make the most of it & welcome the summer months with plans to enjoy the village facilities & new activities scheduled for the holiday season.

Residents, Carmel and Terry Mitchell, are among the many who spend a late lazy afternoon cooling down in the pool where the vibe is relaxed and the only concern is the question of whether or not to play a spot of evening bowls before night fall. Seeing residents in the pool, or cooking up a storm on the BBQ over a few drinks is a common sight of an afternoon, says Carmel. "It's cool down and unwind time and the village has that real "summer holiday" feeling about it now," she said.

New summer activities have already launched in the village including aqua aerobics classes, or for those wishing to stay indoors out of the heat, art classes which are conducted in the comfort of the air-conditioned community centre. "Our art classes are growing by the minute; we started with two or three people & now there are 17 (and growing) attendees." "And everyone's artwork is really coming along – we've planned an inaugural Oak Tree art show just so we can show of how clever we all are," she said.

Resident Profile



Marilyn Browning
Oak Tree Boronia Heights

- Q. What do you love most about Oak Tree?
A. The fact that the village is so friendly.
- Q. What words best describe Oak Tree?
A. Family.
- Q. What do you like doing in your spare time?
A. Swimming - especially enjoy our weekly water exercises in the village pool.
- Q. What would you say to someone thinking about moving to Oak Tree?
A. This has been for me the best move, so this could be the same for you.
- Q. Where would you most like to travel?
A. Would love to travel to Egypt. Hopefully will do the trip next year.
- Q. Who is your favourite singer?
A. Anthony Calea
- Q. What is your favourite book?
A. Love reading history books.

DIRECTORS & STAFF AT PLAY

For a bit of social time out, team building, future planning and to spread Christmas cheer, all staff headed away to Twin Waters Resort on the Sunshine Coast in December for our bi-annual national conference.

Although there was a serious side to the event, the weekend provided a great opportunity for staff to let down their hair and relax amongst friends.

"Part of the purpose of our conference was to thank our staff for their enormous efforts," said Director Mark Bindon.



All staff enjoyed dinner, generously prepared and cooked on both nights by the Oak Tree Directors - including one night of the famous De Pasquale Pasta.

Friendly banter, fine wine and cool coastal breezes had everyone in a good mood and before long the guitars and a make-shift drum set (pots and wooden spoons) provided the entertainment for the night (and the rest of the resort ... apparently).

A big thanks to the Directors form all the staff for a wonderful weekend away.

HELPING DIABETES VICTIMS

RESIDENTS OF OAK TREE VILLAGE GOODNA HAVE RAISED AND DONATED \$1000 TO THE DIABETES AUSTRALIA – QUEENSLAND FOUNDATION.

The money was raised at a recent "Spring Fair" community fundraising and awareness event with an "Over 55's Enjoy Life" theme.

"So many local businesses stepped up to support our Spring Fair which is why our residents wanted to give back to the community in some way – they personally chose to donate to Diabetes Australia," said Marketing Manager Tarin Cole-Boylard.

"Diabetes is certainly an illness that touches/effects several of our residents, their friends and families in one way or another.

Diabetes Queensland's representatives visited the village to collect the donation and spent some time meeting some of the residents.



"Fundraises like these help raise awareness about diabetes which currently affects an estimated 250,000 Queenslanders," said Michelle Trute CEO of Diabetes Australia – Queensland.

"Fifty Queenslanders are being diagnosed with Diabetes every day, and the elderly are at high risk.

"It's important the general public understands diabetes, what it is, how it can develop and the symptoms. This will enable them to take control of this chronic disease and fight to prevent it.

"We're so proud of the residents at Oak Tree, & thank them for the money they raised," she said.



OAK TREE'S FIRST WEDDING

When Margaret Baker moved to Oak Tree Village Park Avenue she wished for a care-free lifestyle where she could enjoy new friends, activities, and relax in a new home which required little up-keep; never did she dream she would find love again right on her own back door step. But it wasn't long after John Symes moved to Oak Tree in August 2009 that sparks began to fly and love blossomed. Both widowed, John and Marg became friends almost immediately, sharing common interests and a liking for each other's humor. "John is a very gentle and caring man," said Marg. "I was quite taken by him from the start. "At our age (John 70 & Marg 69) you don't expect to find love again."

The couple were married in January at the Village making them the first Oak Tree newlyweds. The ceremony was held under a marquee in the village car park with over 70 guests in attendance, including all the village residents who watched, with interest, their relationship bloom in the months prior. Residents created an Oak Tree umbrella archway for the bride and groom to walk through from the ceremony to the reception venue – the community centre. "That was a very

nice surprise," said John. "Our friends, families and Oak Tree Staff helped make the day very special – we are very lucky," said Marg. "We really wanted all of the village residents to attend – we consider them our family." Catering and decorations were arranged by Village Manager, Jenny Brown and Tarnya Mayes. "We enjoyed doing it," said Jenny. "Luckily the bouquet was not thrown – we have a few other love interests in our village and I'd like at least another 12 months to recoup before planning another wedding," she joked pointedly at another couple sharing a blossoming romance.

The newlyweds enjoyed a three week honeymoon in Buderim and are being whisked away for another weekend at Ridges Resort in Yeppoon – a gift from all the residents in the village. "This just goes to prove that love is found in the least expected places and that life is always full of surprises," said a happy Marg smiling at her new husband. Congratulations Marg and John. We wish you years of happiness, laughter and a happy ever after.



SUMMER CELEBRATIONS

The first Oak Tree Fair was hosted at Oak Tree Village Goodna with crowds out and about enjoying the festivities and warm weather.

Tailored to the over 55's and all of the family, the fair boasted 36 stalls including art and craft stalls, information stalls, ice cream and coffee vans and the old favourite - sausage sizzle & kebab stall! Delivering something for everyone, crowds enjoyed free face painting and balloon animals for the kids, toe tapping music by local Brisbane band MATRIX & even a live fashion parade choreographed by the Oak Tree Boronia Heights residents who sported the latest summer collections from Millers, Cross Roads and Chaps Men's Wear.

"It is always a mammoth job organizing an event such as this and we could not have done it without our residents on board," said Village Manager Merrilyn Gething.

"They baked for days, collected raffle prizes, came up with great ideas and were so excited to show off their village." The free community event was proudly supported by the Oak Tree Head Office who bought out their entire staff to pitch in for the day and enjoy the fun.

"We wouldn't have missed it for the world – to see our residents out enjoying themselves is what we all work towards," said Oak Tree Director Marco De Pasquale.



MELBOURNE CUP SWEEPS THRU

Always a gala affair the 2009 Melbourne Cup was nothing less at Oak Tree where residents and friends enjoyed celebrations, sweeps, and high fashions fit for the races.

Cup festivities were held in Cairns, Boronia Heights, Skye, Park Avenue, and Goodna with all attendees trying to outdo each other and have the most fun.

From fashion parades, to crazy hat competitions, lucky door prizes to sweeps, the villages were a hive of activity with many of the hopeful residents proclaiming "Today is my lucky day".

Over gourmet laden buffet tables, good company and competitive cheek, residents remained rowdy until the room silenced with anticipation for the start of the race – then came cheers, clenched fists, hooting, feet stomping, laughter & grinning winners.

"There were a few lucky winners across Oak Tree, but most were happy just to participate for the fun of it," said Oak Tree Director Marco De Pasquale.

"Shocking was a shock to many of us I think."

Prizes were given out to best dressed, best hat, funniest hat and the luck continued with many residents winning a variety of raffle and lucky door prizes.

"The mood amongst our villages was contagious – full of energy & excitement," said Marco.

"A big thank you to our Village Manager's for all of their effort to arrange this event, and to our residents for chipping in and making the festivities a success."



What's On

Visit our website for up to date event information

Saturday 20th of March

CAIRNS OPEN DAY & FIRST BIRTHDAY

Oak Tree Cairns is one year old and to celebrate we are putting the entire village on show. Come and enjoy the festivities and be among the first to see the long awaited unveiling of stage 2. Bring the family and enjoy our birthday with us.

Saturday 10th April (TBC)

WARWICK DISPLAY VILLAS OPEN

Be one of the first to experience the brand new Warwick Village located at 12 O'Leary St, Warwick. Visit our furnished display villa and sales office and take a walk through stage 1. Enjoy a free BBQ lunch and festivities. Bring the Family.

Coming in May

KINGSTON DISPLAY VILLAS OPEN

Bring the family along to the first opening of Oak Tree's newest Village in Kingston Tasmania. Marvel at the beautiful surrounds and views from its elevated position, walk through the furnished displays & secure your villa of choice. Free BBQ, information tour guides and festivities.

EVEN BIG KIDS LOVE XMAS



Looks like it's not just the children who enjoy the festive season—the Oak Tree folk as far north as Cairns and as far south as Skye Victoria shared the spirit of Christmas enjoying silly season celebrations from concerts and delicious food through to carols by candle light & visits from Santa.

whilst residents of Skye enjoyed Christmas for the second time this year following their Christmas in July event six months earlier.

The opportunity to don the santa hats and trim the tree (or the entire community Enjoyment Centre as was the case!) saw our residents in fine spirits as each village hosted their annual Christmas event with friends & family. In Cairns Santa arrived via a golf cart - in Goodna via a helicopter (or so the kids were told). Park Avenue held their own Christmas light competition

“Our Christmas events are definitely the most popular events throughout the year,” said Oak Tree Director Marco De Pasquale. “With the help of church choirs and other local talent, the celebrations are full of entertainment & surprises. “Everyone gets into the spirit and has a wonderful time. We all deserve a bit of spoiling every now and then – what better time than Christmas,” he said.

RIDING FOR A GOOD CAUSE



Feeling exceptionally energetic & inspired by the warmer weather, Oak Tree head office put together its own team of cyclists and joined some 10,000 people in this year's race from Brisbane to the Gold Coast to raise money for the National Heart Foundation and Diabetes Australia – Qld.

The team of 25 put in a mammoth effort raising \$2000 for both causes & completed the ride in under 3 hours and 52 minutes.

“We felt privileged to be able to invest some of our time to help raise money for 2 very worthy causes,” said team leader George Papallo.

“It was particularly important for us as we often see the effects of diabetes and heart disease touch our residents first hand so this was a great opportunity for us to help invest in the health and wellbeing of our residents and all our futures. “Plus we enjoy the exercise,” he added.

The Oak Tree team would like to thank the following sponsors for their support: Hanson, James Hardie, CSR, Electrolux, Conergy, Dulux, & Yeats Consulting.

Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Really, Truth
- 5 Hot drink
- 8 Type of metal
- 9 Wooden paddle
- 10 Having gone astray
- 11 A gloomy state of mind
- 14 Military aircraft
- 16 Unknown God
- 19 To take possession
- 21 By way of
- 22 A place of perfect bliss
- 23 African Tribe
- 24 Day preceding an event

DOWN

- 2 Type of herb
- 3 Famous alien
- 4 A place for dancing/music
- 5 Implement for fixing or building
- 6 Not Hard
- 7 Expression of aesthetic principles
- 10 Brightly coloured bird
- 12 Snake
- 13 Famous gallery
- 15 A sudden assault
- 17 Periodical payment
- 18 A steady or intent look
- 20 Type of meat

Christy's Joke Corner

A young man who was also an avid golfer found himself with a few hours to spare one afternoon. He figured if he hurried and played very fast, he could get in 9 holes before he had to head home. Just as he was about to tee off an old gentleman shuffled onto the tee and asked if he could accompany the young man as he was golfing alone. Not being able to say no, he allowed the old gent to join him.

To his surprise the old man played fairly quickly. He didn't hit the ball far, but plodded along consistently and didn't waste much time.

Finally, they reached the 9th fairway and the young man found himself with a tough shot. There was a large pine

tree right in front of his ball and it was directly between his ball and the green. After several minutes of debating how to hit the shot the old man finally said, “You know, when I was your age I'd hit the ball right over that tree.”

With that challenge placed before him, the youngster swung hard, hit the ball up, right smack into the top of the tree trunk and it thudded back on the ground not a foot from where it had originally lay.

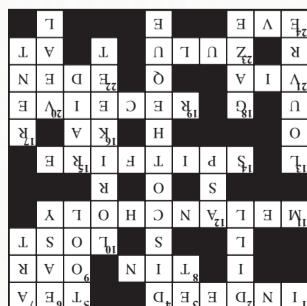
The old man offered one more comment, “Of course, when I was your age that pine tree was only 3 feet tall.”

Joke supplied by Christy Mena

Trivia

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

1. Which metal is heavier, silver or gold?
2. How many legs do butterflies have?
3. Which is the country with the most people?
4. Which state is the biggest in the US?
5. Which country has the largest area of land?
6. Which is the country hosting the 2008 Olympic Games?
7. Which indoor sport is the most popular in the US?
8. Which golf player's mother is from Thailand?
9. What is Aurora Borealis commonly known as?
10. Which is the non-contagious disease that is the most common in the world?
11. Which was the album the Beatles recorded the last time together?
12. Which instrument did Miles Davis, the jazz musician, play?
13. What is the sport in which you could get into a headlock?
14. In which country was golf first played?
15. Which is the sport where you could be out 'leg before wicket', or 'hit a six'?
16. When did baseball originate in the US?
17. Which is the sport wherein you would use a 'sand iron'?
18. What is the largest mammal in the world?
19. Which is the country where reggae music originated?
20. Who was the creator of Jeeves and Wooster?



Crossword Solutions

- 11: Abbey Road
- 12: Trumpet
- 13: Wrestling
- 14: Scotland
- 15: Cricket
- 16: 19th Century
- 17: Golf
- 18: Blue Whale
- 19: Jamaica
- 20: P.G. Woodhouse

- 1: Gold
- 2: Six
- 3: China
- 4: Alaska
- 5: Russia
- 6: China
- 7: Basketball
- 8: Tiger Woods
- 9: Northern Lights
- 10: Tooth Decay

Trivia Answers