



October 2023

Newsletter

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From the General Manager's Desk

We continue to have a very busy time in the office, completing the end of year finances, moving forward with the James Martin Village apartments, the number of vacancies; it does keep us busy.

I would like to say a special thank-you to the Board regarding the naming of the Bruce Eastick Complex and the announcement. As most of you will know, I am married to Bruce's daughter, Meredith, so it was quite special for the family. It was great that Bruce's son Michael was able to come over from Melbourne for the ceremony.

Before I started in the role, I was aware of Bruce's involvement with Gawler & District Aged Cottage Homes but didn't have a full understanding of that involvement. That has certainly changed and Bruce's selfless support of Gawler Community Retirement Homes is something rare in modern society.

Annual Residents Meeting – All Villages

The Residents Annual Meeting will be held at the Humphrey George Community Hall at James Martin Village, 19 Dawkins Avenue, Willaston on Wednesday 25th October commencing at 10.30am.

All residents should have received the audited village statements for 2022-23; which will be discussed at the meeting. The statements are provided in a consolidated version covering All Villages.

Services Fee Increases:

The villages budget was again a challenge for the Board this year. Mindful of all our residents, the Board attempts to minimise the rise to fees each year. However, we do need to ensure expenses are covered; and we have seen significant increases to major expenditure lines. The Board endeavours to keep services fee increases around or under CPI; the average increase for services fees for 2023-24 is 3.55%. This compares to the CPI increase of 6.0% at the 30th June 2023.

“Bruce Eastick Complex”

Gawler Community Retirement Homes is pleased that we have been able to honour our long-time Chairman, Dr Bruce Eastick, with the naming of the Lot 2 facility at James Martin Village.

The repurposed building will now be known as the “Bruce Eastick Complex”. Bruce was Chairman from 1969 to 2018 and only stepped down from the Board after celebrating the 50th Anniversary in 2019.

We had a number of guests for the announcement in the Humphrey George Community Hall, including four of Bruce's great grandchildren. We are thankful to Town of Gawler Mayor, Karen Redman, who made the official announcement of the naming. Karen and Bruce are pictured below after the unveiling of the sign.

Matt Burnell MP (Federal Member for Spence) was unable to attend due to illness but was able to speak about Bruce and the naming, in a speech to the House of Representatives this week. It was nice to see such recognition of Bruce and Gawler Community Retirement Homes. You can find the speech on-line in the parliament Hansard for Mon 16th October.

Bruce's legacy and now his name will remain part of the history and the future of Gawler Community Retirement Homes.



Thanks to The Bunyip for supplying the photo

2023 Social & Information Events

We had our first sojourn to the Gawler Bowling Club last month. It turned out to be an enjoyable day with 35 residents attending, of which 24 partook in the "social bowling". This was followed by an excellent lunch provided by the Club. We will definitely book another visit. (Don't anyone ask me how I bowled!)

Confirming the dates for the rest of 2023:

Wed. October 25th: Annual Residents Meeting

Annual Residents Meeting Wednesday 25th October, commencing at 10.30am. To be held at the Humphrey George Community Hall at James Martin Village. All residents should have received details with the Annual Residents Reports sent out last week. Contact the office if you haven't received them.

Wed. November 29th: GCRH Christmas Party

The Annual Residents Christmas Party date is booked for Wednesday 29th November. To be held in the Hewett Centre; it will commence at 10.30am.

For those that attended last year, you will remember magician, Darren Schutz, who had us spellbound! Well, Darren has agreed to do a repeat performance for us, with some different magic tricks. So, if you missed him last time, here's your chance to see him.

We will send an invitation to everyone soon, with full details for the day.

Christmas Hamper Draw:

The Christmas Party will include our annual Christmas Hamper draw. It is always great when the winners are present at the party, so this is another incentive to join us.

Karen will again be putting in plenty of thought and effort when she organises the hampers. All residents will be included in the draw and we will advise the winners directly and announce them in the December newsletter and on Facebook.

2024 Social & Information Events

We are currently working on dates for 2024 events and we will have more information in the next few months. We do have one on the drawing board already.

Gawler Greyhounds Luncheon:

It was great to go back to the Gawler Greyhounds last March. It was well attended, so we will again start the social events for the year at Nixon's

Nixon's
FUNCTION CENTRE

At time of writing, we are looking at dates for February or early March. We will have an update for you soon.

We are also planning a myagedcare information session in the first half of the year. Changes are due to come into force to myagedcare in July next year, so we hope to provide information on these for residents.

We will also include another day at the Gawler Bowling Club later in the year.

While the cinemas have been sold, the new owners are offering some silverscreen sessions. We are keeping an eye out for a suitable film.

* If anyone has any suggestions for future social activities, please contact the Admin Office. We are always on the lookout for interesting ideas.

It's All About Perception!



James Martin Village – Apartments Update

Work on the first six apartments in the Bruce Eastick Complex is progressing well. Most of the work on the internal walls has been completed and the tiler has started on the bathroom/laundries.

The installation of kitchens will begin shortly; all apartments have a full size kitchen. Painting will also begin shortly, as well as second fix electricals and plumbing.

We had the opportunity to show guests through a couple of the part completed apartments after the naming ceremony last week. The size of each is quite impressive, ensuring they will be very comfortable residences for the new residents.



Each of the apartments will have a fenced courtyard at the front. This will include a verandah and an open area for a small garden. The picture below, shows the new retaining wall on the eastern side. The old wall has been taken out and more room made available for a pathway and ramp as well as the courtyards.



Based on the current progress we are now expecting completion in early 2024. Advertising will commence after Christmas, with all apartments to be offered under Subsidised Entry contracts, including ongoing payment options.

Future Units for Lot 5 at James Martin Village

The design approvals have now gone through PlanSA for the remaining six units along the southern boundary of James Martin Village (Lot 5). This means that we can now proceed with the building accreditation for them before final approvals. We expect these to come through over the next month.

All going to plan, work on the first three units should start in early 2024.

From the Board Table

The Board has met a couple of times since the last newsletter; following is a summary of some of the agenda items:

Welfare Health & Safety –

- Covid – 19 Update.
- Resident/Staff Incident Reports

Marketing Committee –

- Gawler Show debrief
- COTA SA Supporter
- Social events calendar
- Bruce Eastick Complex ceremony

James Martin Units & Aged Care Facility –

- Design updates for remaining Lot 5 units.
- Lot 2 Apartments progress & future stages

Property Committee –

- Solar Panels – James Martin options
- Elimatta Car parking
- Conversion of JMV Unit 4 to Subsidised Entry
- Conversion of Elimatta Unit 11 to ongoing payments contract

Finance Committee –

- Capital Maint. Fund 2023-24 estimates.
- Final Budgeted Approved.
- 2022-23 Audit completed, including report to Board from Auditor.
- Financial & Village Statements Approved.

Other items –

- Chairperson's Annual Report to Residents.
- Non-Financial Resources Report.
- Resident Risk Review.
- Strategic Plan Implementation Report.
- Board Policy reviews.

Village Inspections – James Martin Village

James Martin Village inspections are to be undertaken in the next few months. We are planning to complete them during February – March. Residents will be advised by letter of the timing. Brenton & Peter conduct them, and usually complete six units each day scheduled, over a 3 to 4 week periods.

I'm Travelling Soon!

Why you shouldn't wait until retirement to start traveling



GCRH Administration Office Hours

Our normal office hours are:

Monday to Thursdays – 9.00am to 4.30pm

Fridays – office attended most Fridays, but please make an appointment prior to attending office.

For urgent maintenance requirements, when the office is unattended, contact Brenton or Stephen on mob no. 0411 795 585.

Current Villages Vacancies

We have had quite a few vacancies of late, which we are only just starting to advertise. The following are about to be made available for viewing:

Unit 7 Dawes Village, 3 Lyndoch Road

Two bedroom unit, which is to have the garage reinstated to the floorplan, similar to recently completed unit 6. It has an L-shaped living/dining room and will have a new kitchen and robes to the main bedroom. Has a slightly larger courtyard area to the side and rear. Price range; \$260,000 to \$285,000.

Unit 1 Elimatta Village, 1 Fotheringham Terrace

One bedroom with a sunroom, needs minimal refurbishment, so can be ready for quick settlement. Subsidised Entry – Price \$67,500.

Unit 11 Elimatta Village, 2-7 Fotheringham Terrace

One bedroom unit with new robes. Will have new kitchen installed, repaint, new floor coverings & blinds. Subsidised Entry, to be offered as an Ongoing Payment Contract – Weekly \$191.00 inc service fee.

We will have 3 more subsidised entry units coming up shortly, including an additional one at James Martin Village.

New Residents

We would like to welcome the following new residents to Gawler Community Retirement Homes:

- Karl & Barbara Uffelman moved into Unit 18, Elimatta Village in August.
- Ian & Marion McCourt moved into Unit 17, Governor Gawler Village in August.
- Ray & Jan Saunders moved into Unit 6, Dawes Village in October.
- Stephen & Cheryl Hudson moved into Unit 7, Governor Gawler Village in October.

The following units are vacant, but have prospective new residents who have paid a deposit:

- Unit 19, James Martin Village.
- Unit 17, Governor Daly Village.

Units under deposit can still be viewed by prospective residents.

They Made Their Marx!

The **Marx Brothers** were an American family comedy act that was successful in vaudeville, on Broadway, and in 14 motion pictures from 1905 to 1949. Five of the Marx Brothers' fourteen feature films were selected by the American Film Institute (AFI) as among the top 100 comedy films.

Two of them, *Duck Soup* (1933) and *A Night at the Opera* (1935), feature in the top fifteen. They are widely considered by critics, scholars and fans to be among the greatest and most influential comedians of the 20th century. The brothers were included in AFI's 100 Years... 100 Stars list of the 25 greatest male stars of Classical Hollywood cinema, the only performers to be included collectively.

The brothers are almost universally known by their stage names: Chico, Harpo, Groucho, Gummo, and Zeppo. There was a sixth brother, the firstborn, named Manfred (Mannie), who died in infancy; Zeppo was given the middle name Manfred in his memory.

The core of the act was the three elder brothers: Chico, Harpo, and Groucho, each of whom developed a highly distinctive stage persona. After the group essentially disbanded in 1950, Groucho went on to a successful second career in television, while Harpo and Chico appeared less prominently.

The two younger brothers, Gummo and Zeppo, never developed their stage characters to the same extent as the elder three. Both left the act to pursue business careers at which they were successful, and for a time ran a large theatrical agency through which they represented their brothers and others. Gummo was not in any of the movies; Zeppo appeared in the first five films in relatively straight (non-comedic) roles.

The early performing lives of the brothers owed much to their mother, Minnie Marx (the sister of vaudeville comic Al Shean), who acted as their manager until her death in 1929.

Pictured below are the five brothers; from the left are – Harpo, Zeppo, Chico, Groucho and Gummo.

