



# CHRISTMAS 2022



## Newsletter

December 2022

[gcrh.org.au](http://gcrh.org.au)

### From the General Manager's Desk

Well, we were worried again this year about the Christmas Party! But we have managed to bring it back and it seemed to be well received (Yay!). Everyone seemed to have a great time, which made it worthwhile!

Special thanks to my assistant Karen for her organisation of the day. It was her first one and as we hadn't done it since 2019, we were both 'starting from scratch' as such. Also, /to Brenton, Stephen, Michael & Graham for their important help (yes it is on your job descriptions – I think). You should have received a small Christmas gift from the GCRH Board with this newsletter.

We turn our attentions to 2023 and hope to enjoy a bigger social calendar; and look forward to work starting on the facility at James Martin Village.

Before that though, I remind everyone to stay safe and enjoy being with family for the holidays.

**\* On behalf of the Board Members & Staff, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

### Christmas/ New Year Arrangements

- The Administration Office will be closed from **12.00pm on Thursday the 22nd December** and re-open on **Tuesday 3rd January** at 9.00am.
- During these times, all maintenance requests should be made direct to Stephen or Michael on emergency number 0411 795 585.
- We would ask that any maintenance request be made only if urgent. If it is something that can wait until New Year, please wait until Tuesday the 3rd Jan.

### Rubbish Bins Collection :

- **Bins out on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Collection Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.**  
Bins will be put out on the Thursday morning and emptied on Friday as normal.
- **Bins out Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December – Collection Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December.**  
Bins will be put out on the Thursday morning and emptied on Friday as normal.

### Humphrey George Community Hall

For those who were unable to get to the Annual Residents Meeting, we can confirm details of the special presentation on the day.

The Board has agreed to name the hall at James Martin Village as the Humphrey George Community Hall. This is in recognition Humphrey's 40 plus years of service to the organisation, including the role of secretary for much of that time. Also, for the donation that Humphrey has made to the recent upgrade of the hall.

The upgrade has included installation of a permanent large screen TV, new chairs and tables, replacement of the ceiling (including insulation installation) and replacement of lighting. It will also have a new audio system installed shortly.

Humphrey was present at the meeting and unveiled the new signs, now in place for the hall. He also took the opportunity to reflect on some of the early days of the organisation.



Residents are reminded that the hall is available for use of our residents. It is managed by the James Martin Village Social Group and again any of our residents are welcome to join this group. If you would like to know more, contact Karen or Peter at the office.

### Residents Away or Holiday Guests

A reminder about advising the office of when you are away or if you have guests staying. With the Christmas/New Year holidays, please let us know prior to the office closing at 12.00pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Leave a message if office closed.

### Annual General Meeting – 2023 Board

The GCRH AGM was held on October 26th. The election of office bearers at the AGM resulted in no changes to the Board. Confirming the following make-up of the Board:

**Chairperson:** Helen Sands

**Deputy Chairperson:** Naomi Reschke

**Board Members:** Craig Gogoll, Chris George, Sam Harnett, Shane Hennessy, Nick Pullman, Dr Malcolm Richards, Phil Zeunert and Janet Done.

We thank them for their continuing voluntary support for GCRH.

### Village Inspections

Brenton and Peter have conducted inspections of Governor Gawler Village over the past three weeks. We still have a couple to finalise.

The items that have been identified for replacement or upgrading will be added to our Capital Maintenance Fund budgets going forward.

The next village due for inspections will be James Martin Village in mid-2023.

### Parking of Cars in Your Garages

Recently we had a garage ceiling collapse in one of our units. An expensive car was parked in the garage at the time; fortunately, there was minimal damage to the car and the ceiling has been repaired.

It is a reminder to everyone regarding what the contracts say about your garage: "Any motor vehicle parked in your garage must be registered and insured at a minimum for Third Party Property Damage". Likely that most have comprehensive insurance!

Note that a vehicle not owned by you, using your garage may not be covered for damage in the case mentioned above.

### Christmas Party & Hamper Draw

It was very pleasing that after a three year hiatus the Residents Christmas Party returned last month! The function was very well attended, with nearly 100 residents & guests present.

Brunch came from the popular Gawler South Bakery; and entertainment was provided by the Magic of Darren Schutz, who had the audience mesmerised!

It was nice to enjoy the company of Bruce Eastick & Lyn Schnaars as guests on the day.

We were able to complete the annual Christmas Hamper draws on the day; all residents are eligible for the hampers (not just those at the party). Plus, there were prizes won during the function

Thank you to the Thirsty Camel Bottle Shop at the Kingsford Hotel & the Gawler Cinemas for assisting with the prizes for the day.

Karen put together three excellent Hampers for the Christmas Hamper draws and the winners were:

**Xmas Hamper No.1** – Charlie Farrugia, James Martin

**Xmas Hamper No.2** - Claire & Peter Stevens, James Martin

**Xmas Hamper No.3** – Margret Dekok, Elimatta  
Prizes have been delivered to all winners.(Ho Ho Ho!)



### 2023 Social & Information Events

Currently we are working on dates for 2023 events and we will add more in the coming months. We can confirm details of the first one for the year:

#### **Gawler Greyhounds Luncheon:**

This function is confirmed for Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Gawler Greyhounds, Nixon's Function Centre. This is a daytime meeting and residents will be invited to enjoy lunch at the track. The price will be \$5 per head and includes seating in Nixon's, a seniors menu for lunch and a mystery bet with the TAB. Drinks will be available at bar prices. GCRH will subsidise the price of the day's entertainment.

We had a great roll-up for this one in 2020, so we hope as many people as possible will be able to make.

An invitation will be sent out to all residents in mid-February.

**Nixon's**  
FUNCTION CENTRE



Early dates for your 2023 diary:

### **Wed. October 25th: Annual Residents Meeting**

Annual Residents Meeting Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023, commencing at 10.30am. To be held at the Humphrey George Community Hall, at James Martin Village.

### **Wed. November 29th: GCRH Christmas Party**

The Annual Residents Christmas Party date is set as Wednesday 29th November 2023. To be held in the Hewett Centre; it will commence at 10.30am. (To be confirmed).

### **Annual Residents Meeting Minutes**

All residents should have received the Minutes from the Annual Residents Meeting held in October. Please advise the Administration Office if you haven't received a copy.

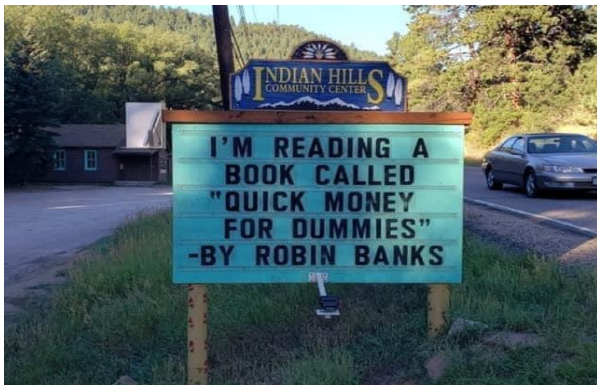


### **Residents Survey**

Thanks to all residents that returned a Survey recently. David Weatherley has all the surveys returned to him or handed to the Admin Office.

He will now collate the results and provide a report to the Board in the early part of the new year.

A summary will be provided to all residents from that report. It will also be used to provide guidance for the Board and Administration.



### **Summary of Current Vacancies**

#### **Elimatta Village:**

##### **Unit 37, 16 Tod Street:**

Just vacated - Subsidised Entry unit, with a large front living room and sunroom, with access to a side Verandah. Large bedroom with sliding door robe.

Unit will have new floor coverings and a repaint. The kitchen to have new overhead cupboards as well as a new rangehood and cooktop. The bathroom/laundry is in very good condition, with a bright feel. Features ducted r/c a/c and ceiling fans to lounge & bedroom;

plus, an outside storeroom and garden shed. The main entrance features a full length verandah in a private part of the village. Subsidised Entry – (\$65,000).

Subsidised Entry requires an Application for Board Approval.



**\* Please contact the office for more information. Remember if you provide us a contact who purchases a unit, we offer a 'finder's fee'.**

### **James Martin Village Lot 2 Update**

Our planning for the redevelopment of the first stage of the aged care facility is continuing. Currently we are waiting for the building certification process to be finalised; which should not be too long now. It is then expected that the main refurbishment work will start in early 2023. If all goes as planned, the apartments will be ready in the latter part of the year.

Final plans for stage one will result in six apartments being developed in the southern most building. There will be five one bedroom apartments and one two bedroom apartment. Each apartment will also have a carport assigned, which will be in the car parking areas already on site.

The next stages will include the new roadway and up to a further ten apartments.

We are still hopeful that we may be able to source funding to support the further developments.

The apartments will be offered as Subsidised Entry Agreements.

### **New Residents**

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

- Julie Martin moved into Elimatta Village in November.
- Bryan Baehnisch moved into James Martin Village in November.
- Joy Beenham moved into Governor Daly Village in November.

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

- Unit 19, 4A Daly Street Governor Daly Village.
- Unit 25, 30 Tod Street Elimatta Village.
- Unit 28, 30 Tod St Elimatta Village.

### Gawler Health Service Redevelopment

Gawler Residents will be aware of the work that has commenced at the Gawler Health Service. This is the start of a \$16 million redevelopment of the Gawler emergency department. Construction is expected to take about 12 months, with completion in early 2024.

At this stage we don't anticipate any disruption to residents at Governor Gawler Village. In recent years the new renal unit was built near the village.

One change proposed will be allowing temporary on-street parking along Hutchinson Road; this was previously allowed but was stopped when the covid clinic first started. Should anyone have any concerns or questions, contact the Council's senior Traffic Engineer, Richard Frimpong on 8522 9247 or email at [council@gawler.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@gawler.sa.gov.au)

### Removal of Rubbish

Residents are reminded that we are able to pick-up rubbish for residents that **can't** be placed into the weekly bins. The basic cost of this service is \$10 per pick-up. However please note that the price charged is subject to the amount and size of the pick-up. Rubbish is disposed of in the James Martin bin, and we determine space taken to confirm a price.

The Gawler Council also operates a free hard rubbish pick-up service, through NAWMA.

### Who Can Remember?

#### Gawler Christmas Tree lighting



The Norfolk Pine tree (pictured) was planted c1872 at the south-western corner of Jacob and Reid Streets. By 1980 the tree stood at 33.2 meters.

Derek Sutch established his carpet and furnishing business close-by and with this tree in his car-park he first decorated it for Christmas 1977. Derek used 640 coloured 240W globes. He repeated creating this illumination until 1986 when his business was destroyed by fire.

Derek died on Easter Monday 1993 and the "The Sutch is Light" committee was formed in his memory. The Committee comprised of John Thorpe, Craig Barnet, Brian Barton, David Jensen, Gino Vallelonga, Steve Armstrong, Joy Sutch, Doug Petty and Kevin Hicks. The fundraising commenced in June and by November the required amount of \$46,000 was collected. (The lights and their installation alone cost approximately \$46,000). John Thorpe purchased a Bob Fielke (former GCRH Board Member) cricket bat, got it signed by Sir Donald Bradman and auctioned it off to raise \$14,000.

The Committee organised that the tree was re-lit for Christmas 1993 and dedicated the occasion to Derek. The tree then had 23,000 fairy bud light globes, 78 flashing strobes, 56 transformers and it was topped with a 2.4m high neon star. Electrical cables totalled 6 kilometres and all of this was attached to the trunk and branches by expandable straps; allowing the tree to "breathe" and grow. No nails or screws were ever used. The lighting was in 3 phases: white lights on one, coloured on another and the star on the third phase.

It was claimed that the tree was the tallest living Christmas Tree in the Southern Hemisphere.

At the end of 1996, it was decided that the tree was in decline and that it should not be lit up. The Committee disbanded and the tree was eventually chopped down.

(Check out [gawlerhistory.com](http://gawlerhistory.com) to find out more)

### Did They Have Insurance!

