

Retirement Living Juniper Boronia Court

Connecting our Community Newsletter | October 2023

Refreshed units bring welcome relief in Albany

The Albany community will reap the benefits of an investment by Juniper to refurbish a series of units in Lockyer to provide an affordable home for older people and accommodate new staff at the neighbouring Korumup Residential Aged Care Home.

The refurbishment of seven units, with a further two units underway, at Juniper Boronia Court Retirement Living Village will ensure the site continues its long history of providing an affordable home for those that choose to call Albany home.

Five units, including two units in partnership with the Department of Communities, have been offered as affordable rentals for over 55s.

“Across Western Australia we are suffering a housing crisis, with Albany being no exception. Older people are one of the groups that are particularly vulnerable to this, so by refurbishing these units we can offer homes to some of those people who really need it,” Juniper Community Business Development Executive Director Jo Wilkinson said.

Five new residents have now moved into the refurbished units.

Continue reading on page 3.



Carpenter Tony Woods has been one of the local contractors doing an amazing job refreshing the units ready to welcome new residents.



Juniper Albany Community Centre Coordinator Colleen Tombleson on a new landing and stairs making it easier and safer for residents.

A big thank you and shout to those making the refurbishment project possible: Homemaker Home Maintenance, Michael Bell Plumbing, Castlehows & Trevors Carpets!



What's inside:

- Boronia Court rocking since the 50's
- Spring into new gazebo
- Coffee and art come together

Message from the CEO

Spring has finally arrived and I hope now that the weather is warming up you will all enjoy the best that nature has to offer!

It is hard to believe that we are in September, with just three months to go until Christmas.

Over the past nine months, I've had the privilege of meeting many residents across Juniper's Retirement Living communities, and what I've noticed is how supportive, kind and welcoming everyone is to one another, which really highlights our Juniper values of respect, welcome and compassion.

I know Boronia Court has undergone some much-needed transformations in the past few months, and I know our newest residents will be made to feel welcome by Boronia's tightknit community as they settle into their new homes.

I look forward to meeting our newest residents soon when I next visit the Great Southern region.

Happy reading!

Russell Bricknell
Chief Executive Officer



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Hello from Colleen



Welcome to the latest edition of Boronia Court Retirement Living's newsletter.

Firstly, I'd like to acknowledge two beautiful people we recently lost who were long-term residents at Boronia.

Ros joined Boronia Court, along with her husband, in May 1994. She was much-loved by Boronia residents and was an active member in our community. Her family was also involved with Boronia for the many years she lived here.

Robyn joined the Boronia Court family in 2014 and only gave up part-time work about 18 months ago. She loved her plants and her peaceful life at Boronia. Both Robyn and Ros's units are on the agenda for re-furbishing in the future.

In some good news, we have recently finished work on five units which have now been rented. I'm sure most people have met our newest residents who are settling into our community. Shifting is a huge life event, so please help them settle into their new home.

Still to come in 2023, when the grounds dry out a bit we will be starting works on the gazebo, which you can read more about in this newsletter. We can't wait for it to be finished and be available for use in the warmer months.

In other news, our new gardener will be joining us from September to help provide regular gardening in general areas. Also a note about pets around the village - we have quite a few little furry friends around Boronia. Please be aware of the general housekeeping rules around having pets in the village, including keeping dogs on a lead at all times if they are outside and cleaning up any mess your pets have left behind.

Thanks and I hope you enjoy reading the latest updates in this newsletter.

Warm Regards

Colleen Tombleson
Community Centre Coordinator Albany



Boronia Court – rocking since the 50’s

Did you know Boronia Court’s roots extend all the way back to the mid 50’s and the establishment of the suburb of Lockyer?

The land where our little retirement village now sits was originally gifted to the Albany Town Council by Annie Bryson McKewon to establish affordable housing for older people.

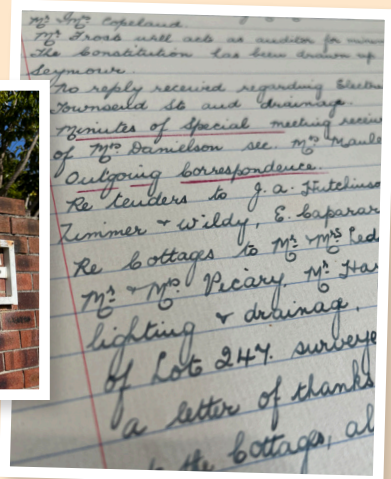
The Village was first established by Albany Cottage Homes during the mid-1950’s. By 1977, twelve independent living bedsit units were built, providing a welcoming, affordable place to call home for older people. Made up of different community members, Albany Cottage Homes was formed to provide affordable housing for locals. Back then, rent was collected in person every two weeks.

In 1982 Albany Cottage Scheme partnered with the then HomesWest to build six units, with a further six added around 1995.

Albany Cottage Homes was acquired by Juniper (then called Uniting Church Homes) in 2009-2010.

Many of the original bedsits, consisting of a single room, kitchenette and bathroom have been combined to provide a larger home with a separate bedroom for residents. Honouring and continuing the long history of providing affordable accommodation for the Albany community, Juniper has embarked on refurbishing many of the units to ensure they can be offered as a comfortable place to live for future residents. You can read all about the refurbishment project in this newsletter.

What a long history for our Boronia Court to be proud of!



Meticulously kept records of Boronia Court from Albany Cottage Homes and old Boronia Court signage.

Continued from front page:

“Thanks to the community values of Boronia Court, these new residents will be welcomed with open arms and support so they feel at home,” Jo added.

Refurbishment detail varies from unit to unit depending on what is required, but amongst the works has been plumbing, electrical, new flooring, painting, carpentry in the kitchens, new kitchen cabinetry and splashbacks, kitchen benches and appliances, air conditioning and heating.



Carpenter Tony Woods refurbishing one of the units.

Getting arty for all

Creating a space where anyone can enjoy an art and craft project no matter their experience or skills has been the quest for Albany local Carol Hope at the buzzing Albany Art Café located within Juniper’s Beryl Grant Community Centre.

Since taking over the café in Lockyer, Carol has been able to combine her love and experience of art and hospitality into one.

“The café and the adjoining community rooms within the Beryl Grant Community Centre provide a fun base for art and craft workshops where people are able to make a project, have a go at something new for a few hours. It’s all about making art accessible for anyone,” Carol said.

“Anyone is welcome whether they have a little bit of knowledge or none, or they simply want to try a new medium. It’s open to anybody.”

The classes cater for children to adults of any age, and include subjects like paint and sip or resin art. Housed within the Juniper Beryl Grant Community Centre, the café is a highlight of the centre which was designed to serve as a social and service hub for Lockyer, and the wider Albany community.

Carol has been creating art her entire life, delving into the art and craft world in her working life as a craft consultant for a decade, as well as working in hospitality at McKails, Sandalwood and a children’s play centre.



Albany Art Café owner Carol Hope

Carol will also take part in this year’s Southern Art and Craft Trail, which is held across the Great Southern region from 23 September to 8 October.

The event showcases local artists, including our very own Carol who will explore the art of printmaking, painting, drawing, jewellery and resin.

Other works on display during the event include textiles, painting, sculpture, jewellery, printmaking, photography, pottery and woodcraft.

You can find courses on offer at by visiting albanyartworkshops.com.au or simply pop down to the café to have a coffee and chat.

To read more about the 2023 Southern Art and Craft Trail, visit artsouthwa.com.au/southern-art-and-craft-trail/ or pick up a booklet from the Albany Visitor’s Centre.

Get-together for Boronia Court Residents

We’re looking to hold our next get-together with residents in October or November, so we can not only meet all our new faces but also have a general meeting about the village.

If you have any ideas on a time, place and date for the meeting, please reach out to the **Community Centre Coordinator Colleen Tombleson** at **9842 6552** or email colleen.tombleson@juniper.org.au





Spring into a new Gazebo

Once the weather fines up, construction is expected to start on a new gazebo for residents. The Gazebo will act as a central hub for residents to socialise, as well as enjoy time with visiting family and friends.

Details haven't been finalised, but the spare land between between Units 18 and 27 in the grassed area with its beautiful outlook to the neighbouring bushland, will likely be the site of the new gazebo.



Proposed site for the new Gazebo

New Verandah a hit with residents

It's been great to see our Boronia Court residents enjoy our new Verandah area at the Café! The screening we have put in place not only looks great but also stops some of the wind coming through, which has taken the chill off during the colder months we've had recently.

We can't wait to see this area bustling with more residents when the weather warms up!



Left to right: The new Verandah area at the Café

Love your morning cuppa?

So does Betty.

Become a Companion Volunteer at Juniper and you'll join a community that enriches the lives of older people.

juniper.org.au/volunteer



Music Nights at Beryl Grant

The Beryl Grant Community Centre has been a hive of activity in recent months, with many events booked including a monthly music group.

The Community Music Group has been running Music Nights on the last Friday of each month, which has featured a variety of musicians – mostly local but also some visiting artists.

If you enjoy listening to a diverse range of music, it is well worth a visit!



Volunteers connect at Korumup

Social interaction is often the number one requirement for those seeking volunteering opportunities at Albany and Regional Volunteer Service office. And for those people, connecting with residents at Juniper Korumup Residential Aged Care Home is a fulfilling choice.

“I think especially since COVID, people have realised just how important social interaction is. We have a lot of people coming into the office not 100 percent sure of what exactly they want to do as a volunteer, but that social interaction is often the priority,” Albany and Regional Volunteer Service manager Natalie Vesey said.

“We interview people about what they want to get out of volunteering, their likes and dislikes, any skills they want to use. We can then link them with an organization with a need and vacancy.”

Earlier this year, Administration Officer Chrissy Golling sent six volunteers to Korumup as companions for residents – whether simply to have a chat, play a game or take a walk with a resident.

“It’s proving to be a really popular choice at the moment. Often we have retirees coming in, sometimes they may have lost their partner in life, and they are looking for that social connection. Or its people that have lost a parent and they can’t bear the thought that some residents may not get visitors,” Chrissy said.

“The feedback we have from volunteers is that they really get something out of it – that they are able to connect with other people.”

Juniper Korumup Residential Aged Care Home in Lockyer has a fantastic team of volunteers. Many act as companions while others entertain residents playing musical instruments.

If you are interested in volunteering in Albany contact Albany and Regional Volunteer Service on 9481 3588 or contact Juniper direct for volunteering by emailing volunteering@juniper.org.au



Korumup Volunteers

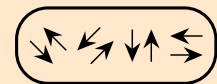




Solve the word search puzzle



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K	M	M	P	U	N	D	B	Y	U	Z	U	L	R
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J	P	O	D	S	P	A	E	S	U	O	M	C	A
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- ANDROMEDA
- LYRA
- ORION
- HERCULES
- CASSIOPEIA
- PEGASUS

- URSA MAJOR
- DRACO
- URSA MINOR
- AQUILA
- CETUS
- GEMINI

Do you have a nice story you would like to share?

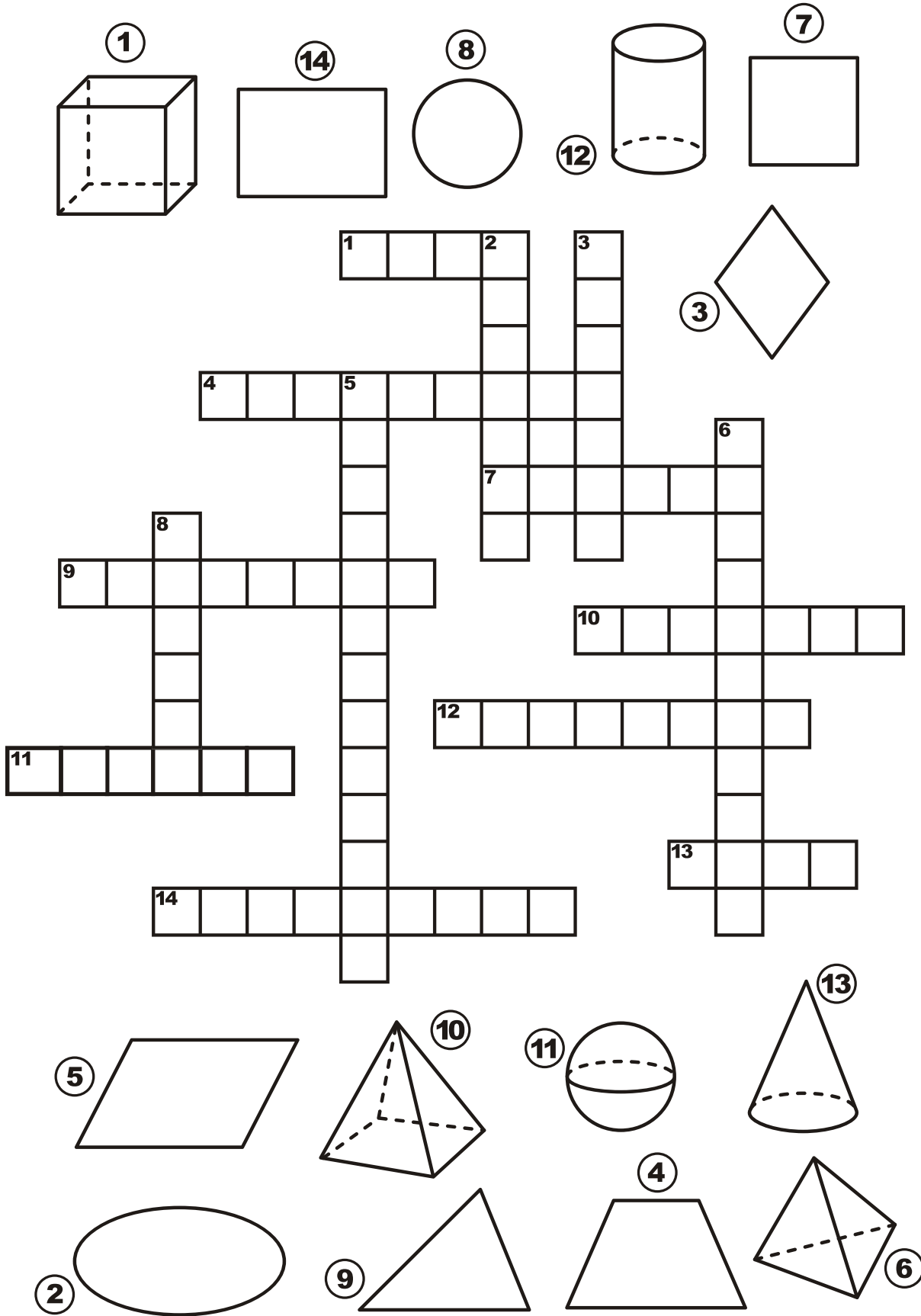


Contact the Juniper Communications team to feature in the next newsletter!

M. 0439 363 923 E. communications@juniper.org.au



Crossword puzzle



Answers: 1. Cube 2. Ellipse 3. Rhombus 4. Trapezium 5. Parallelogram 6. Tetrahedron 7. Square 8. Circle 9. Triangle 10. Pyramid 11. Ball 12. Cylinder 13. Cone 14. Rectangle