



Well another financial year has passed ending on the 31 September with our AGM held the RSL Mount Warren Park. We thank those members who took the time to attend the meeting, we do appreciate your support. We had two guest speakers selected from our list of sponsors. One from APIA Insurance in the person of Mr Matt O'Connor who surprised and fully engaged the audience by answering many questions from the audience and adding his own anecdotes from his many years of experience. Our other most welcome guest speaker was Ms Jan Sorrensen from Magnolia Lodge at Reserve Road Upper Coomera. Magnolia Lodge is a very special Aged Care Facility that operates more like a private hotel with extra special staff to cater for the aged. Jan did invite anyone wishing to see and experience Magnolia for themselves to call them and arrange for a chat and a free lunch. Both speakers are featured in the attached photos.



We do understand that AGMs are not popular but the law under the Associations Incorporations Act does require us to have an AGM and it does give the committee the opportunity to get to know members in a more personal way. It also gives us the opportunity to explain the work we have carried out over the year and take questions. Membership fees are also now due.

Act Review

In a recent email from the Department of Housing and Public Works we were informed of a Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (CRIS) for community feedback. On the face of it, this could be a reasonable way forward but in all our ARPQ input over the last three years we have sought the one truly missing link in this current, very biased legislation and that is a **fair balance of interest between the parties**. Whether this actually occurs (and we hope it does) will possibly decide the fate of the residential parks industry.

Apart from the real estate industry not being overly buoyant at this time, plus the current rush by the big end of town to buy as many residential parks as possible speaks volumes of the money to be made off the backs of pensioners. Plus our inquiry reveals the great number of current home owners in many parks wishing to sell their homes and get out of the industry, after all, it is home owners living in residential parks that are the life blood of the industry. As one home owner pointed out to us very recently *"society existed quite well before residential parks and life would go on without them"*, fair comment!

Government Services

Another area that the Act review should look at is the services provided by the RSU (Residential Services Unit) and PAVIL. (Parks and Village Information Link). During discussion with many of our members regarding these two entities it is apparent that home owners living residential parks have very little confidence in either. However, the problem does not rest with the staff of either entity. The real problem lays with government as the executive power over the administration of both. What must be understood is that it is primarily in the interest of government that park operators make land available to develop residential parks and in return, government, as it was explained to writer by the Office of Fair Trading in 2010, *"government will not place any legislative obstacles in the paths of park operators or developers because they would stop building these places"*. Hence, one can only come to the conclusion that favour will be awarded to park operators as per the legislation (the Act). This then would account for the RSU and PAVIL staff being what seems evasive at times so please don't blame them if you feel as though staff are not being as helpful as hoped for.

The Tribunal also rates in this category as explained because once a tribunal becomes an administrative tribunal, it also becomes compliant with government legislation.

Your New Committee

Living in residential parks and being on a committee that protects the interests of home owners is not always the best way of spending ones time but it is necessary if we are to receive any justice out of a very questionable piece of legislation. Rest assured, there can be no real protections from government funded groups whose first priority and loyalty is to the government that funds them, and not one of them can claim to live in a residential park. To those who seek such positions, it is a reasonable source of paid employment only.

Those home owners who actually live in residential parks and volunteer their time to be on the ARPQ committee are very special people as are those on any committee that have a vested interest in the welfare of their peers. Your committee seek nothing more than to secure that fair balance of interest that has eluded home owners in the past by way of very favourable legislation that rewards park operators for offering their land for public lease. That is what really constitutes a residential park.

Your committee do not expect all members to be as active as they are but what we do expect is true support when it is needed and the one way of showing that support is to have at least one member home owner in each park that will deliver newsletters to members without internet connection.

It is very noticeable that in this basically uncaring society that both government and business openly discriminate against those without internet connection. If you are not online, you miss out and no one gives a damn.

Well we do give a damn. Because of our large membership, about 27% of our members, do not have the internet and your committee spend many hours folding newsletters and placing them in envelopes for delivery to the many parks where we have members. We really do appreciate those home owners that do deliver for us but we do need more so please make contact with any of our committee members if you can give just a little of your time to help all home owners living in residential parks.

Sadly, our dear friend and co-founder of ARPQ Judie Dewar has resigned from her position as treasurer due partly to health problems and partly to take on a further course of study in bookkeeping. Judie will be missed but not forgotten for her devotion to ARPQ. Thank you Judie.

Your new committee:

Chair	Mr Don Ehrlich	Telephone 0408767807
-------	----------------	----------------------

Secretary	Ms Beryl Dwyer	Telephone 32971413
-----------	----------------	--------------------

Acting Treasurer	Ms Barbara Oudt	Telephone 38021863
------------------	-----------------	--------------------

Ordinary committee members:

David Paton	Advocacy Officer	Telephone 38887696
-------------	------------------	--------------------

Paul Miller	Committee Member	Telephone 32007764
-------------	------------------	--------------------

James Mathers	Committee Member	Telephone 34893276
---------------	------------------	--------------------

Your ARPQ committee 2015/2016