

# Living Gems\* Thrive

SEPTEMBER 2023

Adventure time  
*Wander far, wander often*

Groups on the go  
Residents' travel club is  
just the ticket

Carefree in Caboolture  
Living large in premium,  
luxe home

Smooth sailing  
Over-50s lifestyle  
ticks all the boxes

[livinggems.com.au](http://livinggems.com.au)

# Message from the CEO

Welcome to the September issue of *Thrive* and the first month of spring! With the weather warming up in Queensland, many of our homeowners are turning their attention toward planning new travel adventures.

One of the big attractions of moving into a Living Gems over-50s lifestyle resort is the ability to lock up and go. When our homeowners head off to explore bucket-list destinations, they love the peace of mind that comes with living in a gated community with on-site management.

With a lock-up-and-go lifestyle in mind, this month's *Thrive* puts the spotlight on travel. We share a terrific story on pages 6 and 7 about a Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront resident, a former travel agent, who's putting together some fantastic group tour opportunities in 2024 open to all Living Gems residents. How's that for community spirit! We also talked to an Opal by Living Gems couple about their passion for travel including a 24,000km trip around Australia, plus a great guide about how to pack light to make travelling easier.

It's been a hive of activity at our Amber by Living Gems resort with both our residential and commercial construction teams making excellent progress on home builds and the Country Club. Construction of Stage Two homes is coming along quickly to the great excitement of our contract holders (see page 3).

Amber's Country Club is also taking shape with the team busy working on the upper level. When complete, the two-storey Country Club will form the heart of this thriving community, providing a lifestyle hub for residents with everything from a swimming pool, ten-pin bowling alley, luxury cinema, bar and cafe to a golf simulator, games room and library. New homeowners Steve and Bertrina describe the lifestyle at Amber by Living Gems like being aboard a cruise ship with all the facilities on offer - they cannot wait for the Country Club to open (turn to pages 16 and 17).

The Final Stage at our beautiful, established Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront resort has stunning move-in-ready homes available on exclusive elevated sites. If you're looking to enjoy the very best of over-50s living in a friendly, welcoming environment, contact Sales Manager Glenys to make a time to see the homes for yourself and tour the incredible facilities on offer. But don't take our word for it, turn to pages 14 and 15 to read about new homeowners Joy and John's experience of living at the resort after recently moving into their premium three-bedroom home.

I hope you enjoy reading the September issue of *Thrive* and I look forward to bringing you more Living Gems news and updates next month.



**Adrian Puljich**  
CEO



# Amber Stage Two construction 60 percent complete



Residential construction is powering ahead at Amber by Living Gems with 60 percent of Stage Two, the resort's final stage, now complete.

Living Gems CEO Adrian Puljich said the residential construction team had been pulling out all stops to deliver Stage Two homes as quickly as possible and bring settlement day closer for future homeowners.

"There are nearly 40 home builds underway at the moment and, weather permitting, we forecast residential construction winding up around June 2024," Adrian said.

"Stage Two is more than 60 percent sold out now with the resort as a whole 80 percent sold," he said.

"We expect Amber by Living Gems will be fully sold out before the end of the year."

Stage Two has six home design options, each with between 194.4sqm to 210.07sqm of living space, two bathrooms, stunning modern kitchens with walk-in pantries and lovely alfresco areas. There are a limited number of special RV-friendly homes available for buyers looking for plenty of space for a caravan, motorhome or boat (see page 19).

For those interested in the popular Snowy design, just one standard three-bedroom home remains.

Located on ten hectares in a picturesque part of Logan Village, Amber by Living Gems offers idyllic rural ambience with all the convenience of local shops, restaurants and amenities a short distance away.

When finished, Amber by Living Gems will comprise 231 homes.

## Contact the Amber by Living Gems sales team

To find out more about Stage Two or book a tour, contact Tameeka Manson on 0407 766 414 or at [tameeka@livinggems.com.au](mailto:tameeka@livinggems.com.au) or Lynda Ruddle on 0456 383 269 or at [lynda@livinggems.com.au](mailto:lynda@livinggems.com.au)

## Share a story or subscribe to Thrive

If you have a story idea for future issues of *Thrive*, we'd love to hear from you!

Whether it be news, happenings, local events and activities, feature stories about interesting residents or their achievements, don't be shy – share the details with the *Thrive* content team.

Email your idea to [content@livinggems.com.au](mailto:content@livinggems.com.au)

### Subscribe

Have you subscribed to *Thrive*? To receive a digital copy of Living Gems' free monthly magazine directly to your inbox, be sure to sign up online at [livinggems.com.au/thrive](http://livinggems.com.au/thrive)



## On the move

### *Perpetual travellers always seeking new experiences*

When Rob and Lisa Newton exchanged wedding vows 47 years ago, the first thing they did was jump onto a plane and fly to Britain. It was the first of many travel experiences the two would share during their lifetime together.

“We were kindred spirits in that we just love to travel,” said Lisa.

“After our wedding we were bored with our jobs and wanted to live in Spain where we resided for four months with Rob working as a tennis coach and I worked for the *Economist* magazine. Eventually, we moved back to Britain and then Australia having spent a full 12 months overseas.”

The couple said that their love of travel even delayed them from having a family.

“It was 15 years before we had our son who is now 32,” said Lisa.

Once they had bought a home, had





loving history and learning about the attractions and towns they visited.

Eight weeks after they moved into Amber by Living Gems in December last year, the avid travellers were off again on a four-month excursion up to Cooktown and back down Australia's East Coast.

The couple have travelled so much they have become like a walking encyclopaedia on many destinations including unique places such as Paronella Park at Mena Creek in Queensland and popular tourist spots including Mission Beach, which they described as 'amazing'.

"There are so many great stories and facts to learn about everywhere we travel, like Paronella Park which opened in 1935 and was the project of Jose Paronella who wanted to build a castle beside Mena Creek Falls. The park also features a picnic area, tennis courts, bridges, a tunnel, and is surrounded by an amazing range of 7500 tropical plants and trees in a lush rainforest. Even the park's electricity requirements are serviced by its own hydroelectric system which was first established during the 1930s," said Lisa.

Rob and Lisa are always seeking new experiences.

"While in Darwin we both entered the Cage of Death to dive with the crocodiles at Crocosaurus Cove. We were down with a saltwater crocodile for 15 minutes and it was an awesome experience."

Wherever they travel, Lisa and Rob, who are keen cyclists, take their electric bikes.

Lisa also enjoys visiting art galleries and museums of towns they are in and has a long list of 'favourites' including the Stockman's Hall of Fame and Qantas Museum in Longreach.

Winton, known as the home of dinosaurs, was another great destination of the couple.

"The Australian Age of Dinosaurs was so impressive and had full scale models of the prehistoric animals. We were also given a fabulous commentary, went on a walk and were told stories about the dinosaurs which were simply fascinating. It was wonderful," said Lisa.

Next on their travel itinerary is a trip south for Christmas with family followed by a flight to Cape Town to board a cruise that will take in Africa, Mauritius, Resolution Island, Egypt, Jordan, Italy and Rome.

their son and saved up, Rob and Lisa began to travel on a regular basis again.

"We would travel for about three months of the year both overseas and in Australia."

Even Covid and the purchase of their new home at Amber by Living Gems couldn't keep the couple stationary for long.

"We spent a fabulous six months prior to moving into Amber on our travels. It included Darwin for ten days, a bus trip around Tasmania and then we hired a motorhome and travelled around the North Island of New Zealand," said Lisa, who admits to



# Group travel is just the ticket

## *Travel club gets people moving*

For many Living Gems homeowners, more travel is on top of the bucket list. But travelling solo is not for everyone. Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront homeowner Norman Pressey has just the answer – group travel.

Norman Pressey's travel club was profiled in July's *Thrive* magazine and he has kindly opened the club to all Living Gems homeowners.

"We've just got back from a cruise to Vanuatu," said Norman. "We had a lovely time and part of our group were four single travellers – three ladies and a gent.

"One of the ladies said that she would not have gone on a holiday on her own, but it made such a difference to be part of a group. The other two ladies are friends, and they could travel together on their own if they wished, but they said they feel much more comfortable travelling with other people."

In addition to feeling more personally secure in a group, Norman says there is also something special about enjoying a travel destination with companions and comparing notes on the sights, sounds, and experiences.

"Group travel also means holidaymakers can be a little more adventurous in their choice of destination knowing that the itinerary has been prepared by people who know the location well," said Norman.

"I'm delighted to put together these group holidays and offer them to all Living Gems homeowners. All they need to do is contact me for more information."

Contact Norman on 0413 891 436 or by email on [nwpressey@gmail.com](mailto:nwpressey@gmail.com).

Norman has several group holidays planned for 2024, including:



### *Kangaroo Island and Proud Mary River Cruise*

**18-27 October 2023**

Discover beautiful South Australia. This ten-day tour will see you hopping over to Kangaroo Island, exploring Adelaide, the city of churches (as well as museums and art galleries) then enjoying a five-day river cruise on the Proud Mary. The cruise retraces the colourful history of pioneering families as well as visit the Ngaut Ngaut Aboriginal conservation site.

From \$3975 per person twin share, the trip includes economy airfares, accommodation with breakfast, tours and a river cruise with all meals. Book before 18 September.





*Group travel is a great way to see the world. Here are some great reasons to give it a try.*

**No planning.** The hard work of choosing accommodation, transport and places to see are done for you by people who know the destination well.

**See more places and do more things.** Group travel ensures you see all the well-known highlights as well as a few off-the-beaten track places that only the locals know.

**Great value for money.** This form of travel often represents great value. You know the costs upfront which makes it easier to budget. Once the trip is paid for, all you need to worry about is packing and spending money. For solo travellers, bunking up with a roommate means avoiding the single traveller tariff that many hotels charge.

**Make new friends.** New experiences with new friends are among the best things about travelling with others. There is always someone to enjoy the sights with. You never know, you might just be making your new best friend.

### *Asian Explorer*

**30 January - 17 February 2024**

Cruise Sydney to Singapore, spend four nights in Singapore and fly back to Brisbane. This 19-day holiday package features a 14-night cruise that includes Airlie Beach, Darwin, Komodo Island, and Benoa, accommodation with breakfast in Singapore as well as a Singapore Explorer Pass which gives you the opportunity to visit many attractions.

From \$4295 twin share. Book with a \$1000 deposit by 18 September with balance due by 2 December, 2023.

### *Around Australia Cruise*

**4 June - 2 July 2024**

Circumnavigate Australia on a 28-night cruise on P&O's Pacific Explorer leaving from Brisbane. Ports of call include Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Albany, Fremantle, Exmouth, Broome, cruising the Kimberleys, Darwin, with a stop in Ambon in Indonesia, Cairns and return to Brisbane. All meals and onboard entertainment included.

Inside cabin from \$4995 per person and ocean view cabin from \$6595.



# Making light work of travel

## *Travel tips and gadgets guide*

The dream of carefree travel shouldn't become a nightmare of heavy suitcases and lost luggage. We take a look at some great ideas to lighten your load so you can say 'yes' to more adventure and less packing.

### **Start with a plan**

Few things set your holiday off onto a bad start than the last-minute panic of tossing things into a suitcase before a trip.

Start by making a note of the expected weather at your destination. Taking a couple of lighter layering items may be worth more than packing one heavy jacket.

Write down your travel wardrobe to see what you have that can do double duty. A shirt, for instance, can be buttoned up to wear with jeans or worn open over a t-shirt.

### **It's a match!**

Mixing and matching offers you the ultimate versatility. Choose a neutral colour palette as your base – for example, black, navy, grey or tan and choose enough tops and bottoms to coordinate with your foundation colours.

According to fashion styling website The Vivienne Files ([theviviennefiles.com](http://theviviennefiles.com)), 13 items of well-chosen clothing is all you need to take on an extended holiday that will offer you 80 different clothing combinations without repeating the same outfit twice. You can see an example at the website: [bit.ly/44ipxZv](http://bit.ly/44ipxZv)





### Become 'pod' people

Packing pods or packing cubes are a great way to keep clothing compact and organised – which is essential if you are planning to travel with carry-on luggage only. For many airlines carry-on has a 7kg limit.

### Make a list and check it twice

Ensure trusted friends and family have your overseas contact details including phone numbers, flight details, hotels and other destinations for peace of mind should something unexpected happen while you're away from home.

## Travel tips and accessories



### Packing cubes

Kmart offers an inexpensive packing cube kit made of seven items conveniently labelled to help you organise clothes, toiletries, electronic devices and shoes. The cubes are made of antimicrobial fabric which is also odour resistant.

**Price:** \$15

**Purchase from:** [bit.ly/45A9Pd9](https://bit.ly/45A9Pd9)



### Organised electronics

This cable and gadget organiser gives you one place where everything from flash drives and memory cards to charging cables and adaptors can be stored neatly and safely. Its soft inner lining keeps your devices protected and safe from scratches, while the durable cover prevents any accidental damage.

**Price:** \$9.99

**Purchase from:** [bit.ly/47xhPgO](https://bit.ly/47xhPgO)



### Sleep kits

Don't sacrifice a good night's sleep when you're travelling. A sleep kit is essential. Comprising a sleep mask and earplugs in a slimline case, this handy accessory can be slipped into a personal bag for use on flights.

**Price:** \$8.95

**Purchase from:** [bit.ly/3KNH98I](https://bit.ly/3KNH98I)



### Worldwide power adapter

This handy device from Samsonite means you'll be able to plug in at 150 countries including the US, UK, China and countries across Europe. It also comes with two USB charging ports which means you're always fully charged for your holidays.

**Price:** \$40

**Purchase from:** [amzn.to/47CiYDY](https://amzn.to/47CiYDY)



### Digital luggage scales

Don't get caught out at the airport with heavy baggage penalties. Keep your packing under control with these handy electronic scales that will make sure you're always under the weight limits imposed by airlines.

**Price:** \$14.95

**Purchase from:** [bit.ly/3slqumB](https://bit.ly/3slqumB)



# *On track*

## *Opal couple make travel a priority*

*After working all their lives and raising three children, Bruce and Linda Woodbine retired to Opal by Living Gems over-50s lifestyle resort seven years ago, bought a caravan and started travelling, and they haven't looked back since.*







“One of the reasons we moved to Opal was for the security, which allows us to lock up and hit the road on our many adventures whenever we want without having to worry about our home,” said Bruce.

The couple have seen some amazing sights and experienced so much since they began travelling, taking up to two trips each year including one 24,000km roadtrip around Australia.

“We have a great caravan with everything you could want including a bathroom, and it’s been a fabulous home away from home. We mainly stay in caravan parks but have also enjoyed free camping, especially when we have travelled up north,” said Bruce.

Both agree it is the freedom and ability to stop wherever and whenever they like that makes them love travel so much.

“You are never alone on the road either. Often you might stop at a camping ground or beside a river somewhere and before too long there could be ten or twenty others pulling up to join you. We like the company because it makes us feel safer.”

Linda said each destination or country town also has something unique and interesting to offer with Barn Hill Station on the Kimberley coastline one of their favourites.

“It is one of the few beef cattle stations in the Kimberley that is still family owned and operated and borders the beautiful Indian Ocean. The beach is covered with beautiful

shells and the station owners put on specialty nights that feature Aboriginal dancers and so much more. We loved it there!”

On a trip to Bourke in NSW, the couple also drove 25km to nearby Silverton.

“It was there that we bought one of the world’s best pies which was made in the old-fashioned way with a full base and simply delicious filling. We went back the next day to buy another one only to find they were closed on Mondays. We were so disappointed.”

Lake Argyle was another big hit with the travellers who said it was bigger and better than anything they could have expected, and a dinner cruise proved the ultimate experience.

“There are so many wonderful destinations, but it is not until you actually see it for yourself that you are able to appreciate its magnificence truly,” said Linda.

Bruce and Linda have a name for all the people they meet along the way on their journeys.

“We call them our 24-hour friends because we have a fabulous time and then we rarely see them again,” said Linda.

The couple say that retirement and being within such a secure and friendly community like Opal by Living Gems, has given them the freedom to see Australia in the best way possible and they are loving it!

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*"It was there that we bought one of the world's best pies which was made in the old-fashioned way with a full base and simply delicious filling."*







# Plenty to please

## *Hats off for lifestyle and fun*

Since moving into Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront, John and Joy England have found themselves too busy to travel.

Originally from the Moreton Bay Region suburb of Cashmere, the couple were looking for a quality home as well as an unmatched lifestyle. They found it at Living Gems.

“We first heard about Living Gems through television ads and then later through friends who have also bought in the resort,” said John. “So, we’ve been keeping an eye on the place for about four years and when the new stage opened, we made our move.”

John and Joy live in a beautiful three-bedroom home in the final stage of Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront which includes oversized blocks and unparalleled views across the pristine greenspace that leads down to the Caboolture River.

“Having that bushland aspect was really important to us,” said John.

Was it difficult to downsize from a family-sized home?

“Oh no, not at all!” said Joy proudly. “In fact, I have more storage here than I ever had at our old place. And the walk-in pantry is just



wonderful. I love our home; it is so well designed.”

Since moving in April, John and Joy have been busy socialising.

John has recently taken up lawn bowls in addition to working out in the pool and enjoying ten-pin bowling.

Joy has joined the Starlight Singers, the resort’s resident singing group that regularly entertains homeowners. She is also a regular in the arts studio, joining the Diamond Dot women with their crafts.

“We’ve also formed a chapter of the Red Hat Society,” she said.





The Red Hat Society is an over-50s women's social club established in 1998 in the United States. For group events, members wear elaborate red hats with a purple ensemble in the spirit of fun and raising the visibility of more mature women.

"Some of the ladies were members of the society outside of the resort, but we decided to form our own chapter," said Joy. "We called a meeting and had 15 to 20 ladies.

"We always have a lot of fun with events including dining out, shopping and going to the movies."

Travel is also on the agenda for John and Joy, but not just yet because there is so much to do at the resort.

"There's never any shortage of entertainment happening at the Country Club," says Joy. "We don't have any travel plans just yet, but we know that when we do get out and about in our caravan, our home is safe and secure."

### *Final Stage homes*

This is your last chance to make a simply lifechanging move to Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront. There are only seven homes remaining on premium location sites overlooking the Caboolture River. These three-bedroom homes feature luxurious inclusions including kitchens with high-quality appliances and walk-in pantries, and spacious alfresco areas with green views. For details, call 1800 718 417.

# Smooth sailing

## *Couple elated with over-50s lifestyle at Amber*

Steve Urquhart describes the lifestyle at Amber by Living Gems over-50s lifestyle resort as being aboard a cruise ship with all the facilities, but without the rough seas.

"Moving here has undoubtedly been the best decision we have ever made, and we couldn't be happier," he said.

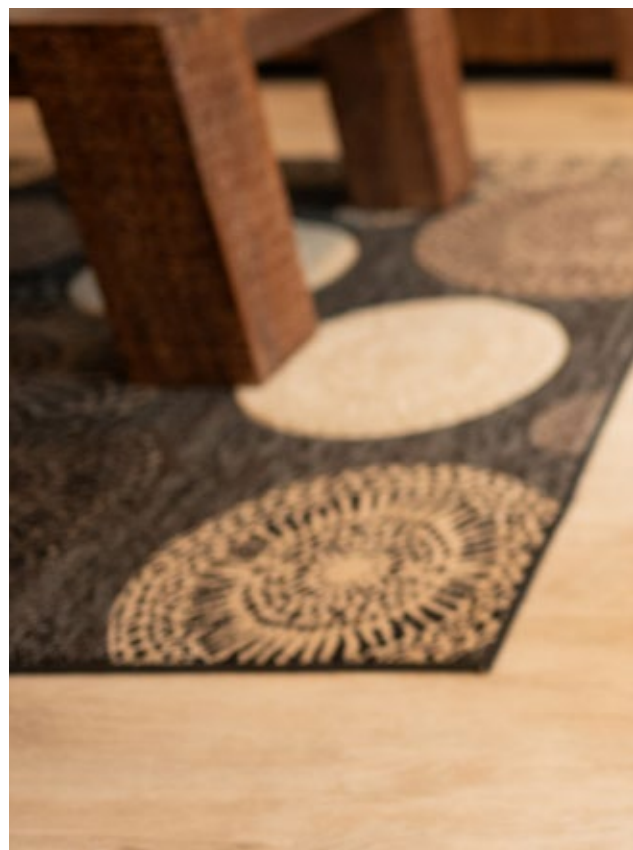
Steve and wife Bertrina, who are both in their 50s, downsized from a large home at Waterford to move into Amber three months ago.

"Although Bertrina is still working, I've recently retired and didn't need the hassle of consistent maintenance around the home as well as the upkeep of the gardens and lawn. We decided we would rather opt for a smaller home in a community like this where all we have to do is enjoy the lifestyle. What could be better?" said Steve.

When the couple first stepped foot in an Amber by Living Gems display home, they were pleasantly surprised with what they saw.

"We thought they would be quite small but as it turned out, they were so spacious, and the layout was perfect. We bought on the spot, and it is the best decision we have ever made."

Steve, Bertrina, daughter Olivia and their 11-year-old Staffordshire Terrier, Ruby Rose, are enjoying their stunning new home which backs onto farmland.







*"We bought on the spot, and it is the best decision we have ever made."*

"The sound of cockatoos greet us each morning which is something I love having grown up in regional NSW. There is also an owl in the tree behind us," said Steve, who appreciates being close to nature.

He said that having the rural aspect while still being close to major shops and facilities, which they can walk to, was the ideal mix.

Ever since the first day in their new home, Steve and Bertrina say they have felt like part of the community with other residents only too happy to welcome them into social events and gatherings.

"We are very social and love meeting people, so we like to go along and in our short time here have already enjoyed a Christmas in July event with other residents at Acacia Ridge and played pool with neighbours at the Logan Village Hotel."

In addition, the over-50s lifestyle resort also attracts a number of services such as a butcher who visits fortnightly, a fish truck and a pizza van.

"Talk about service - they all come to us. How good is that?"

Steve said he believes many people are missing out on taking advantage of the fabulous lifestyle that's available at over-50s lifestyle resorts like Amber.

"It's a perception people have that they are retirement villages, but they aren't. We've come here for the lifestyle they offer and the fact that keeping active and young-at-heart is encouraged with the brilliant facilities. We also love the security it offers and are looking forward to the completion of Amber's multi-million-dollar Country Club because then we will have everything we need right at our doorstep," said Steve.



# Amber

## Sales Managers' Message

Eighteen new homeowners were officially welcomed into Amber in the month of August, with another 12 excited contract holders ready to join the Amber by Living Gems family across September.

Residents are thrilled that our Country Club is taking shape with structural works for the pool roof and barbecue pavilion commencing, along with waterproofing and tiling of the wet areas and internal painting and plastering underway in September. Our Amber vehicle wash bay is also nearing completion, which will allow our homeowners a convenient 'one-stop shop' for keeping their cars and caravans squeaky clean.

Friday afternoon nibbles, drinks and catch-ups among friends continue to be held at the Amber temporary Country Club, with excitement growing as we all witness the construction progress.

Amber residents recently shared a day trip cruise on the Lady Brisbane. Partakers enjoyed morning tea and a barbecue lunch with refreshments in hand while taking in views of the hundreds of islands along Moreton Bay, heading towards the Gold Coast. To read more about their trip and view photographs taken on the day, see the Resort Round-Up.

With Amber by Living Gems now 80 percent sold out, and limited sites remaining, we suggest that you get in quick and pencil in a day and time to view our display homes and ensure all your queries are answered by our friendly sales team.

Phone 1800 317 381 to arrange an appointment.



### Amber by Living Gems Sales Team

Tameeka Manson, *Sales Manager*  
M 0407 766 414 | E [tameeka@livinggems.com.au](mailto:tameeka@livinggems.com.au)

Lynda Ruddell, *Sales Manager*  
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# Go west for daytrip destinations

*Gather some friends, pack a picnic, put on your walking shoes and go west! Located less than three hours west of Amber by Living Gems and Opal by Living Gems, the Scenic Rim and the Southern Downs regions have plenty to explore.*

## *Boonah - 1 hour*

Known for its cattle, the rural town of Boonah is a popular weekend destination for motorcyclists and day trippers. Motoring enthusiasts of the two and four-wheel variety will find plenty to fascinate at Panorama Motorcycles and Memorabilia. Next, stop for lunch at Kooroomba Lavender Farm and Vineyard before making your way back home via Moogerah Dam.

## *Allora - 2 hours*

Take a drive up over Cunningham's Gap to enter the beautiful Southern Downs. The charming town of Allora is home to the magical, practically perfect Mary Poppins. Visit the home of author PL Travers who moved to Allora from Maryborough with her banker father. Stay for lunch before visiting the Allora Regional Sports Museum.

## *Warwick - 2 hours*

This large country town has plenty to recommend with a range of festivals and events to put in your diary. October is the month for the Warwick Rodeo and Rose Festival but in July you won't want to miss the Jumper and Jazz Street Festival. But at any time of year, enjoy beautiful architecture found in the main street.

## *Stanthorpe - 2 hours 45 minutes*

Venture into wine country, less than one hour south of Warwick. The town also records Queensland's lowest temperatures – including occasional snow flurries. Also known as the granite belt for its striking boulder-strewn landscape, one place to stop is at Donnelly's Castle. This rock formation offers plenty of opportunity to walk between, around, and over these incredible boulders. Stop by Stanthorpe Cheese to pick up a selection of freshly cured cheeses to enjoy with lunch before exploring award-winning wineries along the way.



Villa 28 | Facade Original

## Snowy RV

\$725,000

-  3
-  2
-  2
-  1
-  WIP

Enjoy sunny mornings on your east-facing alfresco area in this beautiful three-bedroom home that also boasts an extra-long garage tailor made for your caravan or motorhome. You'll also appreciate the serenity and privacy in the master bedroom, located at the rear of the home. The Snowy features a delightful kitchen with island bench and walk-in pantry.



# Caboolture Riverfront

## Sales Manager's Message

If you're considering a simply lifechanging move to our beautiful Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront resort, the last of our stunning three-bedroom homes are now available, a rare opportunity to become part of this unique community.

These spacious homes, set on generous blocks, are perfect for entertaining loved ones. The open plan living-dining area seamlessly extends to a bright, breezy alfresco space with no rear neighbours, offering uninterrupted views.

The kitchen is a chef's dream, featuring a large island bench for easy meal preparation. Thoughtfully designed drawers maximise storage, complemented by quality appliances. A walk-in pantry adds a touch of designer elegance. High ceilings grace each home, and select designs offer skylights, bathing the interiors in natural light.

There is always a wide range of interesting things to do and see in the Caboolture area. Now that spring has arrived, there are plenty of options.

Here are a couple that caught my eye:

**PBR Monster Energy Tour Caboolture Invitational, 2** September from 7pm. See some of Australia's best bull riders at this special invitational event staged by the Professional Bull Riders Australia. This event takes place at the QSEC arena in Caboolture.

**Wamuran F.A.M (Food Art Music) Festival.** 23 September, 9am to 2pm. Wamuran Sports Complex is home to this free festival that showcases quality produce from nearby farms. In addition to great food and live music, shop handmade jewellery, textile arts, paintings and sculptures by local artists.

Glenys Lowry  
Sales Manager



Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront Sales  
Glenys Lowry, Sales Manager  
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# Luxury and space in Final Stage homes

*Seven is a lucky number for many. And it could be your lucky number too if you snap up one of the last seven homes remaining at Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront.*

These move-in-ready homes are set on premium sites overlooking the Caboolture River and offer uninterrupted green views.

Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront Sales Manager Glenys Lowry said the homes are ideal for those who love entertaining.

“Thoughtfully designed open plan living-dining areas open out onto expansive alfrescos to create the ideal space for hosting family gatherings and parties with friends,” she said.

“Adding to the feeling of spaciousness are the high ceilings with some designs including skylights to further let natural light in.”

Overnight guests can be welcomed with your choice of two sizable second bedrooms which can also be used as a study, library or craft room. The spacious master bedroom is your private retreat for relaxation. Each home offers a master bedroom with an ensuite with double vanity as well as an impressive walk-in wardrobe.

These homes are located in a quiet section of Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront, close to the resort’s facilities including a beautiful Country Club.

Avoid disappointment by contacting Glenys today on 1800 718 417 for a private inspection.



Villa 319 | Facade One

## Maroochy

\$799,000

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WIP

Featuring riverfront views from the alfresco area, this spectacular three-bedroom home is already built so you can move in today. Offering plenty of space and utility, the Maroochy features a separate lounge for private entertaining while the home’s kitchen and dining spaces are designed for entertainers. Don’t miss your opportunity to enjoy a simply lifechanging move at an unbeatable price.



# Resort Round-up

Welcome to another edition of our Resort Round-up. There is never a dull moment at our Living Gems communities, with so many activities and fun things to do happening all the time.

Last month saw about 80 Amber residents indulge in a full day of cruising aboard the old lady of the sea 'Lady Brisbane'. The cruise left from Brisbane Central and leisurely made its way down the Brisbane River before encircling the 300 islands within Moreton Bay and heading towards Southport on the Gold Coast.

The skipper gave everyone a running commentary and enlightened them to the history of each island. Who knew there was so much history at our doorstep!

As luck would have it, they found themselves alongside two naval vessels. They were Japanese helicopter carriers taking part in the joint Talisman Sabre exercises in Queensland.

Morning tea was followed by a great barbecue. Hats off to the staff for a great lunch.

The completion of Amber's new wash bay is expected any day now. The team are only awaiting installation of the ramp which will provide easy access to those hard-to-reach places whilst cleaning cars and caravans, as well as a few other finishing touches.

The wash bay will also provide access to electricity. We are glad our valued residents will soon be able to enjoy the convenience of this 'one-stop shop' very soon!

Meanwhile, at Sapphire by Living Gems there was a very special occasion celebrated when popular resident Sylvia Banks turned 95. Sylvia is loved so much that she was given four different celebrations by her family, our coffee club at Sapphire, at scrabble and at bingo. Happy birthday to a lovely lady!

Living Gems Caboolture Riverfront, which hosts a large contingent of ex-service men and women, held a special service on 18 August to appreciate and celebrate the sacrifices and service of those who served in the Vietnam War.

At 4:30pm the flags were flying while residents and their friends paid their respects and laid wreaths to honour those who served in the war. The Last Post sounded as the sun went down. The service was followed by dinner and entertainment by the Army Big Band, all of which was organised and run by ex-service members and volunteers.













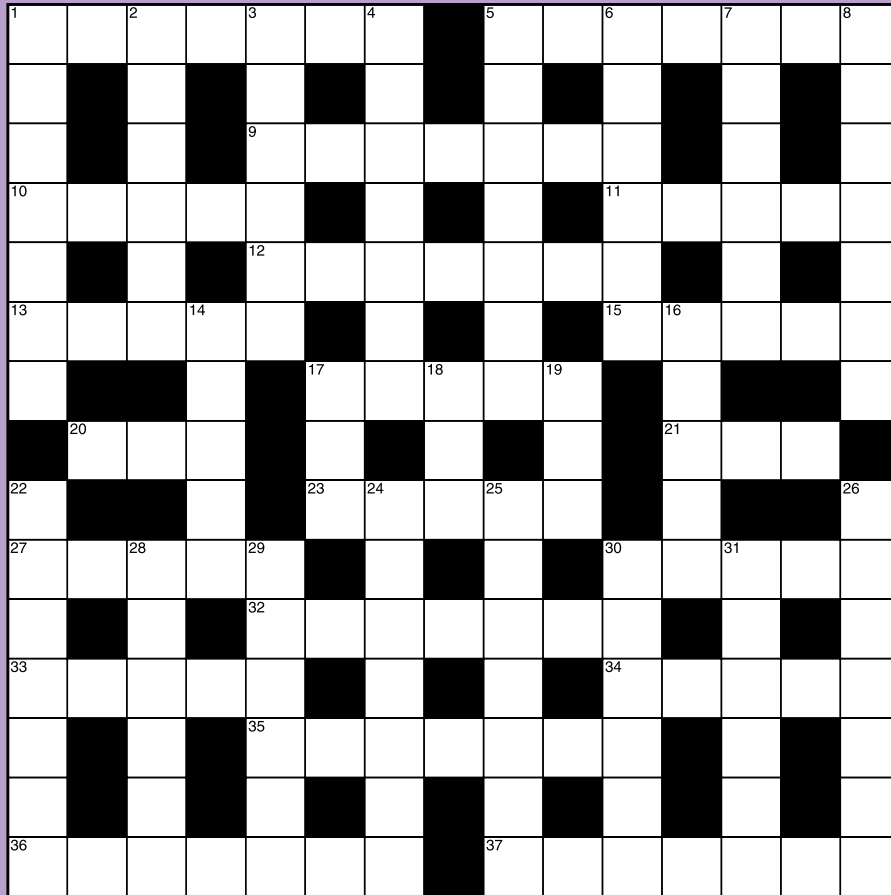


## Share your photos and news with us!

If you would like to have your photos featured in the *Thrive Resort Round-up* next month, or have a story idea to share, we'd love to hear from you. Send your photos to us before the 15th of each month to ensure your shots can be included in the next edition. Email us at [content@livinggems.com.au](mailto:content@livinggems.com.au)



# Crossword



*Last months solution*



## Across

1. Enviously resentful
5. Ironworks
9. Baby's disposables
10. Scallywag
11. Underground stem
12. Come to understand
13. Beach hills
15. Kitchen cooker
17. Wet
20. Metal pen-point
21. Mark, polka ...
23. Coated (with mud)
27. Rectangular courtyards
30. English racecourse

32. Mesmerised states
33. Poet, ... Allan Poe
34. Mantra
35. Vienna is there
36. Passed (of time)
37. Slim

## Down

1. Stolen-car trip
2. Pellet rifle (3,3)
3. Possessors
4. High singing voice
5. Pixies
6. Irish province
7. S African city

8. Deeply desired
14. Receded
16. Tot up (3,2)
17. Hamburger, Big ...
18. Squid fluid
19. Actor, ... Danson
22. Compress
24. Accumulated
25. Repeat performances
26. Nonprofessional
28. Actress, ... Lansbury
29. Belts
30. Jailbreak
31. Moved to & fro





# Sesame Beef Skewers

## Quick, easy sesame beef skewers for travellers

Are you setting off on a roadtrip throughout the Great Australian Outback and want some quick and easy meals to enjoy along the way?

Then why not give this travel-friendly beef skewers recipe a try? The beef is marinated in a mouthwatering blend of soy sauce, sesame oil and a hint of zesty ginger to tempt your tastebuds.

Whether you are strolling through the bustling streets of Bundaberg City, lounging on northern beaches, or exploring the vibrant markets of Noosa, these skewers will hit the spot and leave you satisfied but craving for more. Bon appetit!



### Ingredients

*(Makes 7-8 skewers)*

500g good quality steak – sirloin or rump	2 tbsp rice wine vinegar
½ cup soy sauce	2 tbsp honey or brown sugar
2 tsp grated ginger	¼ tsp chilli flakes (optional)
40g sesame seeds	10 wooden skewers (soaked in hot water for 30 minutes)
3 tbsp sesame oil	

### Method

1. Mix all the marinade ingredients together.
2. Mix in the beef and allow to marinate in the fridge for an hour.
3. Turn on the barbecue to a high heat.
4. Skewer the beef on the soaked skewers.
5. Cook the skewers on the barbecue for about 4 minutes, turning occasionally to evenly cook.
6. Serve with a sprinkle of sesame seeds and enjoy on their own or with an Asian salad.

# Frame that shot

Living Gems has launched a 2023 photo competition to highlight some fabulous destinations, favourite local spots, macro shots, favourite photos, best pet shots and lots more from our homeowners. So, get your cameras and phones ready this year (or dig through your archives)!

As a Living Gems resident, you can submit as many photos of

your choice each month and be in the running to be selected as the month's overall photo winner for the Living Gems community.

Each month, one winning photo will be chosen from across all Living Gems resorts and featured on the back page of *Thrive* magazine and shared on the Living Gems Facebook Page, so get your

exclusive bragging rights ready and share your masterpieces with us.

Send your submissions, with your full name, resort name and where the photo was taken, to [content@livinggems.com.au](mailto:content@livinggems.com.au)



## September Photo Winner

Congratulations to this month's winner, Sandy Gills from Living Gems Maleny for her stunning photo submission called 'Sailing Point Cartwright'.

## Submission Guidelines

Photos must be:

- Taken horizontally
- At least 2MB in size
- Taken by you

## Amber

1 Manuka Road  
Logan Village QLD 4207

**1800 317 381**

## Pacific Paradise

596 David Low Way  
Pacific Paradise QLD

**1800 978 388**

## Maleny

23 Macadamia Drive  
Maleny QLD 4552

**07 5429 6108**

## Caboolture Riverfront

176 Torrens Road  
Caboolture South QLD 4510

**1800 718 417**

## Opal

42 Quinze Creek Road  
Logan Village QLD 4207

**07 5547 2333**

## Sapphire

196 Logan Street  
Eagleby QLD 4207

**07 3804 7655**

## Gold Coast

70 Hansford Road  
Coombabah QLD 4216

**07 5577 5899**

## Ruby

225 Logan Street  
Eagleby QLD 4207

**07 3386 1771**

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