

# SANCTUARY LAKES RESORT NEWS

December 1, 2020



## SLRS OFFICE NOW OPEN

As a result of the further easing of restrictions, the SLRS Community Administration Office re-opened to the public last Wednesday the 25th of November.

To conform with current COVID guidelines the office is being manned with reduced staff members on a rostered basis to ensure staff numbers are kept to the allowed amount.

As per current social distancing requirements, a maximum of 2 people are permitted to enter the reception area at any one time. Please note you may be asked to wait outside until you are called into the reception area.

Additionally, residents must ensure they are wearing a mask when they enter the office. If you are not wearing a mask when you arrive, you will not be permitted to enter the office and will be asked to leave.

We ask that residents sanitize their hands upon entering and to please maintain social distancing of 1.5m whilst inside.

Lastly, and for the health and safety of our staff, we ask that you do not visit the office if you are experiencing any cold and flu symptoms.

Capacity limits have also increased meaning we are now able to accommodate a maximum of 40 people in the Recreation Club. The spa is now also open, with a maximum of 4 people permitted at any one time. Until further notice, the sauna will remain closed.

Residents are still required to use the online booking system to make a booking for the Rec Club.



## SLRS OFFICE NOW OPEN

Please click on the following link to access the online booking system:

<https://veribook.com/ew.jsp?cpUserId=840&cpAlias=wVhDMsrmEh1718&mobileSupport=true#wizStep=selectClass&keepOpen=true&hId=1>

Please note each session will run for 45 minutes, however residents are now able to book a double session. Session times will continue to begin on the hour and at 45 minutes past the hour the Rec Club staff will ask you to finish up your session. Staff will then have 15 minutes to clean down all surfaces and equipment before the next session begins. If you have booked a double session, you will still be required to leave the gym for 15 minutes to allow staff time to clean.

Furthermore, there will be no swimming lessons and no gym classes run until further notice.

Please note all gym entry terms and conditions still apply. Upon entry, staff will ask you to present your SL Resort Card that is used in the online booking; the card must match that used in the booking. If you are not able to produce a valid SL Resort Card upon entry, you will not be permitted to enter the Rec Club. One card allows entry for one person.

Additionally, residents must ensure they are wearing a mask when they enter the Recreation Club. This includes before and after a workout and using the pool. If you are not wearing a mask when you arrive, you will not be permitted to enter the Rec Club.

Should you have any queries or for further information please contact the Rec Club on 03 9394 9430 or via email at [slrecclub@chm.com.au](mailto:slrecclub@chm.com.au)





## SLARC CHRISTMAS CLOSURE DATES

The Sanctuary Lakes Architectural Review Committee (SLARC) will be closed from 21/12/2020 until 08/01/2021.

Submissions for the last SLARC meeting must be received no later than 5pm on 18/12/2020. Submissions received after this date will be assessed after we return.



## DRIVING RANGE WORKS - EPA UPDATE

We can confirm that the EPA have issued the Club with a Notice of Revocation.

The reason the EPA have now revoked the notice is because the industrial waste including broken bricks, concrete rubble including reinforcement bar, and other construction and demolition waste, along with asbestos contaminated material was removed from the driving range located at Standard Parcel Identifier (SPI): S3\PS725974 and disposed of at an appropriately licenced facility.

All works at the driving range are now complete.



## GREEN WASTE - NO ID NO ENTRY

Just a quick reminder that the Green Waste disposal service is available to Sanctuary Lakes residents only.

Residents are required to produce proof of residence (such as rates notice or drivers license) that confirms property address is within Sanctuary Lakes Resort.

Please note if you are not able to produce proof of residence upon arrival, you will not be able to enter the Maintenance Compound. Residents may dispose of their green waste at the Maintenance Compound on Saturdays between 8am - 12noon only.





## MIDGES ON THE LAKE

Over the last few weeks we have noticed an increase of midges around the lake so we wrote to our independent lake testing team to see if they could offer any assistance as to why they were around.

But first, what is a midge?

Biting midges are tiny flies, which grow approximately between 0.5 and 4 millimetres long, or about the size of a pinhead. The insect follows a holometabolous life cycle which comprises four life stages: the first as an egg, the second as a larva, the third as a pupa, and the last as a mature adult. The average lifespan of an adult midge, depending on the individual species, is between a few days and several months.



Midges are most commonly associated with coastal habitats and commonly breed around the edge of water bodies. The midges may be breeding around the lake for a number of reasons, such as:

- Salinity levels in the lake are quite low at the moment due to large amounts of rainfall so it is possible that a few more freshwater midge species have invaded the lake and are now breeding;
- The small fish populations may have been hit by large fish predation, or by fishing birds like cormorants and darters, meaning there is not enough predation on the midge larvae.

The last midge bloom that we had in Sanctuary Lakes was around 2007 and this was due to very high numbers of midge larvae in the Skeleton Creek estuary, which is where most of the midge were migrating from.

There is also the possibility that recent mild and wet weather conditions that we have had is leading to a lot of persistent puddles in the Parks Victoria wetlands to the east of the lake. These are perfect homes for midges and possibly mosquitoes as well.

The below photo shows the wetlands behind Sanctuary Lakes South Boulevard, which is owned by AVEO, (the developer of the Saltwater Coast estate).

The current conditions of the wetlands make for a perfect breeding ground for midges. Now that the weather is warming up, the wetlands are drying out, meaning there is a lack of water flow in the area and any remaining water is becoming stagnant. This, combined with the fact that there are no natural predators in the wetlands to eat the larvae, make for perfect breeding conditions.





## MIDGES ON THE LAKE

Along with midges, we also have mosquitoes around the lake. Their most likely source is standing water around residential properties. That is things like old buckets and wheelbarrows that catch the rain and fill up, poorly draining guttering and some storm water pits can all support large numbers of mosquito larvae. They do not survive in the lake, the creek estuary, or any open water wetlands due to insect and fish predation.

In Australia, there is no chemical that is registered for controlling midges in their breeding sites. Additionally, the breeding sites are usually very large, making chemical control unrealistic.

Below are some suggestions on how to prevent midges around your home:

- Avoid known hot spots, especially at dawn and dusk. These are known to be frequented with biting midges;
- Avoid watering your garden around sunset as midges are attracted to shady humid areas;
- Wear protective clothing in the early morning, late afternoon and evenings. This includes long sleeve pants, long sleeve shirts with a collar and closed in shoes;
- Apply insect repellent to exposed skin. Focus on areas such as your ankles, neck and scalp;
- When indoors, use ceiling and pedestal fans as a deterrent. Midges don't like air currents and will potentially stay away. Mosquito coils also work reasonably well.

It is hard to tell whether the midge numbers are going to get better or worse in the coming weeks and months, however given we are seeing high numbers at the moment, it is possible they could get worse so the above suggestions may come in handy.





## SNAKE SEASON

Melbourne snake season has started off slowly this year. Temperatures have been inconsistent, however, it won't be long before this all changes, once we have some more sunny days, snakes around Sanctuary Lakes will become active.

Snake season in Melbourne runs from September to April, when temperatures are consistently above 18 degrees.

Australian snake hibernation is different to the hibernation patterns of other animals. Their hibernation may not have a definitive end point. Snakes simply shut down for most of the really cold months and become largely inactive, but they can emerge and then retreat back into their winter shelter, at will, depending on the weather conditions.



On warm days snakes will come out to bask in the sun, usually not very far from where they spent their winter slumber. Once charged up by the sun they will be keen to feed.

During this time cats and dogs are most at risk. It is recommended that you clear out any hiding spots in your yard and keep grass low. Snakes are attracted to shelter, such as piles of rocks and timber, sheets of metal, or building materials.

Snakes are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975 and it is illegal to capture, kill or harm them.

Wyndham City Council provides a professional snake catching service to remove snakes from residential properties within Wyndham.

If you find a snake on your property:

- Watch it from a safe distance and do not touch the snake;
- Safely remove any people or pets from the area where the snake is;
- If the snake is visible, a qualified professional snake catcher engaged by Wyndham City can attend and remove the snake from the residential property.

This service is free of charge to residents and can be accessed by phoning 9742 0777.

It's important to note that if you choose to contact a snake removalist independently, without going through Council, you will be responsible for any cost incurred.





## Tennis Court Sitting Area

We have recently been completing concreting works at the tennis courts to create a sitting area for onlookers.

The garden bed section will be planted with Manchurian Pears and Tuscan Toppings will be spread in the new year.

Here are some before, during and after photos of the area.





# COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

To advertise contact: [communications@sanctuarylakes.com.au](mailto:communications@sanctuarylakes.com.au)

\*conditions apply



## Christmas Trading Hours

### SLRS Office

Wednesday 23 Dec - 9am-12pm  
Thursday 24 Dec - Closed  
Christmas Day - Closed  
Monday 28 Dec - Closed  
Tuesday 29 Dec - Closed  
Wednesday 30 Dec - Closed  
Thursday 31 Dec - Closed  
New Years Day - Closed  
Monday 4 Jan - Normal business hours

### Resort Maintenance

Thursday 24 Dec - Reduced staff  
Christmas Day - Closed  
Boxing Day - Closed  
Monday 28 Dec - Reduced staff  
Tuesday 29 Dec - Reduced staff  
Wednesday 30 Dec - Reduced staff  
Thursday 31 Dec - Reduced staff  
New Years Day - Closed  
Monday 4 Jan - Normal business hours

### SLR Security

Thursday 24 Dec - Business as usual  
Christmas Day - Business as usual  
Boxing Day - Business as usual  
Sunday 27 Dec - Business as usual  
Monday 28 Dec - Business as usual  
Tuesday 29 Dec - Business as usual  
Wednesday 30 Dec - Business as usual  
Thursday 31 Dec - Business as usual  
New Years Day - Business as usual  
Saturday 2 Jan - Business as usual  
Sunday 3 Jan - Business as usual  
Monday 4 Jan - Business as usual

### Rec Club

Thursday 24 Dec - 6am-1pm  
Christmas Day - Closed  
Boxing Day - Closed  
Sunday 27 Dec - 8am-6pm  
Monday 28 Dec - 8am-6pm  
Tuesday 29 Dec - 8am-6pm  
Wednesday 30 Dec - 8am-6pm  
Thursday 31 Dec - 8am-1pm  
New Years Day - Closed  
Saturday 2 Jan - 8am-6pm  
Sunday 3 Jan - 8am-6pm  
Monday 4 Jan - Normal business hours