

08 June 2020

COVID-19 COMMUNICATION No. 15

Dear Residents

Resthaven COVID Case Update

We are immensely relieved to tell you that Len Coupe's COVID test conducted by Ampath Laboratory on Tuesday 02nd June is NEGATIVE which technically means that if Len had the virus, he has recovered from it but according to the NICD (National Institute for Communicable Diseases) protocols and guidelines he must remain isolated for 14 days and all of the other Residents and staff must be quarantined for the same period – Thursday 4th June to Wednesday 17th June inclusive. Resthaven therefore remains on hard lockdown.

The timeline of Len's case looks like this:

- Tuesday 19th May – Len was swabbed by a health care worker from Dept of Health (DoH)
- Sunday 24th May – Len's test was received by the DoH laboratory for processing @ 10h05
- Tuesday 02nd June – Sister Joy got a call from DoH saying Len was positive @ 11h04
- Wednesday 3rd June – Len taken by his daughter to be retested at Ampath @ 14h10
- Friday 5th June – We received the written result of NEGATIVE @ approximately 10h07

And now onto another developing COVID situation...

On Friday 5th June we received an email from Dr Ginsberg advising us that the Ampath sister, Hilda, who normally comes to Randjes to draw blood has tested positive for COVID and that she had been at Randjes on Monday 01st June taking blood from 6 of our Residents. Hilda was wearing gloves and a mask when taking blood and would have spent only 5-6 minutes with each person.

As per the NICD protocols, we placed these people in quarantine for 14 days as from Friday 5th June and we will monitor them closely. Once again, we believe that this calls for full transparency so that everyone on the Estate knows who the quarantined Residents are and that their quarantining is respected. This does not mean they are positive for COVID.

We will obviously assist the 3 independent Residents with any meals or medication they may need. Anything delivered to them must be placed at their doorways and no one is permitted to enter their homes. In the unlikely event that any of them develop serious symptoms they will be transported to hospital by ambulance.

The 2 Frail Care patients have been confined to their rooms since Friday and the nursing staff are practicing what is referred to as 'barrier nursing'. Their crockery/cutlery they use will not be mixed with the general kitchen utensils. They will be closely monitored during the 14 days.

- Miriam Friedland – D23 Rotary Park
- Merle Lubinsky – B6 Rotary Park
- Merlyn Joffe – 108 Carlingford
- Norma Abromovitz – C16 Rotary Park – Norma was admitted to hospital this week for an unrelated condition. She will more than likely have to be quarantined when she returns to Randjes.
- Elaine Canell – private room in Frail Care Fleming House
- Neelsie Bekker – private room in Frail Care Fleming House



Personal shopping

We will unfortunately no longer be offering Zelda's personal shopping service.

The COVID situation is clearly 'hotting up' and we feel it is no longer safe or appropriate to have Zelda making 3-4 trips to Norwood Mall on behalf of Residents. This decision is based on a few factors - there are more people in stores now, the number of trips Zelda is making is putting her at greater risk as a result and she always has cash on her when doing the shopping and the levels of crime have already increased since the first few weeks of lockdown. Zelda has called all the Residents who have been utilising this service to advise them of this decision and to ask them to please make other arrangements – either by asking a neighbour who does go out to the shops to assist with their shopping or to use the various on-line shopping services or to ask their relatives to assist them.

Zelda had an incredibly positive response to her calls and we thank you for this.



Any construction workers on site will be confined to their particular site – please respect the need to stay as far away from them as possible.

The COVID situation is developing rapidly out there and a number of other Retirement Homes in our area have now got positive cases. **Please note that Checkers Balfour has been closed again – best to stay away from Balfour for now.**

Please stay calm and stay safe – by remaining vigilant about masks and social distancing and NO socialising in each other's houses. We will communicate with you once a week to keep you updated as the situation is too fluid to send out a communication more regularly.

Warmest regards

Gail

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gail'.