

# *St Johns Retirement Village*

"The Perfect Place to Live"

## COVID-19 Update

October 20, 2020

### **Practise Good Hygiene**

Wash hands, Cover Cough or Sneeze.

Visitors to sign-in, keep a diary.

If you can, stay at home.

Eat well, Keep exercising.

#### **Dear Residents and Families,**

The Village Community continues to take on the challenges of living in a "COVID" world. The Village is currently COVID free (*as you already know because we have not needed to send out an alert*). This is a testament to how well residents, families and staff are working to keep the Village Community safe. The latest (18 October 2020) easing of restrictions are encouraging (while very measured) setting the backdrop for further changes in the coming weeks.

Our Community of residents and families has adapted appropriately to being tested when required, observing a minimum 4 day isolation period when returning from hospital / rehab stays and being alert for COVID-19 symptoms, which may be like a cold or flu. The staff (in conjunction with families and Carers) are maintaining close contact with returning residents during their short isolation period designed to pick up early on any COVID symptoms.

The latest restrictions still focus upon meeting "outdoors" and the 1 + 1 "social bubbles" currently happening amongst many of the residents. The Village is making ready some of the larger indoor areas in anticipation of further easing of restrictions in the coming weeks. (We will advise all residents and families as and when areas are opened).

The "lockdown" that we have been going through has achieved a significant reduction in general community cases. With lower community infection the ability to "TRACE" & "TEST" for the virus is of paramount importance, being up there as a priority with face masks and hand & contact surface hygiene. The need to sign-in and provide contact details is an ongoing requirement for anybody coming on site. All residents should be keeping a list of people they have been in contact with.

In preparing for "COVID normal" conditions we are exploring technology for visitors to sign-in via an App on a mobile device/phone, much like what venues are introducing. Once we have identified and tested the most appropriate App we will give out instruction and use details, in the mean time ALL VISITORS must continue to sign in at the sign-in station outside reception or at Gate B entrance.

Most residents will be aware that their new Activity building has been delayed due to site restrictions, the builder continues to push his team to try and have us in the building around Christmas time. We see this new facility as being very important in the "COVID normal" context as it will give residents and their families a safe meeting place to catch up and socialise, we will give further information once we have a handover date. For those families not familiar with the building, it will have a community Café with both indoor and outdoor seating, two under cover BBQ's for resident use, along with a secure play area for younger children. The facilities inside includes a general multi-purpose hall, exercise area and an art and craft room for resident group activities.

In line with the current restrictions we are now able to promote the sale of vacant units as they become available, facilitating inspections by appointment only. If you have friends or family who may wish to become part of our Village community, they can arrange an appointment by contacting Heather on 03 5977 6955.

**Are you feeling well? – You must stay at home and not visit anyone if you are feeling unwell. If you have Symptoms – get TESTED straight away.**

**Staff can be contacted 24/7 on 03 5977 6955 or in an emergency Residents can press the nearest "Call" button or their personal alarm pendent.**

**In the meantime — Stay well and Keep safe.**

**Graeme Drummond—Village CEO**