

Ron Smith Care Centre @ Elphin Lodge



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Vaccination victory at Care Centre

Zabeth Zühlendorff, Rand Aid's general manager of service and the advance division, has praised the staff members who ensured the success of Ron Smith Care Centre's vaccination roll-out.

She writes:

The Care Centre was a hive of Covid-19 vaccination activity on Monday, May 17. This was because the Department of Health chose our home to showcase the roll-out of phase two of the vaccination process in Johannesburg, which was a great achievement indeed!

Our Care Centre residents were thus among the first to be vaccinated in this new phase and what a relief to all of us after months of uncertainty regarding the availability of vaccines.

The vaccination process was covered by numerous members of the press and overseen by senior officials from the Department of Health. During the day, we were also visited by the MEC for Education and delegates from the Premier's office, who were monitoring the roll-out. Needless to say, our processes flowed smoothly and compliments were received from all spheres. A small number of high-profile dignitaries, including the chairperson of the President's Solidarity Fund, were also directed to RSCC for their vaccination.

The success of the roll-out is a feather in the caps of Matron Avril Maltman and Sr Leanie Bessinger. They worked tirelessly to ensure that sufficient numbers of our nurses were trained as vaccinators and that our vaccination station was set up in record time at a level exceeding the standard requirements.

If it was not for their foresight, leadership and organisational skills, we could still have been one of the many homes on the waiting list for vaccination. At the same time, I would like to commend all the vaccinating nurses, as well as the support team responsible for screening, registration, directing, and transporting residents - each and every person gave their all and worked at a fast pace for very long hours to ensure the maximum number of residents per day were vaccinated.

It was truly a team effort, undertaken in great spirit so characteristic of our staff's motivation to always put the needs of residents first. The staff at RSCC never fail to make us proud and Rand Aid management salutes them all!



Administrative & support team. Back row: Loshan Naidoo, Debbie Beech, Tanya Switala, Salina Mtshali, and Neeri Stroebel. Middle row: Helen Petrie, Corlia Schutte, Marlene Sirchia, and Debbie Christen. Front row: Portia Ngobeni and Lee-Ann Ramathibela.



Matron Avril Maltman (front & centre) with the nursing team of vaccinators. Back, left to right: Catherine Dube, Esmeralda Rusike, Thili Sibiya, Leigh Kotze and Joanne Bosman. Front: Jaqueline Perils, Maria McKenzie, Matron Avril, Paulina Namu, Leanie Bessinger, Mildred Khoza, Rumbi Chaitikombo, and Jana Bezuidenhout.



Elphin Lodge resident Felicity Kanichowsky & her daughter Toni Birin from the Chocolate Den in Dowerglen, who supplied over 2 000 beautifully decorated cupcakes for all Rand Aid residents who were vaccinated over a 2-week period at Elphin Lodge & Tarentaal. Thank you for your generosity & kindness, Toni. The cupcakes were just what we needed after the job, to get us all smiling again!



Woodlands resident: Ethelwynne van Eck being vaccinated by Sr Catherine Dube.

Get to know me

MAUREEN MORROW: RIVER LODGE 1 RESIDENT

I was born on 30 September, 1932, in Belfast, Northern Ireland. I remember the war vividly, when I was still very young: the sound of air raid sirens, bombings, and hiding in bunkers for safety. I attended secretarial college & did secretarial work at a furniture store. My husband, Jimmy, and I grew up in the same neighbourhood in Belfast. We got engaged in 1959 & I travelled to Cape Town via mail ship to join Jimmy in JHB, where he worked for the Commercial Union Insurance Company (which later became Mutual & Federal). Jimmy advanced up the ranks, & eventually became MD of the company. We were happily married for 45 years until his death in 2004.



I am so thankful for my 3 wonderful children: Wendy, Barry & John; 4 grandchildren & 4 great grandchildren. My deepest wish is

to be able to see family & friends face-to-face again, to hug & touch them. I hope that we will one day be in a place where normal family & social life can be a reality.

Passing thoughts:

I loved my cottage at Elphin, where I happily lived for 12 years until moving into the care centre in 2020. I loved pottering around in my garden, socialising with friends, meeting for lunch at Elphino's, listening to light opera, visiting the library, going to church & Bible study, and visiting other residents who had fallen ill. I enjoy reading novels, doing puzzles & word games & also enjoy watching sport and cooking shows on TV. I was a happy homemaker & used to love cooking and baking. These days, I enjoy the home-cooked meals that my son, Barry, brings to me from time to time. I especially like the lasagne, cottage pie & quiche.

CECILIA LOMBARD: RIVER LODGE 1 RESIDENT

I was born on 4 May, 1933, in Benoni. Our family was poor but I had a relatively happy childhood until war broke out & life became difficult. There were severe food shortages & we seemed always to be hungry. We planted veggies out of necessity & this is where I cultivated my life-long interest & knowledge about gardening. After I left school, I went to work for the Benoni Town Council. I met my husband, Chris, at a social when I was 15. We were married for 22 years until he died of a heart attack at the age of 43. We had 3 sons: Hennie & Deon (JHB) and Chris (UK); 7 grandchildren & 5 great grandchildren.



After Chris died, I went into catering, eventually becoming head caterer for Protea Hotels. I retired at age 72. Eventually,

I moved to Tarentaal, where I filled orders for pies, cakes & biscuits for the 10 years I was there. I moved to RSCC in October (in the middle of lockdown!) and I have met such lovely people here – I am not lonely anymore.

Passing thoughts:

I used to love reading & watching TV, but my poor vision limits my activities somewhat. I enjoy listening to the radio: talk shows, classical music & music from the 20s-70s. I love rugby (Blue Bulls) and dogs. I used to breed Maltese poodles & at one time had 66! My most memorable holiday was when my son took me to the UK & I got to see the White Cliffs of Dover. I am thankful for the full life I have had, for my wonderful husband & children & that God has looked after me for all of my 88 years, through all the ups and downs of life. I am blessed.

SAMKE KHUZWAYO: PROF NURSE RIVER LODGE 1

I was born on 7 April, 1978, in rural KZN, & was the 2nd youngest of 8 children. Being raised under strict but loving conditions & being looked after by the whole village was crucial in shaping me into the person I am. My mom was a very hard worker & put us all through school by selling fruit & veg. After matric, I spent a year doing volunteer work at Eshowe Hospital & then went to nursing school. After qualifying as an ENA, I worked at the hospital & then continued my studies, qualifying as an enrolled nurse. I met my husband Sifiso at church & we have been married for 17 years. We have four beautiful children: Mthoko (13), Thando (9) & twins Simphiwe & Samkelo (5). Sifiso was in ministry, & in 2007, we moved to the United States for a year so that he could do his Masters in Theology at Duke



University in North Carolina. In 2012, I qualified as a professional nurse & worked at Netcare St Augustine's Hospital in Durban until I joined Rand Aid in 2019.

Passing thoughts:

As a family, we play games, swim, watch cartoons, & like going on outings. I treasure our times together, because at one stage I was in Durban, whilst the rest of the family were in JHB until I could finally re-unite with them 8 months later! When I have 'me time' I like having weekends away with my girlfriends. My husband is a great cook – better than me, but he only cooks when he is in the mood. I am thankful for my parents; for life, work, & especially for my husband & children. Sifiso is so cheerful & supportive. Going through various & many personal challenges has truly grown my faith.

Birthdays

RESIDENTS

08 June, Alison Whittaker, RL1 (77)
20 June, Getty Lee, RL2 (92)
22 June, Johanna Jennings, RL2 (97)
25 June, Irene Droste, CP (91)
29 June, Sarah Goldberg, WL (92)

VOLUNTEERS

3 June, Leung Ho
4 June, Jackie Hall
8 June, Jenny Holzberg
9 June, Cookie Pillay
15 June, Jimmy Smyth
17 June, Heather Djunga
29 June, Brian Quigley

STAFF

1 June, Phumzile Shabangu (Security)
5 June, Asnath Muthakhi (RL2)
5 June, Petunia Moleoa (RL1)
5 June, Elizabeth Petersen (LS)
5 June, Lufuno Nemutanzhela (RL3)
6 June, Salina Mtshali (Rec)
6 June, Johannes Darkie (Maintenance)
6 June, Jane Ngobeni (Kitchen)
6 June, Dimakatjo Mojapelo (Housekeeping)
7 June, Stella Dlotella (Housekeeping)
7 June, Nomusa Shabangu (RL1)
9 June, Violet Mpheroane (RL2, Special)
11 June, Lerato Pebane (Housekeeping)
13 June, Emily Nonjiko (CP)
15 June, Mosima Mojela (Housekeeping)
16 June, Constance Ndlela (Kitchen)
20 June, Eunice Sibeni (RL3) MKOSI
26 June, Johannes Mojela (Security)
30 June, Portia Tshayisa (Housekeeping)

Fondly remembered

Jenny Botha (RL2)

Welcome to

Sandra Dimant (RL1)
Francisco Dinis (RL3)
Yvonne Symons (LS)
Norman Hinxman (RL2)

Protecting personal information

The Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA in short) has been in operation for some time and will be in full effect from 1 July 2021.

This Act also applies to Rand Aid and means that we have to ensure that when we process residents' personal information, it is done securely.

A policy on the protection of this information is in place and will be supplemented with a procedures manual.



Matron Avril Maltman & Sr Leanie Bessinger – RSCC's AMAZING LEADERS who led the charge of the vaccination roll-out.