

Ron Smith Care Centre @ Elphin Lodge



AUG 2021 No.70

From *our* home to *yours*

MESSAGES OF LOVE FROM ONE CARE CENTRE TO ANOTHER



Ron Smith Care Centre (RSCC) residents and employees celebrated Mandela Day this year by writing postcards and delivering sweets to residents and staff at Rand Aid's sister care centres Thembalami and the Max Ordman Deaf Association (MODA).

Rand Aid's senior nursing manager Avril Maltman and RSCC's sister Leanie Bessinger delivered the postcards and sweets to Thembalami's manager Esme van der Walt and Matron Paulina Namoto to hand out to residents.

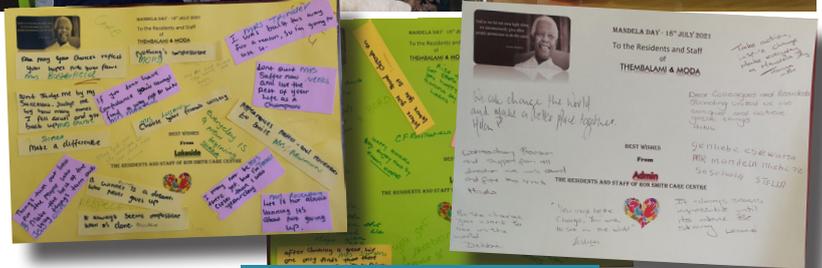
In previous years, RSCC and Elphin Lodge retirement village residents and staff celebrated Mandela Day by getting together and helping to make blankets for those in need.

This year, due to Covid-19 lockdown Level 4 gatherings and visits being prohibited, RSCC had to find a safe way to celebrate Mandela Day.

"Writing postcards engaged our residents and staff in a meaningful activity, while acknowledging our sister care centre's residents and staff, who were also working on Mandela Day. The messages were written from the heart, with some residents even writing to family members," says Avril.

"What was really special was watching RSCC's River Lodge 3 residents, many of whom have advanced dementia, being able to put pen to paper to write their postcards," she adds.

"The idea of reaching out to other older persons in the same boat is aligned with our Eden Alternative philosophy," says Zabeth Zühlsdorff, Rand Aid's general manager: services and advance division. "It is empowering to not only receive care, but to also provide it. Due to Covid-19, everyone in a residential care facility has been limited in terms of contact with the outside world and with friends and families. To know there are others in the same situation must have been comforting for Thembalami and MODA's residents," she adds.



Beautiful messages

Some of the beautiful messages written to Thembalami and MODA residents:

"Good people, I wish you well and am always thinking of you with peace and love. The heroes are those who make peace and rebuild," said Mariane Duvenage, from River Lodge 1.

"Hello good people. Have a happy day, get well and be protected and safe. Love you lots," said Dolly Luke, from River Lodge 1.

"To care for those who once cared for us, is one of the highest honours," said Josephine Kew, from River Lodge 1.

"Happy Mandela Day. Enjoy your day," said Megan Weeks, from Lakeside.

"On this very important day in South Africa, we remember our very great leader with love and respect," said Rhona Burnham, from River Lodge 3.

PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT:

Cathy Basterfield. | Delyse Burgess with Judes Slater from River Lodge 2. | Megan Weeks. | Olive Jew from Lakeside. | Elizabeth Trinder with Sylvia Lasarow. | Erzebet Tamasi. | Ellen Quinn.



RSCC Covid-19 update

The majority of Ron Smith Care Centre's residents and employees have had their second Covid-19 vaccination, with only a few exceptions.

Now that the vaccination process is complete, we trust that our residents and employees have the much-needed protection they need in terms of serious Covid-19 symptoms and complications.

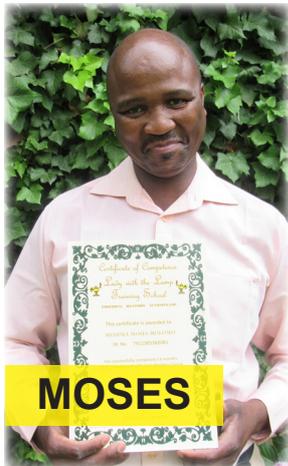
However, despite the vaccination process being complete, it is still possible to contract the virus and as such, we all have to remain vigilant by ensuring mask wearing, social distancing and the regular sanitising or washing of hands. RSCC also has to continue to abide the restrictions for care centres, as gazetted by government.

In July, six residents and six staff members contracted Covid-19. At the time of writing, three employees were still in isolation, but making good progress.

Sadly, one resident passed away due to Covid-19 complications. We send our sincerest condolences to her family and friends. She will be sorely missed.



WINNIE



MOSES



GRACE

Employees on the move

Congratulations to three Ron Smith Care Centre employees on their promotions, which took effect on 1 July. We wish you every success in your new positions.

Congratulations to **Winnie Morero** who was promoted to the position of auxiliary nurse. In 2014, Winnie completed the Enrolled Nursing Auxiliary Course at Limpopo Nursing College.

In 2016, she completed the HIV for Supporters, Care Givers and Lay Counsellor course, and the TB for Supporters and Lay Counsellors course at the Foundation for Professional Development.

Following her studies, Winnie joined Rand Aid Association's Ron Smith Care Centre as a care worker on River Lodge 3 in 2017. She has now been promoted to the position of auxiliary nurse.

A dedicated Rand Aid employee, **Mosimo Moses Molomo** has been promoted to the position of careworker.

Moses, who started working for Rand Aid Association in November 2017 as a domestic worker, would often be found on Ron Smith Care Centre's River Lodge 3 in his lunchtime, assisting residents to the dining room and helping them with their meals.

With the assistance of Rand Aid Association, Moses started a careworker course in 2020. Despite the adversity of 2020 and Moses contracting Covid-19 himself, he successfully completed the course in December 2020.

Congratulations to **Grace Ratisani**, who was promoted to the position of careworker.

Grace joined Rand Aid Association in May 2018, as a domestic worker. Between May and November 2019, she undertook the careworker course part time.

Birthdays

RESIDENTS

- 01 August, Issaias Anastasia, LS (77)
- 02 August, Alan Clark, WL (78)
- 03 August, Ethelwynne van Eck, WL (85)
- 04 August, Gladys Rosenberg, LS (95)
- 09 August, Denise Anstey, RL2 (92)
- 11 August, Louise Newman, LS (90)
- 16 August, Hazel Kalk, LS (66)
- 27 August, Maria Roberts, RL1 (99)

VOLUNTEERS

- 04 August, Dugald Paterson
- 20 August, Kathy Theron
- 20 August, Gloria Jones
- 27 August, Marina Smith
- 31 August, Felicite Horn

STAFF

- 5 August, Portia Mantome (WL)
- 8 August, Nkhensani Shibiti (Housekeeping)
- 8 August, Nthabiseng Sebata (LS)
- 9 August, Lisa Mtshali (LS)
- 15 August, Jennifer Sigida (RL3)
- 15 August, Sandile Ngubane (Elphino's)
- 17 August, Nomosonto Malevu (RL2)
- 20 August, Alice Molepo (RL2)
- 21 August, Thulani Khumalo (Elphino's)
- 22 August, Vincent Masilo (Elphino's)
- 23 August, Avril Maltman (Matron/mentor)
- 25 August, Tanya Switala (Admin)
- 27 August, Peter Quinn (CEO)

Fondly remembered

- Norman Hinxman (RL2)
- Sandra Dimant (RL1)
- Edna Schley (RL1)
- Androulla Avraamidou (RL2)

Welcome to

- Una Davidson (RL2)
- Adrienne Rumboll (RL3)
- Giza Smit (WL)
- Neville Branthwaite (RL3)
- Jean Arbesu (RL3)



*Warm smiles, warm hearts and warm food! What more do we need? All of this is available at Elphino's coffee shop. **Elphino's is now open for sit-down meals**, subject to Covid-19 protocols – including a limit on the number of guests allowed. Pictured are Elphino's welcoming team members: (front) Wanda and Cleo, and (back) Viva, Trynos and Thulani.*