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## IN THE TIME OF COVID AND LOCKDOWN

A year down, and we are still getting used to the new way of life that includes Covid-19, hand sanitizers, masks and the dreaded word, LOCKDOWN.

When the world came to a stand still a year ago, little did we know that a year on, we will still be suffering the consequence. Our lives have changed and what used to be the norm is no longer. With every next speech by the President, we hope for improved level restrictions, but I do believe that we have been very lucky in keeping our number in the Village low because we have been following the regulations as set out in the Gazette.

The first months of the new year, have brought joy and sadness to our Village as we celebrates the 100th Birthday of Mary Marais, but we also said goodbye to some of our beloved residents. We suffered while our beaches were closed and ugly looking fences were put up. Many people missed out on a wonderful beach vacation because off this.

Slowly our positive Covid cases are coming down and life is slowly returning to normal. We are hoping that the numbers will keep on declining and that a 3rd wave will miss us completely.

## COTTAGE SPONSOR AND UPGRADE NEWS

Welcome to Diana Lawrie who moved into cottage 89 during the last week of February. We wish her many years of happiness and contentment at FGV. You might have noticed several vacant cottages that are up for sponsoring. Some of these cottages have been sponsored and we will soon be welcoming quite a few new residents to Formosa Garden Village.



They are: Alice Spence to cottage 130, Sheila Horne to cottage 76, Elsie Erasmus to cottage 55, Danuta Parker to cottage 81, Basto and Meredith Rothman to cottage 84, David and Sally Milton to cottage 126 and Gaynor Snyman to cottage 72.

These cottages are currently in the upgrade phase.

Cottage 30 has been upgraded and we are in the sponsoring phase. We would like to thank you for your patience during these renovations.

Happy Birthday and many blessings to everyone celebrating a birthday during the next few months.

#### APRIL 2021

3rd Penny Kerr  
4th Rodney Hill  
6th Rosemary Mudd  
11th Danka Parker-Forsyth  
12th Wendy Jones  
12th Jinx MacNair  
13th George vd Busscche  
13th Rob Hutchinson  
17th Cyril Baumgartner  
19th John Evelyn  
24th Wendy Jager  
28th Shelagh Broderick  
29th Joan Woodley  
30th Diane Hart

#### JUNE 2021

1st Brenda Rink  
1st June Matchett  
1st Elizabeth White  
4th Jill Haysom  
4th Ursula Millerd  
8th Ronald Cubitt  
11th Peter Milburn-Pyle  
12th Fred Broderick  
13th Hector McIvor  
13th Johan Pretorius  
16th Chris van Gass  
16th Irene Arnold  
22nd Jean Pizani  
25th Viv Ritson  
27th Jill Waterman  
27th Ursula Godorr

#### MAY 2021

1st Jane Mullin  
1st Crystal Paterson  
6th Liz Webster  
9th Don Ayres  
9th Dennis Pizani  
11th Jen Mitchell  
11th Margaret Strahledorf  
12th Dermot Stobart  
14th Adrian White  
14th Patricia Rowe  
22nd Val Braby  
24th Di Faragher-Thomas



#### JULY 2021

1st June Milburn-Pyle  
6th João Gomes  
8th Sterna Luyt  
11th Ian Haig  
12th David Rowe  
18th Rita Klein  
21st Colleen Shuttleworth  
23rd Stephen Dodds  
23rd Pamela DV Bonthuys  
24th Mori Waterson  
27th George De Jager  
30th Ann Stratford



## WE REMEMBER

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of the following residents. Our sincere condolences to their family and friends.



Daphne Simkins  
26/11/2020



Ursula Allan  
08/12/2020



Barbara Crews  
31/12/2020



John Lamb  
18/02/2021



Tom Minikin  
03/03/2021

Daphne Simkins was the last original sponsor who moved in at the very beginning of Formosa Garden Village. Daphne and her husband Ted, sponsored cottage 55 in May **1981 and moved into their newly build cottage in June 1985. After Ted's death, Daphne** continued living in cottage 55 until her move to the Healthcare centre middle of last year. She was a resident of FGV for over 36 years.

John Lamb was well known and loved by many people in the village. In 2016 he retired as the House Committee Chairman and in Issue 22 of November 2016, we paid tribute to his long standing service to the village. During his tenure, substantial improvements were done to many of the ageing cottages, laundry and staff ablutions were completed and several improvements made in the Healthcare centre.

He was our elder Statesman, a great mediator and a grand gentleman.

## OTHER NEWS

Ernst van der Linden passed away due to Covid complications on Thursday, 10th December 2020 after a short stay in Knysna Private Hospital. He was a familiar face around the village as he and his brother, Hans have been part of the building team contractors that we use for building and upgrade of cottages. Ernst has been a contractor at FGV for over 17 years. He was a man with a big heart that was always willing to help not only with building experience, but also in a private capacity. I remember during the great fire of July 2017, Ernst was a very big help in getting water transferred to areas that was hard hit. He always went the extra mile. He will be missed.



Ernst van der Linden  
10/12/2020

## ELSIE ERASMUS (COTTAGE 55)

I am Elsie Grace Erasmus. I am so excited to be part of the family at Formosa Garden Village – in fact many of my friends are already here and love it.

I was born in Pretoria in 1938 – schooled and went to University there where I obtained my BA and HDip and went on to become a teacher in Johannesburg. I taught mainly Afrikaans at many schools there including **KES and then settled in at St. Mary's School for Girls in Waverley** where I stayed for over 25 years.

I married Peter Erasmus who was a lawyer and we had 2 children who have both given us wonderful grandchildren. Grace Belger nee Erasmus became a qualified attorney and lives in Johannesburg – her son is Carl Belger who is studying honours in neuro-science at UCT. My son is Anton Erasmus and he lives in Norway with his wife and son. Anton is a qualified architect and Christofer is at college. I adore both my grandchildren – they are a great joy to me.

We have always been part of the Plett community as we had a holiday house here for many years. We moved down permanently about 18 years ago to a wonderful house in Dassen Island drive where we had many happy times.

Luckily I travelled the world with our children and grandchildren. I love reading and playing bridge – I look forward to many games at FGV!

Unfortunately my husband passed away just over two years ago, so I am really looking forward to the loving community at FGV.



## BASTO AND MEREDITH ROTHMAN (COTTAGE 84)

Basto and Meredith moved to Plettenberg Bay 25 years ago on retirement, where Basto worked for Standard Bank for 42 years. Meredith was a dancing teacher when they met and married 53 years ago, owning a studio where she taught Ballet, Ballroom and Spanish dancing. They holidayed at Keurboomstrand for 40 odd years before deciding to retire to Plett, Basto being a keen fisherman, specialising in Musselcrackers! They have a son, also in the bank, and a daughter who is a midwife,



with 3 grandchildren between them. They both reside in Johannesburg. Basto keeps himself busy with woodwork, fishing, his fig and guava trees, and the stock exchange, while Meredith enjoys gardening, sewing, swimming and walking on the beach. They **both enjoy travelling and their favourite mode of travel is cruising. They're looking forward to becoming part of the FGV family - it's time!**

## JUNE AND JOHN MATCHETT (COTTAGE 119)

John and June arrived here from Clarens, where John had been the Chief Resident Engineer on the South African section of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) water tunnel, and which was also their home base while John was Chief R.E. of the 115m high Maguga Dam in Swaziland from 1998 to 2003. Before arriving in Clarens in 1991, the couple spent 2 and half exciting years in Turkey where John was the Consultants 'Chief Engineer supervising a major tunnel project to provide water from the Euphrates River to irrigate the upper Mesopotamian plains between the Euphrates and the Tigris Rivers. He had been sent there to restart a tunnel that had been declared too dangerous to proceed.



He introduced modern tunnelling techniques and then supervised the construction of some 25km of 8m diameter tunnel before returning to RSA to work on the LHWP. Other projects in which he played a major role in the Cape were the Theewaterskloof- Stellenbosch water tunnel and the Huguenot road tunnels.

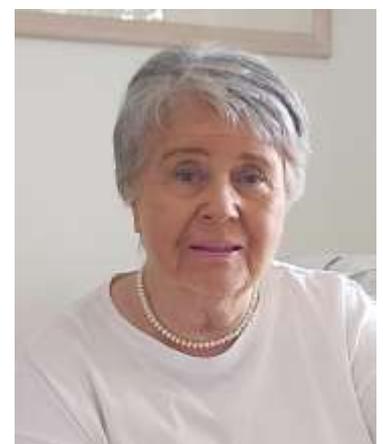
June accompanied John on all the dam and tunnel projects, having had to make 22 homes in 4 countries! She also found time to produce and bring up 3 children, involving 10 different schools, and working as PRO on the northern section of the LHWP. She also worked for a year as acting Matron of a retirement home in Pretoria. John and June became part of the Formosa Garden Village community a year ago.

## DANUTA BARBARA PARKER FORSYTH (COTTAGE 81)

Danuta was born in Warsaw Poland in 1938. She studied building science and married a Polish architect in 1959. After they got married, they left Poland. They lived in Vienna for 2 years and then moved to London for the next 8 years where their son Robert was born in 1961.

In 1969 they arrived in Cape Town South Africa and lived in Windhoek for 3 years. In 1973 they returned to Cape Town where Danuta divorced. In 1975 she married a South African architect by the name of Ged Forsyth. For the next 20 years, she worked for Anglo American Property services as a Project Manager and retired in 1996. Unfortunately her husband passed away in 2005.

She has been a resident of Plettenberg Bay since 2015 and will shortly become a resident of Formosa Garden Village.



## BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS AT FORMOSA GARDEN VILLAGE

Lockdown has not been easy, but it has not stopped our senior residents from celebrating their birthdays with their fellow neighbours. A big thank you to Matron Riley, Yolande, the Riley Wing staff and kitchen for pulling out all the stops in ensuring that they had a wonderful celebration on their special day.



Mary Marais celebrated her 100th birthday on the 5th of February 2021.  
Mary Marais was blessed with a special card from Queen Elizabeth II



Mala van Huyssteen celebrated her 85th birthday on the 17th of February 2021



Judy Kinsman celebrated her 77th birthday on the 27th of February 2021



Dr Peter Bunton celebrated his 99th birthday on the 2nd of March 2021.

## REGISTRATION FOR THE VACCINE FOR PERSONS OVER 65



Currently the registration is only open for Health Professionals and residents self registration will fall in the second round.

We are awaiting that the Department of Social Development to advise us when the residents can register for phase 2 of the vaccination registration. We will then advise you and guide you with regards to the self registration. Should you require assistance, the office will be able to help.

## THE CURRENT FGV COTTAGE MAINTENANCE POLICY:

**FGV's Responsibility** - External maintenance and upkeep of cottages. These include:

- The painting, waterproofing and varnishing thereof - painting done according to a 5 yearly painting schedule
- Cottage doors, window frames, windows, gutters, external door locks and structural defects
- Water, Sewerage, geyser and legal electricity connection up to and including the outlets
- Bulbs for internal and external fixed light fittings only
- Weed spraying restricted to the common roads / paved areas and communal gardens.

**Resident's Responsibility** - Internal maintenance and upkeep of a cottage, while being occupied by the resident. These include:

- General maintenance of the inside of cottages which includes varnishing and painting of the cottages.
- Normal wear and tear items – cottage keys, cupboards, handles, toilet seats, carpets, tiles, shower doors, garage motors, remotes, sink and basin plugs within the cottage. Weed spray of the cottage garden and surrounding paving area.
- Breakages caused by the resident.

Please use your gardener during your allocated time, to clean you gutter regularly. Ladders are at their disposal.

## **RECENT WATER DISRUPTIONS**

We have recently been experiencing several burst pipes in the village. These are caused due to soil movement, tree roots and aging infrastructure. Unfortunately this occurrence is not only restricted within our walls, as the better part of Plettenberg Bay is also affected. We have arranged with Wrigleys Plumbing to come and measure the pressure of the water at several points in the village. His report revealed that pressure is fine and that means that the pressure valve at the main gate is doing its job. This is an ongoing exercise.

A big thanks goes out to Alie, Bugs and their teams for always assisting in sorting out the pipe burst as soon as it is reported. Their hard work and willingness to assist, is very much appreciated. Pipe bursts unfortunately do not keep to office hours and sometimes they are called in the early hours of the mornings.

## **STAFF MATTERS**

Heinright Michaels (Driver), Eric Plaatjies (Maintenance), Ester Somagu and Zandre Lee Jonas (Kitchen) have left their employment at Formosa Garden Village. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours. We are currently in the process of filling these vacant positions.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

**GUINEAFOWLS:** You would have noticed the beautiful picture of the guinea fowls on the front cover. Several requests have been made to our office to ask residents not to feed the guinea fowls. They are becoming a nuisance to some residents and the residue of foods on the lawns is attracting rodents and snakes. Therefore we urge you not to feed wild animals. Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.

**PETS:** Please remember to register your pet with Gerda. This is important as we need to know who to contact should an emergency arise and your pet needs care from someone other than you.

**MEAL BOOKINGS:** All bookings made will be charged for. Please cancel booked meals or any other catering order, at least one day before, to avoid charges. Remember to cancel your permanent bookings when you are away.

**PRIVATE WORKERS:** Any private domestic, gardener or carer entering FGV, needs to be registered with the office and should be wearing an allocated bib. Bibs available from office.

**HEALTHCARE SERVICES TO COTTAGE RESIDENTS:** There is a service rendered charge applicable should you make use of certain services in the Riley Wing. This will be charged to your account at the end of the month.

**ADMIN CHARGES:** Should you make use of the office to fax, email & make copies, charges will apply. Please check with Lizette if you would like a breakdown of the charges.

**PANIC BUTTONS:** A panic button can be ordered through the main office by completing an order form. There is a once off cost that will be charged to your account. This panic button should be carried around your neck at all times and will provide the same service as knocking off the internal phone handset. It is very important that you test the panic button at least once a month. Should you require a new battery, one can be purchased from the office at R35.00 each or you can buy one at any retail store. Just ask for an A23 size battery.



## GRATUITY BOX STAFF DONATIONS

We would like to thank each and every one who contributed towards the 2020 staff gratuity fund. It was a welcome bit of money after a very long and uncertain year.

**If you wish to give a staff member a financial gift or “tip”, we request that you DO NOT give to individuals as this causes unhappiness between members of staff. Instead place your donation in the locked gratuity box in the foyer. There are small white envelopes at the reception (ask Lizette) to assist you in this regard.**



## A LITTLE INFO ON THE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS ROUTINE (Sandra)

Month end statement procedures are as follows:

- ◆ Electricity readings are done by Alie and Bugs on the 25th or the closest last working day of the week. Please ensure that no plants are overgrowing in the meter area and that no pots are blocking their access to these meters.
- ◆ The 25th is also the closing off date for the months pocket money, catering orders, dining room lunches and medical services rendered charges.
- ◆ The last week of the month, you might probably find my door closed as I am busy loading all the above information onto the system in order to generate the relevant invoices. These invoices are then emailed out to our email list on the last working day of the month.
- ◆ Account payments are still being made up until the last day of the month by residents and will only reflect in our bank statement the next day.
- ◆ On the first day of the new month, these payments made, must be allocated to the correct resident accounts.
- ◆ Once the payments have been allocated, statements can be printed and matched with the relevant invoices. This process takes a few hours in the morning, therefore, you can expect your statement in your FGV post box after 12:00 on the first day of the new month.
- ◆ Residents who prefer their statements via email, will receive it after 13:00.
- ◆ Please take note that over public holidays there might be a delay in statements.

## **LEEROY GARDEN SERVICES**

The staff of Leeroy has asked me to remind residents that they have a very big area to cover on their Tuesday visits, therefore they have a specific schedule that they follow and can not veer off this schedule. Every week they start at a different section of the village in order to cause the least disruption for our residents in the mornings. They are not allowed to take direct orders from any of the residents.



## **PRIVATE CONTRACTORS**

We would like to remind you that for security purposes, no private contractors - Telkom, Eskom, builders, painters, electricians - are allowed to enter the village over weekends and public holidays. Only gardeners, domestics and private carers registered with the office and issued with the blue, pink or white bib, will be allowed to enter the premises on these days.



## **COTTAGES UNDERGOING UPGRADES AND RENOVATIONS**

To ensure your safety, please refrain from entering a cottage that is under construction. Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.

## BUGS AND OTHER MAINTENANCE REQUESTS



I would like to remind residents who require Bugs assistance with private TV Systems (DSTV) cell phones, laptops, tablets and computers, that these requests do not fall under the responsibility of FGV. Bugs cannot tend to any of these private issues during FGV work hours. He is however available to assist after hours. Should you require any assistance, please contact Sandra. Alternatively you can contact the Computer shop or Megasat in town. Repair of private items such as bed lamps, irons, kettles, hair dryers, radios, microwaves, dishwashers and private electrical equipment, does not fall under the Maintenance department.

Please contact the office for a referral, if you do not know who to contact for assistance.

## ADMINISTRATION OF RESIDENTS PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

Various Legislation prohibits Frail Care staff to “de-cant” prescribed medicine for residents. They are also not allowed to stock or administer any emergency medication without it being prescribed by a Medical practitioner.

These are;

1. Older Persons Act
2. Department of Social Development set protocols (Norms and Standards)
3. Nursing and Medicine Acts (scope of practice)



In order for the Frail Care staff to assist residents in the future with the dispensing of their prescribed medication, it must be pre-packed by your Pharmacy in the form of Blister Packaging. The packaging costs can be added to your Pharmacy bill if you wish to do so.

Please contact Plett Medicine Depot for cost of the pre packed medication on 044 433 2278.

## EMERGENCY NUMBER \*\*2102

IN CASE OF AN EXTREME MEDICAL EMERGENCY OR A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION, you may dial **\*\*2102** from your internal intercom phone for assistance. Alternatively by knocking the handset of the internal intercom phone off its cradle, the Frail Care phone will ring and alert the Sister on Duty to your need for assistance.

Should you require medical attention, the relevant Emergency protocol will be followed.



## **If you're a senior, you will love this hilarious Pandemic poem from New Zealand.** - received from one of our residents

I'm normally a social girl  
I love to meet my mates  
But lately with the virus here  
We can't go out the gates.

You see, we are the 'oldies' now  
We need to stay inside  
If they haven't seen us for a while  
They'll think we've upped and died.

They'll never know the things we did  
Before we got this old  
There wasn't any Facebook  
So not everything was told.

We may seem sweet old ladies  
Who would never be uncouth  
But we grew up in the 60s -  
If you only knew the truth!

There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll  
The pill and miniskirts  
We smoked, we drank, we partied  
And were quite outrageous flirts.

Then we settled down, got married  
And turned into someone's mum,  
Somebody's wife, then nanna,  
Who on earth did we become?

We didn't mind the change of pace  
Because our lives were full  
But to bury us before we're dead  
Is like a red rag to a bull!

So here you find me stuck inside  
For 4 weeks, maybe more  
I finally found myself again  
Then I had to close the door!

It didn't really bother me  
I'd while away the hour  
I'd bake for all the family  
But I've got no bloody flour!

Now Netflix is just wonderful  
I like a gutsy thriller  
I'm swooning over Idris  
Or some random sexy killer.

At least I've got a stash of booze  
For when I'm being idle  
There's wine and whiskey, even gin  
If I'm feeling suicidal!

So let's all drink to lockdown  
To recovery and health  
And hope this bloody virus  
Doesn't decimate our wealth.

We'll all get through the crisis  
And be back to join our mates  
Just hoping I'm not far too wide  
To fit through the flaming gates!

*Author - Jan Beaumont  
Auckland*

## REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM COTTAGES

We earnestly request that no furniture, pot plants, shrubs, garden ornaments or light bulbs be removed from any cottage -vacant or occupied - without written permission from the resident living there, family of the resident or the permission of Management. Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.



### **PLEASE CALL AGAIN...**

*John Matchett is a young-old Clarenite and airs his view on certain aspects of life in Clarens. He now resides in Cottage 119 with his wife, June. (See page 5)*

How many of us would ever dream of loudly interrupting a tete-a-tete, soiree, tea party or even a private conversation. Yet, with the help of Alexander Graham Bell's invention. we do it without a moment's thought of what a disturbance we may be causing. Sometimes we even throw in an irritating remark to make the intrusion more painful, such as, "Did I wake you?" or "Am I interrupting something?"

More irritating than the cell phone is the landline. Not only are you rudely interrupted, but are loudly summoned to wherever the demanding device is.

But by far the greatest aggravation is caused when the phone stops ringing just as you reach for the receiver, especially when it doesn't ring again no matter how long and patiently you stare at the cause of the intrusion.

The caller is oblivious to the chaos he or she may have caused. Consider the gardener with soil up to the elbows hastily cleaning the worst off removing muddy shoes and lunging for the telephone just as it stops ringing; or the diy home repairer hastily climbing down the ladder, desperately trying not to drip paint or knock over the paint tin in his rush to obey the call; only to arrive breathless at the offending implement as it rings off: Or the home mechanic having to first clean his greasy hands: or the young mother in the middle of a particularly gruesome nappy change.

Early morning callers likewise ignore the possibility that their 'phone call may be interrupting a bath, shower or call of nature and ring off just as you arrive wet and hastily towel wrapped.

Even worse still are the callers who wait ten minutes or so and then phone again, giving you just enough time to get back into the garden or compost heap, or back up the ladder or back into the shower to finish washing your hair, or back under the car. Having an answering machine doesn't help, as these impatient callers ring off immediately when they hear the familiar "You have reached the home of. . . ."

So, on behalf of all those who have suffered the frustration of callers hanging up after eight or so rings, this is a plea to all impatient callers to imagine that the recipient is not out, but standing right at the phone with one arm outstretched and to PLEASE CALL AGAIN!