



3rd August, 2020

Dear Residents, Family and Friends,

COVID-19 UPDATE

Disappointingly, I find myself having to write to you once again, to inform of the decision that James Milson Village has made in line with the current spread of COVID-19 within Sydney. I have decided to close Carabella House and Elamang House to in home visitors, from Tuesday 4 August 2020.

The reintroduction of restrictions we hope will be short lived and we will review the situation daily and provide you with updates accordingly. The spread of COVID-19 in Sydney especially the community spread that cannot immediately be traced or readily explained; the escalating number of Hot Spots in the community and the risk this brings to all our people, I believe requires this decisive action, an action that sits heavily on my heart but a decision that provides us with that little more confidence in maintaining a safe haven at JMV.

ACCESSING SERVICES WITHIN CARABELLA HOUSE AND ELAMANG HOUSE

- The Gymnasium, Hair Salon and Beautician will be closed to people living within Camaraigal House and Carabella Tower.
- The exercise classes will return to the driveway (weather permitting) at 11:15am only.
- Residents from Camaraigal House are not permitted within Carabella or Elamang House.
- Tower Residents are permitted to visit Camaraigal House residents, however, please ensure upon return that you have washed your hands and are wearing a mask.
- Tower Residents are permitted to exit and enter the building on Level 2 (near the laundry).
- Tower Residents are NOT permitted to sit at reception. If you are being collected, please stay in your apartment until your ride has arrived.

GOODS DROP OFF

- Mail, deliveries and other deliveries will be processed by our reception staff.
- Items can be delivered to JMV Monday to Saturday, between the hours of 10am to 3pm (items left outside of these times are not guaranteed to make it to the resident in a timely manner or to be safely collected). All deliveries are subject to infection control processes.
- All items are to be clearly labelled with the name of the person and if possible, their apartment number
- Items are placed in the designated collection trolley at the main entrance; items will be cleared regularly throughout the day

WEARING OF MASKS

The Premier outlined yesterday new recommendations for the wearing of masks; the recommendations include:

- If you are in an enclosed space and you cannot guarantee social distancing, public transport and shopping
- Staff in customer facing roles, such as retail and hospitality
- If you are attending places of worship and
- If you live in areas of high level of community transmission or known COVID-19 hotspots.

The Premier was clear that NSW was a tipping point stating "The next few weeks will make or break us; in terms of the way we get through this pandemic". Wearing a mask is not always pleasant but please try and take up this advice. It is these measures combined with staying home if unwell; getting tested and always maintaining social distancing that are our defence against COVID-19.

VACCINE TRIALS



I have provided updates as to the progress of vaccine development and trials over the past weeks and I am pleased to report that yesterday 2 August 2020 the Adelaide based company Vaxine has shown positive results during the Phase one human trials; the vaccine has been shown to be safe and to induce antibodies that attack the coronavirus that caused COVID-19.

KEY POINTS TO NOTE

- A potential COVID-19 vaccine developed in Adelaide has been shown to be safe and to induce antibodies
- The next stage of trials will include elderly patients in aged care homes; Victorian aged care homes have been the site of multiple devastating outbreaks and the vaccine will be offered across homes in Victoria in the first instance.

I am unsure as to when the trials will commence however, I will keep you posted with updates.

To assist in answering your queries, and to enable those at the homes to concentrate on the wellbeing of all the residents, we have set up a dedicated phone line and e-mail:

Phone: 02 9346 1520

Email: COVID-19@jamesmilsonvillage.com.au

As with all previous decisions in relation to closing our homes, this one was not easy for me to make. Like all of you, I was hoping to get back to some greater normality this month. Our homes are more enriched with family interaction and your presence.

It is my hope that by adhering to the restrictions set by our public health experts (social distancing, staying home and getting tested when unwell, limiting community access to work, appointments and exercise and wearing a mask when unable to maintain social distancing), we see a lessening of community transmission and we can welcome you into the homes again soon.

Once again, your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated. Please take care and stay safe.

Jennifer