IN–BRIEF
It is so good to be able to report that due to the success of the latest lockdown in reducing the number of COVID-19 infections, that the Government has now as part of its easing strategy, relaxed the rules relating to visits to residents in care homes. We know that many of you have had an agonising past year not being able to keep in constant touch with your loved ones. Although we have tried our very best to keep communication channels open, we know there is nothing to beat actually being close to someone and holding their hand or giving them a hug. There are still some restrictions applying to these visits which we have detailed below, but we want to know that if you do come to visit you will be given a very warm welcome not just by your loved one but by all our staff as well. We ask you to bear with us in case of teething problems with testing and PPE arrangements, but we are certain that we are on the right track to getting back to something approaching normal.

VISITING ARRANGEMENTS
As of 12th April the Government announced that care home residents will be able to be visited indoors by two named individuals. However, this only applies to care homes with COVID-19 free status for at least 28 consecutive days (the countdown is considered to start from the last person tested COVID-19 positive). Listed below are the current rules for all our homes and the relevant requirements. We will update these as they get revised.

• Every resident will be allowed two regular indoor visitors from 12th of April 2021.
• Airtight visiting room (POD) visits will be also allowed, but only 2 visitors per resident.
• Visitors to be allowed to hold hands, but unfortunately no kiss and hugs (avoid close contact).
• All visitors will receive a lateral flow test and will be required to follow all infection prevention and control measures.
• PPE will have to be always worn on site for inside and POD visits.
• We won’t be able to provide food or drink during your visit.
• The person nominated will remain unchanged while this step is in place.
• Visiting will be suspended during local outbreaks in individual homes.

If you are in any doubt as to what you are or are not allowed to do re visits then we would suggest that you get in touch directly with the relevant home.
PAYING OUR RESPECTS

It was with great sadness that all of us at Macc Care learnt of the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip in early April.

All of our residents have lived through the same times as he did, and have seen his extraordinary contribution to the nation and the support he showed to the Queen for over seven decades. He will rightly be remembered for having promoted important causes, such as wildlife and climate issues, way ahead of his time. His steadfastness and calmness at times of crisis are well known and he will be missed by the whole country. Our deepest sympathies go to his family at this time and we know that all our homes have been reflecting on their own memories of his service and achievements over many decades.

HOW WE ARE HANDLING ENQUIRIES

Despite the Coronavirus pandemic, we have continued to receive enquiries for our care homes. Demand for quality residential care has not disappeared because of COVID-19 – if anything it is more important than ever that safe and secure care homes are available to look after the most vulnerable in our society. Across all our homes we are continuing to serve our local communities and remain open to enquiries from families who are seeking excellent care for their relative.

We would to continue to reassure you that with every new admission, or readmission, we expect a COVID-19 test to be carried out and the result available, and known to us, prior to us accepting the new admission. Every discharged returning resident is cared for in isolation, irrespective of the result of the test, for 14 days.

We will always put the health and wellbeing of our residents and their families first, before we accept new admissions into our communities, but it is important that we continue to reach out to those people who need our help.
CELEBRATING
ST GEORGE’S DAY

This April saw the residents of all our homes join in with celebrations to mark St George’s Day.

There was plenty of creativity throughout the homes as residents made decorations, flags and some pretty fierce looking dragons. Now St George wasn’t English, he was probably Turkish, and as far as we know he never visited England, but that doesn’t stop us enjoying the day each year. In fact St George is the Patron Saint of several countries who mark his Birthday each year. We had some wonderful parties across our homes and it’s so nice when you hear comments from the residents saying how much they have enjoyed themselves knowing you’re making a difference and having a positive impact to people’s lives and mental health. We hope you had some fun along with St George and his Dragon!
LOOKING BACK AT EASTER

What a glorious Easter weekend everyone had across our Macc Care homes. The build up to the weekend was marked by residents and staff joining together to create decorations, bonnets, and mix and bake some fantastic Easter cakes. Being creative has been one of the main joys for many residents over the past year, and as you can see by some of the photos, Easter weekend was no exception.

There were plenty of Eggs and Egg Hunts - assisted in some homes by our own real Chickens! There was even more than one or two sitings of the Easter Bunny, which produced a lot of smiles!

Above all it was wonderful for all our residents to reconnect with the outdoors and relax in some nice sunshine. There was plenty of time for good conversation, quite a few cups of tea, and of course some slices of those wonderful cakes everyone helped make.
Everyone at our Sutton Rose home was thrilled when the Bistro opened in April. This is a fantastic facility, not only for residents of the care home and the Assisted Living apartments, but also for the local community who are welcome to come and use the Bistro as they would any other cafe. It is hoped over time that the menu will expand and develop as we get to know what people want from a local community resource. For the moment it is just great to say we are open, serving outside and hopefully it will not be too long before we can welcome customers inside the Bistro as well.
STUDLEY ROSE
MEET OUR MANAGER:
ANGIE RYAN - RGN

Angie has worked in the care home sector for over 20 years. Prior to this she was in the NHS, working as a Sister and Senior Staff Nurse. Her medical experience, and care sector qualifications, make her the perfect person to commission Studley Rose and develop the home into the thriving and caring community we want it to be.

She has huge experience of being a home manager, and has been responsible in previous roles for every aspect of the day to day running of large care homes - working for some of the best known providers in the country. This background means that she, along with her hand picked team, will be able to deliver the finest person centred care available.

She works with drive, enthusiasm, energy and motivation. She has always been respected and trusted by her colleagues. In her past positions she has had experience of teaching staff and developing managerial skills in others. She has helped to build and develop excellent nursing teams. These leadership skills, coupled with her experience in acute medical nursing, and care of older people, will mean that all residents and families connected with Studley Rose can have complete confidence in the abilities of the person in charge. Angie will do everything she can to make sure that people who come to live at the home are treated with respect, dignity, and a made to feel that they are loved and part of a warm and welcoming community.
Abbey Rose – Happy Anniversary
At the end of March we celebrated the 2nd Anniversary of the new Abbey Rose Care Home. Can’t quite believe its two tears since we first opened our doors. We enjoyed a drink and a fish and chip supper. Cheers everyone!

Austin Rose – Baking Off
Nothing our residents like better than a baking session. Chocolate chip muffins were the order of the day here - tasted delicious! There was quite a battle to see who should lick the mixing bowl clean!

Church Rose – A taste of the Caribbean
One of our residents lent a hand to our chef recently to cook a popular, traditional Jamaican dish ‘Ackee and Saltfish’. The nutty taste of the lobes of Ackee is complemented perfectly by the sharp saltiness and firm texture of the salt cod - it tasted great.

Dora Rose – Good to be back outdoors
We have lovely grounds at Dora Rose, and some smart gazebos, so everyone was able to gather round and have a lovely chat. With hats to protect from the sun and blankets if anyone felt cold, we had a lovely time enjoying the fresh air. Roll on Summer!

Meadow Rose – Supporting Comic Relief
We had a long week of fun here at Meadow Rose - raising money for Comic Relief. We had a superhero day, a bake sale, raffles, fancy dress and much more. We would like to thank everyone for their support and congratulations to all the Raffle winners.

Priestley Rose – Happy Birthday Your Majesty
Our residents were keen to show their support for Her Majesty The Queen on her Birthday, especially after the sadness of the death of Prince Philip. While she may not have enjoyed the day as much as she might have, we wanted to show that we were thinking of her and send her best wishes.

Sutton Rose – Happy St Patrick’s Day
What a lovely day we had here at Sutton Rose. Lots of decorations, silly hats, laughs and smiles as all our lovely residents joined in with celebrating St Patrick’s Day. The home looked brilliant decked out in green from top to toe...as were some of our residents!

Willow Rose – Fancy a Flutter...
Well our residents certainly enjoyed one when ‘Billie the Bookie’ came to Willow Rose to let our residents pick some horses for the Grand National. What a spectacular race it turned out to be with the first ever women jockey winner....congratulations Rachael Blackmore!

Wulfrun Rose – Enjoying Spring
We have had some gorgeous days here with residents at last being able to enjoy the gardens again in the warm sunshine. Of course they have to share the space with our family of chickens. They are such a joy to have roaming around our gardens entertaining our residents as always.