

Dear

At a time when care homes are so much in the news it seems even more important to update you on what is happening at Bridgemead to give you some reassurance and to express gratitude.

Firstly, it is so sad to hear how some of the most vulnerable people in our society have been affected within care homes around the country. We give thanks to God that there are no confirmed cases of Covid-19 at Bridgemead. We continue to follow Government advice, taking the appropriate precautions to safeguard our residents and staff. In particular our residents have to comply with guidance on social distancing which means that they cannot meet with any visitors or volunteers nor can they experience normal social contact within Bridgemead, including at all meal times.

Whilst friends and family are unable to visit face to face we do encourage you to use all the other available means of keeping in contact with loved ones. Most of us are blessed to have access to a wide array of technology, that actually works for the most part, and we encourage you to use it. For example, if you want to arrange a Facetime call with any resident then please contact reception to arrange a suitable time.

For those that wish to, we are able to continue with quiet time and Sunday service which are conducted by staff. Some residents are able to enjoy sitting in the garden to take in some of the lovely spring sunshine. We have continued to maintain contact with GP's via a secure video link service for all residents.

The last few weeks have also been a time of huge change for our staff. We are also, so grateful that we have no issues with staff who are all now familiar with the increased health and safety requirements. We have the necessary PPE available in house, should this be required, and all other supplies are arriving as required.

I am sure you are aware that this will be an anxious time for staff also. I want to recognise and express my gratitude for the commitment and outstanding work that they are doing in supporting and caring for our residents during a time of many new challenges and uncertainty.

Whilst I share in your sadness at needing to be separated from loved ones at this time, I also thank you for your prayerful support for Bridgemead staff and residents.

*'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*

Ed Zedlewski

Chair of Trustees