



SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS
SAARP SOCIAL CLUB – GEORGE
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NEWSLETTER NO. 370 – NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020

Dear Members and Friends



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It has taken me many hours of hard thinking to compile this newsletter to those members who are fortunate enough to have an email address. I have had a conversation with Julie Hattingh, our director in Cape Town, during which the current situation of the George Social Club was discussed in depth]

The COVID-19 pandemic has become a way of life and I think that most of us have become used to the idea of restrictions and “cans” and “cannots” without too much trouble. As a resident of the Assisted Living apartments at Groenkloof, my life has changed completely. We are not under “lockdown” but “lockup” and the management of the apartments are determined that no-one here will be affected by the virus. As a result, any popping down to the bank or shops or doctor or whatever is very restricted for us and most of us have taken to ordering groceries from the Spar Shop in Wellington Street and ensuring that any other medical or banking appointments are made for a specific day in the week.

The above and many other factors have forced me to make a decision about my life and that of SAARP George Social Club. Most of us are aware that we have been running the Club contrary to all Constitutional rules with only myself as chairperson and with much appreciated assistance from Peter and Gillian Orlet, Caroline Goss and Dick and Raye Cullingworth, once they had returned from their overseas trip. The Hiking Group have gone their own way and are no longer part of SAARP; covid-19 shut the Let’s Go Bowlingvenue venue and the breakfast club was put into storage because of having to distance ourselves at tables. Meetings at Emmaus are definitely not on the cards – they will remain even more tightly restricted than the various Retirement Homes as their residents are the most vulnerable! While the various levels of rules changed, travelling between families towns and cities and provinces were gradually lifted, circumstances could change things again! George tops the list of cases, Oudtshorn is second and Knysna third as far as “cases” is concerned. This pandemic is far from over and many pundits are saying that we could possibly be looking at years and not months before life returns to “normal” whatever that may be.

Two pieces of news – good I hope – is that Peter and Gillian have organised a breakfast club get-together at the Victoria Bay Restaurant on Thursday 10th

December at the normal time of 09:00 Michelle, that wonderful “hostess with the mostest” is offering a bumper breakfast for R65 and everyone is invited to join the group and enjoy this end of year event. The other good news is that Peter has received an SMS from Let’s Go Bowling wherein he has been informed that they are re-opening the venue. I guess all the regular bowlers received the same SMS. P & G, together with Merle and Maggie are going to investigate next week and report back.

And now for the difficult part of this newsletter. I have been saying this at the past 3 AGMs of the George Social Club and now must make a final decision. Taking into consideration the pros and cons of continuing to run the Club in the almost impossible hope that some of the members will come forward to assist, have decided that, unless I hear from you to the contrary, I will be closing the Club at the beginning of 2021. We will do it with a bang – I have been told by Julie that we can have a party with the funds on hand!! I need someone who is prepared to take over the running of the Club, as well as a Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. Anyone who is interested in undertaking any one of these tasks MUST be computer literate and in possession of a computer / laptop and an email address.

As I have said many times before – please give this your consideration and come back to me via email by no later than 16th December 2020. U U an available on the telephone numbers on the head of this newsletter and if I am not in my flat at the time, I will respond to voice mail0

We have a number of members who are not on email and I would be very grateful if those who receive this message will contact them. I am thinking in particular of Joan Janse van Vuuren, Florence Alexander, Hennie and Annie Mouton and Fred Hendricks.

May you all be blessed this Festive Season and continue to be safe and healthy,

With love
Pam Hodgson
Chairlady