



# SNIPPETS

June 2018 | Edition 195

Seniors Enquiry Line

Linking Seniors with  
Community Information

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## Quote of the Month:

“Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe.” - Albert Einstein

## Contact Details:

Phone : 1300 135 500

Email : [sel@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:sel@ucommunity.org.au)

[www.seniorsenquiryline.com.au](http://www.seniorsenquiryline.com.au)

Seniors Enquiry Line is an information and referral service for Queensland seniors, proudly sponsored by the Queensland Government and operated by UnitingCare Queensland.

## Did You Know?

There are approximately 4,200 different religions in the world

## Flu Shots



The Australian Government is providing two new flu vaccines to over three million Australians aged 65 years and over - free of charge, as a direct response to last year's horrific flu season. More than 90 per cent of the 1,100 flu related deaths in

2017 were by people aged over 65 years of age. The vaccines have been fast-tracked to ensure lives are saved and that older Australians receive greater protection. These new vaccines – Fluad® and Fluzone High Dose® – specifically provide increased protection for people aged 65 years and older. Both vaccines are available through the National Immunisation Program and are free for over 65 years of age. These new trivalent (three strain) vaccines work in over 65s by generating a strong immune response and are more effective for this age group in protecting against influenza. These vaccines have been specifically made for the elderly, as their immune systems respond less effectively to vaccines. This includes mandating a requirement for residential aged care providers to provide a seasonal influenza vaccination program to all staff.

Additionally the Aged Care Quality Agency is continuing a review of the infection control practices of aged care services across the country. The outcomes will inform new guidelines around the areas of the greatest risk to the safety, health and wellbeing of care recipients. The Health Minister, The Hon. Greg Hunt MP stated “We encourage all Australians aged over six months old to get a flu vaccination this year before the peak season starts in June”.

For the full transcript from the Health Minister, go to: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt020.htm>

## 2018 Budget - How It Affects You



The Federal government released their budget for the 18/19 Financial year. There were quite a few elements in this budget that have a significant impact on seniors and the cost of living.

Although this is not an exhaustive list we hope that this will help give you a brief overview of what's in it for you.

- Pension Work Bonus Scheme – this will expand to include self-employed people.
- Pensions Loan Scheme – boosted to include pensioners to access fortnightly payments. These payments are now one-and-a-half the pensions rates.
- 14,000 high-level home care support packages over the next 4 years.
- Superannuation annual fees will be capped at 3% for accounts with less than \$6,000 and exit fees will be banned on all accounts. Inactive accounts will have their balances transferred to the Australian Tax Office who will proactively work to reunite these with the account holder.
- \$83 million designated for psychological services in residential aged care facilities and \$20 million for supporting isolated older Australians, including increasing funding for mental health services (focussing on suicide prevention, research and older people).
- National Energy Guarantee will see \$400 off the average Australian household's annual power bill and places a focus on the affordability, reliability and sustainability of our energy supply.

Although we can't print the whole budget report for people if you would like a paper copy of some part of the budget please call **Seniors Enquiry Line** on **1300 135 500**.

Information sourced from:

<https://www.budget.gov.au/2018-19/content/essentials.html>

## Know your Consumer Rights Refund Rights – Like for Like payment.

Under Australian Consumer Law if you have a major problem with a product or service you may be entitled to receive a refund. Your refund should be the same amount you have already paid and provided in the same form as your original payment. That is, if entitled to a refund, you do not have to accept a credit note or store card. Exceptions may apply if, for example, you paid a large amount in cash and that amount of cash is not held in normal daily trading. In this instance a refund onto your EFTPOS card may be an acceptable alternative. Again, even in this scenario, you do not have to accept a credit note or store card.

To receive more information regarding your consumer rights call **Seniors Enquiry Line** on **1300 135 500**

## Famous Birthdays in June

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| <b>1867</b> | Henry Lawson, Poet                         |
| <b>1909</b> | Errol Flynn, Actor                         |
| <b>1911</b> | Jacques Cousteau, Oceanographer            |
| <b>1926</b> | Marilyn Monroe, Actress                    |
| <b>1927</b> | Slim Dusty, Country Singer                 |
| <b>1953</b> | Bruce McAvaney, Sports Broadcaster         |
| <b>1965</b> | Mick Doohan, Motorcycle Racer              |
| <b>1967</b> | Nicole Kidman, Actress                     |
| <b>1982</b> | Prince William, Heir to the British Throne |
| <b>1985</b> | Sam Thaiday, Rugby League Player           |

## White Pages, Yellow Pages

As technology moves on, there is less requirement for many people to have a yellow and white pages in the household, as everything is available on the Internet. For some though, the yellow and white pages were a link to the outside world. Due to them not being automatically delivered anymore, many people have lost this source of independence. However this does not mean that the yellow pages and white pages are not available, you just need to order them and they will be delivered. For more information, or to order yellow or white pages, go to: <https://www.directoryselect.com.au/action/faqs>



Elder Abuse Prevention Unit

# Precisely Purple photo competition

**World Elder Abuse Awareness Day  
- 15 June 2018**

Show your support for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and incorporate purple (the colour of support against elder abuse) into your daily activities.

Here are some ideas to get you inspired:

- Wear a purple piece of clothing or accessory
- Decorate your workspace or office purple
- Decorate a prominent feature in your home purple e.g. letterbox or front door
- Dress up your pets with a purple accessory

The most creative entry will win a \$100 Visa prepaid gift card, with the runner up to receive a \$50 Visa prepaid gift card.

## To enter, simply follow these steps:

- 1 Take a photo of your 'Precisely Purple' creation
- 2 Write a short sentence or paragraph describing your photograph
- 3 Submit your photo and description along with your email address and phone number to: [eapu@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:eapu@ucommunity.org.au)

**Entries close:** 11:59pm, Sunday 10 June 2018

Terms and conditions apply. For full terms and conditions visit [www.eapu.com.au](http://www.eapu.com.au)

[www.eapu.com.au](http://www.eapu.com.au)  
1300 651 192  

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