



# SNIPPETS

March 2016 Edition 169

Seniors Enquiry Line

*Linking Seniors with  
Community Information*

## In this Issue:

- Referendum and Election
- Financial Advice - NSA
- Wills
- Funding for Seniors Week
- National Carer Gateway
- Queensland Women's Week
- What's On

## Joke of the Month

Know how to prevent sagging?

Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.

## Contact Details:

Phone: 1300 135 500

TTY: (07) 3867 2591

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

Web:

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

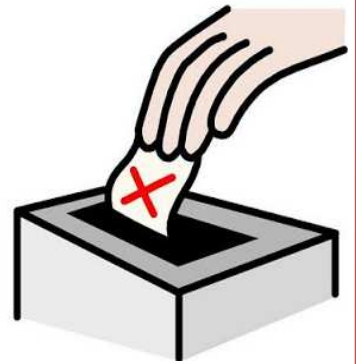
Seniors Enquiry Line is an information and referral service for Queensland seniors, proudly sponsored by the Queensland Government Department of Communities and operated by UnitingCare Community.

## Referendum and Election

A referendum for fixed four-year terms for Queensland's state government (the Legislative Assembly) will be held on March 19, in conjunction with the local government (council) elections which are held throughout Queensland on that date.

If the referendum is passed, then Qld's state elections will be held at a fixed time every 4 years instead of the current situation where the government can choose to hold the election at any time during its three year term.

For more information about the election, including postal votes and pre-polling, go to [www.ecq.qld.gov.au](http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au) or call 1300 881 665.



## Financial Advice

The Financial Information Desk (FID) is an independent, confidential service funded by National Seniors Australia that aims to improve the investment information available to older Australians. Their role is to arm people with up-to-date information to assist them in making those big decisions prior to and in retirement.

FID operates a national 'local call' telephone service between 9am and 5pm AEDT, Monday to Friday and is available free to National Seniors members needing information on investment products including superannuation, to discuss their financial situation, or to obtain details on where to find further assistance.

The number to call is 1300 020 110 or email [fid@nationalseniors.com.au](mailto:fid@nationalseniors.com.au). Not a member? Join National Seniors at [www.fid.org.au](http://www.fid.org.au) or phone 1300 765 050 to access this service. Membership starts from just \$40.

## What's On

### World Science Festival - Brisbane

9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March

A great program of conversations, performances, and events with great minds in science, exploring what makes our universe tick.

**Venue:** Various locations throughout Brisbane

**Phone:** 07 3842 9248

**Web:** [www.worldsciencefestival.com.au](http://www.worldsciencefestival.com.au)

### Kenilworth Cheese, Wine & Food Fest

26<sup>th</sup> March 7am – 4pm

Enjoy gourmet food and wine, Cheese Rolling Competition, Cheester Egg hunt for kids. Free entry

**Venue:** 9 Elizabeth St, Kenilworth

**Web:** [www.kenilworthfoodfest.org.au/](http://www.kenilworthfoodfest.org.au/)

**Phone:** 07 5472 3156

### The Feast of the Senses – Innisfail

12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March

An amazing variety of exotic tropical fruits, seafoods and more, as well as various events. Cost: \$5.

**Venue:** Multiple locations throughout Innisfail

**Phone:** 07 4061 6881

**Web:** [www.feastofthesenses.com.au](http://www.feastofthesenses.com.au)

**Other events on Seniors Enquiry Line's 'Events' pages include:** Roma's Easter in the Country, Gold Coast Italian Festival at Broadbeach, Gladstone Harbour Festival, Harmony Day Festival – Ipswich, Sails Festival at Redcliffe, Easter Vintage Festival in Highfields, Melanoma March in Cairns, Hervey Bay Fishing Competition, Gardening – Maroochydhore.

## Funding for Seniors Week

Seniors Week this year will be held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August, the theme being 'On for Young and Old'. Not-for-profit, community organisations or local councils are able to apply for a subsidy for Seniors Week, for up to \$1000, provided they meet eligibility criteria. Applications close 31 March 2016.

For details on eligibility and how to apply for funding, phone COTA (Council on the Ageing) on 1300 738 348, or visit [www.cotaqld.org.au](http://www.cotaqld.org.au)

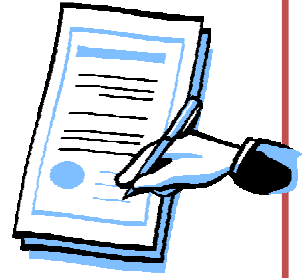
## National Carer Gateway

The National Carer Gateway is a national telephone service, website and an interactive service finder to help carers locate their nearest existing support services.

This new centralised service will make it easier for carers to access practical information and advice, as well as to connect with local services such as respite services, counselling, social support and much more.

Contact Carer Gateway on 1800 422 737 Mon to Fri, 8am to 6pm, or go to [www.carergateway.gov.au](http://www.carergateway.gov.au)

## Wills



Do you have an up-to-date will? If not, then this can cause problems such as: your estate may not be distributed in the way you would wish; there can be extra stress and grief for your loved ones, including the potential for conflict; and it may take more time and money to finalise your estate.

Everyone over 18 who has capacity to make a Will, should make one, and it should be up-dated when there are changes such as after separation, after a death of a partner or a beneficiary, changes in financial circumstances, etc.

A will can be made by:

- The Public Trustee – making the will is totally free, phone 1300 360 044. You have the choice of appointing your own executors, or you can make the Public Trustee your executor. If the Public Trustee is the executor, they will charge when they execute the will (i.e. carry out the terms of the will). They no longer charge a percentage of the estate, but charge in a similar way to solicitors, and are willing to give a quote on the likely cost of executing the will at the time that they are appointed executors. If you have your own executors, there is no fee from the Public Trustee at any time. The Public Trustee stores the will at no charge, and provides you with a copy.
- A solicitor (suggestion: shop around for quotes on costs). Again, you can appoint your own executors.
- The Red Cross – they have Wills Days where you can make or update a simple will through a local solicitor from \$75, at Robina (June), Maroochydhore and Caloundra (July) and Hervey Bay (Sept). Phone 1800 649 685.
- Yourself – not advisable (a large proportion of court cases regarding wills are related to do-it-yourself wills).

Seniors Enquiry Line has copies of the following brochures from the Public Trustee: Let's Talk about Wills, Let's talk about Intestacy and Let's talk about Executor Services. Phone 1300 135 500 for your copies.

## Queensland Women's Week

In 2016 Queensland will expand International Women's Day celebrations into a week-long, state-wide series of events and activities called Queensland Women's Week. The week will recognise and celebrate the achievements of all Queensland women.

**The theme for the inaugural week, to be held from 7th to 13th March 2016, is:**

*Good for her. Great for us.*

*When women achieve, Queensland succeeds.*



To find events or to include your organisation's event, call 1800 177 577 or go to [www.queenslandwomensweek.com.au](http://www.queenslandwomensweek.com.au) You can download or order posters and other materials from the website.