



# SNIPPETS

November 2015 Edition 166

Seniors Enquiry Line

*Linking Seniors with  
Community Information*

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## Quote for the Month

'It's never too late to have a happy childhood.'

~ Tom Robbins

## Contact Details:

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[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.

## 'Home Care Packages' - booklet

The Commonwealth Government has published a booklet called 'Five steps to accessing Home Care Packages'. This booklet explains how older people with a range of higher care needs can access support in their home, through a coordinated Home Care Package.

Home Care Packages are an intermediate level of aged care, providing support for people whose needs require care co-ordination and case management to help them live independently in their home. Services include personal care, support services, nursing and allied health clinical services.

The Packages provide a greater degree of help than the Commonwealth Home Support Program which helps with more basic needs including housework, personal care, transport, shopping, meals and food preparation.

For a copy of the booklet or more information, phone Seniors Enquiry Line on 1300 135 500.



## Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

If you have a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC), then you will recently have received the Energy Supplement. This is a quarterly payment of around \$91 for a single person and \$68 for each member of a couple. The larger Senior Supplement is no longer paid.

To qualify for a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card you must have reached Age Pension age but not qualify for a payment from either Centrelink or the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Other requirements include an income test which has recently been changed so that more seniors may now be eligible.

You can check eligibility and apply for the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card online at [www.humanservices.gov.au](http://www.humanservices.gov.au) (type cshc in the search box), or contact Centrelink on 13 23 00.

## Birthday/Anniversary Messages

Australians who are celebrating a special birthday or wedding anniversary can receive personal congratulations from a local mayor, the Premier, the Queensland Governor, the Prime Minister, Governor-General or the Queen.



Messages may be sent to people turning 90 years of age or more, or to couples celebrating 50 years of marriage and subsequent wedding anniversaries (the Queen's messages are only sent for celebrations starting from 100th birthdays or 60th wedding anniversaries). You will need to provide supporting documentation or a statutory declaration.

For a message from your mayor, contact your local council. All other messages can be organised through contacting your state member of parliament, or by going to [www.qld.gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au) (type 'congratulatory' in the search box).

For more information, or to obtain a copy of the application form, or for contact details of your local state member, phone Seniors Enquiry Line on 1300 135 500.

## Financial Advisers Register

The Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC) has a Financial Advisers Register which now includes advisers' qualifications.

This register lists people who provide personal advice on investments, superannuation and life insurance. Personal advice takes into account your particular circumstances, such as your objectives, financial situation and needs.



Use the register to find out where a financial adviser has worked, their qualifications, training, memberships of professional bodies and what products they can advise on.

Note: The information on the register is provided by the financial advice businesses. ASIC does not check or review the information before it is put on the register. However, the register

shows if financial advisers have been banned or had any other disciplinary action by ASIC.

The register is available at [www.moneySMART.gov.au](http://www.moneySMART.gov.au) : type 'register' in the top right-hand search box.

For tips on how to find a financial adviser, go to [www.moneySMART.gov.au/investing](http://www.moneySMART.gov.au/investing) or if you don't have access to a computer, phone Seniors Enquiry Line on 1300 135 500 for a copy of the government **booklet 'Financial advice and you'**.

## Copying Snippets Articles

Organisations are welcome to copy this whole newsletter at any time. However, If you wish to copy any articles from the newsletter, we would appreciate your including the following:

This article is from Seniors Enquiry Line: see [www.seniorsenquiryline.com.au](http://www.seniorsenquiryline.com.au) or call 1300 135 500

## Don't Know Who to Call?

Seniors Enquiry Line has a wealth of information on government and community services, and much more. If we can't answer your question, we will research it and phone you back. Whether you want to know what day it is, what a phone number is, or what to do about a legal or other difficult issue – no question is too big or too small. Phone Seniors Enquiry Line on 1300 135 500.

## What's On

### Cyclone Preparation Workshop - Cairns

17th November 10 am – 12 noon

Find out about cyclone preparation and the help and support available. Morning tea provided.

**Venue:** Disaster Management Centre,  
61-79 Windarra St, Woree

**Phone:** 07 4031 0163

### Mon Repos Turtle Season - Bundaberg

9th November to 20th March

Witness turtles nesting and hatching at Mon Repos beach on a Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service ranger-guided turtle encounter.

Cost: Adult \$11.60, Conc \$6.05.

**Venue:** 141 Mon Repos Road, Bargara.

**Phone:** 07 4153 8888

**Web:** [www.bundabergregion.org/discover-the-turtles](http://www.bundabergregion.org/discover-the-turtles)

### For Safe Keeping - Ipswich

12th November 2 pm – 4 pm

Have your important documents and paperwork digitally scanned and saved onto a USB stick for free. Bookings essential.

**Venue:** Humanities Centre, Cnr South & Nicholas Sts,  
Ipswich

**Phone:** 07 3810 6646

**Other events on Seniors Enquiry Line's 'Events' pages include:** Bonjour French Festival – Southport; U3A Pine Rivers Open Day – Strathpine; Retirement Living Options – Woodford; Morning Melodies – Cairns; Mary River Festival – Kandanga; Old Time Dance – Jondaryan; Goldfields Heritage Day – Eidsvold; Trivia @ Paradise – Kewarra Beach.