



SNIPPETS

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Seniors Enquiry Line

Linking Seniors with
Community Information

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Quote of the Month:

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." - Dolly Parton

Contact Details:

Phone : 1300 135 500

TTY : (07) 3867 2591

Email : sel@uccommunity.org.au

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 Community.

Did You Know?

Despite being on the Australian Coat of Arms, the kangaroo and the emu have never been designated as the official animal emblems of the nation

FREE PRESCRIPTION GLASSES

The Spectacle Supply Scheme provides a free complete set of spectacles for seniors, including basic frames, lens and lens treatments (if clinically justified) once every two years across Queensland. If you wish for extras such as tinting, UV protection etc, you will need to pay for these additions yourself. There are many optometrists within the community that are a part of the Spectacle Supply Scheme, however it is important to note that not all optometrists are, and the list is constantly changing and updating. Call **Seniors Enquiry Line** on **1300 135 500** and we can help you find an optometrist in your area who is part of the scheme.

DRIVING - 75 AND OVER



Everyone 75 years of age and over who hold a Queensland driver licence must carry a current "Medical Certificate for Motor Vehicle Driver" form at all times when driving and comply with any stated conditions. You must show your medical certificate to a police officer if they request it and can be fined if you don't .

From 1 July 2017, medical certificates are valid for a maximum of 13 months. This means that if you are 75 or over, and want to keep driving, you must go back to your doctor every 13 months for a new certificate. In some cases your doctor may want to undertake more regular checks, and your medical certificate may be issued for a shorter period. If your doctor issues a medical certificate for longer than 13 months, you may only use the certificate for 13 months from the issue date. Medical certificates issued prior to 1 July 2017, will expire on the stated expiry date.

For more information, consult your doctor or call your local Department of Transport on **13 23 80**

Seniors Info Chat

Seniors Enquiry Line operates a service called **Info Chat**. This service is available free of charge to all seniors in Queensland. Every month, we call you with a different topic of interest, and can then send you out additional information if it is of interest to you. Topics can range from handy hints, specific information, scams, consumer rights and services available to the community as well as suggestions from seniors themselves. The service also allows you to maintain contact with our staff, so we can assist you in other ways when required. To register for Info Chat, contact **Seniors Enquiry Line**, call **1300 135 500**.

October through History

- 1582** 5 Oct 1582 does not exist in Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain due to switching to the Gregorian calendar.
- 1881** The famous Gunfight at the O.K. Corral occurs.
- 1918** "The Magic Pudding" is first published.
- 1940** John Lennon is born.
- 1942** Little Golden Books publishes its first set of children's books.
- 1974** Muhammad Ali knocks out George Foreman in "The Rumble in the Jungle."
- 1979** The Pac-Man arcade game is first released.
- 1987** A sonar exploration of Loch Ness in Scotland fails to find any sign of the Loch Ness monster

What's On

- 1- 8 Oct:** Sunshine Coast Art Prize 2017, Caloundra
- 6- 8 Oct:** 2017 Reef Feast, Palm Cove
- 7 Oct:** Sea Shepherd Stand Fast Festival, Albion
- 10 Oct:** Declutter and Be Organised, Albany Creek
- 21-22 Oct:** Festival of Kites, Coolangatta
- 24-28 Oct:** Ken & Annie's Music Campout, Toogoolawah
- 28 Oct:** Annual Art & Crafts Market Day, Biloela
- 29 Oct:** Celtic Festival of Queensland, Helidon

ATO SCAMS



Given that we are in tax season, it is not surprising that there can be an increase in scams from people stating that they are from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The following is important information from the ATO website in regards to scams and what to do.

"From time to time we (ATO) may contact you by phone. But you should be wary of unsolicited phone calls claiming to be from the ATO. These may offer you a tax refund or tell you that you have a tax debt and threaten you with arrest. We are now seeing these scams using the names and addresses of actual ATO officers and buildings. Be careful if you receive a phone call like this. If you are in doubt about the authenticity of a call that you receive claiming to be from the ATO, you can call on **1800 008 540** Monday to Friday, 8am - 6pm to verify.

If you receive a suspicious email claiming to be from the ATO, do not click on any links, open attachments or respond to the sender. Forward the entire email to ReportEmailFraud@ato.gov.au without changing or adding any additional information and delete from your inbox and sent folder.

Remember, the ATO will never:

- Threaten you with immediate arrest
- Ask you to pay money to receive a refund or payment from us
- Ask you to pay a debt via iTunes vouchers, or pre-paid credit card or store gift cards
- Ask you to provide personal information, such as your tax file number (TFN) or credit card number, via email or SMS
- Ask you to pay money into a personal bank account
- Direct you to download files from the internet, or open attachments in unsolicited emails."

The thought of being scammed can be traumatic for many people. **Seniors Enquiry Line** staff are happy to support you and assist you with information, empathy and help you through the process. If you are in any doubt contact **Seniors Enquiry Line** on **1300 135 500**