



SNIPPETS

April 2015 Edition 159

Seniors Enquiry Line

Linking Seniors with
Community Information

In this Issue:

- Seniors Info Chat
- Cybercrime
- 'Connections Matter'
- Captioned Telephones
- Pension Increase
- Multicultural Awards
- Country Callback
- What's On

Quote for the Month

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.

~ Mahatma Gandhi

Contact Details:

Phone: 1300 135 500

TTY: (07) 3867 2591

Email: sel@uccommunity.org.au

Web:

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.

Seniors Info Chat

Seniors Info Chat is a new service provided by Seniors Enquiry Line, following a successful 6 month trial period. It provides regular phone updates to Seniors and other interested people across Queensland.

About once a month, our friendly staff will call seniors about current scams, government and community announcements, or events in their area. Each call will generally cover one or two items of interest to Seniors.

To register for Seniors Info Chat, phone 1300 135 500.

Cybercrime

The Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (ACORN) is an Australian Government online system for reporting cybercrime.

Common types of cybercrime include hacking, online scams and fraud, identity theft, attacks on computer systems, cyber-bullying, online trading issues, and illegal or prohibited online content.

You can report cybercrime at ACORN's website: www.acorn.gov.au The site also includes information on types of cybercrime as well as how to avoid becoming a victim of cybercrime.



'Connections Matter'

'Connections Matter' is a booklet produced by *beyondblue*. It provides practical and evidence-based suggestions for older adults and their families and friends to help them strengthen and maintain their social networks.

As we get older, changes in our personal circumstances and lifestyle can result in our feeling less connected to others, and increase the risk of our becoming lonely. Being connected to others is important for mental and physical wellbeing, and can be a protective factor against anxiety and depression.

To download or order a copy, go to www.beyondblue.org.au and type 'connections matter' in the search box. Or order a copy from Seniors Enquiry Line on 1300 135 500.

What's On

Lifeline Bookfest – Bokarina

17-19 April 8.30am to 4.00pm

Bookworms can lose themselves in a vast array of books, CDs, vinyl, games and puzzles. Free entry.

Venue: Lake Kawana Community Centre, 114 Sportsmans Parade, Bokarina

Phone: 07 5409 1400

Future Planning Seminar – Ipswich

16 April 9.30am - 11.30am

A free seminar with practical advice on end-of-life matters and getting your affairs in order. Light lunch. Please RSVP by Monday 13 April.

Venue: Humanities Building, 56 South Street, Ipswich

Phone: Karri Browne 07 3810 6646

ANZAC Centenary Concert – Toowoomba

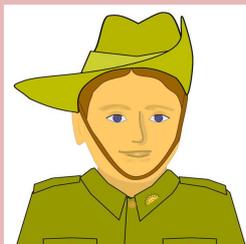
11 April 7:30pm – 9.30pm

This free Commemoration Concert features many bands and other performers. Bookings essential.

Venue: Empire Theatre, 56 Neil St, Toowoomba.

Phone: 1300 655 299

Web: www.empiretheatre.com.au



Other events on Seniors Enquiry Line's 'Events' pages include:

Undara Outback Rock and Blues, Journey through the Cosmos – Surfers Paradise, Morning Melodies – Townsville & Rockhampton, Wartime Melodies – Wurtulla, Open Garden – Montville, The River: A History of Brisbane, Elanora Art Show, The TEN Tenors on Broadway – Mackay.

Nominations for Queensland Multicultural Awards

The Queensland Multicultural Awards acknowledge Queenslanders who work and volunteer to promote the benefits of a multicultural society. Awards categories include: Services and Communities, Outstanding Volunteer, Communications, Multicultural Ambassador and more.

Nominations for the 2015 awards close at 5pm on Friday 24 April 2015. For more information, go to www.qld.gov.au/qma



Captioned Telephones - For People with Hearing Loss

CapTel is a special telephone from AccessComm that allows people who have difficulty hearing on the phone to enjoy the telephone without the stress of missing parts of the conversation. It is similar in concept to Captioned Television, where spoken words appear as written text for viewers to read, using voice-recognition technology.

To make use of a CapTel phone, you need to have internet connection at a reasonable speed e.g. ADSL2 or NBN.

The CapTel handset works like any traditional phone, with callers talking and listening to each other, but with one significant difference: captions are provided live. The captions are displayed on the phone's built-in screen so the user can read the words while listening to the voice of the other party.

The service is paid for by the Australian government so there are no monthly fees. The handsets are priced at \$55 per year with a \$50 deposit. For those in some areas of Queensland, free installations are available. If cost is an issue, AccessComm can work with you to get the phone at no charge.

For more information, go to www.accesscomm.com.au or phone 1300 107 546.



Pension Increase

Pensions were increased from March 20 due to the twice-yearly indexation. The increases for full pensions are: \$5.90 per fortnight for a single person (the total has increased from \$854.30 to \$860.20 pf), and for each member of a couple the increase is \$4.40 per fortnight (increasing from \$644 to \$648.40 pf).

Country Callback

UnitingCare Community has a service, 'Country Callback', to help Queenslanders affected by drought and hardship. This is a free, confidential and independent 24-hour advice, referral and counselling service for anyone living in rural Queensland.

Country Callback enables the provision of ongoing emotional support by telephone to people in need across rural Queensland. If you are experiencing personal, social, financial or emotional challenges, give the Country Callback service a call on 1800 54 33 54.