



# SNIPPETS

February 2018 | Edition 191

Seniors Enquiry Line

Linking Seniors with  
Community Information

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## Quote of the Month:

The best time to stop learning  
is when you know everything -  
ANON

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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?

The first Australian rocket was launched from the middle of the Brisbane River on 4 December, 1934.

## Fence Disputes



Seniors Enquiry Line consistently receives calls in regards to disputes about dividing fences. These enquiries include types of fences, contribution to costs and being bullied by neighbours. The Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) is the Government authority in regards to these matters and the specific legislation is the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011*. Here are some answers to common questions.

**Who owns the fence?** If the fence is on the dividing line of the properties, both neighbours own it. If it is on one property it is owned by them, regardless of who paid for it.

**How can I get a neighbour to contribute?** Most people have an informal arrangement, however there is a form called a "Notice to Contribute" which can formalise the process.

**What costs can be shared?** Surveying, construction and demolition associated with replacement fencing, repair or maintenance.

**What happens if we cannot agree?** If both parties cannot agree contact the Dispute Resolution Service or QCAT and they will assist through mediation or decision making.

Contact **Seniors Enquiry Line** on **1300 135 500** or via email, for contact details for either QCAT or the Dispute Resolution Service in your area or a copy of the "Notice to Contribute" form.

## FEBRUARY THROUGH HISTORY

- 496** St Valentine's Day is first declared.
- 1812** English novelist Charles Dickens is born.
- 1842** The sewing machine is invented.
- 1863** The fire extinguisher is invented.
- 1869** The world's largest recorded gold nugget is found in Victoria.
- 1895** Volleyball is invented.
- 1918** The movie "Tarzan of the Apes" is released.
- 1918** Russia adopts the Gregorian calendar, centuries after the western world.
- 1923** Pharaoh Tutankhamun's burial chamber is opened.
- 1927** The first Talkie movie is released.
- 1937** Nylon is invented.
- 1929** First Academy Awards are announced.
- 1935** RADAR is first demonstrated.
- 1953** The DNA molecule is discovered.
- 1953** The first 3D movie opens.
- 1960** Hollywood Walk of Fame begins.
- 1966** Decimal currency is introduced in Australia.
- 1977** The largest lobster on record is caught: it weighed over 20kg and around a metre long.
- 1983** Final episode of M\*A\*S\*H airs.
- 2001** Sir Donald Bradman dies.
- 2004** Facebook is founded.
- 2005** Fox hunting is banned in England.
- 2009** The start of the Black Saturday bushfires in Victoria, which killed 173.

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT MOSQUITOS

Queensland summers, the humidity and heat all bring the onset of mosquitos feasting on us. Here are some quick facts that may or may not help. Firstly there are 100's of species of mosquitos in Australia, however it is only the females that bite. They are attracted to carbon dioxide which is what we breathe out. Once they are within range, they are then attracted to sweat. Showering won't stop them, as they are also attracted to bacteria on the skin and different species are attracted to different bacteria. A study has shown that burning a mosquito coil can be the equivalent of inhaling 75-125 cigarettes, however there are no long term health related concerns known but you should avoid using inside if you can. Mosquito coils may not fully eliminate mosquitos, with the best way being a combination of insect repellent and mosquito coils.

## Types of Scams: Phishing



Phishing is an attempt by scammers to try to obtain financial or other confidential information from internet users. Typically this is by sending an email that looks as if it is from a legitimate organisation, usually a financial institution, but contains a link to a fake website that replicates the real one. These emails inform you that you need to update or validate your information and provide a link to do so. You will then be asked to enter your user name and password. Some will even request more information such as credit card number, Commonwealth Reference Number (CRN) or bank details.

**DO NOT CLICK ON THE LINK PROVIDED** as it may be a fake website, regardless of how professional it may appear.

If you believe it to be a genuine email, still do not click on the link, but rather, type into your browser the business name and go to the website that way. If the information is still required, the legitimate website will still request the information.

Email or call **Seniors Enquiry Line** on **1300 135 500**, and we will be happy to assist you to determine if it is a phishing scam or not. We will also be able to provide information on who to contact should you have provided details.

## WHAT'S ON

To find what is happening in your part of Queensland, go to the **Seniors Enquiry Line** website and click on the EVENTS page at: <https://seniorsenquiryline.com.au/events/> or give us a call on **1300 135 500** and we will be happy to source some activities or events for you, be they in your local area or if you are planning on being somewhere different and like some leisure options.