

THE COMET

Journal of the Australian Pensioners' and Superannuants' League, Qld. Inc.

WHAT YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT ON APRIL 1

While some may be enjoying an April Fool's Day joke, those among us who pay Health Insurance premiums won't be laughing.

There have been media comments that the rise in premiums will be approximately 2.74% (used as an average), but the size of the rises will vary depending on with which company that you have signed up. Amazingly enough, finder.com found two companies with exactly the same benefits etc. varied significantly in cost. Some providers increases will be up by as much as 5.47%.

Based on the average 2.47% rise, a single pensioner will pay around \$1.14 a week extra. Pensioners have just been awarded a pension rise but as always with the March rise it is soon swallowed up if you have private health nearly two weeks later. Rises in the cost of living have also blown out greatly in the past few weeks and it's very noticeable when you do your weekly "shop" as the total of the tape is higher and the trolley contains less!

More pressure on the public system will happen as private health loses more subscribers.



Refer [finder.com/health insurance premium rate rise](https://finder.com/health-insurance/premium-rate-rise)

Is it time to change your battery? Smoke alarms powered by 9V ALKALINE BATTERY require you to replace the battery every year. DFES recommends you change your battery on



April 1. Smoke alarms powered by a 10 YEAR NON-REMOVABLE LITHIUM BATTERY do not require you to change the battery each year. Do not try to remove these batteries.

MAINS POWERED (HARD WIRED) SMOKE ALARMS are powered by an external power source. These alarms also have a battery back-up for periods of mains power outage. Many models have a rechargeable (non-removable) battery and do not need replacement. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions to see if you need to change the battery. Where you need to change the battery, DFES recommends you do this on April 1.

In the event of a fire

- ☐ Crawl low under smoke.
- ☐ Assist or alert any people in danger, but only if it is safe to do so.
- ☐ Go to your safe meeting place, such as your letter box.
- ☐ Call 000 (triple zero).
- ☐ Wait for firefighters to arrive.
- ☐ Do not re-enter a burning house under any circumstances.

(From the DFES website)

The Comet is the official journal of the Australian Pensioners' and Superannuants' League. ISSN 0814-2211

Australian Post Publication No PP100000/860.

The Comet is published monthly from February to November each year. It is available online, through branches from the State Office and APSL Branches throughout Queensland.

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Services Directory

Commonwealth Government Directory

Administrative Appeals Tribunal	1300 366 700
Aust. Competition & Consumer Commission	1300 302 502
Australian Hearing	131 797
Aust. Securities & Investment Commission	07 3867 4700
Aust. Taxation Office	132 861
Centrelink (Older Australians line)	132 300
Child Support Agency	131 272
Commonwealth Respite and Life Flight Centre	1800 052 222
CRS (Commonwealth Rehabilitation Services) - Human Services	1800 277 227
Family Court of Australia	1300 352 000
Home & Community Care (65+ years)	1800 200 422
Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Comm.	1300 369 711
Immigration & Border Protection Department	131 881
Medicare	132 011
Migration Review Tribunal	1300 361 969
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Legal Services	1800 012 255
Pharmaceutical Benefit's Scheme	1800 020 613
Private Health Insurance Complaints	1800 077 308
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman	1800 640 695
Translating & Interpreting Service	1300 655 820
Veteran's Affairs Department	133 254

Queensland State Government Directory

Anti-Discrimination Commission	1300 130 670
Department of Communities	137 468
Department of Energy & Water Supply	
Electricity & Gas	134 387
Water	137 468
Energy & Water Ombudsman	1800 662 837
Health Ombudsmen	133 646
Legal Aid Qld	1300 651 188
Office of Fair Trading	137 468
Public Guardian (Adults & Children)	1300 653 187
Public Trustee	1300 360 044
Qld Competition Authority	07 3222 0555
Qld Ombudsman's Office	1800 068 908
Residential Tenancies Authority	1300 366 311
Safe Food Queensland	1800 300 815
Senior's Advocacy Information & Legal Services (SAILS)	07 3214 6333
Senior's Card	13 74 68
Senior's Enquiry	1300 135 500
Senior's Legal & Support Service	
Brisbane	07 3214 6333
Cairns	07 4031 7179
Hervey Bay	07 4124 6863
Toowoomba	07 4616 9700
Townsville	07 4721 5511
State Emergency Service Office	13 74 68
Youth & Family Support Service	07 3274 9917

Community Support Services Service Directory

Domestic Violence Crisis Line	1800 811 811
Immigrant Women's Support Service	07 3846 3490
	07 3255 1420
Qld Aged & Disability Advocacy	1800 818 338
Seniors & Go Card	13 74 68
Senior Shopper	1300 360 265
Sexual Assault Help Line	1800 811 811
South Brisbane Immigration & Community Legal Service	07 3846 3189
The Incapacitated Servicemen & Women's Assoc. of Aust	07 3356 9022
Women's legal Service	07 3392 0670
National Welfare Rights Network	1800 358 511

Department of Health Service Directory

Department of Health	1343 2584
Health Services Info Line	07 3837 5986
Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme	1300 443 570
My Aged Care	1800 200 422



APRIL 2021

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Contact APSL State Office to enquire about membership and a branch near you. You can still contact Head Office on the usual number and Anneliese will answer.

APSL — MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

A MEMBER OF THE EVERY-AGE COUNTS COALITION OF ORGANISATIONS





EDITORIAL

By

Cherith Weis



Hello, Friends.

Here we go again. As I write this editorial, many of us have plans to travel within in the State. The Premier has just made a statement that tomorrow, Thursday April 1 will be important to us who have planned trips. Our family have planned to go to Toowoomba to honour a family member with a memorial service at Easter. We are now waiting with bated breath and are virtually in limbo.

Easter break plans have been disrupted. Meetings have been postponed. I know in Rockhampton with the issue of face masks, many of our members unfortunately didn't have any. Our North Rocky President put a call into her chemist who promptly delivered a supply to her.

• **As the Qld Health rules apply today (March 31):-**

Queenslanders across the state are now required to wear masks, some for the very first time.

It comes as Greater Brisbane was plunged into a three-day lockdown, with another eight locally-acquired cases announced today.

With masks now mandatory everyone must carry one with them at all times when they leave home unless they have a lawful reason not to.

The exceptions include children aged under 12 and for people who have certain medical conditions or in workplaces where it is not safe to wear one.

Masks must be worn in indoor spaces such as shopping centres, supermarkets, retail outlets and indoor markets.

They must also be worn in indoor workplaces if it is safe to wear a mask and you can't physically distance. Queenslanders also have to wear masks indoors at hospitals, aged-care facilities, churches and places of worship and libraries.

They must be worn at indoor restaurants, cafes and other hospitality venues but patrons do not have to wear one if they are seated, eating or drinking.

Latest information from Queensland Health.

We can only hope and pray that everyone adheres

and respects others!

I have become increasingly annoyed at the public many of whom are NOT adhering to Social Distancing. I am sick and tired of people breathing down my neck in express lanes as I am sure many of you have also experienced.

Leyland is back with us and his Road Safety Column. Recently, I spent my \$250 supplement on a camera system for my car mainly because I've had some narrow squeaks. Better to have it on camera than just talk about it.

Our hope for a better life is always with us at Easter.

Please stay safe and well.

I wish you a Happy, Holy Easter.

Cherith Weis

Every life is an amazing story

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FOR THE FALLEN By Laurence Binyon

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables at home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.



AUSTRALIAN STORY

Our Nation's flag enshrines the stars
Of timeless Southern Cross
Which grace the sky at night,
Uniting cultures old and new
In ancient Dreamtime Light;
And the small flag in the corner
Plans for a global nation drew
To help those in need from many lands
Make Australia their home too.

Our heads were bowed in sorrow
For mistakes so early made,
Our heads were bowed in sorrow
For the many who have paid.
We searched the long and painful past
For wounds which must be healed;
And when that healing comes at last,
Self respect and pride so long concealed,
And by many long ignored,
Shall by indigenous people be revealed,
Honoured, and restored.

Let's join the move to hope and trust
Across our multi-cultured much-loved land,
For though now dimmed by history's dust
We still strive to understand.
From outback dry red centre to blue ocean coral reef,
The time has come to live our lives as one,
And let hope and trust now ease the grief
Of each mother, father, daughter, son.

So, come on friends, be with it
Brown, Yellow, Black and White;
Let's with a smile greet everyone as friend
And walk together side by side to build a future bright;
For friendship and respect shall see many troubles end,
And Equality in Law for everyone
Forever remain our Nation's Guiding Right.

(Author: Vince Mathers, Gracemere, 2018)



Road Safety

With

Leyland Barnett

Road Rules

Police fear Queensland could be headed for one of its worst road tolls in more than a decade, with drivers put on notice for making "absolutely stupid decisions" behind the wheel.

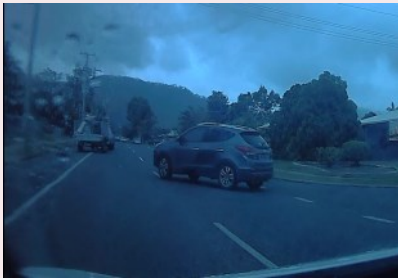
Fifty people have died in traffic crashes so far this year — 18 more than the same time in 2020.

Acting Chief Superintendent Ray Rohweder said 19 of the fatalities were motorcyclists. "300 lives lost is quite possible this year unless we really start turning things around ... and it's been well over a decade since we've had 300 people killed on Queensland roads," he said." By Lily Nothling 8/03/2021 ABC.

The amount of dangerous driving that I have witnessed and caught on dash cam with in the last 2 weeks certainly indicates that a prediction of over 300 lives lost on our



roads in Qld this year is very imminent. How many people on our roads today have actually purchased or looked at a road rules book before obtaining their driver's license and if they have, how many people bother to follow the road rules?



Road rules are in place to make our roads safer to commute on each day and if everyone followed the rules we would see fewer crashes and

would see fewer fatalities on our roads.

People need to understand the give way rules; when doing a u-turn you must give way to all traffic; give way to the right at uncontrolled cross roads or where traffic

lights have failed; give way to vehicles on a roundabout; give way to through traffic where your road ends at a T intersection and obey road markings, signs and traffic lights.

Indicators are not optional extras fitted to the vehicle; they are there to warn other motorists of what you intend to do so that traffic can flow along smoothly and not leave anyone guessing causing hesitation.

Do not ignore road closed signs that are in place to prevent people from driving through flooded crossings; you cannot see through murky flood waters and a road or bridge could be washed away.

Do people understand the risks of going into sharp corners at speed; especially on loose gravel surfaces or wet roads. Slow down and always drive to the conditions of the prevailing weather and road conditions if you want to survive the drive.

The Easter holidays are nearly upon us; do yourself and your family a favour by understanding and following the road rules to make our roads safer for everyone.

We can all make a difference towards reducing road fatalities including the police blitzing motorists on all traffic rules, as when fines start to hurt people's bank balances then they may very well see the need to study up on the road rules.



Stay safe this Easter, check that your tyres are in good condition and buy a road rules book.

Regards
Leyland Barnett



Find out about seniors services in your area

Hosted by the Queensland Government, the expo brings together representatives from community organisations and government departments.

You'll be able to talk to experts about a range of supports and initiatives including:

- COVID-19 vaccine rollout
- Queensland Government concessions and rebates for older Queenslanders

staying safe and connected The expo also includes displays and information stands for you to explore.

The Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Craig Crawford MP will be on hand for a chat over morning tea.

The expo is part of the Queensland Government's commitment to building age-friendly Queensland communities where seniors are valued and respected. Find out more and register using the 'Register now' button below.

www.qld.gov.au/seniors website

Register now

Hervey Bay Regional Seniors Expo

The Bayswater Hotel

589-571 Esplanade, Urangan

Wednesday April 7 2021

9.15am for 9.30am to 12.30pm

Support and Services

Rebates and Concessions

Morning Tea



WE NEED HOMES

RSPCA Queensland is caring for 1,700 animals

Hundreds of cats, dogs and other animals are patiently waiting for homes at RSPCA Queensland with many more animals being cared for behind the scenes.

Until April 1 (no joke), adult cats will be \$50 and adult dogs \$199 to adopt at RSPCA Queensland Adoption Centres and Op Shops.

“Sadly the number of animals we’re caring for is continuing to rise and our team are looking after quite a lot of Inspectorate cases. This means that animals are waiting for their date in court before they can move on with their lives,” said RSPCA spokesperson Emma Lagoon.

“So while we continue to care for pets behind the scenes, we desperately need loving new owners to come forward and adopt the animals that are available. Some of these have been looking for homes for nearly a year!”



This is 7 year old Leloo, one of three dogs rescued by our Inspectors after they were being kept confined in a trailer. While the other dogs have been rehomed poor Leloo has been in care for over 345 days and is desperately hoping her lucky day will come soon! She’s available to adopt

from RSPCA Qld’s care centre at Wacol.

This is Maisy, a three-year-old Bull Arab cross who was surrendered last year as her owner was moving. She also tested positive to heartworm and underwent veterinary treatment as soon as she came into the RSPCA. Sadly, Maisy hasn’t had anyone in-



terested in adopting her and she’s been with the RSPCA for over 300 days. She’s also available to adopt from Wacol.

Adorable Coco the one-year-old cat has been in RSPCA care for over 266 days now. Seized by our Inspectorate last year, she’s patiently waiting to start afresh! She can also be adopted from Wacol.



“Our adoption fees really are a small price to pay to get a loving companion for life.”

If you’re looking to adopt, visit www.rspcaqld.org.au/adopt and apply online and the RSPCA team will get back to you!

****Excludes kittens, puppies and select adult cats and dogs. Valid for applications processed during the promotional period and only while pets are available. Promotion ends Thursday 1 April unless extended.***



To the anonymous person who made a donation to the RSPCA in APSL’S name - YOU’RE a
LEGEND!
THANK YOU!

Planning is underway for Queensland Seniors Month to be held in October 2021.

Seniors Month provides opportunities to promote positive community attitudes towards older people and ageing, facilitate community participation, and enhance community connections, aligning with the Queensland Government's and Council on the Ageing (COTA) Queensland's vision of building Age-friendly communities in Queensland.

COTA Queensland coordinates Queensland Seniors Month on behalf of the Queensland Government.

Both COTA Queensland and the State Government value the contribution older people have made – whether as volunteers or in the workforce, community leaders or carers, grandparents, or advocates.

To stay up to date with news and information about Queensland Seniors Month on:

Website

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

*Get in contact with **COTA Queensland** at seniorsweek@cotaqlld.org.au or phone 07 3316 2908.*

To find out about information and services for seniors, visit www.qld.gov.au/seniors

oo0oo

Comment:-

I am sure most people would agree that this move will be a hit with seniors.

Conducting a Seniors Month of activities commencing on International Seniors Day on October 1 and ending on Grandparents Day gives groups a whole month to organize functions. Whereas Seniors Week was too short a time to hold an event without clashing with other organisations.

I know that coming out of winter and having to organize a function for Seniors Week puts pressure on Committees so this change should work well.

Applications for funding of up to \$1,000 opens on Thursday, April 1 and close on May 31.

I would encourage groups to take advantage of the opportunity of holding a function in October. Ed.



CANCEL CULTURE?

NO WAY!

*They cancelled your feelings
 They cancelled your thoughts
 They cancelled the Dr. Seuss
 Books that you bought
 We'll cancel your culture
 And history they said
 They even cancelled
 Poor Mr. Potato Head
 They'll cancel your clothes
 And the shoes that you wear
 They'll cancel your opinions
 And the style of your hair
 You warriors of justice
 I ask you to please
 Stop trying to cancel
 The air that I breathe
 For I live in Australia
 The Land of the Free
 And one thing is certain
 You won't cancel me!*

OoOoo

Full stop is 'intimidating' to young people because they interpret it as sign of anger, linguists say!

As they are interpreted as a sign of anger, according to linguistic experts.

Teenagers and those in their early twenties, classified as Generation Z, have grown up with smartphones which they use to send short messages without full stops.

And a study from Binghamton University in New York suggested that those who finish their messages in social media with full stops are regarded as insincere!

*So there you are — this is from 20/08/2020
 Daily Mail*

Of recent times, I have heard that there's a move to ban the full stop! Not an April Fool's joke.

*Easter is a promise
 that God gave to you,
 a promise of eternal life,
 a season of renewal.
 As the scent of roses
 fills the air,
 and blue jays sweetly sing,
 remember that God is with you
 and guiding you this spring.
 For he vowed that he will
 always be there,
 to wrap you in his arms
 when you need his care.
 He has faith in you,
 and his heart shall ever be true,
 no matter what you say or do.
 Even should you stumble or fall,
 God will lend you a hand
 to help you stand tall.*

e-Scooters

Rocky takes the First Step toward an E-Scooter Trial

Rockhampton Regional Council has today resolved to call for Expressions of Interest for an e-scooter trial in Rockhampton.

Advance Rockhampton Executive Manager Greg Bowden said the trial had the potential to unlock some really positive benefits for the community and the region.

“E-scooters offer an alternative for people to get out of their cars and they promote a healthy and active lifestyle,” Mr Bowden said.

“E-scooters are already a fixture in major regional and metropolitan cities in Australia and across the world and we are confident the success we’ve seen in those areas can be replicated here.

“E-scooters have the potential to be a key economic growth tool by making it easier for people to connect between our business and leisure precincts, such as going to and from the CBD to our sporting precincts, CBD to Stockland, the suburbs to cafes and restaurants. They will also build a better connection to and from CQ University.

“They will make it easier for residents and visitors to get around and see more of the sights Rockhampton has to offer and, for commuters, it gives them another public transport option. Fewer cars on the road especially those short trips gives us a sustainability outcome as well.”

“Data sharing with e-scooter providers will also offer an opportunity for council to utilise the data in planning future needs for footpaths, bike lanes and walking paths across the city.

“From here, we will now call for Expressions of Interest from e-scooter companies with a view of calling for tenders for a six-month trial.”

“At this stage it’s too early to talk about the footprint or number of e-scooters we’d have on the footpaths but any trial would also have direct economic benefits including permanent staff to run the day-to-day operations as well as casual mechanics and operations staff.

“We have had significant interest from operators so now we will call for the EOIs and we look forward to getting a trial up and scooting later this year,” Mr Bowden said.

Some key statistics gathered include:

- 83% of users said they use e-scooters to visit restaurants, cafes and generally to explore the city.
- 56% of e-scooter trips replaced a car trip.
- 14% of trips taken would not have happened if an e-scooter was not available.
- An e-scooter ride is 65 times more energy efficient than a car trip.

Demographic data from one city shows that they provide an opportunity for all age groups to benefit from e-scooters

o 18 to 24 - 20% o 25 to 34 – 34% o 35 to 44 – 20% o 45 to 54 – 17% o 55+ - 9%

ENDS.

A VIEW ON THE ESCOOTER ISSUE

From our experiences when we traveled to Brisbane pre-COVID on APSL business, we witnessed that some e-scooter riders have no regard whatsoever for pedestrians. As the laws were a year or so ago, they have to ride on the footpath thus putting pedestrians at risk and I don't think much has changed.

- Riding on streets is not permitted. However, the Brisbane City Council has looked into the possibility of committing usage to bicycle lanes. Knowing just how cyclists are treated, users of these scooters may also be subjected to the same treatment. New users are a worry. To hop on an e-scooter and simply take off sounds extremely risky.

Many older pedestrians can't hear them coming and they have a speed limit which to us is too high. When users are finished with the e-scooter they park them anywhere, usually where they have finished their ride. APSL had suggested parking stations similar to how the bicycle system in Brisbane operates.

In the Brisbane CBD, these scooters are found discarded near busy street corners; against buildings and at West End even in the APSL's front garden! Parked on street corners, they are a hazard to pedestrians. Two companies now operate in Brisbane which doubles the problem.

Scooters have been found thrown in the river and down creek banks and these items have added to the litter problem.

There have been a couple of fatalities. An account in the Brisbane Times of a woman injured by an e-

scooter details her fight for justice. An approach by her to the B.C.C. fell on deaf ears and she was referred to the scooter company regarding costs and insurance.

This is a very worrying aspect of the introduction of these contraptions, which only benefit a minority in the community.

At the 2019 State Conference APSL received an agenda item. Kurilpa Branch called on State Conference to approach Brisbane City Council regarding the use of e-scooters on the footpaths of Brisbane.

- Kurilpa Branch would like to see Parking Stations for these e-scooters similar to "Parking Stations" for bicycles. The Branch expresses concern that Pedestrians of all ages are now sharing footpaths with machines which are permitted to travel up to 25 kph which we deemed as outrageous.
- Kurilpa Branch also calls on Brisbane City Council to reduce the speed of these e-scooters to 10 kph.



With the advent of another scooter company being granted the right to supply e-scooters onto the footpaths of Brisbane, pedestrians appear to be the forgotten ones in the overall picture.

The argument for the introduction of e-scooters in Rockhampton is sugar-coated to the "max".

The safety factor for pedestrians particularly the elderly is our main concern, but are they needed in Rockhampton? Really? I

believe that a northern city has also found problems with these people "carriers".

RECIPE – ANZAC BISCUITS [CRUNCHY]

Ingredients

1 Cup Plain Flour		150g Unsalted Butter
1 Cup WHOLE Rolled Oates		4 Tbsp Golden Syrup
1 Cup Desiccated Coconut		1 Tsp Baking Soda
165g Caster Sugar ($\frac{3}{4}$ cup)		

Method

Pre-heat oven to 180°C / 350°F

Line 2 baking trays with baking paper

Mix flour, oats, coconut and sugar in a bowl.

Place butter and golden syrup in a saucepan over medium high heat

Stir until the butter has melted.

Add baking soda and stir to combine – it will fizz up – this is normal.

Immediately remove from the heat

Pour butter mixture into flour and mix until just combined.

Roll 1 level teaspoon mixture into balls and flatten into patties.

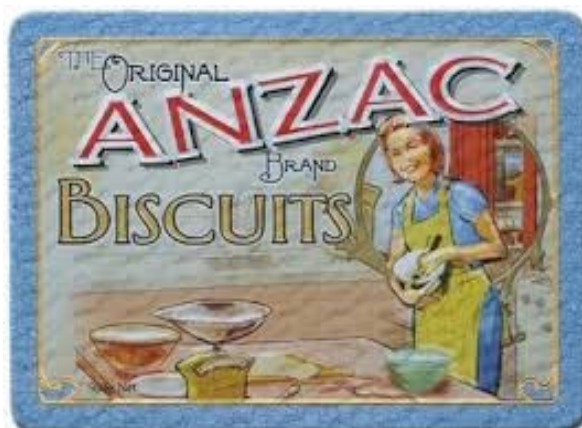
Place balls 2.5cm apart on prepared trays

Bake for 15 minutes, swapping trays halfway during the cooking or until deep golden brown.

Stand on trays for 5 minutes.

Transfer to a wire rack to cool – they harden as they cool.

A big “thank you” to Cyrisse Hickey for this recipe!



GYMPIE BRANCH



The oldest member of the Gympie Branch, Irene Schmidt, celebrated her 97th birthday on February. 21, 2021 Gympie members wished Irene a very Happy Birthday!

APSL trusts that Irene had a wonderful day for her birthday.

Belated Birthday wishes

are necessary

because it allows

the celebration

to last longer

than 24 hours!

Happy Birthday, Irene.

RSPCA NEWS

□ CALL FOR INFORMATION □ Puppies dumped under bridge, Karrabin.

RSPCA QLD Inspectors are calling on anyone who may have information regarding a litter of six puppies found under the Guilfoyles Gully Bridge on March 9th.

RSPCA Inspectors have reason to believe the puppies were thrown from the bridge. The pups were found in a Woolworths plastic shopping bag, they were wet, smelly and covered in an unknown substance within the heavily soiled bag.

The puppies were only moments old with their umbilical cords still attached.

Sadly, two of the six puppies did not make it. The remaining four puppies are recovering well and are currently in RSPCA foster care.

If you have any information in relation to this case please contact RSPCA QLD on 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625), by emailing cruelty_complaints@rspcaqld.org.au or online at www.rspcaqld.org.au/cruelty



CALL FOR INFORMATION Cat found shot with rifle pellet in shoulder

RSPCA QLD Inspectors are calling on anyone who may have information regarding a cat found on Grassdale Crescent, Morayfield with a rifle pellet lodged in his left shoulder on Monday, February 22nd.

The bullet is believed to have been in there for up to a month or more before the cat was collected as a stray and taken to the Moreton Bay Regional Council Pound. The cat was then transferred to RSPCA Dakabin care where the bullet was safely removed by our Veterinarian team and he has since recovered from the surgery. The cat's original owner was found and they have since relinquished ownership of him.

Now named Professor Oak by RSPCA staff, he is available for adoption from RSPCA Dakabin: <http://www.rspcaqld.org.au/adopt/search/animaldetails...>

If you have any information in relation to this case please contact RSPCA QLD on 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625), by emailing cruelty_complaints@rspcaqld.org.au or online at www.rspcaqld.org.au/cruelty



Message to Branches

This space box is provided to insert your Branch contact details when you leave The Comet at Doctors' Surgeries /Libraries and so on



CODE of ETHICS and PERSONAL CONDUCT

The Australian Pensioners' & Superannuants' League (Qld) Inc.

Be patient and courteous in all dealings with fellow members.

Be inclusive - Members to welcome and support people of all backgrounds and identities and discriminate against no one.

Be considerate - Each member should respect fellow pensioners and superannuants. Our decisions and comments will affect our fellow members, therefore we must always take this into consideration.

Be respectful - Each member may not agree all the time, but disagreement is no excuse for disrespectful behaviour. Each member may experience frustration from time to time, but we cannot allow this to become a personal attack. An environment where people feel uncomfortable or threatened is not productive or creative and not in the best interest of The League.

Choose your words carefully - Always conduct yourself professionally. Harassment and exclusionary behaviour is not acceptable in The League. Differences of opinion and disagreement will occur, each member must resolve disagreements and differing views constructively and respectfully.

Our differences can be our strengths - Members can find strength in diversity. Different people have varying perspectives on issues, and that can be valuable for solving problems or generating new ideas for the betterment of The League.

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APSL Mission Statement

To lobby powerfully with governments at all levels and private sector agencies, and within community sector, to promote all aspects of the security, well being and dignity of pensioners of all ages, superannuants, other self-funded retirees, low income families and other disadvantaged people, including Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) peoples.