

THE COMET

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

AUSTRALIAN PENSIONERS' AND SUPERANNUANTS' LEAGUE Qld. Inc.

meet

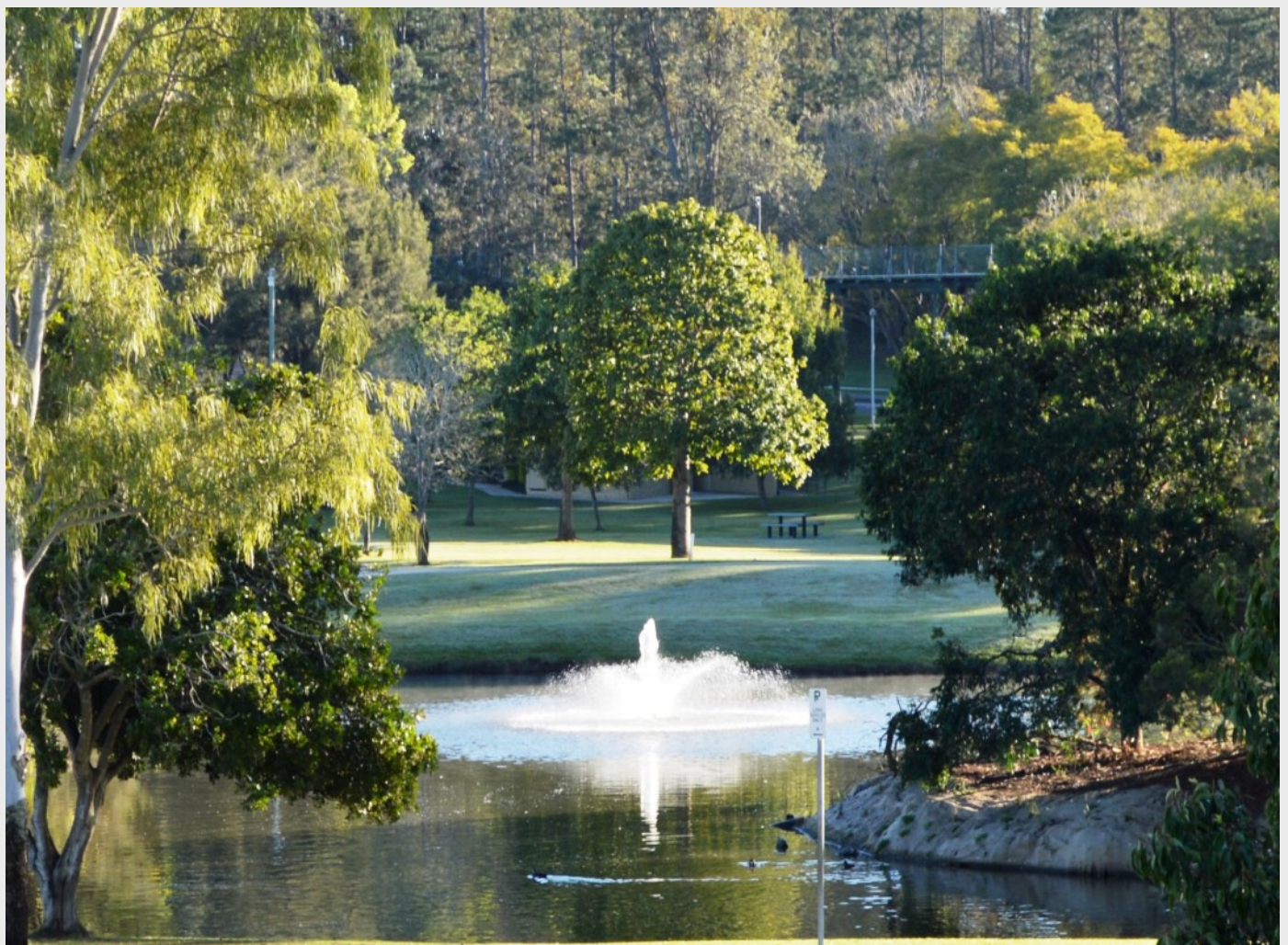
In Gympie

September 13 and 14, 2021

Albert Park Bowls Club

76th

STATE CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



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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



SEPTEMBER 2021

GYMPIE

P2 Services Directory plus

P3 Editorial

P4 EVERYAGE ARTICLE

P5 FORUM

P6 Road Safety with Leyland

P7 RSPCA

P8 CHECKIN APP AND AG LETTER

F9 ANNE RING

P10 Pensioners Prayer/Alex Gow

P 11 SCAMS US ARMY

P 12 BRANCH NEWS

P 13 BRANCH NEWS

P 14 BRANCH NEWS

P 15 BRANCH NEWS

P16 CODE OF CONDUCT

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!





EDITORIAL

By

Cherith Weis



Dear Readers,

It's "all systems go" for our Annual State Conference and Annual General Meeting on September 13 and 14.

Venue is the Albert Park Bowls Club on the main road through Gympie, which is an excellent venue.

No steps into the club house; heaps of parking, and well set up.

Our attendance is down a little this year, and I would say this is mainly because of the fear attached to travelling in this day and age of Covid19. That thinking is understandable, however our Gympie Secretary, Maureen Perry has put so much hard work into organising the conference, so it's up to us to support her efforts.

Maureen went to a lot of trouble last year and had arrangements finalised when Covid 19 hit various parts of the State resulting in the face-to-face meet being cancelled and our first Zoom Conference being held.

ZOOM has been a "God send" for us at APSL to continue operating, but nothing beats a face-to-face meeting up with members at least once a year.

We are honoured to have the Mayor Glen Hartwig of the Gympie Regional Council in the Cooloola region to be our guest and officially open our conference.

Gympie Senior Constable Darryn Hewitt is guest speaker on Monday afternoon. He is Crime Prevention Coordinator /Gympie Patrol Group and will speak on Personal Safety; Domestic/Family Violence and Scammers.

Matters on the agenda for discussion will include pension matters - the need to narrow the gap between single pension recipients and couples.

Caloundra and Bowen have presented agenda items on pensions for discussion.

Social housing is also on the agenda. For example, the rise in Domestic/Family Violence incidents has resulted in the need for accommodation for those involved in break-ups and also those whose future has been changed because of various circumstances.

Constitution Committee meetings have been held and have proved to be long with much discussion as we go through the old constitution and lay down draft features. A copy of the changes recommended so far will be included in the conference booklet.

Other items refer to APSL matters which will be discussed at length. General Business will include a chance for delegates to become involved in the future of APSL.

On Monday night. We will have a night out at the Jockey Club Hotel, South Gympie. The delegates who intend to come along should contact Maureen Perry with numbers for the night.

We look forward to meeting up with members from other branches and we hope you contribute to discussions and enjoy the "meet".

In the meantime, I wish you to be safe and stay well.

See you on Monday, September 13.

Dear EveryAGE Counts coalition member,

I am delighted to let you know that on 1 October, International Day of Older Persons, the EveryAGE Counts campaign will be launching the first Ageism Awareness Day.

Ageism Awareness Day will draw the community's attention to the existence and impacts of ageism in Australia, which we understand to be a critical step to changing community attitudes.

The theme for the day will be: **Ageism. Know it. Name it.**



Our research and experience have shown that the term 'ageism' is not as well known or understood as other forms of prejudice and discrimination. By **knowing it** and **naming it** we are in a stronger position to act. The activities planned for the day will provide our supporters with the opportunity to do exactly that – to take action themselves to address ageism in their own communities.

Ageism Awareness Day will be successful if we are able to engage your organisation, as a member of EveryAGE Counts, to participate. We have been in correspondence with the person that you nominated as the communications contact for your organisation as part of the recently formed EveryAGE Counts Communication Network. We are particularly interested in what you need from us to make this happen. This group will be meeting again on 6 September for a briefing ahead of the day.

The central focus of the day will be our supporters hosting an Ageism Awareness Day Morning Tea, the details of which can be found here: https://www.everyagecounts.org.au/ageism_awareness_day_2021

We know that many of our member organisations will already have activities planned for International Day of Older Persons on that day, so we are designing our activities to be complementary.

If you are unable to host a morning tea, for example, there will be social media collateral that can be shared, an advertisement that will have relevance well beyond the day itself, and a number of resources that will be able to support events held at other times.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the EveryAGE Counts team either directly or through the info@everyagecounts.org.au address.

As always, we look forward to working with you to end ageism.

Kind regards

Marlene

Dr Marlene Krasovitsky

Co-chair and Director
EveryAGE Counts Campaign

Watch the video and pledge your support

www.everyagecounts.org.au

ELDER ABUSE FORUM - AUGUST 25, 2021

KURILPA HALL



APSL Office Manager Anneliese Tolbert welcomed Guest Speakers and attendees to the Forum held at West End on Wednesday August 25. Also attending was Amy McMahon, Member for South Brisbane. Accomplished Guest speakers spoke on various subjects - Senior Sergeant Nick Sellars the Queensland Police covered Domestic Violence response and support.

Rita a Community Support Officer with an Elder Abuse Prevention Unit provided an overview of Elder Abuse and how to access Queensland Government Services.

Julie Witham—Legal Officer with the Queensland Government—her expertise is with Financial Elder Abuse and her presentation dealt with Enduring Power of Attorney.

APSL is thankful for the receipt of a grant from the ***“Investing in Queensland Women Grant Program”***.



ROAD SAFETY

With

LEYLAND BARNETT

Property Security

There have been seven cars stolen within two days in Rockhampton including several cars being damaged and in one case, the Fitzroy river bridge had to be closed backing up traffic?

Some of these cars have advanced security features and it makes you wonder how they could be stolen in the first place. However, it appears that in most situations the thieves are breaking into houses and simply stealing the keys.

Prevention is always better than the cure so if we want to protect our investments then maybe we need to invest into security systems to make it a lot harder for the thieves. Security systems such as camera surveillance, audible alarms, spot lights and a good guard dog would certainly help with prevention but even just locking your doors and hiding your car keys can be just as effective.

Ask yourself if you would leave 30 000 dollars sitting on the table unsecured as this is what an average car is worth, so securing the car keys should be of high importance.

A lot of thieves are opportunistic and will take risks if there is no security to make things difficult for them. The more difficult the task the less likely you will be targeted so make it as hard as possible for them to reduce your risk.

It is so important to be aware of our surroundings today when driving as these thieves don't care about anyone else on the road and will quite easily ram you out of their way to escape. I feel sorry for the police that risk their lives and the lives of the public to try and capture them, to see in some cases the criminals walk out of court with no deterrent towards committing the crime again. I believe a revolving door scenario seems to be in place for some offenders?

There have already been lives lost in Queensland from drug induced criminals losing control and killing innocent people. How many more lives and property are going to be destroyed before serious action is taken to stop the carnage? What can you do if a stolen car is driven into an intersection at over 100 km/hr; it would be like a missile and your chances of avoiding the collision and surviving a crash is zero? These people don't care about their lives or the lives of others and are prepared to play Russian roulette with a gun to their head? Changes need to happen towards stopping this growing trend of vehicle theft and making our communities safer.

Make sure that you do your part in reducing theft by beefing up security and making it harder for the criminals to steal your motor vehicle.

FROM THE RSPCA



If you're after a cute pic then this little guy is seriously cute and absolutely TINY! He's a Graceful Tree Frog and was found on our Wacol campus.

He had a small hole in his thorax and his tiny lung and intestines were poking out. Wildlife veterinarian Meaghan Barrow closed the hole with a single suture (under general anaesthetic) and he has now been released.



Michael Beatty OAM
**Media and Community
Relations**
Wacol Animal Care Centre
RSPCA Queensland



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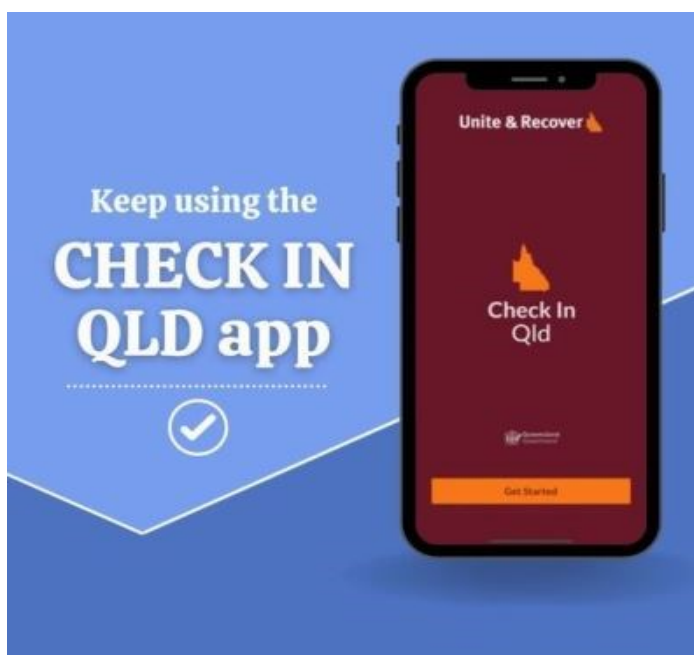
Together We Change Lives

Check In Qld app Important

In addition to the hospitality sector, from 1 a.m Friday 9 July, the Check In Qld app will be mandatory for a number of new sectors, including: venues that attract large crowds, such as stadiums, convention centres, theme parks, concert venues and cinemas

- shopping centres and supermarkets
- beauty and personal care service, such as hairdressing, beauty therapy and nail services
- indoor events, such as cultural festival and expos
- outdoor events that are a music or dance festivals
- leisure and recreation facilities, such as gyms, health clubs, indoor sports facilities and indoor pools
- short-term residential facilities such as hotels, boarding houses and short-term holiday rentals
- outdoor recreation, such as caravan parks, camping areas, zoos and aquariums
- public-facing government services, such as customer service counters in government buildings, galleries, museums, libraries and community centres such as recreation halls
- weddings, funerals and places of worship (only required if indoor)
- higher education institutions, such as universities, TAFEs and registered training organisations
- adult entertainment venues
- hospitals, residential aged care, disability service accommodation (applies to visitors, volunteers and contractors, not staff or patients/residents).

The Check In Qld app is available to download and use to help keep Queenslanders COVID Safe when we're enjoying venues like pubs, clubs, restaurants and cafes across Queensland.



From the Editor

I wasn't going to give the author of the email below space/oxygen on his "way-out" views on COVID and the QLD Check-in App.

However, I will continue to push for Queensland Seniors to get used to using this app. I believe it's the best we've got.

While he thinks everything is a conspiracy, in reality lives of others are at risk.

Doesn't this man watch TV News where they take you to people in hospitals and we can see for ourselves the horrible repercussions of contracting Covid19? Is he deaf and got blinkers on when we hear about the extreme pressure being experienced by the whole of nursing staff?

Does he know that members of the staff are coming down with the dreadful virus themselves and leaving vacuums for others to fill? How long could that scenario last? How long will it be when we get to a point the patients with other problems will go un-treated because of lack of staff?

Don't talk to me about "Freedom: - the word is being blatantly mis-used. Are you free to walk streets un-masked if you have Covid and spray others with droplets when you are yelling abuse at those who are complying with health regulations? No, you are not! Wake up to yourselves—this isn't over!

Quite frankly, I have never read such mis-informed garbage in all my life, excepting for the same type of idiot trolls on Facebook! Ed.

"Thanks for the July Comet, and the work put into it, however, I disagree with many of your comments, and I know you are entitled to that.

As I see it the public are being manipulated as there is an agenda, I for one will not be putting an app on my mobile, taken the gab or wearing the useless mask, have you asked yourself, is the app needed? Where has the common cold and flu gone?

Segregation, is upon us, in a big way, breakup of family and friends, God's people and dis-believers, the vaccinated and non-vaccinated, when you think about it, the list just keeps going on and on.

In 2020 there was approx. 26 million people in Australia with a growth rate of about 1.64% annually, in Queensland the figure is about 5.11 million with a 1.5% growth rate, the percentage of so called infected in Australia is minuscule, there are so many zeros after the point, and it's hard to measure.

In Queensland they are reportedly about 5 to 10 people how have the Covid-19 virus, and they want all citizens to have an experimental vaccine, by the way, do you know anyone who knows anyone with Covid?

I know one, who brought it in from the U.K., he was hospitalised and unwell for about a week, he is now well and back working.

I could write pages of reasons as to why we are being conned, by the government, the evidence is already out there, I'm just waiting on the day, those vaccinated will drop dead in the street, sounds harsh.

This is another Holocaust."

Appreciating instead of depreciating the *old* in older people

Anne Ring

In a beautiful article in which a daughter has written lovingly about her parents, what is wrong with these touching and family-minded sentences (from the 23 July *Big Issue*)?

Dad's nudging 80 and shouldn't be pushing around a lawnmower..... Not that he'll accept help. It's one step closer to admitting he's getting old.



Let me count the ways, assuming that the dad in question is not suffering from any ill health or physical handicap (none were mentioned), and noting that I – too – am nudging 80:

Why on earth shouldn't Dad be pushing a lawnmower if he's fit enough to do so? Especially since the combination of walking and pushing (resistance work) are both relatively mild forms of the sorts of exercises older people are recommended to keep on doing in order to maintain fitness and a healthy body into – and in – old age.

In light of 1) above, as well as enjoying being independent, why should he accept help? We're in the fortunate situation of living longer and healthier lives, and what that means is that we're able to go on doing much of what we've been used to doing throughout our lives, and to make our own decisions about them, rather than being cossetted just because we've reached a certain age.

As for concerns about admitting to old age, that sounds like something that he's got problems with. And there are some good reasons for why that's not surprising, and so, that's something that I'd like to explore further, right here, and right now.

What this is all about is the stigma around the notion of *old* age, and that is something that I've been tackling for years. Only recently, in fact, an article that I wrote on exactly that subject attracted quite a bit of attention. In that August 6 article – which *The Sydney Morning Herald* arrestingly titled "I'm old and happy, so don't dare to call me young for my age" – I talked about the general reluctance for people to admit to being old in a culture and society that values youth. And in which, as a result, it's regarded as a compliment to tell someone that they look young for their age, or that they're 80 going on 50, or words to that effect.

At the same time, a top dictionary definition for "the old" is as follows: "The old are people who are old. This use could cause offence". So, you can see what we're up against. The problem is that this is not just a semantic issue. There has been some powerful research carried out in the USA, that found that the stigmatisation of *old* age in society can be internalised by some older people, into negative self-perceptions and that these – in turn – can result in those individuals living up to seven and a half years *less* than those older people with positive self-perceptions of being old.

The not-surprising remedy that the researchers suggested was that there needs to be a societal change in attitude to old age, from stigmatisation to appreciation. And that is something that we should all be working towards, and not just for altruistic reasons. The bottom line is that the majority of us are lucky enough to grow old, sooner or later – so any positive changes that we can bring about will benefit everyone, ourselves included.

So, keep on mowing, Dad (provided you've got the all clear from your GP), as we approach October 1, the UN-endorsed International Day of Older Persons, with its over-riding objective of fostering respect for older people and "the need to ensure that people can grow old with dignity and continue to participate in society as citizens with full rights."

Anne Ring ©2021

Pensioners' Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We pray for the Aged, Invalid and Widowed, who meet here,

As well as those absent through sickness

Grant that we may never forget that God is Love

And May he ever rule our hearts.

Give us Grace to face advancing years with courage

And help us always,

To be thankful for all mercies, remembering that God is The Finisher, as well, as the Author of all Life

Make us patient in suffering, And ever keep alive our faith in the resurrection

This we beg through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

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Hey Branches, what are you doing for Seniors month?
PLEASE let us know for the next Comet by September 20th!



Having received multiple requests on Facebook to “send a friend request to me as I am too polite to ask” - buttering up with all sorts of compliments and so on, prompted me to investigate and check out the requests and found they were all supposed to in the US Army. All were widowed and either lived in Hawaii or different US States. Don’t say it doesn’t happen here. It is happening here.

The criminals behind these scams are usually based in Nigeria and are huge companies formed to take seniors to the cleaners.

Online Romance Scam Information

If you feel you have been scammed by a person claiming to be a U.S. Soldier, contact the [FBI Internet Crime Complaint Centre](#) and the [Federal Trade Commission](#).

Army CID is warning anyone who is involved in online dating to proceed with caution when corresponding with persons claiming to be U.S. Soldiers currently serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria or elsewhere. Army CID receives hundreds of allegations a month from victims who state they got involved in an online relationship with someone, on a legitimate dating website or other social media website, who claims to be a U.S. Soldier. The "Soldier" then begins asking for money for various FALSE, service-related needs such as transportation costs, communication fees, marriage, processing and medical fees. Victims of these online scams have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars, with a very low possibility of recovery. The U.S. has established numerous task force organizations to deal with this growing epidemic; unfortunately, many times the people committing these scams are from African countries using untraceable email addresses, routing accounts through numerous locations around the world and utilizing pay per hour Internet cyber cafes, which often times maintain no accountability of use.

U.S. Army CID Pleads with Public, Warns Against Romance Scams CID warns Army community about social media impersonation of Soldier accounts

What to look for- DO NOT SEND MONEY! Be extremely suspicious if you are asked for money for transportation costs, communication fees or marriage processing and medical fees via Western Union.

If you do start an Internet-based relationship with someone, check them out, research what they are telling you with someone who would know, such as a current or former service member.

- - Be very suspicious if you never get to actually speak with the person on the phone or are told you cannot write or receive letters in the mail. Servicemen and women serving overseas will often have an APO or FPO mailing address. Internet or not, service members always appreciate a letter in the mail.
- - Many of the negative claims made about the military and the supposed lack of support and services provided to troops overseas are far from reality - check the facts.
- - Be very suspicious if you are asked to send money or ship property to a third party or company. Often times the company exists, but has no idea or is not a part of the scam.
- - Be very suspicious if the person you are corresponding with wants you to mail anything to an African country.
- - Be aware of common spelling, grammatical or language errors in the email.
- **“Red Flags” - some of the words/phrases used by scammers**

Report the theft to the Internet Crime Complaint Centre (IC3) (FBI-NW3C Partnership).
Online: <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>

Report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission. Your report helps law enforcement officials across the United States in their investigations. Online: <http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft>

BRANCH REPORTS

Caloundra Branch : A year in review

Like many other community groups, Caloundra Branch have continued to suffer at the hands of COVID19. At one point during the pandemic our branch could not meet for over eight months. This severely impact on ability to promote our Branch and fundraise.

To support and promote APSL policies our Caloundra Branch President sits on committees of other not for profit organisations. The Caloundra Hospital Auxiliary; CCSA Community Hall; Caloundra Safe, a committee working with local council and Police services and Coast to Bay Housing.

Our new Caloundra branch project is working with other community groups to re-open the Caloundra Tourist Information Centre. This large centre was closed by the local Council. This is a very big project. We will assist with start-up funding and providing volunteering.

Recently we held our first Bunnings BBQ in two years; very hard work under Covid conditions.

Sadly for the second year we could not hold our Seniors Week Walk. While it was never a fundraiser, it was a great PR Exercise for APSL. At our last walk, we had over 430 people attend. This was a major annual event for over twenty years in Seniors Week.

Covid has taken a heavy toll on our membership. People do not want to come out in the pandemic. We are trying promotional events of all types to build our membership. We hold displays in parks flying our banners, and corflutes. During the Covid lockdown, our Branch executive has remained very active by meeting on a regular basis.

Single Pension

We have never stopped working promoting the need to have the single pension increased. With each pension adjustment, the financial gap between the single and coupled pension increases. By the time of the next adjustment, the difference could be over \$500 a fortnight and no single pensioners can save that much each fortnight on everyday living.

Caloundra branch has argued for over twenty years for an increase to the single pension. It is a sad fact that in time, we will all become single pensioners. Increase gained now will benefit many other in the future.

Caloundra Branch like many other branches are losing member. We hope that together at Conference we will find a way to rebuild APSL across Queensland.

Frank Gower

President Caloundra Branch.

BRANCH REPORTS

CHILDERS

Over the last year our Branch has enjoyed many outings and members of other clubs have visited us. During this year, we have visited Biggenden Seniors and Gin Gin members have visited us.

We had a BBQ at Woodgate and we had a boat trip on the Mary River. Our last outing was to Takura Arts and Crafts where we had morning tea, then lunch at the Miners Arms Hotel at Torbanlea followed by a visit to Bambooland.

We have lost some members and gained 4 new members. To date we have 25 paid up members.

Lorraine Goding.

GYMPIE

As Gympie is small in numbers now, from July 1, 2020 we only have a meeting once a month. Cutting expenses. One month the meeting is held at the Senior Citizens Centre in town. Alternatively the next meeting is held at my house/in my garage. I do not charge the branch rent. That way we may be able to keep going next year 2022.

In the past month, two members of our branch have lost a family member. Very sad. I have still been entering in local shows and doing quite well.

All arrangements for Conference are in order (I hope). It will happen this September. See you then.

Maureen Secretary

MONTO

The Pensioners Second Hand Book Shop is open 6 mornings each week except for public holidays. People opening the shop are Bill Brown; Marilyn Hill; Sue Muller; Jacky Roth. Extra if someone is away June Kilah. Treasurer has a full time job. Else Mary Sharp. We have sold at least 4,500 books; magazines; etc for the year. Books have come from locals; travellers; Monto Library.

We tried closing with Covid; demand for books forced us to reopen. We supplied ; sprayed gloves and sign in paper. The town's library was closed; newsagent had very few new books. The local paper is gone.

We now have a small magazine catering for Biggenden; Gayndah; Eidsvold; Mundubbera; Mount Perry and Monto. Since the Senior Paper has started all have been going every month. The shop now has new owners; rent has not changed. Ergon is changing charges for our electricity. It is to be somewhere between \$20 to \$40 dearer every three months. No bill received yet. The level we have been on is now cancelled. We use less than the minimum, but need lights.

The Art Trail has been a draw card to the town. Some photos on the website - [northburnett.qld.gov.au/visit north-burnett](http://northburnett.qld.gov.au/visit-north-burnett)

Thanks for your help and support during the year.

June Kilah, Monto

BRANCH REPORT HERVEY BAY

Hi Everyone,

Well here we are again after a long and challenging year of restrictions and compliances. We have weathered the storm so far, and come out smiling. J Our club has gained strength despite the challenges. Our aim is to keep social contact with the elderly, in a friendly and safe way.

All our activities have grown quite popular, and are a great way for our members to keep active both physically and mentally. Our oldest member still playing table tennis is 95, so there is much hope for the rest of us. J

We also have a vast range of volunteers with various skills, such as admin work, cleaning, garden and maintenance, and of course the activity leaders. Everyone is putting in a great effort for the benefit of our club.

If all keeps improving the way it is going, then we should come out of the other end laughing and shouting, "WE MADE IT" !!!!!!!

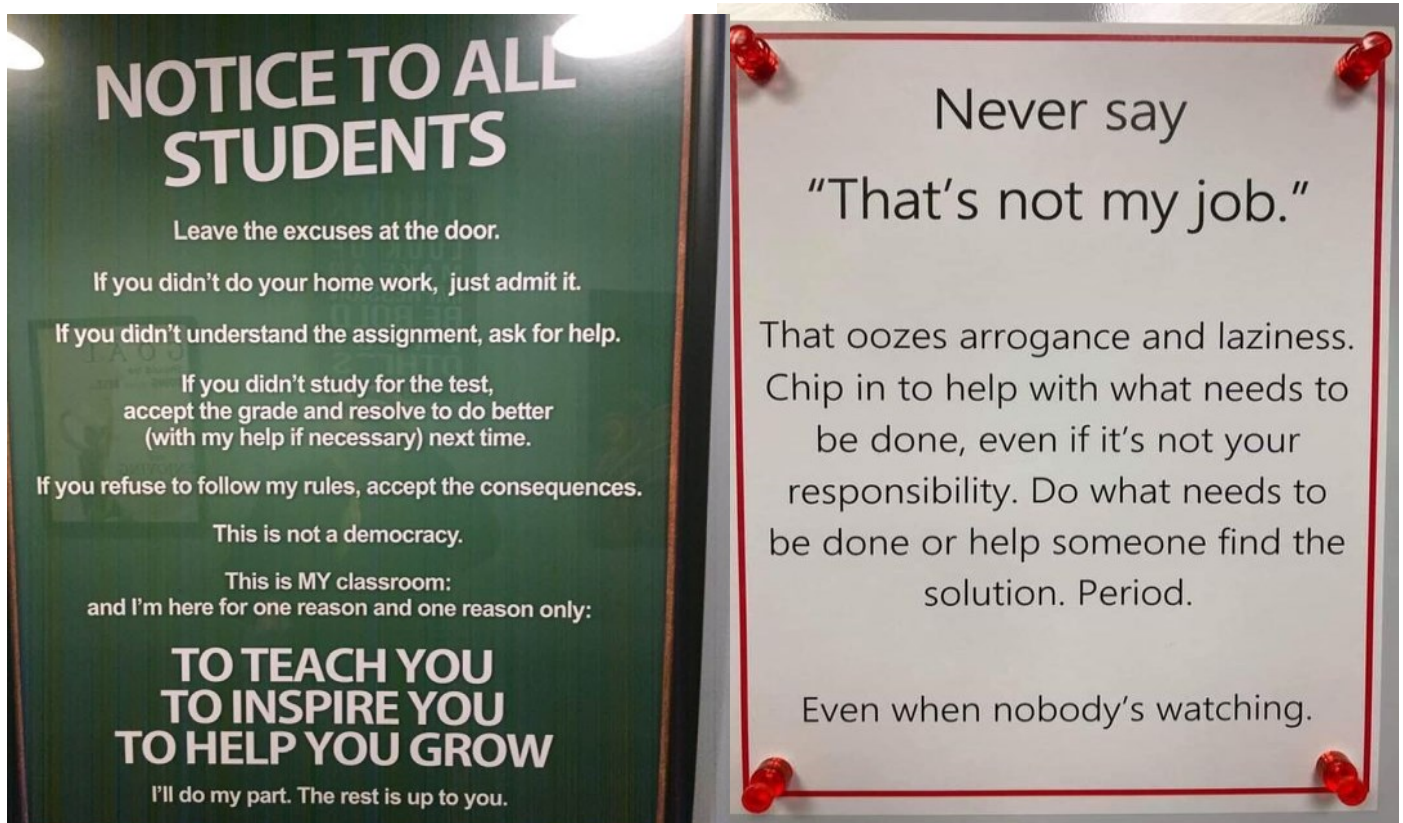
Muriel Thurgar, President.

To all Branches -

If you have signed up new members, please let Head Office know.

If you have lost some members, please advise Head Office. We have to keep a Register (Office of Fair Trading Rules).

Thanks, Cherith



Gladstone Branch

It has been a bit of a challenging year what with the Covid and other things happening. We still have Hoy every Monday. We had a different venue for a few months while they renovated Potter Place where we usually meet. We had our hoy at the Heritage Village since early in the year. We had our Annual meeting on Monday 16TH August at this meeting Joan Green President Pet Brid Vice President Janet Domoney Secretary/Treasurer, we have about 8 committee members. After the meeting held Hoy, that was our first day back in the nice, renovated hall. We went to Miriam Vale that was in May. We haven't been able to go on many trips this year either due to a lot of places being closed down. We have lost a few members due to ill health or going into Homes.

Gladstone will be represented at the State Conference.

Mt Morgan Branch

Have only had 3 meetings as Pat Hare has been sick. They had their Annual Meeting Barry Hare President; Greg Tremaine Vice President; Pat Hare Secretary and Doris Tremaine as Treasurer. They have 22 Members. In 1989 to 1990 they had 400 members. They are hoping to be able to go places in the coming year.

NORTH ROCKHAMPTON

Covid 19 has been a challenge for this branch. Indoor Bowling members have been playing at Rocky's Kent Street club mainly because of the rules laid down by the local council.

At a recent meeting, members heard views of Angela Longland from local State Health Office and believed that we could restart activities.

However, a number of members would like to see the Wednesday Indoor Bowls resumed and presently poster and advertising is out there.

North Rockhampton will be represented at the State Conference.

GRACEMERE

Gracemere had held their AGM and have been busily organizing a number of activities.

Gracemere will be represented at the State Conference.

Meg Paterson

COLLINSVILLE

Our branch is going very well with not as many members now, but we still have fun playing cards; Scrabble and Bingo.

We meet each Thursday and sometimes have lunches.

A. Pennay (President)

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.

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.