



THE COMET

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

From the September State Conference in Gladstone...

NORTH ROCKHAMPTON APSL BRANCH calls on this APSL State Conference to submit a recommendation to the State Government that the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) subsidies be increased because of cost-of-living rises.

Regional residents are struggling to pay for extra charges for extended stays in accommodation.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

The last rise in the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme coincided with the APSL State Conference in Toowoomba in 2012. So, after ten years and with rises in living costs; accommodation and fuel costs, we believe that PTSS rises are justified.

The then Newman Government raised the accommodation subsidy from \$30 a night to \$60. During that time, the cost of accommodation has risen; therefore, costs to patients who have to remain in Brisbane after procedures for a period of time (mostly around a week), have risen greatly.

A recent conversation with a senior disclosed that she had to stay an additional six days after an eye operation meant, she was out of pocket daily for accommodation \$80.00.

A rise in the travel subsidy should be reviewed and because of the cost of fuel, rises should take place.

MOVED BY North Rockhampton Branch SECONDED BY Warwick Branch

During discussion, it was raised that rather than make a recommendation, a demand should be made by APSL to make concrete changes, otherwise there would be no incentive for the government bodies to make any real changes. A stronger statement of need should be made, and therefore any increase request should have a specific number amount attached to it. It was further discussed that there are multiple components of the subsidy, with the main component being accommodation, but fuel costs also factor into the problem. Some regions with air or train travel options, could have their fares covered entirely by the subsidy; other regions without air or train options, see PTSS participants forced to use their personal vehicles to travel for medical care. There appears to be a flat rate reimbursement for costs of personal vehicle travel, but this is not keeping up with the rising cost of fuel. The Delegate from Warwick stated that he got a flat amount per day which was very small compared to his actual fuel costs.

There was additional discussion re. increasing the amount of the travel subsidy component, in addition to the accommodation component. However, an amended motion to include a fuel-cost component was tabled as some Delegates present did not believe it formed the main part of the original motion.

ACTION State Conference called to AMEND the PTSS Motion to include a minimum increase of \$120 to the per diem Accommodation subsidy amount ONLY. MOVED that the Amendment be carried by North Rockhampton, Seconded by Warwick. CARRIED. (Continued on Page 6)



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Services Directory

Commonwealth Government Directory

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| 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

| | |
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| 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 |
| Police link Queensland Police (non-urgent) | 131 444 |
| Crime Stoppers | 1800 333 000 |
| Alex Gow Funerals | 07 3852 1501 |

OCTOBER 2022

P 1 PTSS from conference

P2 Information

P3 Editorial

P4 Pics from conference

P5 DITTO

P6 AGENDA ITEMS

P7 DITTO

P8 CONFERENCE PICS

P 9 LEYLAND'S ARTICLE

P10 DITTO PICS

P11 ANNE RING / BOOK

P12 AGENDA ITEM

P13 Suicide Prevention—Seniors

P14 RSPCA TICKS

P15 QUOTES

P16 CODE OF ETHICS & PERSONAL CONDUCT

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

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!



**A MEMBER OF THE EVERYAGE
COALITION OF ORGANISATIONS**



EDITORIAL WITH CHERITH WEIS



Readers,

Included in this edition are some of the Agenda items from the State Conference which were discussed in full.

Those items which were passed by delegates in Gladstone will then go to the relevant authorities for their consideration and action.

Readers feedback would be appreciated as there are items which directly affect seniors.

These issues concern all seniors so let's hear your ideas as these issues concern all of us.

The APSL would like to thank Gladstone's President Joan Green and their Secretary Janet Domoney and all Gladstone members for their excellent organization of the 77th State Conference.

Mayor of Gladstone, Councilor Matt Burnett opened the State conference and acknowledged the decades of hard work by APSL in its mission to improve the lives of people living on a pension. He thanked the delegation for choosing Gladstone as its location for State Conference, and welcomed attendees to make the most of their time in the city.

On the first afternoon of the conference, delegates and observers were treated to a visit by the State Member for Gladstone, Glenn Butcher who called in to say "G'Day" and expressed his support for APSL and shared literature with members.

I would appreciate end-of-year celebrations for insertion in The Comet and any news of your branch which may be of interest to all APSL members.

To all who have suffered loss, please accept our condolences in your time of grief.

In the next Comet, Warwick will be featured as they celebrate 85 years since they were first formed. Congratulations, Warwick!

Until next month. *Cherith.*

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Gladstone Regional Council Mayor Matt Burnett opened the 77th State Conference on Tuesday, September 13.

A surprise visit for APSL Members from the State Member for Gladstone, Glen Butcher (below) was welcomed by all who attended and those who participated on line.



Guest Speaker, Maddison Rhodes from Relationships Australia spoke on Elder Abuse and received a gift from Gladstone's Secretary, Janet Domoney.



SOME PICS FROM THE 2022 STATE CONFERENCE HELD IN GLADSTONE



Acting President, Nola Harvey presents Gladstone with the most new members trophy



AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED AT STATE CONFERENCE

1.03 VAPING

NORTH ROCKHAMPTON BRANCH calls on this State Conference to approach the State Government's Health Department regarding reports that Primary School Children pupils have been found to be "vaping" – some at school.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Something that virtually started as a novelty, has now been declared a health hazard by Medical authorities. It would appear that the dangers are no different to cigarette smoking. Therefore, this organisation should call for a crackdown on the practice.

MOVED BY North Rockhampton SECONDED BY Warwick

Caloundra stated that they did not see how this issue had any relation to pensioners. Cherith Weis replied that it concerned older people because their grandchildren were doing it, and it is a dangerous practice. There was further discussion about how the actual vaping devices often contain illegal substances, including nicotine (only available by prescription) as well as marijuana and other toxic substances.

The Delegate from North Rockhampton stated that this issue may be impacting younger people primarily, but as older people, pensioners are not precluded from caring about younger generations. If the APSL doesn't have compassion for other groups of people, then it is not an organisation worth supporting. This final statement from North Rockhampton closed the debate of the Agenda Item, and a vote was called to support the passage of this motion.

Babinda, Gympie, Gracemere, Gladstone, and Warwick all voted in favour. Hervey Bay and Caloundra abstained. The motion was CARRIED.

2. AGED CARE

2.01 AGED CARE FACILITIES AND SHOCKING DIETS

North Rockhampton Branch calls on State Conference to support move to pressure the Federal Government into implementing the recommendations of the AGED CARE COMMISSION as a matter of urgency. Reports that residents are starving in some facilities should be rectified immediately.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Reports have been published regarding diets for seniors in Aged Care Facilities.

Staff and volunteers are contracting COVID and Influenza resulting in facilities being short staffed and care for residents in aged care facilities is sadly lacking.

Members of the APSL attending the Community Engagement Session of the AGED CARE ROYAL COMMISSION held in Brisbane and although discussion was limited, they reported that they were Shocked at what they heard. This happened prior to COVID 19 and the situation is far from satisfactory.

MOVED BY North Rockhampton SECONDED BY Babinda

Babinda made an impassioned statement confirming and corroborating his experience seeing this exact problem up close. Caloundra agreed strongly that it was incumbent on the APSL to support this motion. The Motion was CARRIED.

4.1 SOCIAL HOUSING

North Rockhampton Branch calls on the State Conference to support a request to the State Government to open the centres at Pinkenba (Brisbane) and Wellcamp (Toowoomba) to be opened as EMERGENCY HOUSING for the homeless and/or domestic violence victims. These centres have a capacity of each being able to accommodate 1,000 people in each facility. It seems a shocking waste of funds to have these centres virtually not being used.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

There are 50,300 people on the social housing list in Queensland which equates to around 28,000 adults. There are people sleeping in their vehicles/on footpaths/ wherever they can find a place to sleep but governments have all failed to keep up with public housing. Decades ago, housing commission homes filled the quota. Last October, The State Government issued a media release that it would buy up un-habited homes -- which seemed a good idea. If you check out media release on the State Government sites, there are many statements but things are not moving quickly enough when it comes to demand for housing. FOOTNOTE: We are well aware that the issue of providing Domestic Violence Victims with such Housing should not be publicised.

Moved by

North Rockhampton

Seconded by Gracemere

Margaret Laughton requested clarification on the ownership of both facilities, to find out who would need to be contacted in support of the motion. It was established that the Pinkenba facility was Federally owned whilst the Toowoomba facility (Wellcamp) was owned by the state of Queensland. Several members stood up to speak about the problem of homelessness and that it seemed a shocking waste of resources to leave the facilities unoccupied. **The motion was CARRIED.**

5.1 COMMUNITY

North Rockhampton Branch calls on this State Conference to support an approach to the State Government the following regarding E Scooters: We ask that these machines be governed as the risk to pedestrians is great. We have breaches. E-Scooters parked across concrete footpaths and left in places which we doubt are safe to others. We believe strict enforcement of the regulations concerning use and parking etc. must be implemented. Electric Scooter companies must be held responsible for regulations concerning the wearing of helmets and must emphasise to their users the absolute necessary requirement when using e-Scooters. Rises in casualties have been reported with the increase of upper-body injuries.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT E-scooters have become a popular vehicle for some communities in Queensland. A number of riders adhere to regulations. However, some blatant breaches concerning the use of E-scooters. Where they ride in shared spaces those breaches have included: -

- . drink driving and drug driving penalties;
- . the practice of speeding which appears to have no respect for pedestrians;
- . Injuries which have been recorded – upper body/head (helmet deficiencies).

MOVED BY North Rockhampton; SECONDED BY Caloundra Margaret noted that e-Scooters were no different to bicycles. Special lanes along highways have been built for cyclists but they are not always used. Cherith talked about how e-Scooters being left strewn across footpaths have prevented older people with walkers and motorised wheelchairs from having access to bus stops and shopping centres entrances. (Hervey Bay) spoke about her experience in her residential area. She pointed out that legislation exists to regulate this problem, but it's impossible to control the stupid actions of reckless individuals. **MOTION LOST.**

MORE GLADSTONE CONFERENCE PICS FROM SEPTEMBER 13 & 14



Gladstone President Joan Green and Gladstone Treasurer Janet Domoney presented gifts to Acting President, Nola Harvey and Head Office Manager, Anneliese Tolbert in recognition of their hard work towards the organization of the 2022 State Conference held in Gladstone.



Central Queensland delegates took part in discussions concerning Agenda items (an important part of conference). Pictured here is Jean Harvey (Gracemere Branch); and Dudley and Val Pound delegates for the North Rockhampton Branch.



Pictured above are six members of the 2022—2023 APSL State Management Committee. Pictured left to right are Janet Domoney (Gladstone); Nola Harvey Incoming Secretary/Acting Treasurer (Gracemere); Michael Holland—Area Organiser (Warwick); Dudley Pound (North Rockhampton); Meg Paterson Area Organiser (Gladstone); and Joan Green (Gladstone).

Those elected who attended on Zoom - President Cherith Weis (North Rockhampton); Vice President—Graham Lynch (Babinda); Area Organiser - Anne Long (Gympie) and Area Organiser - Maureen Perry (Gympie). A Babinda member will fill the Area Organiser 1 Vacancy at the branch meeting in early October.



ROAD SAFETY WITH LEYLAND

Stay Alert

Staying safe on our roads is continually becoming more difficult as our population increases and demand for the use of our road networks continues to grow. At the moment our road toll figures are climbing higher than last year's 2021 figures where 274 people, 34 in the central region of Queensland, died on our roads

The blame for this trend can be attributed to; poor roads, poor driver education, poor law enforcement, lack of responsibility of drivers and poor attitudes. How do we survive the drive today with all of the above problems?

Staying alert while driving is the most important thing that drivers need to do if they want to stay alive and survive the drive.

What are the key things that we can do to stay alert?

No.1 Look ahead of your travel, not just in front, so that you can see any hazards earlier and be able to react to any situation that can occur.

No.2 Check centre rear view mirror often, especially before braking firm as you need to be aware of

how close the vehicle is travelling behind you. You also need to be aware of any emergency vehicles with lights and sirens activated as you need to give way to them.

No.3 Physically shoulder check before changing lanes or merging to cover the mirror blind spots.

No.4 Scan cross roads, train lines and intersections before entering.

No.5 Do not be distracted by passengers or any external events while driving, keeping your eyes on the road is important to be able to make safe decisions if an incident occurs.

These guides seem to be very basic knowledge to a lot of drivers yet incidents still occur on our roads. It is important to understand that some drivers do not accept responsibility for their actions and don't care about their safety or the safety of other road users. If we look at the amount of stolen vehicles in our local communities it is easy to see what inexperience driver's end up doing in high speed attempts at avoiding the police. The period 15th July to 14th August saw 37 stolen cars in Rockhampton and Nth Rockhampton districts alone.

Staying alert is a key factor, in avoiding an incident and becoming a responsible driver requires having a good, defensive attitude.





By Anne Ring

How many people are – like me – taking for granted all the wondrous things going on inside our bodies to keep us doing all that we do on a daily, and nightly, basis? Unless.... unless something happens to shake us up. Like, for instance, atrial fibrillation.

I've known about AF (as I've come to call it) for a long time, but only at a distance. My sister had it for many years, until cured by a successful procedure. My sister-in-law has had it for a long time, but has been free of the fluttering episodes since (coincidentally?) making some dietary changes that were recommended by a naturopath. And, as both of them had been living pretty normal lives with it, I've always regarded it as nothing serious. Which is right.

But, when you suddenly find yourself being knocked around by a fluttering heart, it can certainly shake you up out of your complacency. Suddenly, as you actually feel this amazing organ banging against your chest instead of – as usual – quietly going about its business, it most definitely captures your attention. And so it should.

Since doing biology at school, I have always known that the heart keeps busy doing its thing of keeping me alive by pumping oxygen and nutrient-rich blood throughout my body to sustain my life.

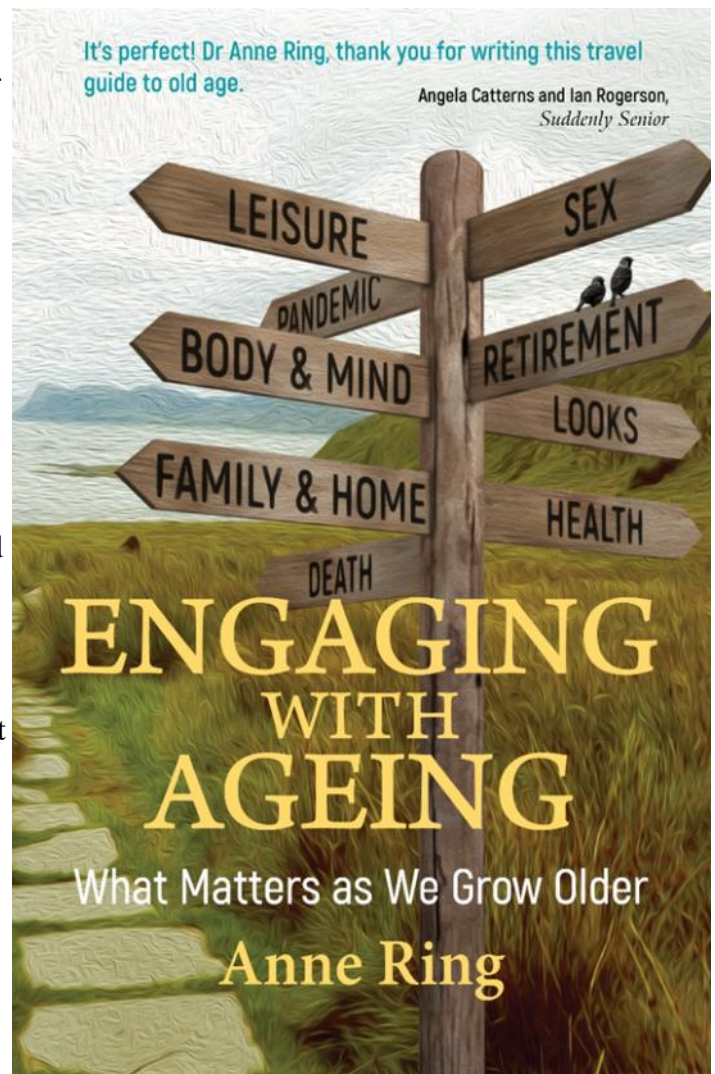
What I did not know was that what WebMD describes as “this fist-sized powerhouse” expands and contracts as it beats “100,000 times per day, pumping five or six quarts of blood each minute, or about 2,000 gallons per day”. That is simply (and tautologically) gobsmackingly amazing. How long could any piece of machinery which does all of that without pause go on without needing to be replaced? And yet, here I am, with my 80-year-old heart still doing its thing.

But, as pointed out by the Victorian Government's Better Health site, it turns out – not surprisingly – that “the occurrence of AF increases with age (and, therefore, ageing of the heart)”.

That's not the only cause, of course, but as – having a healthy heart and healthy lifestyle – I don't have any of the other risk factors that were listed, I accept the fact that the main explanation is just that my body is finally showing some signs of running down. Fortunately, there are various treatments for this condition, and I'm being rigorous in maintaining my new pill-taking regimen of beta-blockers and blood thinners.

And I'm now treating my valiantly beating heart with a whole lot more conscious respect, as it lets me know how to set the pace for the rest of my days.

Anne Ring ©2022



Agenda Item from the floor of Conference...

Warwick branch of the APSL calls on State Conference to submit a recommendation that the State Government that they review the travel cost subsidy (currently 20 cents per kilometre) and increase it to 50 cents per kilometre.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Patients in rural and regional areas who do not have access to train or air services, and are required to travel by private vehicle, are struggling to cover fuel costs for medical travel. The current per-kilometre reimbursement rate for work travel has been set by the ATO 2022 - 2023 to be 78 per kilometre. The delegate from Warwick draws the attention of members present to the last sentence of the supporting statement of North Rockhampton's original motion about the PTSS, which does mention that the travel component of the subsidy should be reviewed and increased because of increased fuel costs.

MOVED BY Warwick

SECONDED BY Hervey Bay

During discussion it was suggested to request an increase to the PTSS Travel Subsidy Scheme, for a 78 cents per kilometre reimbursement for car travel, to be in line with the standard set by the ATO for reimbursement for work-related travel.

With this amended increase amount, a vote was called.

The motion was CARRIED.

Ooo0ooo

From the State Conference minutes.....

Following the reading of the Office Manager's report, there was a query from Caloundra branch regarding DGR – Deductible Gift Recipient status.

Anneliese explained that it is in the interest of APSL to become a charity with DGR status, because it allows the organisation to receive large tax-deductible grant donations.

This is an income stream that has formerly been unavailable, but can be accessed with some targeted effort.

To achieve DGR status, it requires the help of a solicitor to update the APSL Constitution and to file the paperwork for assessment by the Australian Tax Office.

The APSL Management Committee has been engaged in this effort for the last several months, using a pro-bono solicitor.

More work is to be done, and it is important to address this issue once a new Management Committee is elected. (Discussion prior to election).

Hello

I work for Anglicare and through the support for NSW and Commonwealth Government funding, we are offering a free Suicide Prevention for Seniors Program for health professionals and supporting staff working with older people. Would you be able to assist with getting this information out to your members?

We have just received funding to go national and I have attached a flyer for distribution.

To register, Team session:

> 12 participants, reply to this email, with expected numbers and a few preferred dates and times, we can organise a workshop for your team.

< 12 participants, reply to this email, with expected numbers (to reserve places) and a few preferred dates and times, we can organise a workshop for you which will also be open to other health professionals to join.

Individual Staff attendance: complete the Suicide Prevention for Seniors Program Registration Form (office.com) and select from available workshops.

This free program, funded by NSW and Commonwealth Government is being offered regularly, with 1 to 2 sessions per week. I have attached a flyer for details to promote to your staff.

Suicide Prevention for Seniors Program

Would you know what to do if someone you support was experiencing thoughts of suicide?
Did you know that the highest suicide rate is among men aged 85 and older?

Anglicare's Suicide Prevention for Seniors Program equips you with the knowledge to help prevent suicide. Includes:

Online self-paced Question Persuade and Refer (QPR) gatekeeper training (up to 60 minutes)

Online workshop contextualising the training for seniors (2hrs)

The program is free - funded by NSW and Commonwealth Governments. To be eligible, you need to be working with older people and have internet access.

This course will teach you:

About suicide in general and in the older population; About risks and warning signs

What to say and how to approach someone in suicidal crisis; How to refer the person on for help and potentially save a life; Protective factors (the factors that help to lower the risk of suicide)

You will also receive handy resources after the workshop and hear from people with lived experience

You will receive a certificate upon completion of the QPR course and resources after the workshop.

Ageing isn't synonymous with depression and feelings of hopelessness. So as a society, let's not turn a blind eye to suicide in the older population. Decide to empower yourself today and support Towards Zero Suicides. If you have any questions or would like further information, please reply to the email or call 0491 739 684. Kind regards, Tracey Grinter Administration Officer – Suicide Prevention for Seniors

Work days: Monday - Thursday Level 2, Century Corporate Centre, 62 Norwest Boulevard, Norwest NSW 2153

PO Box 284, Castle Hill NSW 1765 M: 0419 739 684. Email: Tracey.Grinter@anglicare.org.au

W: www.anglicare.org.au

Tick Warning: Protect your pet!

Spike of pets coming into RSPCA with tick paralysis

In the past week, RSPCA Queensland has seen a spike in animals requiring treatment for tick paralysis. Two cats are in intensive care with a puppy now in recovery.



The charity is warning pet owners of the dangers ticks pose to pets.

* Spike of pets coming into RSPCA with tick paralysis

The charity is warning pet owners of the dangers ticks pose to pets. RSPCA Queensland



Chief Veterinarian Dr Anne Chester says, “The warmer temperatures coupled with wet weather has seen ticks out in force and latching onto pets.

“Owners should check their pets every day for ticks and ensure they’re using tick preventatives like tick collars, spot on treatments or monthly chews.”

Two cats and one puppy are recovering at the Brisbane RSPCA from tick paralysis and three cats have come into Dakabin RSPCA with paralysis ticks. Sadly, a family’s dog didn’t make it on route to the RSPCA in Cairns and passed away from tick paralysis.



Dr Chester says, “Act fast. If you find a tick on your pet remove it with tweezers and get them to your vet for treatment, don’t delay, especially if your pet is displaying any of the following symptoms.”

Signs your pet may have a paralysis tick:

Hind leg paralysis

Vomiting or gagging

Unsteady, staggering walk

Difficulty breathing

Dry cough or change in bark or meow

Disinterest in foodNote: Some cats and dogs do not show the typical hind limb paralysis at first. Initially they may only exhibit a gurgling, choking cough, however their condition will quickly deteriorate.

Emma Lagoon
Communications & Media Manager
Wacol Animal Care Centre RSPCA Queensland

The original patent from 1891 for a toilet paper roll shows the correct rolling direction, in case you ever doubted.



Mum's Clothes Line Rules

The clothes line must be wiped before hanging clothes.

Socks must be hung by their toes.

Hang sheets and towels on the outside line so you can hide your 'unmentionables'.

Clothes must hang in order - whites with whites and hung first.

Shirts must always hang by the tail - never the shoulders.

Lining up the clothes so that each item shares one of the clothes pegs with another item.

It doesn't matter if it is sub-zero outside, the clothes will go out and just freeze.

Pegs must be gathered up when taking down clothes - never leave them on the line.



A Little Poem For The Old Is Gold

Another year has passed
And we're all a little older,
Last summer felt hotter
Now winter seems much colder.

There was a time not long ago
When life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand
About 'Living in the Past'

We used to go to parties,
Picnics and lunches.
Now we stay at home
Preferring snacks to brunches

We used to go out dining,
And could't get our fill.
Now we ask for take away,
Come home and take a pill.

We used to often travel
To places near and far.
Now we get restless syndrome
From riding in the car.

That, my friend how life is,
And now my tale is told.
So, enjoy each day and live it up
Before you get too old.



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 and 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.