



**Gold Coast Office, - 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
12 Short Street,  
Southport Qld 4215**

**\*\*\*Latest News from Veterans' Affairs\*\*\***

## **PENSIONS INCREASE FROM 20<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

### **Disability Pensions**

TPI increased by \$27.30	to \$997.80 p/f
EDA increased by \$15.10	to \$550.70 p/f
100% increased by \$9.70	to \$354.50 p/f
10% increased by \$0.97	to \$35.45 p/f



### **Service Pensions**

Couples increased by \$12.70 ea	to max rate \$469.50 p/f
Singles increased by \$15.30	to max rate \$542.80 p/f

### **War Widow(er) pensions**

WW increased by \$16.30	to \$598.70 p/f
ISS increased by \$4.60	to max rate - \$167.80 p/f

### **Telephone Allowance**

Single -	\$23.00 per quarter
Couple (each) -	\$11.50 per quarter
Single internet -	\$34.60 per quarter
Couple internet (each) -	\$17.30 per quarter

### **Utilities Allowance**

Single/Illness Sep -	\$128.50 per quarter
Couple rate (each) -	\$64.25 per quarter

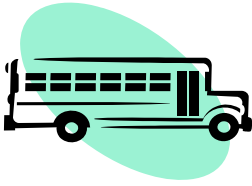
### **Seniors Concession Allowance**

Gold / CSH Cardholders -	\$128.50 per quarter
--------------------------	----------------------

### ***IMPORTANT – PAYDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2008***

- Will be made up of 11 days of the old rate and 3 days at the new rate.
- Those eligible will receive Telephone Allowance, Utilities Allowance or Seniors Concession Allowance

What this means is that you will not see your “normal” ongoing increased pension amount until the following payday on **9<sup>th</sup> October 2008**.



] \$/z#Y \$w«#c \$x:/<t#e ||v{#

***Do you find it difficult getting transport around the Gold Coast?  
Are you a Home and Community Care Client (HACC)?***

Gold Coast Mobility Office provides community transport services to HACC clients and community members where public transport is limited or unsuitable. The Community Circuit service provides a shared ride, door-to-door service in a 12 seater minibus which also includes weekends. The bus will drop you at your destination and you will be given a return pickup time.

Costs:       \$3 each way (HACC clients)  
              \$5 each way (non-HACC clients)

Contact the GC Mobility Office on **5521 0577** to see if they can fit you onto the Community Circuit.



**Hospital Avoidance Program and Early Discharge**

- New program started on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 to reduce pressure of public hospitals (Gold Coast area only – trial for next 18 months)
- Short term program (up to 7 days hospital at home)
- No age restriction but need to be at risk of hospitalisation
- Referral from hospital, GP, Community Mental Health Service
- Fully government funded - No cost at all to the client
- Holistic Service Delivery such as nursing care, allied health, domestic assistance, supported transport, personal care, meal preparation, overnight support, short-term medical equipment supply, emergency accommodation. Nursing care includes wound care, IV, falls assessment, equipment, home modifications.
- Access includes all permanent and temporary clients within the Gold Coast City geographical area, south of Pimpama to the NSW border and west to Beaudesert Shire.
- Service usually in place within 24 hours of referral (faster if necessary)

If you feel that this program will be able to assist you, please contact your GP. If you have already been referred to Home Health Link and require further information call **1800 684 175** (24 hours 7 days per week).

# DVA ART COMPETITION



*If you have a flair for art this competition is for you!*

Members of the veteran community and current DVA staff are invited to display their talent in a special art competition. Entry costs \$10 with proceeds going towards the Kokoda Track Foundation.

The following prizes will be awarded:

Lou White Art Prize	\$1000
Second/Third Prizes	\$500/\$250
The Commission's Award	12mths membership to your State art gallery

10 entries will be shortlisted and displayed in Canberra. The four prize winners will then attend the prize presentation ceremony. To obtain an entry form or for more information visit [www.dva.gov.au/media/events/artcomp](http://www.dva.gov.au/media/events/artcomp) or contact the VAN office. Entries close **Friday 31 October 2008**.

*Farewell and Good luck  
to Patricia Grant*



Last month we sadly farewelled Pat who left DVA after more than 20 years to start a new phase of her life - *retirement*. Pat was well-respected within the veteran community and a valued work colleague. She had a wealth of knowledge and a calm and caring nature. We wish her all the best in her retirement and she will be missed by all.

*If you have any questions about the above information or other DVA matters, please don't hesitate to contact our friendly staff at Southport DVA Office.*

**Phone: 07-5630 0203/1300 55 1918**

We look forward to your visit!  
Nikki, Bronwyn and Jenny