



Queensland Focus

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Special Edition

Edition 39—May 2015

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How to get involved:

- Attend an existing event—find out what’s on in your area on the Queensland Department of Communities website
- Host a purple event
- Talk to your family and friends about elder abuse and how we can work as a community to create a world free from elder abuse and mistreatment.

What is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day?

June 15 is the day designated by the United Nations as the international day of action when the whole world voices its opposition to the abuse of older people. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is represented by the colour purple – which denotes wisdom, dignity, independence and creativity.

Elder abuse is often a hidden problem and includes psychological, financial, social, physical, and sexual abuse. The definition in use by the World Health Organisation is:

“Elder Abuse is a single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person”

During the week ending June 15 we are calling for all communities across Queensland to join the rest of the world in ‘going purple’ for WEAAD and encourage you to visit the www.weaadqld.com website for information and ideas on how you can help!

In Queensland last financial year the UnitingCare Community Elder Abuse Prevention Unit (EAPU) received calls on their elder abuse Helpline regarding 1266 abuse situations. They find that in Queensland, like elsewhere in the world, women are more likely than men to experience abuse, the majority of abusers are adult sons or daughters of the older person, and the most common forms of abuse were psychological and financial. To find out more about what elder abuse is, visit the EAPU website (www.eapu.com.au).

Service funded by:





Reddacliffe Place facing Treasury Casino by Day



Reddacliffe Place facing Treasury Casino for WEAAD

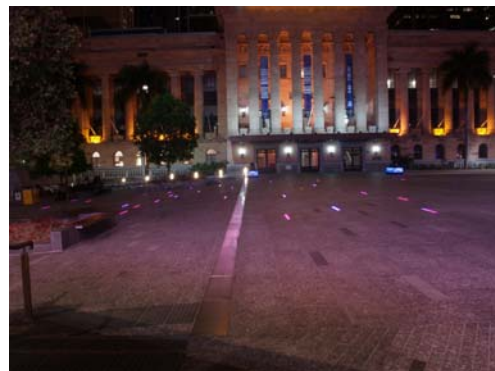
What's with all the purple lights?

WEAAD is an opportunity for individuals, families, groups and organisations to speak out against elder abuse. Doing something purple around June 15 and telling people why links into the world-wide elder abuse campaign for WEAAD. You may have noticed that there are lots of purple lights around Brisbane and Cairns. What is the significance of all this purple? Purple is the designated colour for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day at an international level. Purple represents wisdom, dignity, independence and creativity.

The EAPU has been fortunate to receive support from the Brisbane City Council to raise awareness of elder abuse around the city. This is the second year that Brisbane will change the lights purple to commemorate WEAAD. Some sights in Brisbane turning purple include Kurilpa Bridge, Treasury Casino and King George Square; and in Cairns the Cairns Reef Casino, Cairns Library and Lake Street.



Kangaroo Point Cliffs



King George Square

How to get involved

- Organise or promote a purple themed picnic or sausage sizzle in your local park
- Organise and promote a purple themed awareness raising walk
- Invite a guest speaker to discuss the issue of elder abuse
- Wear purple to work during the week leading up to June 15
- Use purple lighting in your community to highlight the issue of elder abuse
- Create an awareness display in your workplace, school, council, library or shopping centre
- Use purple balloons at a purple themed morning tea at your workplace
- Use social networking such as Facebook and Twitter – change your profile picture to purple
- Include the WEAAD logo and information on your email signature during the week leading up to June 15

Once you've got your event organised you can register it on the Queensland Government's online calendar of events for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (link coming soon). You can also share your event by posting details and photos on their Facebook page (link coming soon) or email us if you'd like to us to publish the details.

Elder Abuse Helpline - anyone can make the call
call **1300 651 192**

www.weaadqld.com

World Elder Abuse ^{June}
Awareness Day **15**

Peer Support Network Webinar Series:



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Webinars

The Elder Abuse Prevention Unit will be hosting free webinars throughout the month of June. These webinars are for rural and remote service providers and practitioners.

Topics include:

Suicide Prevention

DATE: 2 June

TIME: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex) Elders

DATE: June 9

TIME: 1:30pm- 2:30pm

Queensland Aged and Disability Advocacy and Senior Legal and Support Service

DATE: June 16

TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

Aged Care Assessment Team

DATE: June 23

TIME: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Elder Abuse and Indigenous Communities

DATE: June 30

TIME: 1:30pm-2:30pm

To register your interest in one or all of the webinars please email:
eapu@ucommunity.org.au



Note: Some details may be subject to change as the webinar date approaches please visit the EAPU Website www.eapu.com.au for updated details.

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Peer Support Network Webinar Series (cont'd):

(from page 3)

The EAPU is launching a new service for WEAAD. The webinars will be used for professional development for the Peer Support Network to provide an avenue for rural and remote workers to access professional development and speakers that would otherwise not be accessible in such geographically isolated locations.

Suicide Prevention

2 June 2015 from 12—2pm

Karen Prestige (UnitingCare Community):

This program seeks to build individuals capacity to engage with people in need, and to connect to appropriate support. Participants will gain an increased awareness of suicide myths and warning signs and how to connect a person at risk of suicide with appropriate support. In 2013, there were 2,522 deaths by suicide, which equates to around seven deaths by suicide in Australia each day or one suicide every four hours. Men are four times more likely to die by suicide. The highest age-specific suicide rate for males in 2013 was observed in the 85+ age group. This rate was considerably higher than the age-specific suicide rate observed in all other age groups, with the next highest age-specific suicide rate being in the 45-49 and 50-54 year age groups and the 80-84 year age group.

LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex) Elders

9 June 2015 from 1—4pm

Ricki Menzies (QuAC):

With the release of the LGBTI Ageing and Aged care strategy in 2012 and the amendments to the sex discrimination act 2013 to remove the loophole for faith based services to discriminate against people accessing services based on sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status, LGBTI Elders have come onto the radar of aged care services across the country. This presentation will explore who LGBTI elders are, their lived experiences of discrimination and how this has impacted on their health and ability to access services.

Queensland Aged and Disability Advocacy

Anna Harrington

16 June 2015 from 1—3pm

Aged Care Assessment Team

Leesa Elliott

23 June 2015 from 12.30—3pm

Elder Abuse and Indigenous Communities

Aunty Ruth Hegarty

30 June 2015 from 1—3.30pm

Elder Abuse Helpline - anyone can make the call
call **1300 651 192**

www.weaadqld.com

World Elder Abuse June
Awareness Day **15**



You are invited to a FREE community event
Safety and Rights for Seniors
an interactive education and awareness seminar

Monday June 15th is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

**This international day is to draw attention
to the prevention of mistreatment of
Senior Citizens in its various forms.**

**Our seminar will help our elders, their carers and
families to understand their rights with emphasis on prevention
through connection with the community.**

Sunday 14th June 2015

11:00am until 12:30pm followed by a light lunch

Cannon Hill Community Sports Club

Lang Street, corner of Princess Street, Cannon Hill

(off-street parking & wheelchair accessible)

Register your attendance with any of these options

Email: seniors_seminar_morningside2015@yahoo.com.au

Phone: 07 3195 0249 OR Mobile Phone 0400 454 348

Online: morningsideseniorssafetyrightsseminar.eventbrite.com.au

This free event is brought to you by Morningside Neighbourhood Watch NHW3.

It is made possible through a grant from the Lord Mayor's Suburban Crime Prevention fund.



Seniors Legal and Support Service—Hervey Bay

Seniors Legal and Support Service

invites Doctors and Lawyers to attend a free presentation by

Dr Jacoba Brasch QC

CAPACITY ... IT'S A GREY AREA

- ♦ *Is capacity a legal or medical issue?*
- ♦ *Best practise for treating/acting for an Adult where capacity is questionable or fluctuating.*
- ♦ *Who do you listen to if the wishes of the Adult and attorney differ?*
- ♦ *What do you do when the Adult becomes incapacitated and you want to continue acting?*



Dr Jacoba Brasch

Jacoba was admitted to the Bar in 2000 and practises mainly in family law and mental health law. She appears in courts around Australia including the Full Court of the Family Court of Australia and the High Court of Australia. In the early years of the Guardianship and Administration Tribunal (now part of QCAT), Jacoba provided training to new members in many areas such as the value of evidence, process and procedure.

In addition to her studies, Jacoba spent the 1990s in law-related government roles, including Press

Secretary to an Attorney-General, where she championed the enactment of the Queensland Law Reform Commission's "Assisted and Substituted Decision Making Report" recommendations – which ultimately became the backbone of the Power of Attorney Act and Guardianship and Administration Act.

Jacoba also has a PhD from UNSW, concerning impartial and independent trials.

5.30pm - 8.00pm

Tuesday 2nd June 2015

The Boat Club, Buccaneer Drive, Urangan

**** Finger food and drinks will be provided ****

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Please **RSVP** by **FAXING** this form to Seniors Legal and Support Service on 4124 6859 or **EMAILING** to admin.slass@bigpond.com by **Tuesday 19th May 2015**.

NAME: ORGANISATION:
EMAIL: PHONE:

(CPD Event - up to 2 CPD points)



Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre Inc.



Elder Abuse Helpline - anyone can make the call
call **1300 651 192**

www.weaadqld.com

World Elder Abuse June
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Seniors Legal and Support Service—Hervey Bay

Seniors Legal and Support Service

invites Aged Care and Allied Health Workers to attend a free presentation by

Dr Jacoba Brasch QC

CAPACITY ... IT'S A GREY AREA

- ♦ *Is capacity a legal or medical issue?*
- ♦ *Best practise for treating/acting for an Adult where capacity is questionable or fluctuating.*
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Jacoba also has a PhD from UNSW, concerning impartial and independent trials.

10.00am - 12.30pm

Wednesday 3rd June 2015

The Boat Club, Buccaneer Drive, Urangan

*** Morning tea will be provided ***

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Please RSVP by **FAXING** this form to Seniors Legal and Support Service on 4124 6859 or

EMAILING to admin.slass@bigpond.com by **Wednesday 20th May 2015**.

NAME:..... ORGANISATION:.....

EMAIL:..... PHONE:.....

(CPD event - up to 2 CPD points)



Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre Inc.



Elder Abuse Helpline - anyone can make the call
call **1300 651 192**

www.weaadqld.com

World Elder Abuse June
Awareness Day **15**

What is happening in Queensland for WEAAD 2015?

Suicide Prevention Webinar

UnitingCare Community
2 June 2015 from 12—2pm
P:07 3867 2525
E: eapu.psn@ucommunity.org.au

Capacity—It's a Grey Matter

The Boat Club, Urangan
2 June 2015 from 5.30—8pm
P:4124 6859
E: admin.slass@bigpond.com

Capacity—It's a Grey Matter

The Boat Club, Urangan
3 June 2015 from 10am — 12noon
P:4124 6859
E: admin.slass@bigpond.com

LGBTI Elders Webinar

Ricki Menzies (QuAC)
9 June 2015 from 1—4pm
P:07 3867 2525
E: eapu.psn@ucommunity.org.au

Safety and Rights for Seniors Seminar

14 June from 11am—12.30pm
Cannon Hill Community Sports Club, Cannon Hill
P: 07 3195 0249
E: seniors_seminar_morningside2015@yahoo.com.au

Ipswich WEAAD Expo

16 June 2015 from 9.30am—12noon
P: 07 3810 6646
E: kbrowne@ipswich.qld.gov.au

Queensland Aged and Disability Advocacy Webinar

16 June 2015 from 1—3pm
P:07 3867 2525
E: eapu.psn@ucommunity.org.au

Aged Care Assessment Team Webinar

23 June 2015 from 12.30—3pm
P:07 3867 2525
E: eapu.psn@ucommunity.org.au

Elder Abuse and Aboriginal Communities Webinar

Aunty Ruth Hegarty
30 June 2015 from 1—3.30pm
P:07 3867 2525
E: eapu.psn@ucommunity.org.au

Ipswich City Council in partnership with the Ipswich and West Moreton Seniors' Services Network invite you to

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY 2015

Please wear something purple to show your support of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Tuesday, 16 June 2015
9.30 am to 12.00 pm
Ipswich Civic Centre
Cnr Limestone and Nicholas Streets
Ipswich

FREE

- Entertainment
- Morning Tea
- Information Stalls

Subsidised Transport available

Proudly supported by Mayor Paul Pisasale and Councillors of the City of Ipswich

For further information or to RSVP, please contact Ipswich City Council Seniors and Disabilities Community Development Officer on (07) 3810 6646 or email kbrowne@ipswich.qld.gov.au

For a full list of WEAAD events, please visit the Department of Communities webpage <http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/communityservices/violence-prevention/make-the-call/elder-abuse/campaign-involvement/elder-abuse-awareness-event-calendar>

Disclaimer:

Editor's Note: Opinions expressed in this edition of "Queensland Focus", do not necessarily reflect those of The Elder Abuse Prevention Unit (EAPU). Articles in this newsletter may be used with the permission of the contributing author. This publication is a guide only and should not substitute independent legal advice.

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