Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc.

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ESSENTIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PAYMENT

Overview: This outlines the eligibility criteria and process for claiming the Essential Payment (EMEP). The EMEP is part of the Government's Household Assistance Package, which provides financial assistance to members of the veteran and defence community to help meet the cost of living impact of the carbon price.

What is EMEP: The purpose of the EMEP is to cover the additional costs of running essential medical equipment (EME), or medically required heating and/or cooling, that may arise from the introduction of a carbon price.

The EMEP will be available for people with medical needs or their carers who: are covered by an eligible concession card; required specified equipment or medically require heating and/or cooling in their home as a result of their medical condition; and contribute to the payment of the energy account.

Who is eligible for EMEP? To be eligible through DVA the person with medical needs, or the carer must: a) be covered by a Commonwealth Government concession card issue by DVA; or a DVA Gold Card or White Card: b) use certain EME or have certain medical conditions that medically require the use of heating and/or cooling in their home or be the carer for such a person; and c) be responsible for contributing to payment for the energy account.

For the purpose of the EMEP, a carer is a person who provides care and attention on a regular and ongoing basis to a user of EME. The carer and user must live together in the same residence. A parent or other person responsible for a dependent child would be classified as a carer, including a foster carer of such a child. The carer of a non-dependent adult also qualify for this payment.

What type of medical equipment and medical conditions will attract EMEP? The eligible items of essential medical equipment, when powered by electricity, natural gas, liquid petroleum gas, diesel, heating oil, petrol or kerosene, are: a) Home dialysis machine b) Home ventilator c) Home respirator d) Home parental or enteral feeding device e) Oxygen concentrator f) Heart pump g) Suction pump h) infant apnoea monitor (when prescribed by a medical practitioner following apnoeic events) i) Nebuliser - when used daily j) Positive Airways Pressure Device (CPAP) k) Phototherapy equipment l) Airbed vibrator m) Electric wheelchair n) Insulin Pump o) Medically required heating and/or cooling*.

* In order to claim for medically required heating and/or cooling your doctor must confirm in writing you or the person you provide care to has one of the medical conditions listed below which results in an inability to regulate body temperature **and** that without this will risk serious harm to his or her health without medically required heating and/or cooling: a) Spinal cord injury at or above the T7 level b) Stroke c) Brain injury d) A neurodegenerative disorder e) The muscular dystrophies f) Full thickness burns covering more than 20% of the body surface area g) Rare disorders of sweating including congenital absence or mal- development of sweat glands h) Chronic erythrodermas.

How much is the EMEP? The EMEP will be $140 for each piece of essential medical equipment in use per financial year. This amount will be indexed annually on 1 July each year in line with the Consumer Price Index.

How can I claim EMEP? You can claim this payment by lodging an "*Essential Medical Equipment Payment Claim Form"* Claim forms are available for download from the DVA website at www.dva.gov.au/householdassistance, or from any DVA office. You can leave your completed claim form at any DVA office or mail it to: Department of Veterans' Affairs, EMEP Claims Processing, GPO Box 9998, capital city of your State.

Where and how will payments be made? Once your EMEP claim has been assessed you will receive an advice letter regarding the outcome and if successful, when you can expect payment. The EMEP will be paid into the account nominated on your EMEP application form.

What is considered a valid residence to claim EMEP? A valid residence **must** be the person's home located in Australia and is either a private residence, or any other **excluding** the list below: a residence in which the person is in residential care; hospitals and other medical facility, residential rehabilitation centre jail, or detention centres.

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SPECIAL DATE

- 19th May 2013 Breakfast Meeting
- 25th May 2013 Meet and Greet
- 20th July 2013 President's Luncheon
- 18th August 2013 Vietnam Veterans Day
- 14th September 2013 Peace Keeping Day
- 28th September 2013 Meet and Greet
- 11th November 2013 Remembrance day

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Veterans and Australian Defence Force seeking mental health support will benefit from a new web portal developed by the Department of Veterans' Affairs and launched by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon.

"The new *At Ease* portal offers pathways to achieving mental fitness and resilience, self-help tools, access to professional support, treatment options, healthy drinking and clinical information for GPs and mental health professionals," Minister Snowdon said.

"It provides a gateway to a series of mental health-related videos, smart-phone apps and a raft of hard copy resources that promote self-help and awareness of behaviours that may be damaging to individuals, families, friends and work prospects," Minister Snowdon said.

Memorial Services are a timely reminder for all members of the veteran and Defence communities to seek help if they need it.

"Our veterans and service personnel are some of the most resilient people in the country. But they are not immune to the effects of their work - their mental health can suffer.

"The key message is: don't suffer in silence," Minister Snowdon said.

Eligible serving or ex-serving Defence personnel, or their families, who are concerned about their mental health should visit www.at-ease.dva.gov.au or call the veterans and Veterans' Families Counselling Service (VVCS) on 1800 011 046.

National Colours

Green and Gold were proclaimed Australia's national colours by the Governor-general on 19 April 1984. The shades of green and gold are 348C and 116C in Pantone Matching System of colours. A copy of the Proclamation was published in *Commonwealth Australia Gazette* No. S142, 19 April 1984.

In the media release announcing the national colours, the Prime Minister, the Hon. R.J.L. Hawke AC MP, said that 'Australia will be proud that our colours associated with our many great sporting achievements since last century are now recognized officially.

The Government's decision was made in response to a large number of representations from individuals and groups in the community seeing official recognition of the traditional sporting colours as the nation's colours.

There are no restriction on the use of the national colours which are in the public domain. The reproduction, display and wearing of these two colours are left to the discretion of the individual or organisation. Green and gold may be used in any design, configuration or contrast of colour emphasizing either the green or the gold but not broken with white or another colour.

Green and gold had gained popularity and acceptance as traditional national colours both in Australia and at international sporting events since before Federation. The colours have been associated with many great sporting achievements since.

Bit and Pieces

Meet and Greet: All members, spouses and families are invited to attend a BBQ at the Beaudesert RSL Services Club on the 25th May commencing at 11.00am. RSVP to Peter Higgins penswelfare@bigpond.com and/or Paul Baird ptbaird@hotmail.com.

Breakfast Meeting: The next general meeting will be Sunday 19th May commencing at 8.00am at the Beaudesert RSL Services Club breakfast cost $5.00 per head. Spouses and partners welcome.

Women's Auxiliary: The President and Board Members of the Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch thank the Beaudesert RSL Women's Auxiliary for their time and effort for selling ANZAC Day badges in the lead up that special day. All the funds raised will be used to support our veteran community. Once again thank you ladies your assistance is much appreciated.

RSL SED President's Luncheon: Mr. Andrew Kilgour AM President of RSL SED invite you to a luncheon on the 26 May 2013 at Coorparoo RSL Services Club, 11.30 for 12 Noon start. Hot platters on arrival, 2 course meal @ $20.00 per head. Some drinks will be catered but refreshments at your own expense. RSVP 17 May 2013 to your President Errol Guilfoyle on 5541 3720.

New Purchase: The boys from the museum decided it was about time that they had the own 'Land Drover' for display, with permission from the Board . The Land Rover was purchase from a disposal company in Sydney and our to intrepid museum curators had to have the vehicle collected from the sale yard within 3 days or incur penalties. With Department of Transports approval Richard and Jerry drove the vehicle back from Sydney in time for the ANZAC Day parade in Beaudesert.

Partners Network: The Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc. is looking to establish a partners network. The network is aimed at partners of current and ex serving members. Its an opportunity to spend time with like minded people who understand the rewards and challenges of being a Defence partner. Make ne friends, find out what you are really entitled to and how best to support your partner when he gets home from active service. I am most interested in meeting your needs, so contact me and let me know how you feel the RSL can best help you, or just come along for a coffee. For more information or to express your interest, please contact Tracie Shearer on 0448 046 097 or tshearer054@gmail.com

Fishing Club: The club has taken on a challenge and are off to Monto for a weeks fishing and they will be accompanied by the spouses and/or partners whom we hope can clean the fish. We wish them all the best in their endeavours. Until they return such that can tell us about the one that got away. If there are any potential anglers out there, you may want to contact Peter Higgins on his return for more information.

News Stories: If any member wishes to contribute to this newsletter please email articles to subbranch1@bigpond.com

EMEP Continued

Can I claim more than one EMEP per financial year? Yes. Claims may be made for up to a maximum of two residences, for each piece of EME for the person with the medical condition, in a single financial year, provided you continue to own or contribute towards the energy account in the second residence.

Can I claim the EMEP if the equipment was not supplied by DVA? Yes. As a DVA client and if the equipment is on the list of essential medical equipment you are able to claim the EMEP. However, you will need to get a Medical Practitioner to complete the Medical Confirmation form. The Medical Confirmation form, once completed should be forwarded to DVA along with your claim form.

I am a carer for a person with medical needs who uses eligible equipment or medically required heating and/ or cooling. Can I claim the Essential Medical Equipment Payment? Yes, you can make a claim for EMEP. You will need to complete the EMEP Carers Claim form and the person with medical needs whom you are caring for will need to also sign the form.

I am not a energy account holder. Can I still claim the Essential Medical Equipment Payment? If you, or your partner, or the person with the medical needs or their partner contribute to payment of the energy account you may still be eligible. The Department may require you to provide proof at a later date that you contribute to payment of the energy account.

Can I claim the EMEP if I am currently living overseas? No. The EMEP is only payable to Australian Residents. You have to be residing in Australia. However, if you return to live in Australia and meet the eligibility criteria then you will be able to claim the EMEP at that time.

Disclaimer: The information contained is general in nature and does not take into account individuals circumstances. You should not make important decisions, such as those that affect your financial or lifestyle position, e.g. retirement, on the basis of information contained. Where you are required to lodge a written claim for a benefit, you must take full responsibility for your decisions prior to the written claim being determined. You should seek confirmation in wring of any oral advice you receive from DVA relating to complex or important matters.

More information: All DVA Factsheets are available from DVA offices, and on the DVA website at www.dva.gov.au. You can phone DVA for the cost* of a local call on 133 254 or free call 1800 555 254 if you are outside a major city. *Note** Use a normal landline phone if you can. Mobile phone calls may cost you more. Local call rates vary depending on your phone service provider. You can send an email to DVA at: GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au. You can get more help from any DVA office.

The Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards

The Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards, schedule and Annexes, as promulgated from time to time by the Governor General of Australia deals with the positioning and wearing of Honours and Awards.
A) within the Australian System of Honours and Awards;
B) conferred by The Sovereign in exercise of the Royal Prerogative;
C) within the Order of St John; and
D) foreign awards, the acceptance and wearing of which have been authorized by the Governor-General . Of note is that Imperial awards made to Australian citizens before 5 October 1992 are within the Australian system but awards after this date are foreign awards and should be worn accordingly.

Members of the RSL (Queensland Branch)(members) are to comply with the Order Wearing Australian Honours and Awards.

Foreign Awards: Guidelines concerning the acceptance and wearing of foreign awards by Australian citizens are promulgated by the Governor-General via a Commonwealth Gazette. The extant gazettal is Commonwealth of Australian No S159, of Friday, 12 October 2012. Members who are Australian citizens are to comply with the guidelines contained within the extant and any subsequent replacement gazettal.

Foreign awards to Members who are not Australian citizens should be worn accordance with appropriate national protocols.

Other Awards: Australian organisations and associations can and do make awards which are not included in The Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards. If a recipient Member elects to wear such award they are to be worn only on the right breast or as a lapel badge. They are not to be worn on the left breast. In particular, this applies to association awards commonly referred to as 'tin medals'.

Wearing of Awards on the Right Breast: Where a Member wears the award (s) of a deceased family member (s) the award (s) is worn on the right breast. This would normally only apply during ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day commemorative events.

Where a Member wears a number of awards of different categories on the right breast the different categories are not to be mixed. For example, awards of deceased family members are to be separate from association awards.

Wearing of Awards where there is no entitlement: The fraudulent wearing of service medals is covered by Federal legislation and RSL Constitutions. In addition to those regulations Members are not bto wear any award, badge or the like to which they are not entitled: for example the Infantry Combat Badge (ICB), Aircrew brevets, Submarine badge et cetera.

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VALE 2013

Fredrick Hodel	19th January 2013
Darcy Finglas	*25th March 2013*
John Sinclair-Paton	*11th April 2013*

Lest We Forget

Laughter to Best Medicine

Walking down the street, Betty suddenly collapsed and died. Being a good woman, she went straight to heave. Passing through the Pearly Gates, she was surprised to see two imposing figures on thrones. 'I don't understand,' she said 'one of you must be God, but who is the other one?' 'I'm God' said God.' Surely you've heard of me?' said the second figure. 'I'm Cleanliness.'

An old man went to a fancy dress party stark naked. He was awarded First Prize for his prune costume. He was furious, he'd gone as the Dead Sea Scrolls.

At a dinner in his honour a wealthy businessman delivered an emotional speech. "When I first came to this town 50 years ago,' he said, 'I had no car, my only suit was on my back, the soles of my shoes were thin, and I carried all my possessions in a brown paper bag.'
After dinner, a young man nervously approached. 'Sir, I really admire your accomplishments. Tell me, after all these years, do you still remember what you had in the brown paper bag?'
'Yes,' he replied. ' I had $300,000 in cash and $500,000 in shares.'

How often do jumbo jets crash? Just the once.

Every morning a man passed by a house and saw a woman hitting her husband over the head with a French loaf. When one day he saw the woman was using a fruit cake instead of bread, he was curious and knocked on the door of the house. 'Don't you usually beat your husband with a French loaf?' he asked the woman when she answered the door. 'Yes,' she replied. 'But it's his birthday today.'

A husband and wife had four boys. The eldest three had red hair, pale skin and were tall, while the youngest son had black hair, dark eyes and was short. After a long illness, the father took to his deathbed. He turned to his wife and whispered: 'darling, before I die, be honest with me - is our youngest boy my child?' The wife gently replied, I swear on everything that's holy that he is your son.' With that, the husband passed away peacefully. His wife dabbed her eyes and muttered, 'Thank God he didn't ask about the others.'

'My wife's a liar,' a man confided to his best friend in the pub. 'How do you know that?' 'because she didn't come home last night, and when I asked where she'd been, she said she spent the night with he sister Gloria.' 'So?' 'So she's a liar. I spent the night with her sister Gloria."