

Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc.

Issue 17 2013

Newsletter Date

19th July 2013

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988

Information concerning clients who had 'ceased effects' decisions issued under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRCA) before May 2004. The Department is currently sending to these clients to advise that they may make a new claim for compensation in relation to the condition for which the "ceased effects" decision was issued, if they experience any further effects from the condition.

"Ceased effects" decisions under the SRCA were issued to individuals on the basis that their accepted condition no longer produced any service-related effects and that therefore eligibility for payments has ceased. This occurred, for example, where the condition was temporary or has resolved. Clients who received a "ceased effects" decision letter before May 2004 may have concluded from the wording of the letter that they were not entitled to make a further claim for treatment or compensation benefits for a particular condition, should its effects return. The Department is writing to advise them that liability for that condition still continues, and they may lodge a claim should they require medical treatment for the condition or have incapacity or permanent impairment.

As background, prior to May 2004, where medical evidence supported that the medical effects of a condition had ceased, a person's eligibility to claim benefits under SRCA for that condition in the future also ceased. The decision letters were worded accordingly.

Following a decision from the Federal Courts in the matter of *Australian Postal Corporation v Oudyn (2003)*, the Department discontinued ceased effects decision letters to SRCA clients.

Should a client wish to lodge a claim for a "ceased effects" condition, they will need to establish a link between any further or ongoing incapacity and/or impairment and the original accepted condition. The letters being sent to clients advise them that medical evidence to rebut the medical evidence that existed at the time of the ceased effects decision will be required to support a new claim. This should include a statement from the client's GP or treating doctor that in their opinion the medical effects the client experience or is experiencing are associated with the original condition.

Debunking the myths.

The concept of 'ceased effects' was prior to 2004 where the medical effects of an accepted condition no longer existed or were found to have resolved at a later stage. Such decisions essentially removed a person's future entitlements to treatment for that particular condition. In April 2003 the Federal Court issued a decision in the case of *Australian Postal compensation v Oudyn 2003* which was significant to liability determinations under the terms of section 14.1 under the SRCA. Following the Oudyn decision, a policy directive was issued in May 2004 to DVA claims assessors advising that the practice of issuing ceased effects decisions would be discontinued.

How do I know whether the change applies to me?

The change applies mainly to certain determinations which were issued prior to May 2004 for claims under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and compensation Act 1988*. Conditions accepted under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* and/or the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* are not effected.

Will I be notified of the change?

DVA is writing to clients who it believes received a ceased effects decision. They are invited to contact the Department to discuss a possible new claim for medical treatment, incapacity or permanent impairment if they consider the effects of a service-related condition are ongoing. If you do not receive a letter from DVA but feel you may have been issued with such a decision, you should contact the Department for further information.

Do I need to provide anything in support of my claim?

Each new claim will be assessed on its merits and any new medical evidence provided in support of that claim will be considered accordingly. You are encouraged to submit as much supporting documentation as possible. DVA will also assist you in obtaining service and/or medical records if you are having difficulty doing so.

Will I be entitled to a backdating of compensation if my claim is successful?

In the event that a new claim is successful, it is possible that you may be entitled to a backdating of payment(s) for any period of inability to work or physical impairment resulting from your condition. However, medical evidence will still be required to demonstrate that the ongoing effects of a condition are related to your period of Australian Defence Force service.

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SPECIAL DATE

- 15th July
General Meeting
3.00pm Boardroom
- 20th July 2013
President's Luncheon
- 18th August 2013
Vietnam Veterans Day
- 19th August
General Meeting
- 14th September 2013
Peace Keeping Day
- 15th September
Breakfast Meeting
- 28th September 2013
Meet and Greet
- 11th November 2013
Remembrance day

FISHING NEWS

Over the past few months, the Sub-Branches, Beaudesert Fishing Group (BFG) has established itself and we have conducted monthly fishing trip, we have officially 'come of age'. Good mates and fishing buddies, Graham 'bassman' Kittle, Peter 'no bungs' Higgins and Peter 'craywhisperer' Davies, along with Helen 'homefront' Higgins took a week long trip to Cania Dam, near Monto.

On arrival it was decided to do a trip to set cray and redclaw pots and conduct a pre fishing 'recce' before the upcoming Bass, Yellowbelly and Toga fishing. Cania is at 100% capacity after all the rain, and this was a sight to see.

After a hearty breakfast we left at our own daily pace each morning. A quick set - up of the boat, rig all the lines, and off for a fish on the dam. As we drove over the hill to the boat ramp, we couldn't help but notice the huge amount of water. At 100%, all we could say was "WOW"! This is the first time this dam has ever been full since the day it was built and it was a sight to see. We were excited and could not get the boats into the water quick enough. The first thing we thought was "Where do we start fishing?" Well, it didn't take long to find a helpful local who put us into the right spot. First things though, pots and the freshwater crays were obliging with good numbers caught everyday.

Now to catch a bass, we travelled over to a point loaded with bass and proceeded to catch one bass after another with a huge yellowbelly thrown in. Live bait was out - fishing soft plastics and lures but that's the difference between fishing and angling. Then things slowed a little, luckily the scenery made up for a periodic lack of bites. What a day! Pots full of crayfish everyday and fish up to about 40cm.

Back to the camp, a feed, a beer, a story and a sleep, ready for the next day. Up and at 'em! We put the boats back in and headed back up to our pots and bass spots. Within a couple of casts the bass were on, this routine continued for the week.

Then it was time to pack up our head for home once again. We had caught our full share of bass, yellowbelly and to many crays to count for the week and we were stoked. All the way home, all we could say was "How good is Cania!"

For info about the fishing groups next day trip or our next week away give Peter Higgins a call. All boat and land based fishermen are welcome. For those who just want a week away to relax come on our next week away, all welcome.

Till next time,

Pete.

Bit and Pieces

INVITATIONS: If it is not stated on invitation to members, your partners are included (Wife, Husband, De Facto, Girlfriend, Boyfriend etc). We encourage members to be accompanied by their partners, This is the same for Meet & Greets in addition your children are also included.

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS: Museum will be conducting displays at Veresdale Scrub State School on 29th August 2013 and St Mary's School on the 27th July 2013. If you wish to volunteer your time these days please contact Richard Mackay or Jerry Guevorts on 5541 3720 on Tuesday and Thursday between 9.00am and 12 noon or leave a message at reception.

AUSTRALIAN SPIRIT: The Bursary Competition has been finalised and presentation of bursaries been awarded, the Overall Winner for the third consecutive year has been 'Maroon State School'. Since the inception of the 'Australian Spirit' bursary competition, the sub branch has given away approximately \$65,000.00 over the 12 year period that bursary has been conducted.

PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON: The luncheon will happen on Saturday 20th July 2013, at the Beaudesert RSL Services Club commencing at 11.30am for 12.00 (noon) start. Cost \$25.00 per head includes a 2 course meal, Beer, Wine, Soft drinks and to compliment the afternoon followed by "Port and Coffee". Dress gentlemen Coat and Tie and Ladies Smart Casual.

'SIGN IN' AND 'SIGN OUT' REGISTER: All members, volunteers, drivers and visitors must register in and out at reception when calling at the sub branch office. If you do not want to be offended by being asked to sign in and out please be polite to conform with this request this is a requirement of Workplace Health and Safety.

GENERAL MEETING: OWNING TO THE LACK OF INTEREST THE GENERAL MEETING ON THE 17TH JUNE 2013 HAS BEEN POSTED UNTIL 15th JULY 2013 AT 3.00PM AT THE BEAUDESERT RSL SUB BRANCH BOARDROOM.

VETERAN ACCESS TO HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE

Claims raised in an article Veterans lose home support in the Sunday Herald Sun on 19 May 2013, are incorrect and unnecessarily concerning to older veterans.

The Federal Budget makes no changes to the Department of Veterans' Affairs' Veterans Home Care program. This program operated by DVA specifically for veterans and war widows will continue without change.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Warren Snowdon said currently around 68,000 veterans and war widows around the country access the Veterans Home Care Program.

"Any suggestions that this program would be discontinued is false and is likely to have unnecessarily upset and worried many veterans," he said.

"Veterans will also continue to have the same right of access to Home and Community Care (HACC) services as any other Australian."

Federal funding for veterans access to HACC services is included in the overall contribution to the States and Territories for HACC. The funding provided for Victoria has been budgeted to increase in 2013 - 14.

Previously the Commonwealth provide extra funding to help ensure veterans were aware of and able to access HACC services, and to ensure the HACC providers were aware of and able to access HACC services, and to ensure the HACC providers were ready to meet veterans' needs.

The additional funding was not provided for direct service provision and the Victorian Government has acknowledge as much. Project funding paid to the Victorian Government, to facilitate access for veterans, continues for a further 12 months in 2013 -14, there is no reason for any adverse impact on services.

"There is also no reason for any person to be denied access to a HACC program just because they are veteran.

"We expect and are confident that the State and Territory Government will continue to provide services to veterans and war widows, as they are funded to do so," Mr. Snowdon said.

The Federal Government is committed to providing for the care and support which our veterans need and rightly deserve.

Hotel Brochure from Beijing

Getting There: Our representative will make you wait at the airport. The bus to the hotel runs along the lake shore. Soon you will feel pleasure in passing water. You will know that you are getting near the hotel, because you will go around the bend. The manager will await you in the entrance hall. He always tries to have intercourse with all new guests.

The Hotel: This is a family hotel, so children are very welcome. We of course are always pleased to accept adultery. Highly skilled nurses are available in the evening to put down your children. Guests are invited to conjugate in the bar and expose themselves to others. But please note that ladies are not allowed to have babies in the bar. We organize social games, so no guest is ever left alone to play with them self.

The Restaurant: Our menus have been carefully chosen to be ordinary and unexciting. At dinner, our quartet will circulate from table to table, and fiddle with you.

Your Room: Every room has excellent facilities for your private parts. In winter, very room is on heat. Each room has a balcony views of outstanding obscenity! You will not be disturbed by traffic noise, since the road between the hotel and the lake is used only by pederasts.

Bed: You bed has been made in accordance with local tradition. If you have any other ideas please ring for the chambermaid. Please take advantage of her. She will be very pleased to squash your shirts, blouses and underwear. If asked, she will also squeeze your trousers.

Above all: When you leave us at the end of your holiday, you will have no hope. You will struggle to forget 'it'.

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After having their 11th child, an Irish couple decided that that was enough, as they couldn't afford a larger bed. So the husband went to his doctor and told him that he and his wife didn't want to have any more children.....

The doctor told him there was a procedure called a vasectomy that would fix the problem but it was expensive. A less costly alternative was to go home, get a large firecracker, light it, put it in a beer can, then hold the can up to his ear and count to 10.

The husband said to the doctor, "B'Jayzu, I may not be the smartest guy in the world, but I don't see how putting a firework in a beer can next to my ear is going to help me with my problem."

"Trust me, it will do the job", said the doctor.

So the man went home, lit a cracker and put it in a beer can. He held the can up to his ear and began to count: '1,2,3,4,5,' at which point he paused, and placed the beer can between his legs so he could continue counting on his other hand.

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Paddy thought his new girlfriend might be the one but after looking through her underwear drawer and finding a nurse's outfit, a French maids outfit, and a police woman's uniform, he finally decide if she can't hold down a job, she's not for him.

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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 the Best Medicine

To all you O.W.L.S (Older, Wiser, laughing Souls)

Wisdom from Grandpa

Whether a man winds up with a nest egg, or a goose egg, depends a lot on the kind of chick he marries.

Trouble in marriage often starts when a man gets so busy earning his salt, that he forgets his sugar.

Too many couples marry for better, or for worse but nut for good!!!!!!!

When a man marries a woman, they become one; but trouble starts when they try to decide which one.

If a man has enough sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she will never turn into an old nag.

On anniversaries, the wise husband always forgets the past - but never the present.

A foolish husband says to his wife, 'Honey, you stick to the washing, ironing, cooking and scrubbing'. No wife of mine is gonna 'work'. Many girls like to marry a military man - he can cook, sew, and make beds and is in good health, and he's already used to taking orders.

Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn their odometers, Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way.

I owe My Mother

My mother taught me LOGIC

"Because I said so, that's why."

My mother taught me about STAMINA

"You'll sit there until all the spinach is gone."

My mother taught me GENETICS

"You're just like your father."

My mother taught me about RECEIVING

"You are going to get it when you get home."

My mother taught me ESP

"Put you sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold."

My mother taught me HUMOR

"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

My mother taught me WISDOM

"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL

"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week."

My mother taught me about CONTORTION-ISM

"Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck"

My mother taught me about JUSTICE

"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"