

The cover features a decorative border with autumn-themed elements. The top-left corner is filled with various leaves in shades of red, orange, and yellow. The bottom-left corner shows pinecones and acorns. The right side of the cover is framed by a solid orange border. The background is white with faint, stylized leaf outlines.

# **ALGESTER LODGE NEWSLETTER**

**AUTUMN EDITION  
MARCH – MAY 2026**

**ALGESTER LODGE  
117 DALMENY STREET  
ALGESTER QLD 4115  
PH: 07 3711 4711  
FAX: 07 3711 5699**

# **Welcome to your Autumn Newsletter**

**In this quarterly newsletter you will find.  
Let's celebrate Autumn, Easter and Anzac Day**

**Birthdays for the months of March, April and May**

**Kitchen update report.**

**Easter Colouring in and puzzle page.**

**Anzac Day Colouring in and Puzzle page.**

**Resident Advisory Body meeting notes.**

**Dt what's been happening.**

**Letter from Management**

# Birthday for the months of March April and May

March 2026			
Ian Hitzman	5th	Jillian Carruthers	6th
Elizabeth Brady	6th	Leona Burton	6th
Gwendoline Hutchinson	7th	Jeffery Hobbs	8th
James Schmidt	9th	Ada Ranieri	9th
Shona Pedersen	10th	Gail Sondrop	10th
Ruth Hemphill	13th	Trevor Mischlewski	14th
Ronald Tebby	15th	Kevin Dickie	19th
Dorbrila Mihajlovoc	19th	Denise Crooks	19th
Gladys Saavedra	22nd	Terence Eleison	28th
Denise Cole	30th		
April 2026			
Joyce Wilson	2nd	Margaret Hofmann	3rd
Wendy Jarick	6th	Rhonda Nielsen	9th
June Jones	10th	Fung-Tze Lin	16th
Claudia Paskevicius	19th	Radomir Ristic	23rd
Derek Porter	29th		
May 2026			
Gulhanim Sahin	15th	James Sloan	25th
Leonard Scriven	28th		



## **The Resident Advisory Body**

Thank you to the residents who participated in the Resident Advisory Body Meetings held at each facility in January. The key points of discussion were around the dining experience - whether you choose to eat in your room or in the dining rooms.

All residents agreed that the dining experience is enjoyable. For residents who choose to dine in the dining rooms expressed they enjoy the company of others the most. For those who choose to eat in their own room, they expressed that the offer to eat in the dining room is appreciated but prefer to eat in their own room. This is for a number of reasons, some like to watch television while dining, others prefer a quieter setting and some just prefer to not eat in front of others.

Some feedback was provided about the dining room being noisy at times, and 1 resident highlighted that some younger staff are not as confident on what to do. We have provided this feedback to the facility managers who will follow up with the staff in these areas. There was also some individual feedback around certain meals which we will follow up specifically for these residents.

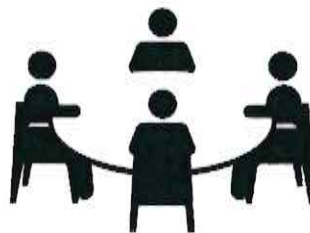
We would also like you all to know, even if currently you choose to eat in your room, at any time you can choose to eat in the dining room. This can be for a one-off meal – maybe you have visitors which you would like to have a meal with in a larger space or maybe you prefer to eat breakfast and dinner in your room but would enjoy the lunch meal with others. The staff are always there to help, so please let them know if your dining preferences change.

A summary of the meeting goes into a report for the Quality Care Advisory Body who can then identify further quality improvements from this feedback. Thank you once again for those who participated, we find this feedback very useful and use it for future planning.

Should you wish to attend the next meeting, it will be held;

- Bundaleer Lodge – 14<sup>th</sup> April @10.30am in the Therapy Room
- Algester Lodge – 23<sup>rd</sup> April @ 10.30am in the Opal Therapy Room

*Families are also welcome. Morning Tea is provided.*



## KITCHEN UPDATE

Since the start of the new year, you may have noticed some changes to the menu. We have added assorted fruit smoothies to the breakfast trolleys, brought back Raisin Toast on continental days and plain toast of some hot breakfast for RG7 only. Yoghurt has also been added to the breakfast menu daily for extra protein. Savory mince has been added once a week at breakfast also for extra protein.

Cooks have now been taught how to make homemade stocks that is being used as a base for soups and wet dishes instead of packet mixes. Soups will then be made fresh 3 days a week and will work up to daily soups instead of packet soups. We have also introduced sweet potato on the menu including roasted, baked, mashed and chips. We have also started thick hot and crispy chips instead of crinkle cut.

In the evening we have increased the fresh fruit by two more nights and on other nights some of the fruit will be served with custard as the dinner dessert.

Some other suggestions currently under review and may be implemented in the coming months are different vegetables which will include Honey roasted carrots, Roasted baby chat potatoes and Roasted sweet potato with skin on.

Kitchen staff are working hard on presenting all meals to look more appealing.

If you have a permanent change or dislike, please also inform your RN or Therapy staff and they can do a kitchen notification form for this, that way you do not have to remember to write it on your menu each week. On a weekly basis the Therapy staff will come around and complete your menu selection with you on the simple foods IPAD.

If at any time you have any suggestions or feedback about the menu, please feel free to contact your Therapy Staff or Admin and let them know. Feedback is always welcome.



# EASTER

## WORD SEARCH



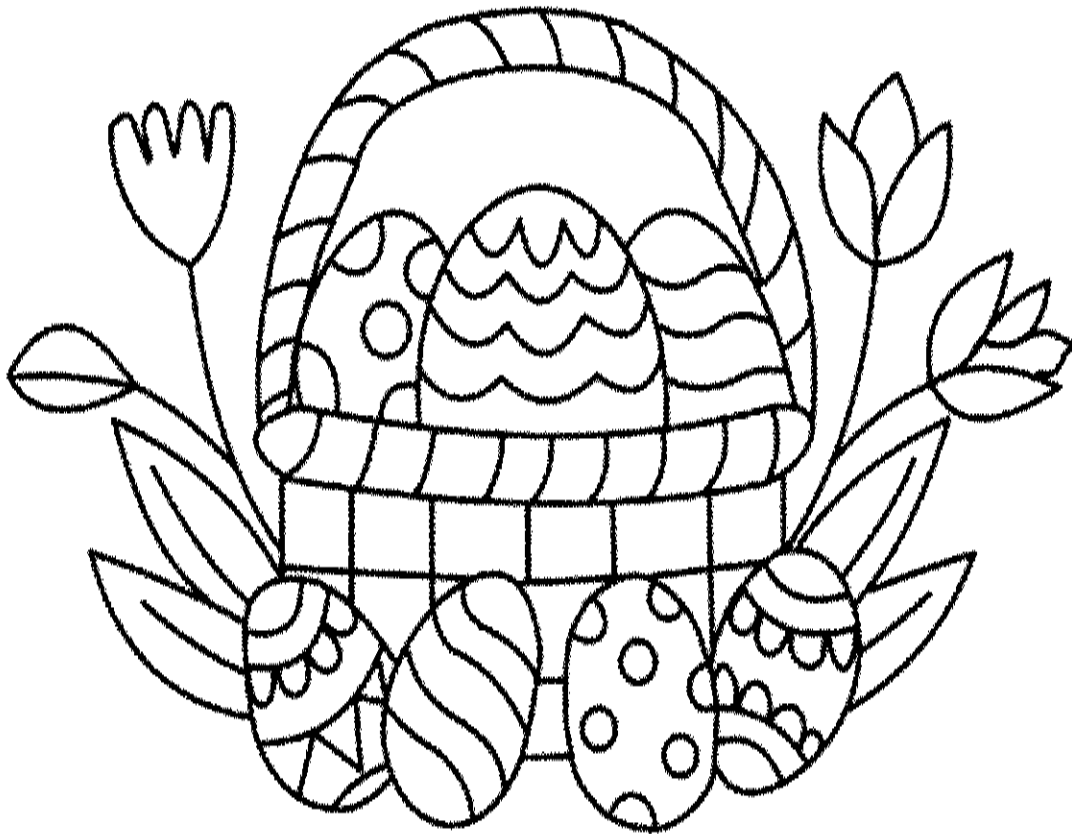
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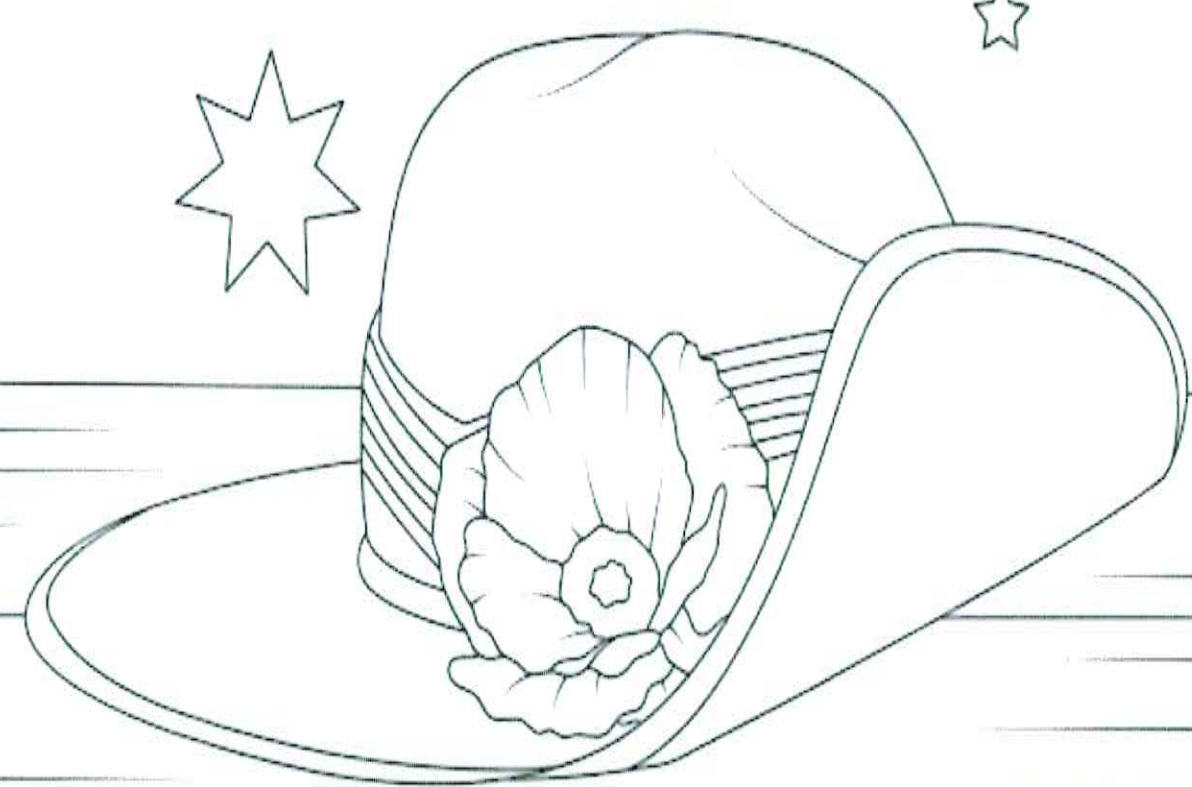
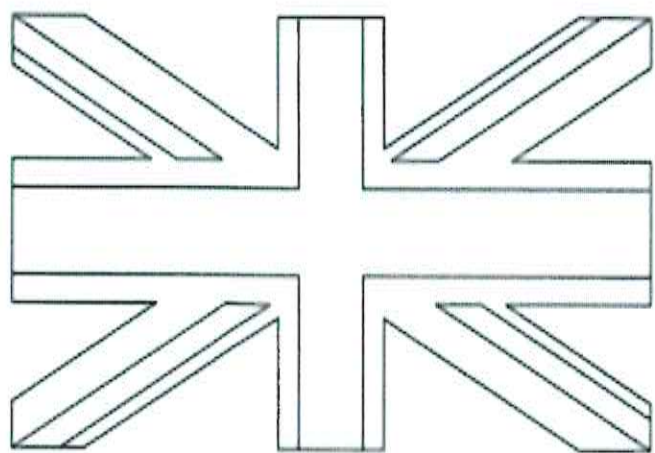
BASKET  
BONNET  
EASTER EGG  
HOT CROSS BUNS  
CANDY  
HYACINTH

IRIS  
CHICKEN  
CHOCOLATE  
JELLYBEANS  
DAFFODILS  
LAMBS

RABBIT  
DYE  
DUCKLINGS  
SPRING  
EASTER  
SUNDAY

HAPPY  
EASTER!





Anzac Day  
Lest we forget

Colortherapy

## ANZAC Day 25th April

C S O G E A O Y C K D G P H V L L U G E  
S I E P V N P P O C S E I P P O P A Z C  
E P T R Z H E I N O I T A R B E L E C I  
R Y I O V C Z W P M R S C W B L H E O V  
Y Y S R I I X V Z M C Z E G I S Y S U R  
E W L O I R C Z I E W F N P G A I E R E  
A C U I A T T E R M A U O T D P U R A S  
E E N N R Y N A S O R L T L R I S V G N  
Q V Z A E P S Q P R I W A U I P T E E W  
N A I K R O A G L A L N P N E V C D O A  
C E N F L B N J E T O A H A D L I I U D  
G O E D O I M B L I J Z C O K H L U S S  
D L I A T W W E T O D E R T U N F J M E  
F E J H T Z T A M N K E V A R B N E I H  
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E A A U V A I H W A I L A R T S U A G M  
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ALLIES  
APRIL  
BRAVE  
CENOTAPH  
CONFLICTS  
DAMNSERVICE  
FIGHTING  
HISTORIC  
NATIONALDAY  
PATRIOTIC  
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SERVED  
SOLDIER  
TWOPIVE

ANZAC  
AUSTRALIA  
CELEBRATION  
COMMEMORATION  
COURAGEOUS  
WORLDWARONE  
GALLIPOLI  
MARCHES  
NEWZEALAND  
PEACEKEEPING  
REMEMBRANCE  
SERVICES  
SPIRIT  
WAR



# REMEMBER

# *From Your DTs*

Hi Everyone,

Hope this finds you all well. Hope you keep well during this time.

Before Christmas we were visited by the Buddhist Light Scout Group who came to entertain our residents. Below are some pictures of our residents enjoying themselves. Our residents were entertained by a very talented group of young people.



Our Christmas party came next and below are pictures of our residents enjoying some delicious food and desserts.



Next our residents were visited by an old favourite – Santa Claus. He was helped by some very clever elves.



Above are Jillian, Milo, Lorraine, Elizabeth and Laurel. A Big Thank You to Ian who

did a marvellous job of Santa.



# AT ALGESTER LODGE NORMA CELEBRATED A VERY SPECIAL BIRTHDAY 104 YEARS YOUNG.

JANUARY 15-21, 2026

LOCAL IPSWICH NEWS >> LOCALIPSWICHNEWS.COM

## Norma celebrates 104 years filled with love

BY ROWAN ANDERSON

NORMA Freiberg (née Lyon) has marked an extraordinary milestone, celebrating her 104th birthday surrounded by family, friends and fellow residents at Algester Lodge.

Born on December 21, 1921, Norma's life spans more than a century of change in Queensland, from childhood days on a dairy farm at Marburg to becoming one of the oldest living links to the region's early schooling history.

Norma grew up alongside her brothers and sister on the family farm near what she recalls as the Lyon Bridge, walking to school each day while following Black Snake Creek. She first attended Marburg State School before continuing her education at Glamorgan Vale State School.

Last year, Glamorgan Vale State School celebrated its 150th anniversary, with Norma proudly acknowledged as the school's oldest surviving former student.

A lifelong Lutheran, Norma met her husband Ronald



Norma Freiberg celebrates her 104th birthday.

Freiberg at the St John Lutheran Church hall. She often recounts how Ronald, who was chairing a meeting that night, handed proceedings over to someone else so he could escort her home.

"He was cheeky," she said. "He wanted to know where I lived."

The couple shared many

happy years together until Ronald's passing in 2014. On June 4, 2010, they moved to Algester Lodge, where Norma has continued to be an active and much-loved member of the community.

During her working life, Norma was employed at Ipswich Girls Grammar School, where she worked in the laun-

dry, contributing to another of Ipswich's long-standing institutions.

Family remains central to Norma's life. She and Ronald raised four children – Errol, Ken, Trevor and Jenny – and today she is the proud grandmother of 10 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren, aged between 7 and 21.

One of her greatest recent joys has been seeing her eldest great-granddaughter join the Navy and graduate, a milestone that fills Norma with pride.

Known for her many talents, Norma is a wonderful cook, highly skilled in craft and calligraphy.

Norma's birthday celebrations were held over two days, with Algester Lodge residents and staff marking the occasion on one day, before a family celebration the day after.

At 104, Norma Freiberg's story is one of family, faith and community – a living connection to the region's past and a reminder of the rich personal histories that continue to shape it today.



**At Bundaleer Lodge we  
also had a very special  
Birthday Robert Kain  
100 years young**



**Here is Robert having Birthday  
cake with some of the residents  
and staff. He enjoyed lunch out  
with close friends.**



# **Aged Care Onsite Pharmacist, Algester Lodge**

**Catherine van den Berg**

## **Welcome to new team member**

Catherine is the clinical pharmacist working at Algester Lodge. She has been a pharmacist since 2007 and has been working in aged care since 2019. Her roles include regularly reviewing resident's medications to ensure they are safe and effective, providing education and support to aged care staff, and work collaboratively with the clinical team to improve health outcomes to residents.



Make sure you say Hi to Catherine if you see

her around the facility.



**We are excited to share that Olive Express will be on-site at Algester Lodge from 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Olive Express is a unique mobile 'train' that offers immersive, sensory travel experiences designed to support recreational therapy for older adults. This experience isn't just for residents; it's also a wonderful opportunity for families to come together and enjoy a shared journey.**

**Olive Express destinations include landscapes of Switzerland, China, Japan, Scotland, Ireland, and London – each journey sparking memories and curiosity about the world.**



**Each Olive Express journey is tailored to be personal and inclusive, featuring a multilingual avatar guide that lets residents choose their preferred language, making every trip familiar and comfortable.**

**Sessions run for 30-45 minutes and include delicious morning or high tea experiences.**

**It is air-conditioned and wheelchair- and daybed-friendly. The cost will be \$10 per person. The DT staff will start gathering residents' interest and bookings from the end of March. Families can contact DT to book if they wish to join along.**

# Letter From Management Algester Lodge



Wishing you a beautiful Easter filled with love, laughter and cherished moments with family and friends.

## **Maggie Beer**

Our sister facility has is being aided by the Maggie Beer Foundation for food improvement in Aged Care. We are slowly implementing some of the changes that have worked well at Bundaleer Lodge Nursing Home. The sandwich filling changes have already been implemented. You will now have hydration stations set in some of the dining rooms, so residents can help themselves to refreshing water. The new soups are being introduced.



## ***Generator for Algester Lodge***

The second generator has been added to the front car park at Algester Lodge and the other generator pad and generator is in place at the rear of the facility. We are waiting on the switchboard upgrade and Energex before it will all be working.

## ***Parking***

To alleviate parking issues for visitors, we reminded staff to leave the parking near reception and near Emerald for visitors. PPE is stored in some of our parking spaces under the building near Emerald. As this PPE is used, we will release some of these parking spaces.

# ***Survey***

Algerster residents were surveyed and the results have now been added to myagedcare and our new rating displayed; our overall rating is 4 stars.

## ***Display Cabinets***

Two new display cabinets have been installed and dolls and ornaments have been added to the display for everyone to enjoy.

## ***Swipe Cards***

The swipe card security system is changing being upgraded at Algerster Lodge. If you swipe card stops working, please bring it Judy in reception. Judy will then reprogram your card to allow access.

# ***Visiting***

When not in outbreak, visiting hours will be as follows;

- 9am – 12 noon Sunday
- 9am – 3.30pm Monday
- 9am – 3.30pm Tuesday
- 9am – 3.30pm Wednesday
- 9am – 3.30pm Thursday
- 9am – 3.30pm Friday

If there is a special event or extenuating circumstances and you need to visit outside of these visiting times, please contact the facility prior to coming for instructions.

A reminder to not clutter the bedrooms as this is a trip hazard to the residents. If you are visiting and borrow a chair from the dining area please make sure you return the chair to the dining room. Residents use these chairs in the dining rooms at meal times. If you fail to return the chair the residents have nothing to sit on. If you are elderly and you have asked the nurse to bring you a chair make sure you use the buzzer to get the nurse to take the chair back when you have finished with it. If you would like a chair left in the room permanently then please let Judy from reception know and we will organize a permanent visitor chair for the resident's room.

As always, if you experience any symptoms (i.e. headache, cough, muscle aches, sore throat, vomiting, loss of taste or upset stomach) please do not come to visit. We would also like to thank all residents

and family members for their patience and compliance with following rules set by the Public Health Unit and the Commonwealth Department of Health. Getting boosted and vaccinated for COVID19 and the FLU is the best way to keep us safe.

## ***Insurance for Personal Items***

Residents may wish to consider taking your own insurance for your personal items. Items such as your own hearing aids, prescription glasses and other personal items can be covered by insurance. These items are not covered by the facility insurance.

## ***Looking for Work in Aged Care***

*Are you, or someone you know looking to work in the Aged Care industry?*

We are always looking for people who have a passion for aged care or the hospitality industry. We regularly recruit for Registered Nurses, Assistant Nurses, and Kitchen staff and are always happy to receive applications for any of these positions. We also offer volunteering roles which can be used as a stepping stone into future employment opportunities. If you are interested, please ask reception for an application.

## ***Facebook and Instagram for Algester Lodge***

Algester Lodge has a Facebook account and Instagram account. You can keep up with what the residents have been doing on our Facebook account.

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Algester-Lodge-164794636905924/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/algesterlodge/>

We also have a Bundaleer Lodge Nursing Home website.

<https://algesterlodge.com/>

# ***Sharing Spaces Programme***

Residents from Bundaleer Lodge Nursing Home and Pre-Prep students from Ipswich Junior Grammar School used to participate in an intergenerational learning programme called Sharing Spaces. This partnership programme with Junior Grammar Early Education Centre and Bundaleer Lodge Nursing Home involved residents traveling to Junior Grammar EEC to enjoy a morning of activities and fun with the children of the EEC in pre-COVID times. Bundaleer lodge residents interact with the children from the school through story time, craft activities, and cooking experiences. We are investigating starting this programme up again.

## ***Charter of Aged Care Rights***

**Providers required to provide and explain signed Charter to new and existing consumers**

The Federal Government has announced new laws to compel all aged care providers to sign and conform to a single Charter of Aged Care Rights.

### ***Resident Responsibilities and Charter of Aged Care Rights***

***Each resident of a residential care service has the duty:***

- to respect the rights and needs of other people within the residential care service, and to respect the needs of the residential care service community as a whole
- to respect the rights of staff and the proprietor to work in an environment free from harassment
- to care for his or her own health and well-being, as far as he or she is capable
- to inform his or her medical practitioner, as far as he or she is able, about his or her relevant medical history and current state of health.
- Each resident has the obligation to respect the thoughts and actions of other residents and not deprive them of their rights
- To assist the facility in maintaining accurate records and information through prompt notification
- Informing the facility of changes to contact next of kin details.

**Charter of Aged Care Rights:**

**I have the right to:**

- Receive safe and high-quality care and services
- Be treated with dignity and respect
- Have my identity, culture and diversity valued and

supported

- Live without abuse and neglect
- Be informed about my care in a way I understand
- Access all information about myself, including information about my rights, care and services
- Have control over and make choices about my care, and personal and social life, including where the choices involve personal risk
- Have control over, and make decisions about, the personal aspects of my daily life, financial affairs and possessions
- My independence
- Be listened to and understood
- Have a person of my choice, including an aged care advocate, support me or speak on my behalf
- Complain free from reprisal, and to have my complaints dealt with fairly and promptly
- Personal privacy and to have personal information protected
- Exercise my rights without it adversely affecting the way I am treated

***The NDIS Code of Conduct:***

**The Code of Conduct requires workers and providers who deliver NDIS supports to:**

- act with respect for individual rights to freedom of expression, self-determination, and decision-making in accordance with relevant laws and conventions
- respect the privacy of people with disability
- provide supports and services in a safe and competent manner with care and skill
- act with integrity, honesty, and transparency
- promptly take steps to raise and act on concerns about matters that might have an impact on the quality and safety of supports provided to people with disability
- take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, neglect, and abuse of people with disability
- take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct.



Australian Government  
Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

# Code of Conduct for Aged Care

Quick guide for consumers



The Code of Conduct for Aged Care describes how **providers and the people providing your care must behave and treat you**. It includes the 8 elements below.



**Respect your rights** to express yourself and make your own decisions about how you want to live



**Act with integrity,** honesty and transparency



**Treat you with dignity and respect** and value your diversity



**Take action promptly** about matters that may impact on the safety and quality of your care



**Respect your privacy**



**Provide safe care** free from all forms of violence and abuse



**Provide high quality care** in a safe and competent manner



**Prevent and respond** to all forms of violence and abuse

If you or someone you know has a concern or complaint with your service, contact:

**Older Person Advocacy  
Network (OPAN)**  
Phone 1800 700 600

**Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission**

Phone 1800 951 822 Web [agedcarequality.gov.au](http://agedcarequality.gov.au)

Write Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission  
GPO Box 9819, in your capital city



December 2022

ACR-COC-013

Aged care  
**reforms**

# *Renovation Update*

## *Reception renovations*

Renovations are finished in the reception area at Algester Lodge. A new opening to access reception has been created. A new reception desk has been built. Judy Knowles from reception is now located in her new renovated reception area. Kylie Goode from admissions is now in the new renovated admissions office on the ground floor. The second floor is now renovated. The HR Office, IT and Management Office have all moved into the old conference room new office space. The tiles have been replace from reception through to the staff room and beyond. The progress so far can be seen in the photos below.

Admissions Office



New sign at reception



Admissions Office



Front Reception Desk





Front Entrance with Auto Doors and Shutters at Reception Desk





Walkway Renovations



Amber Hairdressing Salon

The therapy room in Amber has been renovated. An island bench has been added to the room to allow for cooking demonstrations and activities. A large set of storage cupboards have been added to the space to allow for all those Therapy activity supplies.



Future plans: The staff room and toilets will be renovated. The Private dining room will become a family friendly retreat room. It will have a small dining table, sofa and the small kitchenette renovated. New flooring, paint work and lights will be part of the update of the old Private dining room. The two visitor toilets will be removed and made to a waiting area for the hairdresser and the Doctors room. The RSM Office will become a doctors room.

We will try to keep the disruption to a minimum. These renovations will be taking place over the year. It should be quite exciting to see the work progress.



Those residents with their own computer devices please access the internet safely and try not to open any attachments to your emails that you are not sure about, ie you don't know the sender. Please keep your computer virus protection up to date to help keep you protected online.



With changes in weather days can be hot or cold so we take this opportunity to remind resident and family members to remember to dress appropriately for the weather. Check the recommended clothing list to ensure you have what is needed.



Any clothes that need to be labelled must be dropped to the administration office Monday to Friday between 8.00am and 4.30pm. If this cannot be done, please call Judy (07) 3711 4711 to arrange an alternate drop off location and time. For new admissions please ensure all clothes are marked with a permanent marker prior to labelling, this is to ensure that clothing is not lost. Any new clothing items to be placed in a bag with the residents' name and handed to staff in the administration office.

## **Laundry Information**

It is important when new clothes or shoes are purchased, it is labeled with the resident's name before using. This will ensure lost clothing items are minimized. Laundry Staff and Nursing Staff will automatically remove clothing which is worn, needs repair, is stained, or no longer fits. Relatives will be informed via phone that there is clothing in the office to be collected. If clothing is not collected within 2 weeks it will be placed in a Life Line Bin. Lost property has been moved to the Opal Wing next to the hairdressing room.

It is the responsibility of the relatives / guardians to ensure that there is an adequate supply of suitable clothing. All items are to be clearly marked using name tags sewn onto clothes. It is not permitted to use a marking pen to mark resident's clothes on a permanent basis. After numerous washes the name fades off and then the clothes are unnamed and become lost. **CLOTHING MUST HAVE SEWN LABELS OR HEAT PRESS MACHINE LABELS.**

Management can order cloth labels at a reasonable price if requested. The labels take approximately 1 week to arrive once ordered. The laundry staff can arrange for the labels to be machine heat pressed application. If the laundry staff are to organize the labels to be sewn the clothing must be handed to the laundry staff for labeling. There is a small cost this covers labeling of all items of clothing and any additional items during the resident's stay until all the labels have been used from an order. Please consult the laundry staff, the Nursing Manager or management if you would like to order labels, and/or have labels sewn onto the resident's clothing.

Ensure that shoes, slippers are clearly marked as well as hats or beanies. If supplying a bedspread or knee rug have a label on to identify the item. All new articles of clothing purchased after admission must be labeled. Ensure relatives are aware of this especially when clothes are given as gifts. **NO WOOLEN CLOTHING TO BE SUPPLIED.**

- (1) It is recommended no woolen jumpers or woolen jackets be brought as clothing, due to the laundry washing and drying at very high temperatures, which causes the items to shrink.
- (2) The turnaround time for clothing to be returned from the laundry is approximately 4 days, it is important to ensure the resident has a sufficient number of clothing to cover this period.
- (3) Whilst all care is taken with washing and drying of residents clothing, the Management will take no responsibilities for the loss or damage of clothing.



There are times when care givers need that little bit of additional support. Respite care is also known as short term care which allows support carers to take a break from their duties while they can be sure their loved one is cared for in a safe caring environment. Algester Lodge is now offering residential respite accommodation. If you would like more information about respite accommodation for friends or family please contact the administration staff.



Algester Lodge has a web site which can be accessed from a computer with internet access at <http://www.algesterlodge.com>. We are striving to improve our website by adding more information and links to other sites which may hold valuable information for you. Please check out the Corporate Partners for links to useful sites. Those residents who have their own computer and use the internet, it is advisable to keep your internet security software up to date to help protect your information on the computer.



If family are cancelling escorts arranged for appointments without the sufficient notice period (72 hours) or if the resident refuses to go to the appointment on the day and the escort arrives for the appointment then the resident will be charged for the service. The notice period of 72 hours MUST be adhered to for cancellations and the notification given to Judy in the administration office during office hours. The family can also call the escort company to cancel the appointment within the notice period.



The billiard table is in the Amethyst lounge area just near the Therapy Room in Opal wing. If you wish to use the table for a game with your family please contact Therapy staff to organize access to the table and equipment.

The putting green and mini lawn bowls is situated outside the Opal Therapy room. Putters, practice balls and lawn bowls are available from therapy in Opal. We have an item call a shag bag which allows for the picking up of the golf practice balls without bending over, this should help make more time for fun. Therapy staff have run golf and lawn bowls events which have been enjoyed by residents. Check your Therapy calendar for the next golf or lawn bowls event.



Please note that we have recently updated our room manuals. Please review the room manual for any changes that may be applicable to you.

Could residents not feed the ibis or ducks as these birds have started to make a mess of the footpaths and garden. Thank you for your cooperation with this request.

An Activity Trolley runs offering games, puzzles and activities for residents to take and do at their leisure. The Shop Trolley offers sweets, savory items and other supplies that residents may wish to purchase. Ask therapy staff about when these will be offered.

Darts has been held once per month at this stage. It has been well received with good attendance. Please look at the Therapy timetable to see when the next Darts event will be held. A Dart board and dart cupboard has been donated and will be mounted for use during our Dart activities. A 500 card group has started and this is running once per month at this stage. A group is developing and once set this event can be run



whenever the 500 card players wish.



The Asian and European cultural groups run once per month. Please see the Therapy time table for meeting times. Special cultural events are extra outside this group meeting. Remember that all residents are welcome at any event.

The Department of Health wants us to inform relatives about call bells, particularly what they are used for. There are different types of calls on our system. There are call bells next to the bed, call bells in the bathroom, call bells in hallways and call bells in common areas. The hallways and common areas are for EMERGENCY situations and IMMEDIATE response. The bedroom and ensuite call bell is for general calls for assistance. The EMERGENCY call bell overrides all other calls to give an IMMEDIATE response. The bedroom/ensuite call bells are logged at the time of the call and are responded to in order. Hence if there is a high volume of calls then the wait time may be longer than at a time when there is a low volume of calls. If someone is in a room with no call bell, staff can use their DECT phones to dial 333, this will call ALL phones throughout the Facility phone system and someone will answer.

People of all ages are at increased risk of falling while in care due to the unfamiliar surroundings, unsteady balance, poor eyesight, wearing of unsafe footwear, medical conditions and some medications and can result in a serious injury and or loss of confidence. The following can assist in falls prevention.

- Become familiar with the surrounding
- Have a falls risk assessment completed
- Be consulted about the plan to reduce your falls risk, if required. This may include a review by a pharmacist or physiotherapist for further information and support.
- Preventative measures include avoidance of long dressing gowns and nightwear.

- Footwear should fit securely; have a flat or low heel and a non-slip grip.
- should fit securely; have a flat or low heel and a non-slip grip.
- Residents may be fitted with anti-embolism stockings and these can increase the risk of slipping or falling when walking. It is therefore important to wear slippers or other footwear if you are using these stockings.

The Facility supports students across multiple disciplines (nursing, medical and allied health) through partnership with tertiary education institutions and other registered training Organizations. All medical interns and other students are supervised while at the Facility. The Facility continues to have a strong commitment to teaching the healthcare professionals of the future.

### **Smoke Free Policy operational Algester Lodge**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015, it is against the law to smoke at all public and private health care facilities, and for five meters beyond their boundaries. Penalties apply for disobeying this law. Algester Lodge is committed to provide employees and residents with a healthy environment which encourages high staff morale and productivity and protects the health of all employees and residents. With this in mind we support a smoke free work place policy at Algester Lodge. This policy will help promote the health and safety of all employees and residents. Please speak to the Residential Services Manager (RSM) if you would like some information on ways to quit smoking.

The Broadband for Seniors Kiosk located in our Therapy area Opal with two computers. We also have a computer in the Therapy room in Amber for resident use. This computer has a touch screen which makes it very easy for first time users. Please see the therapy activity staff for guidance and access times. The Internet Kiosks are a Government Funded initiative taken up with the help of the facility staff and Algester Lodge. Check the Therapy schedule to find when the next Internet/Computer tutorial will be held or ask your Diversional Therapists.





Unwanted fire alarm activation. If a resident or resident representative causes a fire alarm to be activated causing a false alarm call out by the Fire Brigade, then the resident will be charged for the call out fee. False alarm activation can be caused by burning toast in resident toasters, burning food in resident microwaves, smoking in rooms, aerosol sprays and fine powders dispersed in the air around the

detector or other willful activation methods. The cost of a call out is approximately \$1600.

We would like to remind visitors to the secure unit to not let anyone out, no matter how convincing or young they look. Refer them to the staff on duty should they want to exit the area.

We would like to remind residents to bring in medicare and pension cards, as we cannot organize bulk billing if we do not have this information. Could residents or family members check the expiry date for the medicare card. If family members or residents wish to keep their own card then please make a photocopy and hand this copy to the Residential Services Manager (RSM) for our records. If the card is about to expire, please apply for a new one. Then make a copy for the facility if you do not wish us to hold the card for the resident. If you would like the facility to hold the card for the resident, please hand the card to the RSM.

We have had some issues with telemarketers confusing residents who have their own phones. We recommend residents or their family members have residents' personal phones added to the DO NOT CALL REGISTER so telemarketing calls will not be put through to their phone. Call your phone service provider to organize this.



Due to gastrointestinal and flu illness in the community we wish to remind relatives to not visit residents if they are ill or within the 48 hours after they show the last symptoms. This helps protect the residents from flu, colds and gastrointestinal illnesses. We also remind relatives to wash their hands at our facility before visiting the residents and to wash their hands after visiting the residents. This also helps stop the spread of communicable illness in the community.

**The basic resident fee increased on the 20th March 2026. The rate is**

set by Department of Health and Aging. This rate changes twice a year on the 20<sup>th</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> September.

**Alger Lodge no longer take clothing donations due to government auditors seeing this as a privacy issue. When a resident moves from the facility their items must be collected within 24 hours or the items will be taken to life line and a fee of \$100 will be charged to the final account.**

Please remember to give Lynette Dresselhaus your email details for easier communications if you have not already done so, you can drop this into administration.

## ***Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)***

Thousands of non-English speaking Australians face a communication gap every day. Across Australia, the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) helps bridge that gap. TIS National has more than 50 years' experience in the interpreting industry and access to more than 3000 contracted interpreters speaking more than 160 languages across Australia. Whenever English speakers and non-English speakers need to communicate, TIS National can provide an interpreter to help 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

### **How can I access an interpreter?**

Call the TIS National Contact Centre on **131 450** at any time, day or night, to access an immediate phone interpreter.

The TIS National Contact Centre can connect you with an interpreter in more than 160 languages over the phone, every day of the year. TIS National's immediate phone interpreting service can be accessed directly by both English speakers and non-English speakers, just say the language you need.

Phone interpreting services can also be booked in advance, which ensures an interpreter will be available in the language you need and to cater for any special requirements.

TIS National can also arrange for an interpreter to attend a specific location anywhere in Australia (subject to interpreter availability), known as on-site interpreting.

### **Water Wise Information**

At Alger Lodge we have a Bore and Rain Tank System for laundry washing, toilet flushing and garden watering. We treat the bore water before use to ensure it is neutral and suitable for use. We have a large roof area and can harvest large quantities of water to assist with water conservation for Brisbane.

## *Independent Living Units*

Bundaleer Lodge Nursing Home at North Ipswich now offers ILUs (Independent Living Units) onsite. Our ILUs are architect designed modern retirement living. Built to offer low maintenance living with high quality finishes. There are 9 independent living units which offer one or two bedrooms. Some offer a small terrace with garden views. These are fully self-contained units with a dedicated car parking space. The units consist of an open plan dining lounge kitchen, laundry and one or two bedrooms with a disabled accessible bathroom. The units have the following facilities: air-conditioning, fans, fridge, oven, stove, washing machine, clothes dryer, call bell point and fire alarm and sprinkler system. Residents can continue their independent lifestyle while



ILU Kitchen

offering nurse call bell points within the unit in the case of an emergency only. These units are available for a weekly rent which includes the furniture, electricity and water charges. If you prefer the ILU can come unfurnished. Residents from our ILUs have access to the Bundaleer Meet & Eat Café near reception, the onsite hairdressing salon and meals can be supplied at a nominal fee. Please contact 07 3201 8772 for a tour and further information.

## ILU Bedroom



ILU Dining Room



ILU Lounge room



## **Food Information**

This is a reminder for all family members to be aware of the procedures for bringing food from home or from outside of the facility. Any food brought in should be served to the resident at the correct temperature. This is if the food is to be served cold then it must be below 5 degrees or if the food is to be served hot then it must be over 60 degrees. Food served between these temperatures is classed as dangerous and can cause food poisoning. If food is to be stored in the fridge in the kitchenettes then it must be labeled with the supplied stickers with name and date. Any food kept in a resident's own fridge in bedroom will only need a use by date. This is requirement of the Australian Food Standards Code. Do not share the food you bring in with other residents. It is prohibited to provide other residents with food you have brought into the facility. When you bring food into an aged care facility for a relative or friend it is you and not the staff who take responsibility for its safety.



Residents wishing to keep extra food in their rooms are welcome to do so, but it must be kept in air-tight containers and the container must be labeled with expiry date of the food or the date the item was cooked.

Perishable foods must be kept in the refrigerator in marked containers with name of resident and the date the item was cooked or purchased. If the food is not dated it will be thrown out. This is a food safety, health requirement. A brochure regarding this regulation can be obtained from administration should you require more information.

**Food must be labeled. The label will be attached to the fridge. The information required is:**

**Name of resident**

**food received from**

**food description**

**date received discard by**

## **Do you cook and bring food to an elderly relative or friend in an aged care facility?**

This fact sheet has been kindly sponsored by Compass Group (Australia) as a service to aged care facilities.

It's really nice to show you care by cooking special favorite meals for the resident of an aged care facility - perhaps culturally specific food or a family favourite which is not normally available in that facility. But if you do, you really wouldn't want to make them sick, so there are some things you need to know. Our immune systems get weaker as we get older. Also our stomachs produce less acid which makes it easier for harmful germs to get through the digestive system and invade our bodies. If elderly people do get food poisoning, they are also likely to suffer more severe consequences. These can range from mild dehydration to neuromuscular dysfunction or even death. Older people also take longer than most of us to recover from food poisoning. There are some foods that pose a higher risk than others, particularly of passing on a Listeria infection which is dangerous for the elderly.

### **What are the higher risk foods?**

Cold meats Cooked or uncooked, packaged or unpackaged e.g. roast beef, ham etc. Cold cooked chicken Purchased whole, portions, sliced or diced Pate Refrigerated pate, liverwurst or meat spreads Salads Pre-prepared or pre-packaged fruit, vegetables or salads e.g. from salad bars, retail outlets etc. Chilled seafood Raw or smoked ready-to-eat e.g. oysters, sashimi or sushi, smoked salmon or trout, sandwich fillings, pre-cooked peeled prawns such as in prawn cocktails and salads Cheese Pre- packaged and delicatessen soft, semi soft and surface ripened cheeses e.g. brie, camembert, ricotta, feta and blue Ice cream Soft serve Other dairy products Unpasteurised dairy products e.g. raw goats milk, cheese or yoghurt made from raw milk For full details please refer to the pamphlet 'Listeria and food' on the FSANZ website,

[http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/\\_srcfiles/Listeria.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/_srcfiles/Listeria.pdf)

Foods made with raw egg such as home-made egg mayonnaise, hollandaise sauce, uncooked cakes and desserts and eggnog can also be dangerous for the elderly.

The elderly person may also have special dietary requirements or restrictions of which you are unaware. Please check with the staff before providing food to an elderly resident.

### **What precautions should I take when preparing foods?**

There are no special rules for cooking for elderly people – you just need to be even fussier than normal. If you plan to take chilled or frozen food you have cooked yourself, make sure that the food is cooled quickly in your refrigerator: never at room temperature. Always wash your hands well under running water using soap and dry thoroughly before handling food. You can get information on preparing food safely from the fact sheet 'Protecting Tiny Tummies and Sensitive Systems' and other fact sheets on the Food Safety Information Council website, [www.foodsafety.asn.au](http://www.foodsafety.asn.au).

### **How can I transport food safely for an elderly person?**

You will need to transport your food to the aged care facility so take care that it is protected from contamination during transport and, if it is chilled food, it is kept cool or if you are taking it hot, you keep it hot during the journey. Food should be kept at 5 degrees Celsius or cooler or, for hot food, at 60 degrees Celsius or hotter. Between 5 and 60 degrees is known as the temperature danger zone because harmful bacteria multiply to dangerous levels in food when it is kept between these temperatures. Put cold food into a cooler with ice packs when travelling to visit your relative or friend.

Don't pack food if it has just been cooked and is still warm. Coolers cannot cool food they can only keep cold food cool. Always cover pre-prepared foods securely and pre-chill them, for example, keep in the refrigerator overnight. Other perishable foods and drinks, such as deli products, cooked chicken and dairy products must also be cold when put in the cooler. Hot food is difficult to keep hot and is best avoided if you are travelling long distances. It is best to chill the food overnight and reheat it at the residence. If you must take hot food on a longer journey, an insulated jug, preheated with boiling water before being filled with the steaming hot food, can be used. If you are unsure whether the jug will keep the food above 60 degrees Celsius, try filling it with water at 90 degrees Celsius, seal and test the water temperature after the length of time you expect your journey to take. If it is still above 60 degrees then you can use the jug. You will need a food thermometer to do this test. If any perishable food you bring is not eaten immediately, make sure it is refrigerated before you leave.

### **Reheating food**

Different aged care facilities will have different rules about reheating food provided by friends or relatives. In some, staff will reheat the food, in others, staff are not permitted to do so. In some facilities, the elderly person can reheat the food themselves, in others the person providing the

food must do the reheating. Check with the staff to find out the rules in that facility. Make sure that staff know that you have brought in food and ask them how to go about re-heating it. Food needs to be reheated to a minimum of 75 degrees Celsius or 70 degrees Celsius for two minutes to kill any bacteria or viruses that might be present in the food.

### **Reheating food in a microwave oven**

If you are reheating food in a microwave, you need to be especially careful that the food is heated evenly. Food heated in a microwave oven does not heat uniformly and unwanted germs may survive in portions of poorly heated food. Manufacturers recommend standing times to help alleviate the problem of uneven heating. Many microwaveable meal packs carry the instruction to stir the food part way through the cooking process. Items such as lasagne that can't be stirred should be allowed standing time to allow the whole product to reach a uniform temperature. How evenly the food will heat will also depend on the thickness of portions and on the composition and moisture content of the food. Frozen food needs to be completely thawed before reheating. If you are reheating a commercially prepared food, read and follow all the manufacturers' microwaving instructions.

### **Storage of the food you bring in**

If any perishable food you have provided is not eaten immediately, tell the staff and ask them about storing the food in a refrigerator. Some elderly people like to keep extra food in their rooms in drawers or bedside tables for eating later. While this is okay for shelf-stable foods like cakes, biscuits and chocolates, this can be very risky with perishable food such as cold meats, custard or cream filled cakes and cooked vegetables and meat dishes. Leaving perishable food in the temperature danger zone for too long before eating can result in food borne illness. Food which can cause food poisoning may not look or taste spoiled. Sometimes elderly people can also forget how long the food has been there. If you bring commercially prepared food make sure the elderly person is aware of any 'best before' or 'use by' date on the food. **Make sure you tell the staff if the elderly person has some perishable food in their room.**

### ***Remember:***

If you are cooking for an elderly person, please check the fact sheet 'Protecting Tiny Tummies and Sensitive Systems' under 'publications' on the Food Safety Information Council's website [www.foodsafety.asn.au](http://www.foodsafety.asn.au) for more information on preparing food safely.

**Food Safety Information Council**

The Food Safety Information Council is a non-profit group with representatives of State and Federal governments, food industry and professional associations. Membership is open to any organisation with an interest in promoting safe food handling practices for consumers. We aim to reduce the over five million cases of food poisoning in Australia each year by educating consumers to handle food safely from the time it leaves the retailer until it appears on the plate. We organise Food Safety Week each November as part of our campaign to pass on simple messages to improve consumers' knowledge of how to handle, store and cook food safely. **For more information** Telephone Project Co-ordinator: 0407 626 688 (mobile)  
Email: [info@foodsafety.asn.au](mailto:info@foodsafety.asn.au) Website: [www.foodsafety.asn.au](http://www.foodsafety.asn.au)

**The process for suggestions on improvements is as follows.**

- 1) To make a suggestion or inform management of a problem an improvement log is completed.
- 2) The forms are located on iCare under Policies and Procedures. They are also located near the sign on book and the Diversional Therapy team has forms for residents to complete.
- 3) Forms are completed and returned to the Residential Services Managers (RSM) office.
- 4) The suggestion or problem are reviewed and if urgent, acted on immediately.
- 5) A bi monthly meeting is held consisting of management to discuss improvement logs. The actions are discussed and if able evaluations made.
- 6) If evaluations are effective the improvement log is closed out.



## Facility Mechanism for Complaints

We would like to advise residents / relatives of the facilities mechanism for handling complaints.

- (a) We encourage residents / relatives to bring any concerns or complaints to the attention of the Nursing Manager or Administration. Relatives/Visitors **Do Not** take complaints to the RN or other nursing staff please. Follow the policy on making a complaint, if you are a relative or resident the procedure is different. A resident can make a complaint to the RN but visitors or relatives must make the complaint to the RSM(Residential Services Manager)/CM(Clinical Manager) or Administration. The visitor or relative is able to make an appointment with these staff during working hours or make the complaint in writing. If the complaint is urgent and after hours then contact the Team Leader on duty who can phone the RSM/CM. Post or drop the written complaint under the managers locked door or drop into the suggestions box at the sign in area at reception. Emails may also be sent to the following:

RSM (Residential Services Manager Bundaleer Lodge)-  
[rsm@bundaleerlodge.com](mailto:rsm@bundaleerlodge.com) RSM (Residential Services Manager  
Algerster Lodge)-

[rsm@algest](mailto:rsm@algest)

[erlodge.com](mailto:erlodge.com) Human Resources Officer-

[hr.bundalee](mailto:hr.bundalee)

[r@bigpond.com](mailto:r@bigpond.com)

- (b) All complaints are investigated and processed and the person advised of the outcome.  
(c) Each resident/relative has the right to exercise their right, provided it does not infringe on the rights of other people.

The mechanism for grievance and complaints is through:

- (1) raising the issue at the resident committee meeting.
- (2) advising the RSM or Administration.
- (3) completing P256complaints Form or Continuous Improvement Form found at the sign in desk. Ask a staff member to show you where the forms are held and how to complete the form or obtain a copy of the form from the staff member. The response to the problem will either be recorded in the Continuous Improvement Form or you may be spoken to directly, depending on the confidentiality of the complaint.
- (4) If after speaking to the RSM you are still not satisfied you can direct your problem/grievance/complaint to the Administrator or Director of the Nursing Home.
- (5) Residents / relatives should also be aware that they have the right to bring complaints to the Department. If the grievance/complaint cannot be solved or suitably attended to, you can make a complaint to The Department. A brochure outlining the Departments Complaints mechanism is given on admission and extra copies are located at reception.
- (6) There address is as follow:

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission  
G.P.O Box 9819  
Brisbane Qld. 4001  
Tel: 1800 951 822

Log a complaint online at [www.agedcarequality.gov.au](http://www.agedcarequality.gov.au)

Every effort will be made by staff and management to solve grievances and complaints.

## **Electricity Information**

We would also like to remind relatives, residents and friends about the safe use of electricity and our testing policy. Algester Lodge and Bundaleer Lodge do not have individual tagging of equipment. Every three months we test each areas safety switches and if a faulty appliance is presents it is sourced by turning all appliances off in the area and plugging them in one at a time to find the faulty device. This method is much easier to manage than tagging 1000's of pieces of equipment and ensuring all residents have their personal items tested and tagged. We are category 3 and have portable equipment with type 1 and 2 safety switches. Hence we test our switches every 3 months and Tridan our electrical contractor tests every 2 years as required under the regulations. Some individuals are under the impression that Energex/Origin approve of equipment being plugged in or unplugged while the power point is switched on. Energex/Origin employees have informed the facility that under no circumstances would they recommend this action. The facility was then directed to the Origin web site on safety tips when dealing with electricity. Please look at the web site <http://www.originenergy.com.au>. Origin Energy's electrical safety tips are as follows:

- 1. Never touch anything electrical with wet hands or feet**
2. Never use any electrical appliance near water
3. Do not use portable heater in bathroom areas.
4. Never use a faulty electrical appliance, or one that has a frayed cord, cracked or broken plug, or any appliance that has given someone a tingle.
5. In the lunch room, switch off and unplug your toaster before trying to pull out any toast, muffin or crumpet that may be stuck, and ensure that bread crumbs are removed from the toaster daily to avoid build up.
- 6. Check that the power is switched off before you plug in any appliance and always switch off appliances at the power point before you pull out the plug.**
- 7. Remove appliances from the power point by holding the plug not pulling on the cord.**

**If you notice any problems with equipment at the facility please inform the RN and the RN will organize the item to be tagged to not be used and write the faulty item up in the maintenance book. It is every ones duty to report any unsafe equipment and power points. If maintenance is not notified of faults it can make the repair process longer**

## **Resident Storage Information**

A reminder that when a resident leaves the Facility, their personal items will be held for 24 hours ONLY, due to lack of onsite storage. The Facility cannot offer longer storage options for residents' personal items. If the items have not been collected within 24 hours of permanent departure from the Facility, the items will be donated to a charity and a fee charged. No responsibility will be taken for the residents personal items while awaiting pick up during the 24 hours, it is up to the resident or family members to ensure the security of these personal effects.



Residents and Relatives are reminded to ensure items are stored securely. There is a locked draw in every room, please use this for those items of importance or sentimental value. Should residents require even more security it may be advisable to purchase your own safe and move this into your room. Another alternative is to leave the items with relatives who can store them in a secure place. It is not advisable to leave precious items with residents in the secure unit. Residents in this unit may not be able to remember where they placed items of importance; they may even accidentally discard them. If you bring your own chair, wheel chair, shower chair or other furniture into the facility you must ensure the item is labeled with the residents' name, it is also useful for you to photograph any items owned by residents to ensure they can be identified if they go missing. If the items are stolen you can use these photographs for the police report and your personal insurance claim if you have taken out insurance. Relatives should also check and clean all personal knickknacks and precious items every time they visit so they can be found quickly if they are missing. The Facility cleaners do not clean/dust personal items brought into the facility. If you notice any residents' equipment missing let the RSM and all your relatives know, in case one relative has taken home items for safe keeping and others do not know. If the item continues to be missing let the RSM know so the police can be informed as soon as possible. The nursing home takes no responsibility for lost personal property.

## **Resident Personal Items Cleaning**

It is important to remember that the electric razors do require professional cleaning and replacement of cutting blades every 6 months. This is the resident's responsibility. A resident refrigerator in the resident's room must be kept clean and all food discarded if not labeled or in date. This is the responsibility of the resident or resident's family. The staff of the Facility will not clean these refrigerators. All other personal furniture and knickknacks brought into the facility are the responsibility of the resident or resident's family to dust and keep clean. The Facility cleaners do not clean or dust personal items brought into the



facility. If you need assistance getting a cleaner for these personal items please ask the RSM and a cleaner can be organized and billed to the resident. If you want our cleaner to clean behind resident's personal furniture then the resident or resident's family must organize the moving of

the furniture and have booked a time with the RSM for our cleaners to clean behind these items. The RSM can also assist to organize movers to move the furniture and the cost billed to the resident.

*From Susan Dreyer and Lynette Dresselhaus*

**NEXT NEWSLETTER  
WILL BE OUT FOR MAY  
JUNE AND JULY 2026**

