

*Lotus Place is a dedicated support service and resource centre for adults who as children lived in out-of-home care and adults who experienced sexual, physical, emotional and spiritual abuse in out-of-home care or religious or institutional settings.*

*Micah projects supports people who have experienced abuse to seek acknowledgement and redress by Churches, Governments and Community Organisations who failed in their duty of care.*

Welcome to the May edition of the Lillypad, you may have noticed that we didn't have an April edition, with Leigh and I both on annual leave and with a few public holidays time slipped away on us. This month we share some information on the National Redress Scheme.

As winter is approaching this month's recipe is for Pea and Ham soup - a cheap and nutritious meal

that is one of my personal favourites. And talking about food we continue to hold our regular weekly morning teas in Rockhampton and a monthly morning tea in Bundaberg, if you haven't joined us for one of these events and would like some more information please feel free to give either Leigh or I a call.

Enjoy the read.

Regards, *Selena*

## STOP PRESS

Michelle James, Qld President of the Australian Lawyers Alliance and a Solicitor from Maurice Blackburn Lawyers will be in our Rockhampton Office 10am 23rd May 2017.

Michelle will be speaking at our morning tea on the process of making a civil claim, what to expect from a claim process, what your rights are and the possible impact of a Commonwealth Redress Scheme.

Please feel free to join us and listen to Michelle as well as sharing a bite to eat.



## John's Corner

Hoping everyone has been travelling okay and had a good Easter. Selena is back from her holiday in WA and Leigh is back from her break, visiting the grandson in Cairns.

Hello to all our friends in Wide Bay and a special hello to Frank at Gin Gin. Hope the weather is not too cold down there, nice and warm up here!

Take care and love to all.

Q. What do postal workers do when they're mad?

A. They stamp their feet.



- John



## Cooking Corner

### Pea & Ham Soup

#### Ingredients

2 cups dried yellow split peas  
2 onions, diced  
2 stalks celery, diced

500g bacon bones or bacon hock  
2 litres water  
Back pepper

#### Method

An economical winter warmer.

Bring bacon bones to the boil in water and simmer until meat comes away from the bones, approximately one hour.

Remove bones and leave to cool. Remove meat from bones.

To the water, add split peas, onion, celery and pepper. Bring to boil and simmer, stirring occasionally until desired consistency. Add meat from the bones and warm through. Serve with crusty bread.

### May Luncheon

Rodney from the Stroke Foundation gave an interesting talk at our May Luncheon. As a stroke survivor, Rodney was able to give a personal insight on the effects of stroke as well as signs to look out for if you think someone may be experiencing a stroke.

**FACE** - check their FACE - has their mouth drooped?

**ARMS** - Can they lift both ARMS?

**SPEECH** - Is their SPEECH slurred? Do they understand you?

**TIME** - TIME is critical. If you see any of these signs, call 000 now!



*Please remember to RSVP on 4927 7604 for our catered events as we like to make sure there is enough for everyone who will be there.*



## Commonwealth Redress Scheme for Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse

9 May 2017 - Joint Media Release, Senator Hon Christian Porter with Senator the Hon George Brandis

The Turnbull Government's redress scheme for survivors of child sexual abuse in institutional settings is planned to commence in 2018.

The Turnbull Government has listened to survivors and accepts the recommendation of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse that each jurisdiction and all individual institutions must make amends and take responsibility for wrongdoing.

A national scheme with states, territories and non-government institutions able to join on a 'responsible entity pays' basis was a key recommendation of the Royal Commission and is the best way to ensure fairness and justice for all survivors.

The Turnbull Government has been working with the Independent Advisory Council since its establishment late last year, on the design and implementation of the Commonwealth Redress Scheme.

The 2017-18 Budget commits an initial amount of \$33.4 million to meet the Scheme's establishment costs and also confirms ongoing access to support services for survivors.

The Scheme will provide survivors with a monetary payment, psychological counselling and, if requested, a direct personal acknowledgement and response from the responsible institution.

From March 2018, a dedicated telephone helpline and website will be available to provide information to survivors and their families about the Scheme. These services will also connect survivors with legal and community support services that are currently provided through the Royal Commission and which will continue to be funded to support the Scheme.

From July 2018, applications for redress will be open to survivors of abuse in Commonwealth institutions. The redress will include individual payments of up to \$150,000. Applications will be assessed by an expert panel against a range of factors and criteria, based on advice from the Independent Advisory Council.

We continue to encourage the states, territories and non-government institutions to maximise the impact of the Scheme by opting in on a 'responsible entity pays' basis, which will ensure

the best possible redress scheme for survivors.

The Minister for Social Services and the Attorney-General will provide a detailed briefing to state and territory Attorneys-General later this month on the detail of the opt-in Scheme that has been designed based on the advice of the independent Advisory Council. There will be a similar briefing for non-government organisations.

This will allow states, territories and non-government institutions to make informed decisions about joining the Scheme, thereby providing simple and effective access to redress for survivors.

The Turnbull Government is demonstrating national leadership by following the Royal Commission's recommendation and developing a best-practice, simple and supportive redress scheme. We will continue to work with the Independent Advisory Council, the states and territories, and non-government institutions on survivor-focused implementation and delivery arrangements for the Scheme.

The nation must be united in supporting survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. Each state, territory and non-government institution must take responsibility for providing redress to those harmed in their care.

Action on preventing child sexual abuse in the future does not stop here.

The Turnbull Government will continue working with state and territory governments, law enforcement agencies, the community sector and researchers to keep children safe. This includes work under the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children to develop the National Statement of Principles on Child Safe Organisations, as well as funding for a range of early intervention and prevention services, including:

- the Children and Parenting Support Program;
- Communities for Children; and
- the Intensive Family Support Service.

More information about how survivors can access assistance through the Royal Commission support services is available at:

[www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/support-services](http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/support-services).



UPCOMING EVENTS			
Forde Foundation grant closure	Friday 9 June	fordefoundation.org.au	Phone: 4927 7604 for more information
Lotus Place CQ Reference Group Meeting	9.30am Thursday 25 May <i>Fourth Thursday of each</i>	Lotus Place or via teleconference	Phone Selena: 4927 7604 for more information

ROCKHAMPTON EVENTS			
<u>Guest Speaker:</u> Michelle James Qld President of the Australian Lawyers Alliance and a Solicitor from Maurice Blackburn Lawyers	Morning Tea 10am Tuesday 23 May	Lotus Place, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton	No RSVP necessary, just come on in!
Centrelink visits to Lotus Place	10am Wed 7 June 10am Wed 5 July	Lotus Place, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton	Phone for appointment Lotus Place 4927 7604
June Luncheon at Lotus Place	12pm Tuesday 6 June <i>First Tuesday of each month</i>	Lotus Place, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton <u>Guest Speaker:</u> CQ Financial Counselling Service	RSVP Tuesday 30 May Phone: 4927 7604
July Luncheon at Lotus Place	12pm Tuesday 4 July <i>First Tuesday of each month</i>	Lotus Place, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton <u>Guest Speaker:</u> to be confirmed	RSVP Wednesday 27 June Phone: 4927 7604
Central Qld Community Legal Centre visits	10am Wed 13 June 10am Wed 12 July	Lotus Place, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton	Phone for appointment Lotus Place 4927 7604
Morning Tea Rockhampton	10.00am - 11.00am <i>Every Tuesday morning except when lunch is served</i>	Lotus Place, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton	No RSVP necessary, just come on in!

BUNDABERG EVENTS			
Coffee & Cake Morning Bundaberg	10.30am - 12.00pm Thursday 18 May Thursday 15 June <i>Third Thursday of each month</i>	Take the Plunge 17 Electra Street Bundaberg	RSVP June - Thur 8 June RSVP July - Thur 13 July Phone 4927 7604