



Supporting Home Owners with Government

## **UPDATE FROM AMHO - OCTOBER 2023**

Dear Alliance Members,

On the 5<sup>th</sup> October the **South East Queensland Seniors Forum** was held at the Brisbane Convention Centre, invitations sent out as a personal email by **COTA (Council on the Ageing) Queensland** and the **Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services**. Your AMHO Secretary attended in the room, with over 500 people watching online. It was a great day with the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services Craig Crawford in attendance for the full day.

There were many organisations all wanting to assist "*those who are ageing*" and we were told to "*reimagine ageing*" by Bernard Salt who seemed to believe we were all "*cached up baby boomers.*" However, there was some excellent information provided and we have included some links and phone numbers for you.

**ADA Australia** a Queensland based advocacy and human rights service, who offers Aged Care advocacy, Disability advocacy, advocacy and legal support for Enduring Power of Attorney, guardianship, and administration matters, phone Freecall 1800 700 600 or (07) 3637 6000 or [www.adaaustralia.com.au](http://www.adaaustralia.com.au)

**OPAN (Older persons Advocacy Network)**, offering assistance with speaking up for better home care, residential care, aged care options when leaving hospital and how to raise concerns and make an effective complaint. You can chat at 1800 700 600 or visit <https://opan.org.au/>

If you are concerned about Elder Abuse, Detective Senior Sergeant Debbie (Debra) Phillips is the State Disability & Elder Abuse Coordinator for the Queensland Police Service and is part of the **Domestic Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command**. You can call 131 444 or (07) 3364 4081.

For information you can also use the **Compass Elder Abuse Helpline** 1300 651 192 or [www.eapu.com.au](http://www.eapu.com.au) which is operated by Uniting Care, funded by the Queensland Government.

**The Seniors Enquiry Line** is your one-stop-shop for information and referral to services, they claimed "*no question is too big or too small*" 1300 135 500.

They advised the **Queensland Seniors Card** gave access to concessions and rebates on important cost of living expenses such as public transport, motor vehicle registrations, spectacles, dental services, medical aids and recreation activities and lots more. The **Queensland Seniors Business Discount Card** offers access to more than 7,000 participating businesses across the state. The **Carers Business Discount Card** along with the **Companion Card** which provides a "*two for one*" deal for people with disability, who have a need for attendant care when attending events and at a range of venues. 13 74 68 [www.qld.gov.au/concessions](http://www.qld.gov.au/concessions)

We hope this information will be of assistance to you all.

## UPDATE -

When we met with the Minister for Housing earlier this year, we were advised that by the end of October the Government would be making a decision on changes to *The Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Act 2003 (the Act)*. To date we have not been able to confirm whether these changes will be because of the feedback provided to government by a Consultation – Regulatory Impact Statement (C-RIS) or whether they are the urgent changes we have been highlighting over the past twenty months to all members of government, and, as a result of lobbying by a small Working Group led by Bruce Saunders (Maryborough) and including The Honourable Mark Ryan (Morayfield), Chris Whiting (Bancroft) and Shane King (Kurwongbah).

You will know that over the last twenty months, AMHO has engaged with Members of Parliament to provide them with evidence of the ineffectiveness, lack of clarity and, indeed, the complete failure of this poorly worded Act to do what it is supposed to do – provide protection for homeowners. It is imperative that we are able to find some relief to the present situation which, despite being assured that there is protection by legislation to homeowners living under this Act, there is not. It is important to advise your Member of Parliament of your experiences living under the present Act if the changes are to occur - remember it is your MP who will be voting on what changes are made to the Legislation and your information can affect decisions made.

There are many problems with the current legislation which is heavily biased in favour of the park owner despite the fact that the homeowner bears all the risk – this was pointed out by government (yes, they know this) in the C-RIS. It is uncertain how, knowing and having evidence of the problems with the Act, government thought the options they presented would provide a more balanced approach.

## AMHO Membership –

The membership of the Alliance of Manufactured Home Owners has grown substantially over the past few months and we thank those who have joined and renewed. However, we do have some members who have transferred funds into our bank account, but we have received no details from them and need your help to find them ... we realise the change in our email address earlier this year has exacerbated this.

### Are these people in your park?

Brian Baldwin	Jillian Reyfield	Greg Woodcroft
Barbara Airs, Bethania	D & J Harvey	Graham & Ann Wright
Michael Cassidy	Patricia Lennon	Jacques & Beth Adel
Renfrey Eaton	E & A Gibbons	Les Echart

If you know any of these people, we would appreciate you asking them to contact us, either by phone 0418 527 041 or email [amhocontact1@gmail.com](mailto:amhocontact1@gmail.com) to provide their contact details so we can ensure they receive information. Thank you so much for your assistance.

Please stay on this journey with us, why not invite your friends and neighbours to join, as the more members we have the louder our voice will become, thank you.

## Your Committee

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