

July / August 2026

The Tattler

The bimonthly newsletter of Beuaraba Living ~ for residents, members and wider community



Goodbye to Dr Kate



July / August in this issue
Executive Team Report, Board News,
Lifestyle Resident Activities, Residents' Charter of Aged Care Rights
plus all your regular features.



Please note, we are currently not accepting any new patients, at this time. Clinical hours may be reduced on Wednesday & Fridays. We thank you for your understanding.

Beuaraba Medical Centre Phone 07 4619 8412

OPENING HOURS CONTACT DETAILS

Please check the
facebook pages
for any changes in hours

Monday - CLOSED
Tuesday - 8:30am - 5pm
Wednesday - 8:30am - 5pm
Thursday - 8:30am - 5pm
Friday - 8:30am - 5pm
Saturday - CLOSED
Sunday - CLOSED

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Sat: 8.30am to 12.30pm



Prescriptions * Home Medication Reviews * Vitamins



Our Catering Manager is genuinely excited by the arrival of the new oven and food-service trolleys, seeing them as a real step forward for the team.

New!



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CEO and Leadership Team... ————— **Tattler**



A big welcome to everyone for another issue of the Tattler.

Wonderful to see the residents cooking up a storm and the leadership team were lucky enough to be asked to sample some of the delicacies created, I can report that they were all delicious. Continuous improvement is at the heart of everything we do and over the last few months we have purchased and commissioned new catering equipment across the site to enhance the food and dining experience for all of our residents.

This equipment is also making life a bit easier for our dedicated catering team, you will see in this issue how excited our Chief Manager is about the new enhancements.

We recently hosted the Pittsworth Garden Club onsite for their regular meeting. It was wonderful to have them here and catching up with residents. By all reports a good time was had by all and we hope to welcome them back in the future.

The amazing young people from St Stephen's school are now visiting with Beauaraba Living residents each fortnight and the intergenerational benefits to both cohorts are almost incalculable.

Another great meeting of the Consumer Advisory Body was held, this group is going from strength to strength and the feedback they are providing is invaluable for us to allow for continuous improvement of all aspects of our community owned and run organisation.

A record year for the amazing Beauaraba Living Auxiliary with over \$205 000 generated for the benefit of the residents of Beauaraba Living. THANK YOU.

We will shortly wish Dr Kate well as she retires after many years of dedication to Beauaraba Living and the wider community. More on this in a future issue.

Circumstances remain tough for stand alone, not for profit aged care organisations like Beauaraba Living, we recently held a fruitful onsite meeting with representatives of the Federal Department of Health & Ageing to outline directly some of the challenges we face.

A reminder that Beauaraba Living is a for purpose organisation and an Australian registered charity. All donations to us over \$2 may be tax deductible for you (please get your own advice). Your support through donations and bequests helps us to continue the work of providing local residential aged care services, enabling our local seniors to remain in town and continue enjoying the benefits, personal and business relationships that they have established in the amazing town of Pittsworth.

Remember that a community working together can achieve anything.

Brad, Janet, Sarah, Sue.

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how we can improve!

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact:

Chief Executive Officer
Beauaraba Living

10 Weale Street

Pittsworth Qld 4356

Ph: 4619 8422

Fax: 4619 8400

Email: enquiries@beauarabaliving.org.au

or **Board Chair**

Mr Wayne Saal 0429 955 892

Follow Beauaraba Living on Facebook



Beauaraba Living Auxiliary



Op Shop Opening Hours

Monday	9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday	9 am to 4 pm
Wednesday	9 am to 4 pm
Thursday	9 am to 4 pm
Friday	9 am to 4 pm
Saturday	9 am to 11.30 am

New Volunteers are Welcome

Drop in & see us at the Opportunity Shop
Donations gratefully accepted,

Note—Furniture by prior arrangements only.

94 Yandiilla St, Pittsworth



BEAUARABA LIVING FOUNDATION

Tree of Reflection

Have you thought of purchasing a leaf?
For **\$150 per leaf** you can honor your loved one's memory. For an application and details, call to the admin office or email enquiries@beauarabaliving.org.au
OR call in or drop by to see the Tree of Reflection for some inspiration.

Thank you for your support !

Suggestion Box: Please also remember you can fill out a feedback form found with the Suggestion Boxes which are situated in all the foyers. Staff on duty can assist you if required. These forms can then be placed inside the box for daily collection.

or

External Avenues that you may use if the issue is not resolved:

Qld Aged & Disability Advocacy

- Freecall 1800 818 338

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

- Freecall 1800 951 822
- agedcarequality.gov.au

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Beauvaraba Living hosted the Pittsworth Garden Club meeting in May and it turned into a fun, easygoing morning with everyone swapping tips, checking out the plants, and just enjoying each other's company.



We welcome your feedback-

Tell us how we are going: We always welcome your feedback, this is what guides us as to what is being done well and what can improve. *Providing feedback is very easy just Scan this QR Code with your mobile device then follow the prompts. Thank you.*



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Hairdresser to Office/ Admin

Helen began her hairdressing apprenticeship in 1993. A young lady from Ipswich, Helen, was vibrant, enthusiastic and ready to face and learn the big hair, perms and all the colours of the rainbow. Helen finished her apprenticeship & worked in Ipswich until 2003 where she found she wanted to stretch her wings to new places. Helen made her way to Warwick where she worked



with around 14 other girls with different techniques, styles & charisma. While Helen was at Warwick, she got the taste to travel, & without even blinking an eyelid she booked a ticket to America & Canada. Off she went, for 1 month travelling. What an adventure!! So many wonderful memories.

Helen continued to work at Warwick & at that time Helen met her future husband, Andrew. With Andrew living at Felton, Helen found her way to the beautiful little town of Pittsworth where she got offered a hairdressing job at Shear Perfection in 2007. In the 4 years working in Pittsworth, Helen Married and had 2 beautiful children.

While raising a family on a small sheep/cattle farm, the itch of hairdressing was calling again, but this time, an offer to contract 1 day a week at Beauaraba Living came up and she took it. Helen has been hairdressing here for the past 14 years and loves every moment of it. The joy that shows up on the residents' face after they have been pampered is all that I need to keep coming back. It is an absolute privilege & honor to do all your loved one's hair. It's amazing the special little bonds you build up with the residents, the smiles, laughter & cheekiness is truly uplifting.

In a new chapter Helen was always interested in administration work, with no degree but the eagerness to learn & stretch her rubberband. A position of receptionist became available here at Beauaraba Living and she was lucky to be successful in the position. To work with a great team and be taught the ins and outs of the position is very rewarding. So, big smiles & Helen will greet you at the front reception.



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**Come and see us at
The Grange!**

This is your life - Ken Griesbach ——— **Tattler**

Ken was brought up in Ipswich. One of his uncles had a farm at Tallegalla near Rosewood and at the age of 12 he started helping his uncle repair the wheels on the farm's German wagon.

In 1959 at the age of 14, he started an apprenticeship as a Blacksmith/Welder at the Ipswich Railway Workshops. Ken says it was his time in the Railways that he learnt most of his skills. I sat the Railway Entrance Exam and they offered me a Blacksmith apprenticeship. My uncle said, "They will always want blacksmiths boy."

Ken developed a passion for trucks, building the dollies and tippers, as well as driving them, carting stock, grain and hay.

Ken spent 10 years at the Gatton Agricultural College, as a Blacksmith and Welding Instructor. Later he was certified by the Department of Transport to build, repair, inspect and certify new and modified heavy equipment and transport vehicles.

In 1962, Ken trialled for the Commonwealth Games in wrestling but unfortunately dislocated his shoulder and could not compete due to his injury.

Around 2004 Ken moved to Nobby and set up the Nobby Forge and Manufacturing business, catering to the many farmers and transport companies locally. His skills enabled him to work with some extremely old farm equipment and vehicles. He did not advertise his business, but all his work came from word-of-mouth, which speaks for itself. He also ran a Museum beside the Nobby Forge business. He ran a website for his business and enquiries came from all over, including France, from people wanting Ken to teach them his trade.



WW1 German Cannon –
Ken even made the hubs



He declined due to not having enough time to teach anyone because he was so busy. His work took him from Cairns to Sydney. During his years at Nobby, he also worked for the Queensland TAFE College, teaching engineering/welding in the various Prisons and Correctional centres. This was one of his highlights. Ken was commissioned by the Inglewood Historical Society to restore a run-down pre- 1900s Abbott buggy, which belonged to the Leslie Brothers, the original settlers on the Darling Downs. The Nobby Forge workshop was the perfect place to restore the old buggy. It needed 4 new wheels, the body needed restoring along with a new

seat and canopy. He estimated it took about 500 hours to restore. The Inglewood Historical Society had obtained a grant for the restoration because it was a very historical buggy. The wheels are made of American White Ash which Ken had to source from an importer.



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This is your life - Ken Griesbach ——— **Tattler**

Prior to 2016, for about 30 years, there was a need for wooden steering wheels when restoring old motor vehicles. Ken didn't make these but sent the work to Keith Wilson from Allora who made the steering wheels, mostly out of Australian Spotted Gum as it was more pliable and cheaper than the American White Ash. When Keith received enquiries for wagon wheels, he in turn sent the people to Ken for the wheels to be made. Sometimes there was a need to reduce the size of the wheels for the wagons and this process was an art in itself. The wagon wheels are made of wood and after some time in the Australian climate the wheels shrink and become loose. You have to retighten because the tyre on the outside, which is steel, will become too large and fall off. You remove the wheel and dismantle it, shorten the spokes by about a quarter of an inch and tighten it up by driving wedges into the end of the spokes to hold it after you have shortened the tangs and attached them back into the felloe, which is a little piece around the outside that the tangs attach to. Once tightened, you reduce the size of the tyre around the outside. As this is steel, it has to be heated and either cut, or you just hit it with the hammer to bend it then flatten it by heating it again and flattening the bend with the hammer. The circumference of the wheel is measured and the tyre is also measured to decipher how much the tyre has to reduce in size to fit the wheel. It doesn't matter if it ends up with a bulge in the tyre as it is only going on dirt roads and is a rough ride anyway. As the wheel turns, the spokes take it in turn to carry the weight of the load – they are not just for decoration.

The Abbot Buggy - Before & After



ABOVE: The buggy looked very flash as it left the Forge.
BELOW: The "before" shot of the buggy.

Story by Resident Brian Pierce

Ken manufactured most of his tools or modified them to suit each job. His collection spanned many years of various trades and applications. Each new project was attacked with amazing skill and energy.

The Tree of Reflection in the front garden of Beauaraba Living is made from copper plate, by Ken. This was done so families of deceased residents could buy a plaque to their memory and have it attached to the tree.

At the end of his long 60 - 70 year career, all his equipment and tools were auctioned off. Due to the demand on his back from his hard work, he has been left with a permanent back injury.

Ken is now enjoying his retirement at Beauaraba Living.

Ken's thoughts.

"Blacksmithing was a lot of hard work for not much money. I did it for the love of it. There wasn't much competition but there are others around today, but I am not prepared to show them how to do it."

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Under the New Aged Care Act effective from 1st November 2025 we remain accredited under the Australian Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission.

The terminology has now moved to being a registered provider of Australian Aged Care Services.

For Beauaraba Living this registration period is now 1st November 2025 to 28th December 2028.

We continue to progress our plans for continuous improvement and are always striving to excel in all areas to be the best that we can be. We look forward to you all assisting us in this endeavour.

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July

World Chocolate Day - Tuesday 7th

Christmas in July - Saturday 25th

International Day of Friendship -
Tuesday 12th



August



Aged Care Employee Day - Friday 7th

Humanitarian Day - Wednesday 19th

World Senior Citizens Day - Friday 21st

Childrens Book Week - 22nd - 28th

Other Choices of Pastoral Carer / Church Services offered to Beauraraba Living Residents.



Harvest New Life Church — Pastor Brett Dolly – **0418 615 773**

nlc.pittsworth@gmail.com 129 Short Street, PO Box 125, Pittsworth Qld 4356

I call down to Beauraraba from 10:30 - 11:30 am on a fortnightly basis.

Lutheran Church — Pastor Charlie Uebergang, General inquiries **0436 428 212** email:

pittsworthlp@gmail.com. St Peters Lutheran Church, 31 Hadley St, Pittsworth Qld.

Church. *Beauraraba Living Services held 3rd Friday Monthly.*

St. Andrew's Anglican Church — Parish Priest :Father Tony Swansson Phone **0439 876 110**.

email: pittsworth@anglicanchurchsq.org.au 30 Hume St, PO Box 44 Pittsworth Qld. Parish

Services: Saturday 6:00pm, Sunday 9:00am. *Beauraraba Living services 4th Friday Monthly.*

St. Stephen's Catholic Church Pittsworth — Parish Priest Fr Thomas Areekuzhy

0407452859. 34 Hume Street, PO Box 22, Pittsworth Qld 4356. Mass Times 1st Sunday

Liturgy of the Word 8:30am, 2nd Sunday, Saturday Vigil 6:30pm, 3rd Sunday Mass

8:30am, 4th Sunday Mass 8:30am, 5th Sunday Mass 8:30am.

Beauraraba Living Services held 2nd Friday Monthly

Uniting Church — Rev. Willie Liebenberg Phone: **0477 888 185** email: willie@wkuc.org.au

15 Briggs St, Pittsworth 4356. Willie doesn't visit at a set time, but is always available if someone wants to see him.

Uniting Church: Worship times: Sunday 9:00 am in Murray Street, Pittsworth Uniting

Church. Days could visit: Tuesdays – Fridays contact details in the Tattler: Rev. Willie Liebenberg.

Millmerran Bible Baptist Church — Pastor Brendan Zimmermann **0422 044 454**

darlingdowns@trinitybrisbane.org. 43-45 Walpole St Millmerran Qld. Every Sunday

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Beauaraba Living Auxiliary—Op Shop



Beauaraba Living
Auxiliary— Notes
Committee - 2024/25

Chairperson: Anita Ruhle
Vice Chair: Ann Garland
Secretary: Veronica Henricks
Treasurer: Barbara Piper
Roster Clerk: Denise Farrell

Hello Readers,

Firstly, if anybody has a surplus of bath towels, sheets, blankets or doonas, the Op Shop would be very grateful for your donation. Our shelves are looking slightly empty in the Manchester department and customers are asking for these items.

The Op Shop Winter Sale will start on Monday 3 August. Ladies clothing is \$2 an item, Children's clothing is 5 items for \$2. Call in for a bargain before it all gets sold. Unfortunately, the Men's Winter clothing is still priced at \$4 as surplus stock is at a minimum. We are keeping the racks stocked with donations as they come in.

There is a lot of household items, electrical goods, furniture, shower and toilet chairs for sale. Whatever you might need we are sure to have it.

A large supply of books and DVDs are always available for those who want to read or watch.

Stay warm, safe, happy and healthy
From the Op Shop Volunteers



Blankets, Sheets and Towels



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Pittsworth District Alliance
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Pittsworth QLD 4356
E: info@pittsworth.org

Tourism and Events
E: pittsworththevents@gmail.com

Vision Statement: To build and develop Pittsworth to achieve sustainable economic and lifestyle benefits for the district. To promote the district as an exceptional place to live, work, invest and visit. *Mission Statement:* That the Pittsworth District Alliance identifies, develops, leads and supports, as appropriate strategically important projects and lobbies for sustainable economic growth that will position this district as an attractive place to live, work invest and visit.

Phone - 0481 353 055



Aging Australia urged to prepare now for the population of Tomorrow.

Board members from Beauaraba Living attended last week's Ageing Australia Queensland Conference at the Royal International Convention Centre in Brisbane. Board Chair Wayne Saal, together with Katrina Meara, Ashley Woods and Annie Murphy, heard that Australia's ageing population is no longer a challenge on the horizon; it is a reality demanding urgent action.

More than a discussion about aged care reform, the three-day conference focused on preparing the sector for unprecedented demographic change, with keynote speaker and renowned

demographer Simon Kuestenmacher delivering a compelling picture of what lies ahead..

Opening the final day of the conference, Kuestenmacher explained that Australia's combination of increasing life expectancy, declining birth rates and the retirement of the baby boomer generation will place growing pressure on aged care services over the next decade. He urged providers to begin planning now for a larger, more diverse population of older Australians with higher expectations for independence, technology, personalised care and housing options.

Among the confronting statistics presented was the projection that the number of Australians aged over 85 will double to around 1.1 million within the next 15 years, with almost half expected to require assistance with daily living. By 2066, Australians aged 65 and over are expected to make up around one in every five people, further increasing demand for aged care services.

As demand accelerates, Kuestenmacher warned that workforce shortages, rather than infrastructure, will become the sector's greatest challenge.

The conference also highlighted the vital role migrant workers already play in supporting Australia's aged care system. More than half of Australia's aged care workforce is now made up of overseas-born employees, reflecting the sector's growing reliance on skilled migration. Internationally qualified nurses account for approximately 35 per cent of nurses working in residential aged care, while an estimated 70,000 aged care workers are currently employed on temporary visas. In some metropolitan aged care services, overseas-born workers comprise well over 60 per cent of the workforce.

Delegates heard that as Australia's population continues to age, demand for workers is expected to outpace domestic labour supply. Without continued migration pathways, providers warned they will struggle to meet mandatory staffing requirements and deliver the quality of care older Australians deserve.

The conference concluded with a shared recognition that demographic change represents both a challenge and an opportunity. As Australia moves towards 2030, delegates left with a clear message: planning for the future of aged care cannot wait. The decisions made today will determine whether older Australians can enjoy the dignity, independence and quality of life they expect in the decades ahead.

For community-owned, not-for-profit providers such as Beauaraba Living, the conference reinforced the importance of community support in meeting the challenges ahead. As a locally governed organisation, Beauaraba Living is committed to providing innovative, high-quality country-style living in a welcoming environment where residents receive personalised care close to home. While increased government funding remains essential, philanthropic donations and community generosity play a vital role in helping the organisation enrich residents' quality of life beyond what funding alone can provide. Beauaraba Living is deeply grateful for the ongoing support of donors, volunteers and the wider community, whose contributions help ensure local older Australians continue to receive compassionate, high-quality care for generations to come.

Regards, Annie Murphy

Attitude

The 92-year-old, petite, well-poised and proud lady who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with her hair fashionably coiffured and make-up perfectly applied, even though she is legally blind, moved to a nursing home today. Her husband of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, she smiled sweetly when told her room was ready. As she manoeuvred her walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of her tiny room, including the eyelet sheets that had been hung on her window. "I love it," she stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy. "Mrs. Jones, you haven't seen the room ... Just wait." "That doesn't have anything to do with it," she replied. "Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged. It's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it.....

"It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do. Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away... just for this time in my life.

Old age is like a bank account you withdraw from what you've put in. So, my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories. Thank you for your part in filling my Memory bank. I am still depositing. Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

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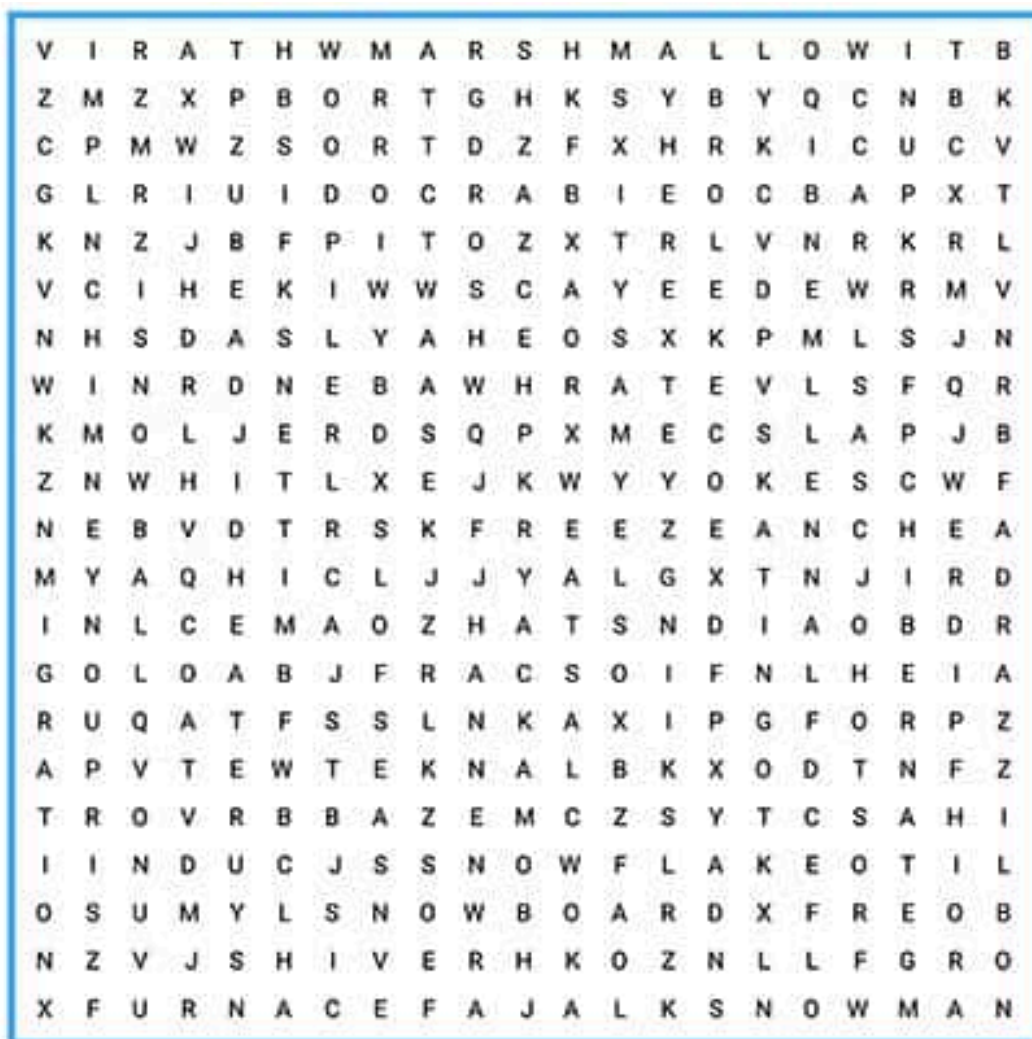


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The Statement of Rights

The Statement of Rights clearly identifies your rights when seeking or receiving aged care services. Under the Aged Care Act 2024, your provider and aged care workers are legally obliged to deliver services in line with these rights.



Autonomy and freedom of choice

I have the right to make my own choices – about my care, relationships, lifestyle and taking risks – with support if I want it.



Equitable access

I have the right to have my needs assessed in a way that works for me including having my cultural background, past trauma or cognitive conditions, such as dementia, respected.



Safe, quality care

I have the right to be treated with dignity and respect by experienced aged care workers who value my identity, culture, spirituality and diversity.



Privacy and confidentiality

I must have my privacy respected and my personal information kept confidential, and be in control of who this information is shared with.



Communication and complaints

I have the right to be informed in a way I understand and to raise concerns without fear of reprisal. My feedback must be dealt with fairly and promptly.



Support and social connections

I can stay connected to important people, pets and culture including independent advocates. As an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander I can stay connected to Country and Island Home.



For free, confidential and independent support call the Aged Care Advocacy Line 1800 700 600



OPAN | Older Persons Advocacy Network

Condamine Clothing

OPENING HOURS
MON-FRI 8:30AM-5:00PM
SATURDAY 8:30AM-12:00PM
SUNDAY - CLOSED

07 4693 2055



LADIES & MENSWEAR

SLIPPERS

SOCKS

SINGLET'S

UNDERWEAR

MENS PJ'S

SKECHERS SHOES

Strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards



Australian Government
Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

Find out more
agedcarequality.gov.au/older-australians



Meals on Wheels
Queensland

Meals on wheels is a community Service to people who are frail aged, younger Disabled, their carers and community members. This service enables people to continue living comfortably in their own homes.

Volunteers deliver meals directly to homes.

Contact
0427 586 684

Inquires for Meals on Wheels

Remember this service is available to everyone to use.



**DO SOMETHING
GOOD WITH YOUR
CONTAINERS AND
DONATE TODAY.**

Beauvaraba Living is a 128-bed, award-winning aged care home located just 35 minutes southwest of Toowoomba, nestled in the heart of the rural Pittsworth community.



Scan to learn more



MEMBER NUMBER:
C10177138

BEAUARABA LIVING PITTSWORTH LTD



Bringing happiness to every day



Opportunity for you to show your Support with the Purchase of a BL Metal Lapel Pin. Available from admin at a cost of \$5. **Bargain!**

The residents do not live in our workplace – we work in their home.



Pittsworth
Chiropractic Centre

Dr Karen M. Rock
Chiropractor
*Palmer University: U.S.A.
B.Sc. Canada*

82 Yandilla St, Pittsworth. 4356
Ph: 07 4693 2111

Tue & Thur 2pm-6pm
Wed 9.30am-1pm
Sat 8am-finish

www.pittsworthchiropractic.com.au

