



Financial Counselling Service

We are very excited to announce the return of financial counselling!

We provide a free and confidential financial counselling service to individuals in the Wide Bay Burnett area.

Our Financial Counsellor offers:

- Assessment of your financial situation
- Guidance on paying bills, fines and debts
- Assistance to work out payments with creditors
- Help with budgeting
- Information on bankruptcy
- Information about possible government assistance

For more information or to make an appointment to see our Financial Counsellor you can call our office on (07) 4153 1239.

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Upcoming Free Admission Community Events

Our region hosts a range of free entry community event for locals and visitors to enjoy, from free community movies to festivals, expos and exhibitions.

Go and check out your local website to get prepared for exciting fun days out.

http://bundabergregionevents.com.au/community_events

<https://www.visitfrasercoast.com/events>

<https://southburnett.com.au/>

Or check out your local shopping centre website for school holiday activities.

What do I need to know before I get a new pet?

For many a pet is an important part of the family. While owning a pet can be extremely rewarding, it is important to remember that pet ownership is also a huge responsibility. As a pet owner you will be committed to providing for all the requirements of your pet – food, exercise, housing, grooming and veterinary care.

Before you make the decision to become a pet owner ask yourself the following questions:

Do I live in suitable accommodation with adequate space for a pet? Are you allowed to keep pets at your current residence? If you rent your property has your landlord given you written permission to have a dog or other pet? What will happen if you have to move?

Will a pet fit into my lifestyle and priorities? Working hours, a busy social life and taking regular trips away are all factors that need to be carefully considered before purchasing a pet.

Do I have time to care for a pet? Some pets will require more of your time than others but each pet will require daily care so you need to be sure you have time available each day

Am I prepared to care for a pet for its whole life? The average lifespan of dogs and cats is around 12 years, with some dogs and cats living until 15 or even 20 years of age so it's a long-term commitment.

Can I afford a pet? Up-front costs for cats and dogs include vaccination, micro-chipping and desexing. However, you will need to be prepared to pay for on-going costs associated with food, worming, annual health checks, vet bills, training, boarding, toys and bedding for the life of the animal.

Do I understand how to care for a pet? See the online interactive [RSPCA Smart Puppy and Dog Buyer's Guide](#) and [RSPCA Smart Kitten and Cat Buyer's Guide](#) on the RSPCA website.

<https://www.rspca.org.au/adopt-pet>



Pedometer Loan Program

Do you want to become more active?

You can start TODAY by borrowing a pedometer for free. Pedometers are now available for loan through Bundaberg Regional Council's Sport and Recreation department.

You can use a pedometer to:

- motivate yourself to stay active
- measure your improved fitness
- compare your steps with family and friends
- increase the number of steps you take each day

To book your pedometer, please email sportandrec@bundaberg.qld.gov.au

Please note there are a limited number of pedometers available for loan.

Where does all my money go?

The best way to take control of your money is to do a budget. A simple budget can help you to track the money coming in and going out of your household each week.

Sticking to a budget can help you stay on top of bills and maybe start saving for a holiday or big purchase. A budget can really help you get off the treadmill of living from one pay packet to the next.

The ASIC Money Smart Website has a great online tool to help you get started and learn how to budget your money. Go to the website on the address below to find videos, links to Apps and advice on how to make your money go further no matter how small or large your income may be.

<https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/managing-your-money/budgeting/how-to-do-a-budget>



Fixtures & Structural Changes

Fixtures are objects attached to, or installed in, the property. Did you know you must seek approval prior to making any changes to your property.

Examples: picture hooks, locks, clotheslines, cable TV connections, window awnings, air conditioners, above ground pools and fencing, carpets, TV antennae, satellite dishes, ramps and grab rails (disability requirements).

Getting approval

Tenants can only attach a fixture, or make a structural change, if the property manager/owner agrees.

Requests for approval should be in writing, should describe the change and if the fixture will be removed. It can be included as a special term in the tenancy agreement.

Written agreement must:

- detail the type of fixture to be attached/installed, and
- include any agreed terms:
- if the tenant can remove the fixture
- if removal is agreed - when and how it is to be done

Please contact our office 1300 642 123 or come in and speak with your Tenancy Manager.



Ingredients

200g milk chocolate
200g dark chocolate
100g shredded coconut
40 coloured candy-coated Easter eggs

Method

Step 1

Break up all the chocolate and place it in a bowl over a pan of simmering water (don't let bowl touch water) until chocolate has melted. Set aside to cool slightly. Add the coconut and stir to combine.

Step 2

On a large sheet of baking paper, create chocolate nests about 7cm in diameter. Use the back of a metal spoon to make a small dent in the centre of each nest, where eggs will sit. Cool completely, then refrigerate for 30 minutes or until firm. Just before serving, fill nests with eggs.

Easy Easter Nests



We have moved!

We are excited to announce our **Hervey Bay office** has relocated to **6/12 Nissen Street, Pialba QLD 4655.**

The office at the Neighbourhood Centre has now closed and our staff are available to assist you at the new office.

Public Holiday Closures

Please be advised the RHL offices will be closed on the following days:

Good Friday 12th April 2019

Easter Monday 15th April 2019

Anzac Day 25th April 2019

Labour Day 6th May 2019

Show Holiday (Fraser Coast)

24th May 2019

Show Holiday (Bundaberg)

30th May 2019

Feedback



We appreciate your feedback. Feedback from the community provides important information to Regional Housing on areas we are working well in and areas we may need to improve and suggestions you may have on what is missing from our service.

If you would like to provide any feedback, you can contact us to complete a survey by phoning 1300 642 123 or requesting a printed copy from one of our offices.

Contact us

Post PO Box 540
Bundaberg QLD 4670

Phone 07 4153 1239 or 1300 642 123

Fax 07 4153 4000

Email info@regionalhousing.org.au

Useful numbers

Emergency services 000

Crime stoppers 1800 333 000

Police Link 13 14 44

Ergon Energy (faults) 13 22 96

SES 13 25 00