

A bumper issue for February!

There's so much happening in March that the February edition of the Branch's newsletter is a BUMPER one!

Eight pages.

It's important to Branch volunteers that the newsletter is informative and helpful.

Suggestions on what you'd like to see in it will be gratefully received.

What's in store for 2026?

There is so much interest in the free digital skills workshops (see page 2 for full details) that Branch volunteers are confident the obligations under the funding guidelines will be met.

More important though is that participants gain great benefit from the learning. If so, the Branch will apply for a bigger grant to do even more later in the year!

Check out the following pages for greater detail on what's happening in March and see a sneak peak of what's planned for April.

The Branch is keen to support ALL local not for profits, service providers and local businesses who support and/or provide services for senior Australians.

Who is considered a Senior Australian?

Anyone over 50! Yes, that's right. If you are over 50 you are eligible to join National Seniors Australia.

Interested in volunteering, collaborating, sponsoring any of the Branch events? Call or email to discuss.

Stay up to date

Save the link to your favourites to keep up to date with branch happenings:

Childers National Seniors

..or google Childers National Seniors and the branch should be top of the list!

Kindness is contagious!

2026 REGULAR CATCH UP DATES

Thursday 5th February

Planning for Purpose

Happening Soon. Have you booked yet?

9.30am-12pm

Isis Club, 46 Churchill St, Childers

Buy your own food/drink.

Do you feel like you are just sitting around waiting to die?

Don't know what to do with yourself to get meaning back? This fun activity will help.

Thursday 5th March

10am - 11.30am

Funding for Arts and Community

Isis Club, 75 Churchill St, Childers

Buy your own food/drink.

Learn how to apply for arts or community funding from Bundaberg Regional Council Community Arts Development Officer Jolene Watson.

Thursday 2nd April

10am - 11.30am

Isis Club, 75 Churchill St, Childers

Buy your own food/drink.

From March 2026, monthly catch ups will be held on the first Thursday of the month at the Isis Club from 10am.

There will be a fun and creative Easter activity for April. Be sure to mark your calendar.



Planning for Purpose Isis Club Inc

Thursday 5th February 2026

9.30am-12midday

46 Churchill St, Childers. QLD

RSVP to Desley 0419 817 973

Cost: free

Buy your own drinks and eats.



Planning for Purpose

Do you feel like you are just sitting around waiting to die?

Don't know what to do with yourself to get meaning back?

This fun activity will help.

New Year
NEW YOU!

Tailored especially for Seniors over 50!

New Year
NEW YOU!

Whether you are still in the work force, planning your retirement or already retired, this planning event will be tailored just for you!

Please don't think that, 'at your age', you can't still make a difference and make a meaningful contribution. It simply isn't true!

Discover new ways to refine, rethink or plan your goals for 2026 and, if you'll allow it, branch members will support you along the way where they can!

Be sure to join the branch mailing list, facebook page or check out the National Seniors Australia Childers web page for more details as venue and costs are finalised.

Everyone welcome!



Register
TODAY

Free Digital Skills Workshops for Seniors

FREE tea & coffee

In this free session, you will learn how to:

Complete the Digital Skills Checker - Getting Started

Join Be Connected

Spot Scams

Protect your privacy

Tablet provided, no need to bring your own device

9.30am-11.30am

Wednesday, 4th March 2026

Isis Club, 46 Churchill St, Childers. Q

Register Now

National Seniors
AUSTRALIA



Many NSA members are saving every day using the EAT | PLAY | SAVE app, and you can help make it even better. We are looking to increase the number and variety of businesses offering discounts, especially in regional and rural areas.

You can help by encouraging local cafés, restaurants and other businesses to join the app and enjoy more customers through their doors.

It is free for businesses to join and a great way to attract loyal, repeat customers with exclusive offers.

Visit the sign-up page: <http://bit.ly/44ts5Hy>

**Get your favourite cafe on
the EAT|PLAY|SAVE app**



Regular Catch Up - March 2026 Isis Club Inc

Thursday 5th March 2026

10am-11.30am

46 Churchill St, Childers. QLD

RSVP to Desley 0419 817 973

Cost: free

Buy your own drinks and eats.



**Special Guest for March catch up:
Jolene Watson, Community Arts Development Officer,
Bundaberg Regional Council.**

**Find out how to access funding for local event and creative
ideas.**

*Collaborate
for results!*

MORE FUN TO SHARE.

This fun activity will help.

Get Creative
FOR RELAXATION

Share creative ideas and thoughts, gain information on potential collaboration and eligibility for RADF funding to support creative projects in 2026.

Special guest speaker for March is Jolene Watson, Community Arts Development Officer, Bundaberg Regional Council.

Be sure to join the branch mailing list, facebook page or check out the National Seniors Australia Childers web page for more details as venue and costs are finalised.

Everyone welcome!



Harmony Day 2026 – Childers

A Celebration of Culture, Connection and Community

Wednesday 18 March 2026 | 10:00am to 2:00pm AEST
Isis Club | Childers QLD, Australia | Cost \$20

National Seniors Australia – Childers Branch in collaboration with
Howard District U3A, Childers Multicultural Friendship Group, Childers
Neighbourhood Centre, the Isis Club and Bundaberg Regional Council.

National Seniors Australia – Childers Branch invites the community to come together for Harmony Day 2026, a vibrant celebration of diversity, inclusion and belonging.

This community event celebrates the many cultures that make up our region through food, stories, displays and shared experiences. Harmony Day is about respect, understanding and connection, and everyone is welcome.

The event is proudly delivered in partnership with local community organisations and aligns with Harmony Week, which runs from 16 to 22 March 2026.

For bookings and more information visit

<https://bit.ly/HarmonyDayChildersNSA>

Childers National Seniors Social Branch

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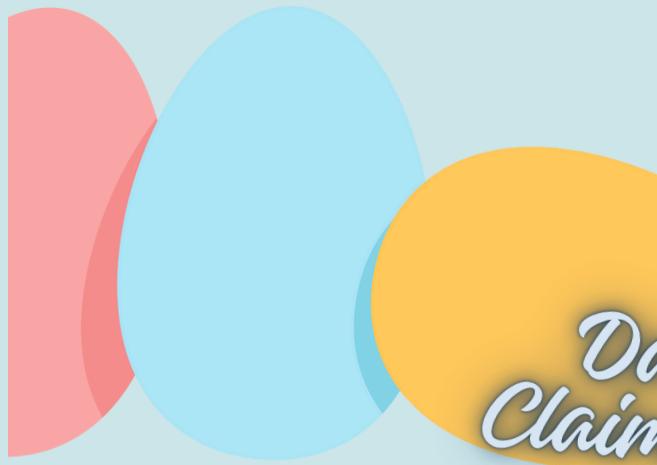
National Seniors
AUSTRALIA

The Bundaberg Regional Council Community Services Program provided \$4640 to Childers National Seniors towards delivery of this event.



APRIL 2026

Join us for a month of fun, friendship & learning



Get Creative this Easter

Thursday 2nd April 2026

10am-11.30am

Isis Club, 46 Churchill St, Childers. QLD

RSVP to Desley 0419 817 973

Cost: free

Please mark your calendar for this fun and creative Easter Activity for the April catch up.

There will be a non edible 'take home' element to the morning activities.

...well maybe an edible one too! We'll see.

More information to come in March newsletter. :



Free Digital Skills Workshops for Seniors
is free session, you will learn how
complete the Digital Skills Checker - Getting Started
Join Be Connected
Spot Scams

Digital Skills Workshops Continue

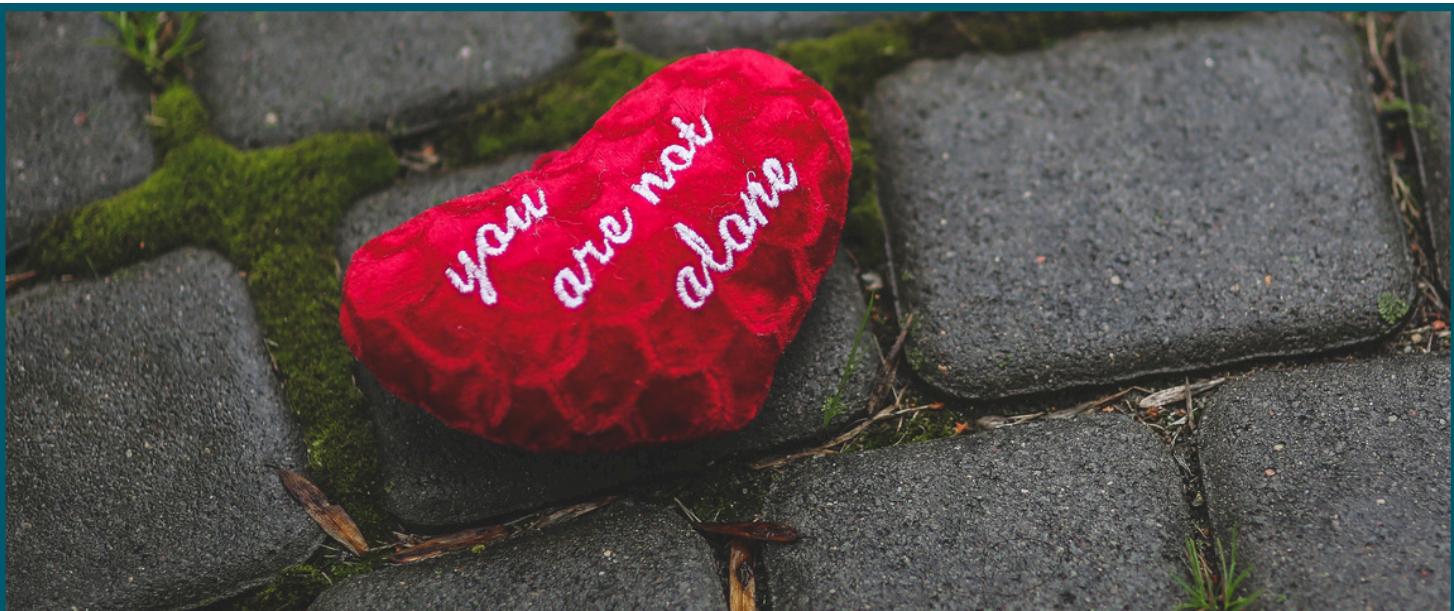
1st April & 29th April

Digital Skills Workshops continue in April on the first and last Wednesday of the month, taking a break for school holidays.

1st April - Learn How to Use Google Maps

20th April - Connecting to Others

The Be Connected Digital Skills program is designed especially for Seniors. If you would like to join the sessions, be sure to book at the very beginning. See page 2 for links. The first session begins on 4th March.



WHY BE PART OF NATIONAL SENIORS AUSTRALIA & THE CHILDERS BRANCH?



Regular Catch ups

First Thursday of the month until November 2026
10am-11.30am

Isis Club, 46 Churchill St, Childers. QLD
RSVP to Desley 0419 817 973

Cost: free

Buy your own drinks and eats.

Every month, the branch will hold a regular catch up on the first Thursday of the month at the Isis Club.

The format will always be:

- Update/feedback on National Seniors Australia advocacy campaigns.
- A local guest speaker
- Update/feedback on local issues

Members and guests are always welcome. Free to attend the meet up. Buy your own food and drink.



Are you a member of National Seniors Australia?

How long since you logged in to your online account and checked your preferences?

Branch volunteer, Desley Cowley has been a member for many years, and hadn't checked her preferences for...well, for many years.

It was only when she discovered she didn't get a copy of this month's Connect newsletter with a story about Childers in it, that she realised she needed to.

Do you know that there are now, no less than 13 newsletters you can subscribe to! Some are members only, others are available for everyone.

You can choose the ones that you are interested in. No more and no less!

PAST EVENT SNAPSHOT!



Volunteers, Dilys, Kaz, Des, (pictured above) Annie & John spent the morning of the 15th January planning out Branch catch up and events for the next 6 months, then had a bit of fun with the newly arrived Keep Cash picture frame.

Plans include great speakers, some special events, a bit of advocacy and most importantly all planned to help make the lives of the region's seniors easier, more comfortable and most importantly more fun.

If you have ideas, please don't hesitate to come along to a regular catch up or special event to share with attendees.

..and if you'd like a 'Keep Cash' bumper sticker for your car, or sticker for your cash register or business window, get in touch. The Branch has some available.

"Caring has the gift of making the ordinary special."
George R. Bach

What is a Social Branch?

The social branch structure is more relaxed, requiring volunteers to do the fun things like organise activities and maintain contact with members and NSA.

No bank accounts! No committee! No reporting requirements! How good is that?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DID YOU KNOW THAT FOREST VIEW CARE HAVE A MEDICAL TRANSPORT BUS AVAILABLE?

Community service for locals, not only Forest View residents, currently \$10 for medical appointments in Childers town. Pick up and drop off from your home. Wheelchair friendly.

The service is also available to the Childers community for return trips from their home to medical appointments in Bundaberg, Hervey Bay and Maryborough. There is an additional cost which can be claimed on the PTSS. [Return](#) trip pricing examples:

Childers to Bundaberg - \$46

Childers to Howard - \$26

Childers to Woodgate - \$32

Childers to Buxton - \$24

Childers to Maryborough - \$52

Forest View bus drivers are very much appreciated volunteers. FVC try to keep times between 8am and 4pm with some flexibility depending on driver's availability. Contact Forest View for more information or to book



Information correct at the time of writing

Branch Contact Details

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Childers Social Branch Volunteer
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E: ChildersNationalSeniors@gmail.com

F: Childers National Seniors Social Branch

W: <https://nationalseniors.com.au/get-involved/branches/childers-social-branch>