

CHRISTIAN HOME CARE NEWSLETTER

Christ is risen!



APRIL 2025

WHO TO CALL FOR SUPPORT

ANCA STAMATESCU



Anca oversees the Care Coordination Team. She is the main point of contact for new enquiries as well as feedback and suggestions.

Phone: (03) 9069 6202

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 2

STIFFANY TOUSSAINT



Call Stiffany for scheduling new services with a caregiver, changing or cancelling scheduled services, and general admin matters.

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 1

JESSICA MAGNO



Jessica is also assisting with Care Coordination: service referrals, purchases, booking events and general admin matters.

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 2

DINU STAMATESCU



Call Dinu for any Accounting and Compliance matters that could not be resolved with other members of the team.

Phone: (03) 9069 6201

NISHANTHI DHARMAKEERTHI



Nishanthi is our Accountant Assistant. Call Nishanthi for any queries regarding invoices and statements.

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 3

WHAT ELDERS SAY ABOUT US:

Thankyou so much for everything that you and the team did for the church service and afternoon tea.

You have such a giving heart and always go above and beyond to make these days special and memorable

Blessings...Bev

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

We would love to highlight the testimonies, stories, special anniversaries or events of the Elders in our community.

If you have anything to share, please email us at anca@christianhomecare.com.au and we would love to feature you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Elders:

Leonard A. Halena A. Rhona B. Jannetje DV.
Jean D. June E. Patricia G. Diane H.
Rita M. Vasile M. Margery N. Graeme P. Jennifer S.
Dawn S. Margaret S. Catena V. Elly Z.

Staff and Volunteers:

Anca S. Chely T. Christine W.
Roslyn H. Naomi LPD. Rebecca D.

CHRISTIAN HOME CARE NEWS

Monthly Newsletter



WORD OF THE MONTH: EASTER

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

I was used to this way of greeting people on the street, back in Romania, as a child. I sort of knew that Jesus was crucified and that he came back to life, being the son of God. I was also keen to stay out Saturday night until midnight, with crowds of other people, waiting in the dark for the light (fire flame) coming to us from Mount Athos in Greece, and share it with one-another: let there be light!

In those days, all this was custom, living in a Christian Orthodox country and celebrating eagerly Easter (that was related to lamb dishes!) and Christmas (that was celebrated with lots of roasted pork and pork sausages).

Years later, as I was attending church by calling, not by tradition, it took me a long time to understand why Jesus' resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. Did Jesus really had to die for our sins? Would God the Father let his Son take the punishment for us, even to the point of death?

How wonderful is to celebrate Easter, the empty tomb, the forgiveness of our sins through Jesus!

"Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5: 7-8

With the benefit of maturity and with what I have learned along the years, I can see that we can live our earthly lives happily, observing beautiful traditions, or we can dig deeper and understand (at least, partially) God's plan for us, including life eternal.

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." John 14: 6-7

Wishing you all a very blessed Easter!

By Dinu Stamatescu

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SUPPORT AT HOME REMINDERS & UPDATES

The Government is moving current government-funded aged care providers to registration categories. This is based on the services delivered or the services as required by the current funding agreement. This process is called deeming.

The Deeming process

Providers like CHC, Government approved for the Home Care Packages Program (HCP), and currently delivering services, will be deemed in categories 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 as Support at Home Service Providers. Please see below the categories applicable from 1 July 2025.

Provider registration category	Description	Service types
Category 1	Home and community services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic assistance • Home maintenance and repairs • Meals • Transport
Category 2	Assistive technology and home modifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment and products • Home adjustments
Category 3	Advisory and support services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoarding and squalor assistance • Social support and community engagement
Category 4	Personal care and care support in the home or community (including respite)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allied health and other therapy • Personal care • Nutrition • Therapeutic services for independent living • Home or community general respite • Community cottage respite • Care management • Restorative care management
Category 5	Nursing and transition care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing care • Assistance with transition care
Category 6	Residential care (including respite)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential accommodation • Residential everyday living • Residential services • Residential clinical care

SUPPORT AT HOME REMINDERS & UPDATES

Christian Home Care will be transitioning into your Support at Home service provider! The process has started already, there is nothing for you to do at this stage!

CHC remains your Support at Home Service Provider during the changes described in this Newsletter and after the 1st of July 2025

Our team is working steadily to prepare for the Government changes of the Home Care Packages program towards the Support at Home program. We are also here to guide you through the changes - do not hesitate to ask us any questions that you may have.

We are travelling stronger, together!

Arrangements for existing home care recipients

The Government is putting in place arrangements to transition Home Care Package care recipients to Support at Home from 1 July 2025 at their current funding levels.

The arrangements include:

- existing Home Care Package care recipients will receive a Support at Home budget that matches their Home Care Package
- people with an approved but unallocated package on the National Priority System will receive a Support at Home budget that aligns to their approved Home Care Package when available
- Home Care Package care recipients with Commonwealth unspent funds will retain these funds for use under Support at Home.

All Support at Home participants, including those who have transitioned from the Home Care Packages Program and the National Priority System will have quarterly (i.e. 3-monthly) budgets under Support at Home.

If a participant is re-assessed at a later date onto a higher budget, it will be at one of the new Support at Home classifications.

Grandfathering arrangements for participant contributions will also apply to people transitioning to Support at Home from the Home Care Package Program.

Grandfathering arrangements for participant contributions continue to apply even when participants transitioning to Support at Home from the Home Care Package Program are reassessed and reclassified.

WHY DID JESUS DIE?



Extracts from "Questions of Life" by Nicky Gumbel, Alpha founder

"Why is there such concentration on the death of Jesus? What is the difference between his death and the death of Socrates, or one of the martyrs, or of a war hero? What did it achieve? What does it mean when the New Testament says he died 'for our sins'? Why did he die for our sins?"

The answer in a nutshell is 'because God loves you'. Raniero Cantalamessa, Preacher to the Papal Household, said, 'The love of God is the answer to all the "whys" in the Bible: the why of creation, the why of the incarnation, the why of redemption.

"It is because 'God so loved the world' that he sent his one and only Son to die for us so that 'whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life'" (John 3:16).

If we are honest, we would all have to admit that we do things we know are wrong. Paul wrote: 'All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23). In other words, relative to God's standards we all fall a long way short. If we compare ourselves to armed robbers or child molesters or even our neighbours, we may think we come off quite well. But when we compare ourselves to Jesus Christ, we see how far short we fall. Playwright and novelist Somerset Maugham once said, 'If I wrote down every thought I have, every thought and every deed I have ever done, men would call me a monster of depravity.'

The essence of sin is rebellion against God – our ignoring God in the sense of behaving as if he does not exist (Genesis 3), or choosing to do things that are wrong; with the result that we are cut off from him.

Like the prodigal son (Luke 15), we find ourselves far from our Father's home having made a mess of our lives.

We all need to deal with the problem of sin in our lives. The greater our understanding of our need the more we will appreciate what God has done. The good news of Christianity is that God loves us and he did not leave us in the mess that we make of our own lives.

In the person of his Son, Jesus, God came to Earth to die instead of us (2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13). This has been called the 'self-substitution of God'. In the words of the apostle Peter, 'He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree... by his wounds you have been healed' (1 Peter 2:24).

God loves each one of us so much and longs to be in a relationship with us as a human parent longs to be in a relationship with each of their children. It is not just that Jesus died for everyone. He died for you and for me; it is intensely personal.

Paul writes of 'the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me' (Galatians 2:20).

If you had been the only person in the world, Jesus would have died for you.

As St Augustine put it, 'he died for every one of us as if there were only one of us'. Once we see the cross in these personal terms, our lives will be transformed."

CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH



Our Christian Home Church gatherings are welcoming you all with love!

You may be our Elder, our Elders' children, grandchildren, neighbours, friends, our staff, volunteers or subcontractors with their children or parents or friends, or you can simply be a friend of CHC.

If you have never joined us and you would like to come and have a peek, just come and see, you will be the guest of honour!

Our next Christian Home Church service and afternoon tea meetings are planned for: Wednesday 23/04, 07/05 and so on fortnightly.

For our usual church services we meet on the premises of : St Paul's Anglican Church (also called Mullum Mullum Anglican Church) at
40 Warrandyte Rd, Ringwood 3134
and there is ample parking. We highly recommend that you keep social distancing and wear a mask if concerned about COVID. You also need to self-screen for COVID or other infectious diseases before attending the services according to CHC procedures already notified to you.

Please RSVP to (03) 9069 6200, select option 4 or coordination@christianhomecare.com.au

Please note that we cannot take responsibility for your COVID safety when attending; if you deem attendance as an unacceptable risk to your health, we understand!

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH WEBSITE AT [HTTPS://CHRISTIANHOME.CHURCH](https://christianhome.church) ?

PLEASE DO SO FOR UPCOMING SERVICE DATES, SERVICES RECORDINGS, PRAYER REQUESTS, ETC.

Christian Home Church is an ecumenical non-denominational church where we welcome people from any background and hope that irrespective of having been brought up as Catholics or Baptists or Pentecostal, Methodists, Lutherans, Presbyterians and so on, or maybe having no prior connection with church, we will all meet up in unity to bring glory to our God, praise our Saviour and thank our Holy Spirit.

ALPHA

Our Newsletters this year focus each month on a new Alpha topic.

This month:

"Why did Jesus die?"

Stay tuned for more details to come, looking forward to seeing you at our next Alpha session!

PSALM OF THE MONTH

Psalm 16: 7-11

7 I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;

even at night my heart instructs me.

8 I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest secure,
10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

11 You make known to me the path of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

SUPPORT AT HOME REMINDERS & UPDATES

Assistive Technology and Home Modifications Scheme

The Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM) Scheme under Support at Home supports older people to live at home and within their community with increased independence, safety, accessibility and wellbeing. The AT-HM Scheme provides separate supports under Support at Home, with separate funding and program settings.

Accessing the AT-HM Scheme

Older people will be assessed for the AT-HM Scheme as part of their aged care assessment. If eligible, a funding tier and approval for assistive technology and/or home modifications will be outlined in their Notice of Decision and support plan.

Funding for AT-HM will be separate from a participant's budget for ongoing or other short-term services. A participant can be assessed as needing both assistive technology and home modifications and get access to separate funding tiers for these items. AT-HM funding will be available upfront for 12 months (in most instances).

The older person will then share their support plan with their Support at Home provider.

Access to home modifications and complex assistive technology products and equipment may require prescription from a suitably qualified health professional.

Participants may be required to make a co-contribution towards their assistive technology or home modifications.

How the AT-HM Scheme will work

There are 3 main funding tiers for assistive technology and 3 funding tiers for home modifications. Funding tiers will have set time periods in which funding must be used and funding will not accrue over time.

- AT-HM funding can cover:
- products and equipment
- home modifications
- prescription
- wrap-around services
- coordination costs

The indicative funding tiers are described further in Table 6 and Table 7 on the next page.

Participants with specified needs, such as support for assistance dogs, may be eligible for additional funding over a longer period to be allocated during assessment.

SUPPORT AT HOME REMINDERS & UPDATES

Table 6. Assistive technology

Funding tier	Funding allocation cap	Time allocated to expend funding
Low	\$500	12 months
Medium	\$2,000	12 months
High	\$15,000*	12 months

* Higher amounts for AT may be approved with evidence.

Table 7. Home modifications

Funding tier	Funding allocation cap	Time allocated to spend funding
Low	\$500	12 months
Medium	\$2,000	12 months
High	\$15,000	12 months

Final funding tiers will be settled prior to commencement of the program.

The home modifications high funding tier may be extended for an additional 12 months to complete complex home modifications (24 months in total) if evidence of progress is provided to Services Australia within the first 12 months. Access to high-tier home modifications will be capped at \$15,000 per lifetime (plus any additional supplements).

The AT-HM Scheme can be used to cover some repairs and maintenance to assistive technology products and equipment.

Supplements to a participant's funding will be available to people in rural and remote areas to assist with the equitable provision of assistive technology and home modifications.

Participants will have co-contribution requirements and must meet all additional costs above the funding tier limit.

SUPPORT AT HOME REMINDERS & UPDATES

AT-HM List

The AT-HM Scheme will have clear guidance on the products, equipment and home modifications that are available through a defined AT-HM List, designed to enable independence for older people to age in place. The List can be found on the department's website.

The AT-HM List was constructed using the internationally agreed instruments and Australian-adopted Assistive product – classification and terminology standard (AS/NZS ISO 9999:2023) and informed by subject matter experts.

The AT-HM List is sorted into the following categories:

- managing body functions – including pressure cushions, anti-oedema stockings and memory support products
- self-care products – including adaptive clothing or shoes and assistive products for toileting, bathing and showering
- mobility products – including walking frames, wheelchairs and lifting devices
- domestic life products – including assistive products for food preparation, eating, drinking and house cleaning
- communication and information management products – aids that assist with reading and writing, as well as alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) devices
- home modifications - including accessible showers, grabrails, fixed ramps and safety barriers.

National Assistive Technology Loans Scheme

A National Assistive Technology Loans Scheme (the AT Loans Scheme) is being designed for the Support at Home program in partnership with state and territory governments.

The AT-HM Scheme will have a loan-before-buy principle for assistive technology where appropriate. If the product or equipment required is loan-suitable, a participant's prescriber or provider will check whether the item is available through the National Assistive Technology Loans Scheme (AT Loans Scheme).

If the equipment is not suitable or available to loan from the AT Loans Scheme, the provider will support the participant to purchase the product or equipment.

Home modifications are not available through the AT Loans Scheme at this time. The Support at Home provider will be responsible for arranging the provision of all home modifications, including supply, coordination and installation activities.

Benefits of the AT Loans Scheme include:

- providing simple pathways for participants to access assistive technology in their local area
- delivering economies of scale, which will make assistive technology more affordable for participants
- leveraging existing infrastructure and expertise from current state and territory programs.
- less wastage when equipment is no longer needed as it is a re-use of equipment.

The AT Loans Trial

An AT Loans Trial, in partnership with EnableNSW, commenced on 29 July 2024. An independent evaluation will test the efficiency of the AT Loans Scheme and inform future design.

YOU ARE INVITED!



Easter Celebration

Wednesday 23rd of April 3pm to 4:30pm

St. Paul's Anglican Church, 40 Warrandyte Rd, Ringwood

Please RSVP by 21st of April

**coordination@christianhomecare.com.au or (03) 9069 6200, option 4
(please also advise us of any carer and transport needs)**

This event will follow straight after our 2pm church service, so you are most welcome to come from 2pm for both events if you prefer.



Have you got a complaint?

At Christian Home Care we strive daily to provide excellence in Home Care Package Service Delivery. Have we missed something?

Raising your complaint promptly and directly with us gives you the best chance of a satisfactory resolution - please call us on 03 9069 6201.

If you don't receive a response to your complaint or are not satisfied with the response, you can contact Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC) or an advocate.

For more information on how to raise a complaint, you can find resources on ACQSC website agedcarequality.gov.au. If you want to contact an aged care advocate, call 1800 700 600. You can contact ACQSC on 1800 951 822.

Upcoming Alpha Gathering

at CHC: Sun 27 April at 2pm

Looking forward to seeing you in our office: 14 Panfield Ave,
Ringwood.

Come with us through the journey!

We share a meal, we make friends, we chat,
we watch a 20 min Alpha movie,
we explore the big questions of life

The meals are provided by CHC

RSVP is essential!

Contact Anca (03) 9069 6202 or anca@christianhomecare.com.au

Alpha

