



COMBINED PENSIONERS AND SUPERANNUANTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

Founded 1931.

Serving pensioners of all ages, superannuants and low-income retirees.

Consumer Protection Awards – 2002, 2003, 2004

MEDIA RELEASE

18th March 2005

CPSA - serving the community since 1931

Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Association of NSW Inc (CPSA) was originally formed in 1931 by several pensioner groups in response to pension cuts. Their goal as a united body was “to deal with all matters affecting the common interests of pensioners.” CPSA has since grown considerably and membership has expanded to include pensioners of all ages, superannuants, low-income retirees and all who support CPSA’s Aims & Objectives. We now have a broad mission to improve the living standards, community services and lifestyle choices of members and constituents, as well as to promote their rights and dignity.

CPSA is recognised widely both in NSW and nationally as the main consumer group serving NSW pensioners of all ages, superannuants and low-income retirees. Support and social activities have always been provided through branches. At the State Office level, CPSA is concerned about the growing divide between the rich and poor and more specifically, ensuring that pensioners of all ages get a fair go. These concerns are addressed primarily through health, housing, transport and income security.

In conjunction with others and on its own, CPSA has successfully achieved:

- Bonuses, utilities concessions for pensioners and council rates rebates
- Half-yearly CPI adjustments to pensions
- Transport concessions and expansion of the Pensioners Excursion Ticket
- Family home exclusion from nursing home bonds assets test
- Reduction of GST to 5.5% on long-term residential park sites
- Improved bank services and lower fees
- Improved rights for people living in nursing homes and hostels
- Payment of “Veteran Access Fee” to subsidise Local Medical Officers treating Gold Card holders
- Carer allowance now available to non co-residential carers

In the interest of the welfare of the community CPSA receives government grants to provide various free services:

- Telephone advice and referral service about all issues (including community services)
- Tenancy advice and advocacy for public and private housing and caravan park residents
- Visitors for nursing home residents who would otherwise have no outside contact
- Sessions for groups to learn more about “quality use of medicines”
- One-on-one medicine information support

More information about CPSA and our goals is available on our website www.cpsa.org.au

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