

Blessed



7th

Anniversary

CHRISTIAN
HOME CARE
NEWSLETTER

July 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

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

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

JOSHUA TIONG



Joshua is part of our Care Coordination Team. He will be in touch with you for assessments, care plans and service reviews.

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 2

JESSICA MAGNO



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

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 2

NISHANTHI DHARMAKEERTHI



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

Phone: (03) 9069 6200, option 3

WHAT FAMILIES SAY ABOUT US:

"Thank you so much, it was a lovely event, everything was perfect."

Christian home care packages provide us with a high level of peace of mind.

What I mean is it leaves us to concentrate on other areas and support mum's needs rather than the day to day caring which is all taken care of.

We don't have to stress or worry about the support you all provide.

I'm not sure I have worded this properly, but I hope you understand how important you all are and how thankful we all are."
Karen

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:

Elizabeth W. Mary A. Gerlinde B. Bernadette B.
Evelyn E. Yip L. Ivo L. Ruth N.
Ted N. Alice P. Lois P. Zevart T.
Heather W. Joan W.

Staff and Volunteers:

Daniela S.

CHRISTIAN HOME CARE NEWS

Monthly Newsletter

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WORD OF THE MONTH:

TURNING 7

Seven years ago Dinu and I had the undeserved privilege to witness the miracle through which the Lord brought Christian Home Care into existence out of nothing. The awe of witnessing this life changing event still makes us gasp....and I pray that I will never loose this wonder!

The Government accreditation process took about 9 months, was long and rigorous and everything that we have ever done in our previous professional work became relevant and needed at Christian Home Care.

And on a very personal level the Lord also brought to pass one of our old longings: Dinu and I have always dreamed of working together, but in time we became convinced that this could not be possible because our professions are so different. I am a Pharmacist who has always worked in connection with the aged care industry and Dinu is an Accountant who has been involved with various businesses, including aged care governance.

At CHC the Lord brought us working together, just as we dreamed when we were 20 years old and now we get to share the same office room.

The Lord has also brought His life into Christian Home Church and, more recently, into CHC becoming accredited for NDIS services.

The road has not been easy as we navigated the years of Covid and all the constant program changes, but it has definitely been full of purpose.

Dinu and I are very grateful to have you in our Christian Home Care family and we would like to thank you humbly for your trust, encouragement, grace and partnership.

And above all, the full glory belongs to our God, who is our leader, our good shepherd and our owner at CHC.

by Anca Stamatescu



SUPPORT AT HOME UPDATES

Support at Home is, as we all know, delayed until the 1st of November.

The delay has given time to the Government to clarify the rules and principles that will govern Support at Home and service providers, like Christian Home Care, time to prepare for these radical changes.

Our office staff is busy going through newly developed Support at Home learning modules provided by the Department of Health, Ageing and Disability.

Our IT support team is busy upgrading systems and technology to serve the new program, make it easy to understand, setting up the Government-created new statements.

We work with a legal team to prepare the new agreements that need to be signed before the 1st of November.

Our Accounting department is busy adapting costings to the new requirements and constraints built into the Support at Home rules, continuing our efforts to set up fees as low as possible, just enough to give all our Elders the best value and quality.

It is our pleasure to serve you, our Elders, and we shall be ready in time for the big changes on the 1st of November.

Stay tuned for further updates on Support at Home!

REMINISCING ON OUR AFTERNOON CONCERT



Thanking David for a wonderful afternoon of music and poetry!



WHY AND HOW SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?

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

"How do we hear God speak through the Bible?"

Time is our most valuable possession. The pressure on time tends to increase as life goes on and we become busier and busier. There is a saying that goes 'money is power, but time is life'. If we are going to set aside time to read the Bible, we have to plan ahead. If we don't plan we will never do it. Don't be depressed if you only keep to 80 per cent of your plan. Sometimes we oversleep!

It is wise to start with a realistic goal. Don't be over-ambitious. It is better to spend a few minutes every day than to spend an hour- and-a-half the first day and then to give up. If you have never studied the Bible before, you might like to set aside seven minutes every day. I am sure that if you do that regularly you will steadily increase it. Mark tells us that Jesus got up early and went off to a solitary place to pray (Mark 1:35). It is important to try to find somewhere where we can be on our own. I find that first thing in the morning is the best time. I take a cup of coffee, the Bible, my diary and a notebook. I use the notebook to write down prayers and also things I think God may be saying to me. I use the diary to help me pray about each stage of my day, but also for jotting down any distracting thoughts or plans that come to my mind. I start by asking God to speak to me through the passage I am reading. Then I read it. It's a good idea to start by reading a few verses of one of the Gospels each day. You might find it helpful to use Bible reading notes, which are available at most Christian bookshops, or perhaps a Bible study website or app, such as the Bible in One Year.

As I read, I ask myself three questions:

1. What does it say? I read it at least once and, if necessary, compare different translations.
2. What does it mean? What did it mean to the person who first wrote it and those who first read it? (This is where the notes may be helpful.)
3. How does it apply to me, my family, my work, my neighbours, the society around me? (It is when we see the relevance to our own lives that Bible reading becomes so exciting and we become conscious that we are hearing God's voice.)

Finally, we must put into practice what we hear from God. Jesus said, 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock' (Matthew 7:24). As D. L. Moody pointed out, 'The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge. It was given to change lives.'

I would encourage you to develop a regular pattern of reading the Bible each day and praying that God would speak to you. It is an amazing experience when he does. Sometimes reading the Bible can be mundane, but sometimes it is particularly significant. This has certainly been my experience.

As God speaks to us and we learn to hear his voice, our relationship with him grows, and our love for him deepens. Rick Warren has written that reading the Bible, 'generates life, creates faith, produces change... heals hurts, builds character, transforms circumstances, imparts joy, overcomes adversity, defeats temptation, infuses hope, releases power [and] cleanses our minds.'

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 services and afternoon tea meetings are planned for: Wednesday 16/07, 30/07, 13/08 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 or other infectious diseases.

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 and How Should I Read the Bible?"

PSALM OF THE MONTH

Psalm 145:1-2, 8-12

- 1 I will exalt you, my God the King;
I will praise your name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day I will praise you
and extol your name for ever and ever.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and
compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.
- 9 The Lord is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has
made.
- 10 All your works praise you, Lord;
your faithful people extol you.
- 11 They tell of the glory of your
kingdom
and speak of your might,
12 so that all people may know of
your mighty acts
and the glorious splendor of your
kingdom.



Support at Home program – Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM) scheme

From 1 November 2025, the Australian Government is introducing a new Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM) scheme as part of the Support at Home program. The AT-HM scheme provides products, equipment (such as a wheelchair), and home modifications (such as a shower rail) based on your assessed needs.

How can I get AT-HM supports if I am a new participant?

Your aged care assessment will determine if you need products, equipment or home modifications to help you live safely and independently at home. If you are approved for the AT-HM scheme, funding will be made available for assistive technology and home modifications based on your needs. This funding is included in your support plan. You may be approved to receive funding for assistive technology, home modifications or both.

How can I get AT-HM supports if I am moving from the Home Care Packages (HCP) Program?

If you are moving from HCP, you should talk to your provider about any needs you have for assistive technology or home modifications.

If you have any HCP unspent funds you can use those for assistive technology and home modifications. You must use your unspent funds before you can use the AT-HM scheme funding.

How do I source assistive technology and home modifications once I'm approved?

Your Support at Home provider will be responsible for arranging and sourcing your assistive technology and home modifications.

Your provider can help you to access low risk products and equipment directly, as listed in the inclusions list. For more complex products or equipment, your provider will organise a health professional assessment, such as an occupational therapist, who will be able to prescribe items that meet your needs.

All home modifications must be prescribed by a suitably qualified health professional to ensure you are getting the right supports.

How is the AT-HM scheme funded?

The AT-HM scheme is funded separately to your ongoing Support at Home services. This means, unlike the Home Care Packages Program, you won't need to save money from your budget to get products, equipment and home modifications.

There are 3 AT-HM funding tiers matched to the assistive technology and home modifications you may need: low, medium and high.

The funding will cover the items that you need, as well as a health professional assessment if applicable. The funding will also cover any extra support to ensure you are able to use the item safely and effectively. We call these wraparound services.

You can find out more about the AT-HM funding tiers in the [Support at Home program handbook](#).

The assistive technology funding tiers are:

Funding tier	Amount
Low	Under \$500
Medium	Up to \$2,000
High	Up to \$15,000 (nominal)

The home modifications funding tiers are:

Funding tier	Amount
Low	Under \$500
Medium	Up to \$2,000
High	Up to \$15,000

Your AT-HM funds will not accrue over time and will be available for 12 months. Under some circumstances, such as having a specific progressive condition or needing complex home modifications, we may give you more time to use your AT-HM funding.

If you have specific needs, such as for an assistance dog, you may be eligible for extra funding over a longer time.

If your needs change and you require additional equipment, products or home modifications after your AT-HM funding has expired you can be re-assessed to get access to further AT-HM funding to meet your needs.

Can I use my unspent HCP funds for AT-HM?

You will keep any unspent HCP funds under Support at Home. These may be used for AT-HM but must be used before using your approved AT-HM scheme funding.

Will I have to contribute to my AT-HM costs?

Support at Home participant contributions apply to the AT-HM scheme. You may have to make a moderate contribute to the cost of the equipment, products or home modifications you need. You will not have to contribute to the costs of health professional assessments and prescriptions as well as wraparound services. These are categorised as clinical care and are fully funded by the government. You can find out more in the fact sheet on [participant contributions](#).

What items can I access under the AT-HM scheme?

The AT-HM List on our website lists the products, equipment and home modifications that are available under the AT-HM scheme.

For more information

To find out more about the AT-HM scheme, visit health.gov.au/our-work/support-at-home/assistive-technology-and-home-modifications-at-hm-scheme

If you have questions or concerns about your aged care, including Support at Home, you can speak to an aged care advocate by calling the **Aged Care Advocacy Line on 1800 700 600**. Provided by the Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN), this free and confidential service is independent of both government and aged care providers. OPAN will connect you with a local advocate in your state or territory.



Australian Government



Getting started with aged care

If you need help around the house or are thinking about aged care homes, contacting My Aged Care is the first step.

-  Visit myagedcare.gov.au
-  Phone **1800 200 422**
-  Face-to-face by speaking with an Aged Care Specialist Officer (to book an appointment call **1800 227 475** or visit any Services Australia Service Centre).

CONSUMER AND QUALITY CARE ADVISORY BODIES

Christian Home Care is currently inviting expressions of interest from our Elders for these advisory bodies, that provides valuable feedback to our Board and help build a person-centred culture committed to quality aged care. Appointments are on a voluntary basis and would be for 12 months (for the entire calendar year), with meetings in our office in Ringwood, every 3 months. If interested, please email Anca anca@christianhomecare.com.au or call her on 03 9069 6202.

PLANNING FOR SUPPORT AT HOME CONTRIBUTIONS

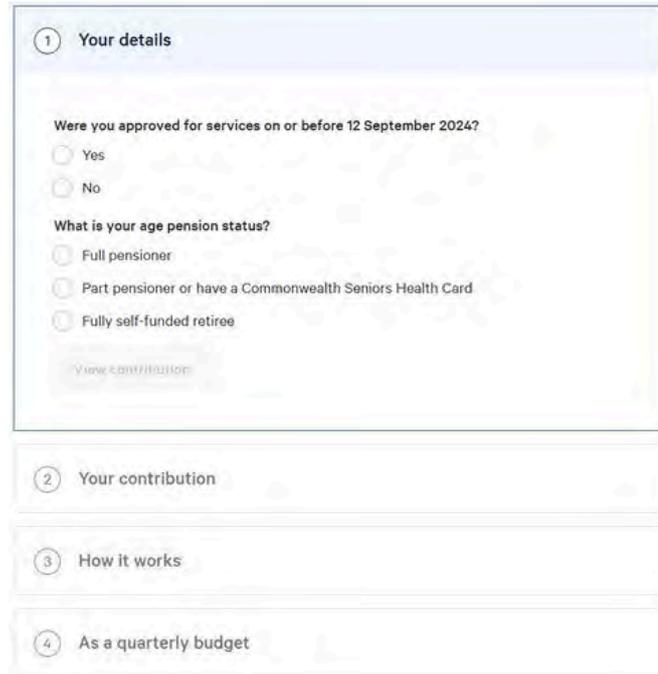
In the Support at Home fee estimator (internet link shown below), you can see what you may have to contribute towards each service under Support at Home. This simple tool gives you a general idea of how the new funding arrangements may impact your contributions and how they vary based on your services.

The new arrangements won't start until 1 November 2025, but the projections in the Support at Home fee estimator can help you prepare for that decision.

See how much you might pay for services using the Support at Home fee estimator and keep in mind that, for those of you with a package before 12 September 2024, the no worse off principle will apply.

On the same link you could see three examples of Support at Home contributions calculations.

<https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/upcoming-changes-aged-care-funding-how-they-affect-you#fee-estimator>



The screenshot shows the 'Your details' step of the fee estimator. It includes a question: 'Were you approved for services on or before 12 September 2024?' with radio buttons for 'Yes' and 'No'. Below that is another question: 'What is your age pension status?' with radio buttons for 'Full pensioner', 'Part pensioner or have a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card', and 'Fully self-funded retiree'. A 'View contribution' button is visible at the bottom of the form.



The screenshot shows the 'How much would I pay today?' section. It contains the text: 'If you want to know how much you might have to pay under the current funding arrangements, our fee estimator tool can give you an estimate to help you plan.' There is an illustration of a smartphone, a calculator, and a pen. A blue button labeled 'Use fee estimator >' is at the bottom.

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.

The beautiful children in the photo below are young Christians from the First Romanian Baptist Church, a vibrant Melbournian congregation whose Senior Pastor, Mr. Teofil Ciortuz, visited us several times in the past years.

We had the pleasure in the past to have children and adults from this congregation coming to sing to us and we will have that joy again in July when a new group of children are visiting us!

All our Elders, families and friends are invited for the church service and afternoon tea (or just for the afternoon tea if preferred).



Children's Visit on 16 July Brightening our service and afternoon tea

Church service 2pm to 3pm

Afternoon tea from 3pm

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

For catering purposes, please RSVP to:

coordination@christianhomecare.com.au or (03) 9069 6200, option 4

During our Christian Home Care and Christian Home Church services and events we take photos and videos which we may use in our publications such as newsletters, invitations, presentations, websites, streamed church services, etc. By participating to our services and events you give us permission to use such photos and recordings.