



BEZZINA HOUSE  
THE ST GEORGE COMMUNITY CANCER CARE  
LODGE  
46 Gray Street  
KOGARAH NSW 2217

Bezzina House was built through the generous support of the community following a public appeal by The St. George Hospital & Community Health Service. It is a purpose built lodge, within easy walking distance of The St. George Hospital. Bezzina House was officially opened by His Excellency, The Governor, Gordon Samuels, on 20 June 1998, and provides comfortable, low cost, home-away-from-home accommodation for cancer patients and their immediate carer undergoing treatment at the St. George Hospital.

Office hours 8.30am – 4.00 pm – Monday to Friday  
Telephone: 9113 2555  
Or 9113 1111 page 828  
Mobile 0410 489 135  
46 GRAY STREET  
(CNR SHORT & GRAY STREETS)  
KOGARAH NSW 2217

E-mail: [Anne.Greatorex@SESI.AHS.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU](mailto:Anne.Greatorex@SESI.AHS.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU)

# FACILITIES

## Rooms

- 15 self-contained units, some with wheelchair access
- Reverse cycle air conditioning
- Three wings, two on the ground floor and on one the upper level.
- Two single beds or a double bed & a double fold out sofa bed
- TV, Built-in wardrobe, balcony
- Incoming telephone line only, in each unit,
- blue pay phone in the Community Room
- Fully equipped kitchen in each unit with oven, cook top, microwave, kettle, toaster.
- All linen is provided
- Each unit has the convenience and privacy of an ensuite bathroom.
- On site Security Parking
- Portable cot, highchair & baby bath

**Please note:** Guests requiring ground floor accommodation should make this known at the time of booking. Two rooms have wheelchair access.

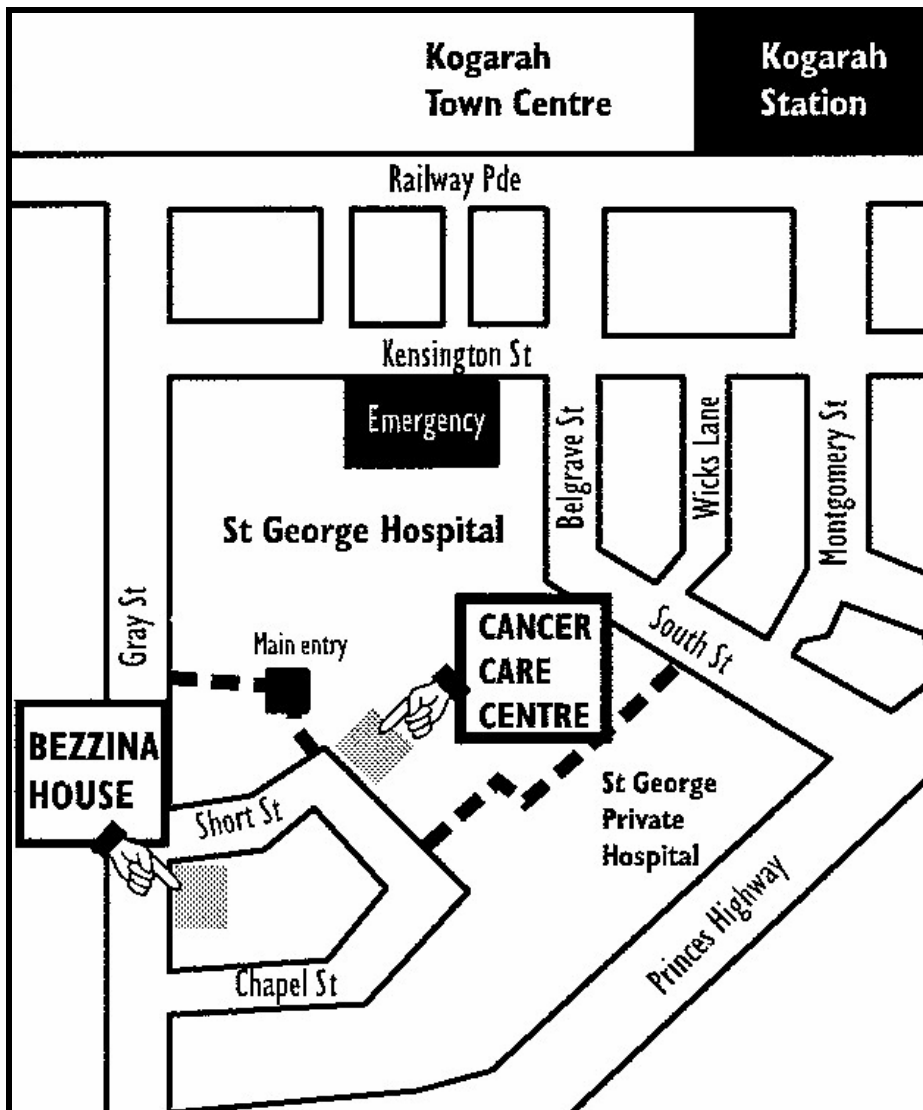


## General Amenities

- sunny courtyard and garden area.
- BBQ facilities
- laundry at the foot of the courtyard equipped with iron and ironing board, washing machines, clothes dryers and a clothes line
- Community room with Video, DVD, Fax Machine, PC with printer, Library, Kitchen, Toys, Nintendo, Games and Puzzles

## FINDING YOUR WAY

- Bezzina House is located 9.5 kms from Sydney Airport.
- Road travel time will vary if taken during peak hour week day periods.
- The train service from the Sydney Airport travels to Wolli Creek at which station passengers change to the Illawarra Train and disembark at Kogarah Railway Station.
- The Lodge is an approximate 1 km flat walk from the Kogarah Railway Station
- It is located opposite the Gray Street Entrance of the St. George Public Hospital, on the Crn of Short and Gray Streets.



# ACCOMMODATION RATES & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Accommodate rates are \$33.00 per unit per night.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- **Department of Veteran's Affairs**

DVA Pensioners should contact the Department direct to ascertain if they are eligible for a refund of costs of travel and accommodation from the Department of Veteran's Affairs. DVA Pensioners or their spouses are not eligible to claim under the IPTAAS Scheme.

- **Private Health Fund**

Some Private Health cover will assist with travel and accommodation costs. Once any cover is exhausted for the financial year patients may then be eligible to claim the balance from the IPTAAS Scheme - see below.

- **IPTAAS or Isolated Patients' Travel & Accommodation Assistance Scheme**

This is a NSW Department of Health scheme which will contribute towards the travel and accommodation charges for those patients living outside 100 km and are seeking the closest Specialist Treatment to their home. In some cases during extended treatment periods, application for funding can be lodged prior to treatment which will enable Bezzina House to "bulk bill" direct to the IPTAAS Office; please discuss this with the Manager when making a booking.

If you are not sure about your eligibility or wish to make further enquiries contact details for IPTAAS offices are as follows

Northern Sydney / Central Coast Area Health Service  
(02) 4320 5349 NSCCAHS  
Health Transport Unit  
Level 5, Area Executive  
Gosford Hospital,  
PO Box 361  
Gosford NSW 2250

South Eastern Sydney / Illawarra Area Health Service  
(02) 4223 8146  
SESAHS Health Transport Unit  
c/- Port Kembla Hospital  
P.O. Box 21, Warrawong NSW 2502

Sydney South West Area Health Service  
(02) 9515 3000 SSWAHS  
Health Transport Unit  
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital  
Missenden Rd, Camperdown NSW 2050

Sydney West Area Health Service  
(02) 9881 7507 SWAHS  
Health Transport Unit  
c/-IHSC Level 3  
Administration and Education Building  
Blacktown Hospital  
PO Box 6105,  
Blacktown 2148

Greater Southern Area Health Service  
1800 800 511  
GSAHS Health Transport Unit  
Bourke Street Health Service Campus  
PO Box 274,  
Goulburn NSW 2580

Greater Western Area Health Service  
1800 601 324  
GWAHS Health Transport Unit  
Dubbo Campus  
Myall St, Dubbo NSW 2830

Hunter New England Area Health Service  
1800 660 361  
HNEAHS Health Transport Unit  
Locked Bag 9783  
Tamworth NEMSC NSW 2348  
North Coast Area Health Service  
(02) 6620 2168  
NCAHS Health Transport Unit  
Port Macquarie Health Campus  
PO Box 126,  
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Further information about Transport for Health – IPTAAS can be found by visiting the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/living/transport/iptaas.html](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/living/transport/iptaas.html) or by contacting your Health Transport Unit.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & AVAILABILITY

Access to units in Bezzina House will be provided through the Bezzina House Manager. All accommodation must be pre-booked. Priority for utilisation will be as follows:-

1. People who are attending The St. George Cancer Care Centre for outpatient cancer treatment which may include:
  - Radiotherapy
  - Chemotherapy
2. People diagnosed with cancer who are attending The St. George Hospital for pre-hospitalisation appointments and tests
3. Immediate relatives of seriously ill inpatients in The St. George Hospital
4. People attending the St. George Private Hospital for out-patient cancer treatment

### **IMPORTANT:**

PATIENTS UNDERGOING TREATMENT FOR CANCER WILL AT ALL TIMES HAVE PRIORITY TO ACCESSING THE ACCOMMODATION AT BEZZINA HOUSE.

People (criteria 2, 3 & 4) who have secured accommodation at Bezzina House do so knowing that they may be asked to vacate their accommodation at short notice. Accommodation for these people will be made on a day-to-day basis only.

### **AVAILABILITY**

Whilst we attempt to assist all Cancer Care patients requiring accommodation, priority is given to pre-booked clients receiving Cancer Treatment. Accommodation is heavily pre-booked usually 6 weeks in advance. Availability cannot be guaranteed for emergency or last minute bookings.

### **Bookings**

Bookings should be made by the patient or immediate carer in advance, once a confirmed booking for treatment is made.

#### ***by telephone***

office hours 8.30am – 4.00 pm – Monday to Friday

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Or 9113 1111 page 828

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#### ***in writing to***

46 GRAY STREET

(CNR SHORT & GRAY STREETS)

KOGARAH NSW 2217

#### ***by E-mail***

E-mail: [Anne.Greatorex@SESIAHS.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU](mailto:Anne.Greatorex@SESIAHS.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU).

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **DO I HAVE TO PAY ON ARRIVAL?**

This depends on funding eligibility and length of stay. This should be discussed with the Manager when making your reservation.

## **CAN I BRING MY CHILDREN?**

Yes. The Lodge has 2 portable cots, 1 high chair and 2 baby baths. Children's videos and toys are available in the Community Room. There are no babysitting services at the Lodge and children under the age of 15 years cannot be left alone in the units at any time. For long term stays arrangements can be made for children to attend one of the several primary and high schools in the area.

## **CAN I BRING A CARER/RELATIVE/FRIEND?**

Yes. Our criteria states that patients need to be fully self caring or are escorted by an appropriate carer. The units sleep a maximum of 4 persons and are set up as family accommodation. It is also acknowledged that support persons may vary during the course of the visit.

## **ARE PETS ALLOWED?**

Unfortunately there are no facilities to allow the keeping of pets on the premises or in the car park. The Manager can provide details of local kennels/cattery's in the area.

## **HOW FAR FROM THE MASCOT AIRPORT?**

Bezzina House is located 9.5 kms from Sydney Airport. Road travel time will vary if taken during peak hour week day periods. The train service from the Sydney Airport travels to Wolli Creek at which station passengers change to the Illawarra Train and disembark at Kogarah Railway Station.

## **HOW FAR FROM RAILWAY STATION?**

Bezzina House is an approximate 1 km flat walk from the Kogarah Railway Station.

## **CAN I ACCESS THE INTERNET ?**

For clients with lap top computers an internet access port is available in the Community Room. The Kogarah Library supplies free internet access for up to 1 hour daily.

## **CAN I MAKE A DONATION?**

Donations are always welcome, all donated funds are held in a trust account to be used only for improvement of the facility to ensure patient comfort. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible and can be made by cash, cheque or credit card at Reception or sent by post.