



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 close proximity to The St. George Hospital. It provides comfortable, low cost, home-away-from-home accommodation for cancer patients undergoing outpatient or inpatient treatment at the St. George Hospital, and for their immediate carer.

Bezzina House is located opposite the hospital on a busy main street and close by to emergency service bases and the medical retrieval helipad. Management has no control over noise levels in the area.

Office hours 8.30am – 4.00 pm – Monday to Friday
Telephone: 9113 2555
Or 9113 1111 page 828
Fax: 9113 2551
Mobile 0410 489 135
46 GRAY STREET
(CNR SHORT & GRAY STREETS)
KOGARAH NSW 2217

bezzina.house@SESIAHS.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU

FACILITIES

Rooms

- 15 self-contained units, some with wheelchair access
- Three wings, two on the ground floor and one on upper level
- Reverse cycle air conditioning
- 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,
- Fully equipped kitchen in each unit with oven, cook top, microwave, kettle, toaster
- All linen is provided
- Private ensuite bathroom
- 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.

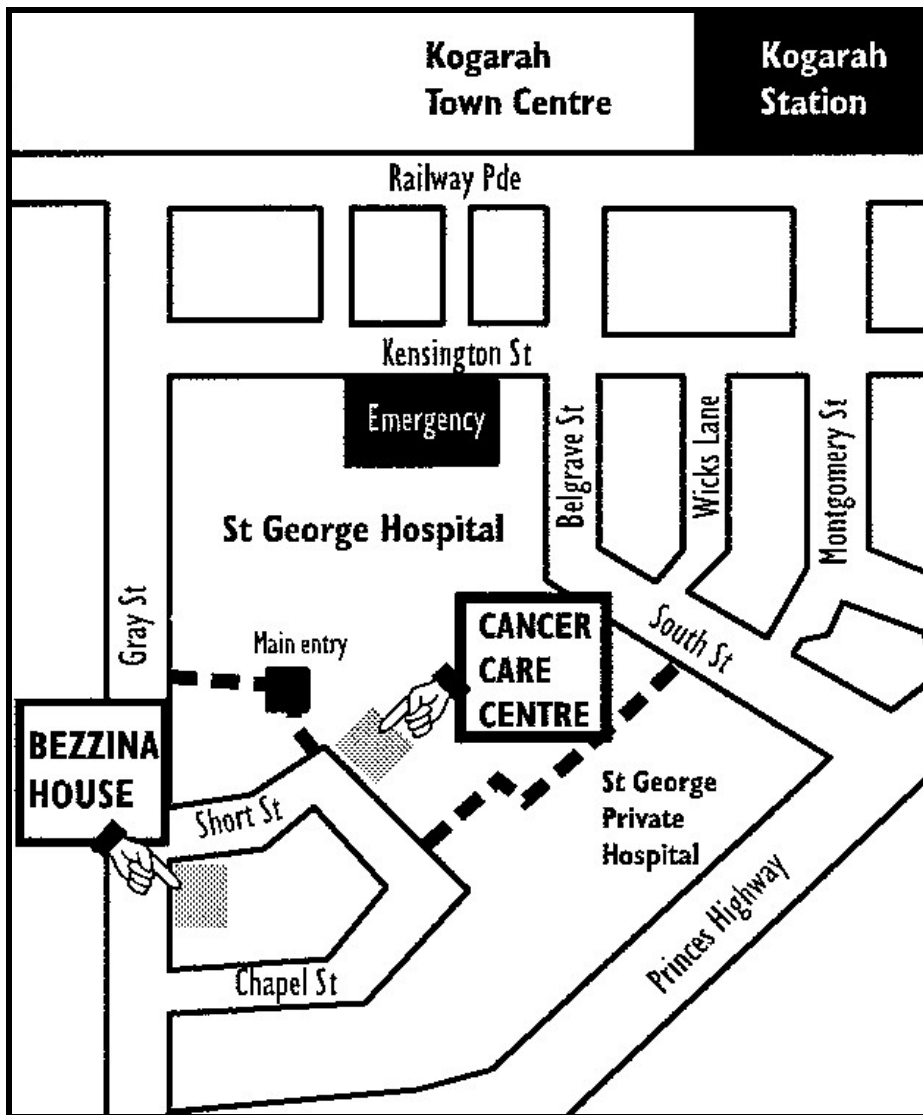


General Amenities

- On site Security Parking
- Sunny courtyard and garden area
- Blue pay phone in the Community Room
- 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, internet kiosk, Library, Kitchen, Toys, Games and Puzzles

FINDING YOUR WAY

- Bezzina House is located opposite the Gray Street Entrance of the St. George Public Hospital, on the corner of Short and Gray Streets
- The Lodge is an approximate 1 K flat walk from the Kogarah Railway Station which is located on the Illawarra line.
- Located 9.5 K from Sydney Airport (road travel time from the airport varies during peak hour).
- Train from Airport - change at Wolli Creek Station to Illawarra line.



ACCOMMODATION RATES & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Accommodation rates are \$43.00 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 Health scheme which will contribute towards the travel and accommodation charges for those patients living more than 100km from the nearest specialist treatment. 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:-

EnableNSW

All online applications
Central Coast
Illawarra Shoalhaven
Murrumbidgee
Nepean Blue Mountains
Northern Sydney
Southern NSW
South Eastern Sydney
South Western Sydney
Sydney
Western NSW
Western Sydney

Phone: 1800 478 227
Fax: (02) 8797 6543
Postal: IPTAAS Locked
Bag 5270, Parramatta
NSW 2124
Email:
IPTAAS@hss.health.nsw.
gov.au

Far West

Phone: (08) 8080 1433
Fax: (08) 8080 1695
Postal: IPTAAS
Coordinator, Broken Hill
Health Service PO Box
457 Broken Hill NSW
2880

Hunter New England

Phone: 1800 660 361
Fax: (02) 6766 4576
Postal: IPTAAS
Coordinator, Locked Bag
9783 Tamworth NEMSC
NSW 2348

**Northern NSW
Mid North Coast**

Phone: (02) 6620 2168
Fax: (02) 6622 1834
Postal: Locked Bag 11,
Lismore NSW 2480

Over the Counter Service

Available at:
Far West
Hunter New England
Mid North Coast
Northern NSW
Western NSW

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. Patients who are attending The St. George Cancer Care Centre for outpatient cancer treatment which may include:
 - Radiotherapy
 - Chemotherapy
2. Patients 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 AT THE ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL CANCER CARE CENTRE WILL, AT ALL TIMES, HAVE PRIORITY TO ACCESSING THE ACCOMMODATION AT BEZZINA HOUSE.

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

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in writing to

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by Email

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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 1 baby bath. Children's CD's 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/catteries in the area.

HOW FAR FROM THE MASCOT AIRPORT?

9.5 k from Sydney Airport (road travel time from the airport varies during peak hour).

HOW FAR FROM RAILWAY STATION?

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

CAN I ACCESS THE INTERNET ?

Internet Café in Community Room - \$2.00 – 25 minutes

The Kogarah Library supplies free internet access for up to 1 hour daily.

Gloria Jeans Café in Kogarah has free wifi with every Coffee purchased

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.