

News from the Compensation Advocacy Team (CAT):

In early March 2020 the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) launched their new website: [dva.gov.au](https://dva.gov.au)

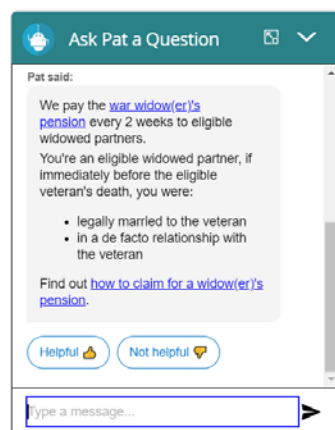
The new website will take some getting used to, but rest assured the same information is still available albeit in different places or sub-headings.

The search function works very well:



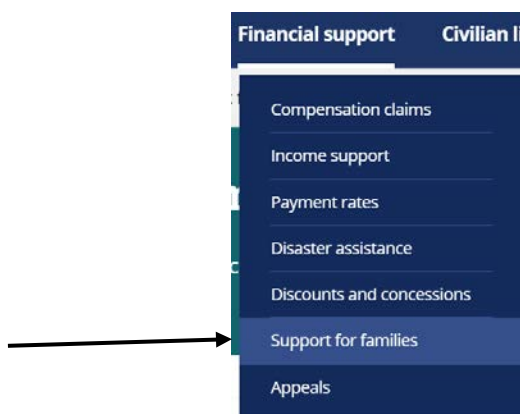
A feature of the new website is the Virtual Assistant called Pat. Pat can be a little frustrating. You will find Pat at the bottom of the screen and Pat will provide links to information that you ask. For example: I asked Pat where I would find information about the War Widow's Pension:

Pat answered providing links to further information.



The factsheets are being phased out but can still be found via this link: <https://www.dva.gov.au/factsheets>, but this will only be useful if you know the factsheet number.

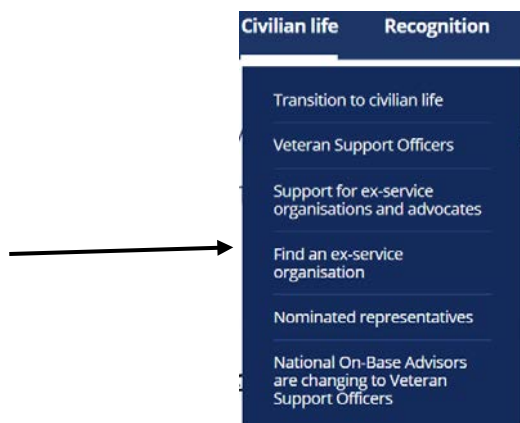
Most of the information surrounding widows and families can be found under the subheading "Financial support" – support for families:



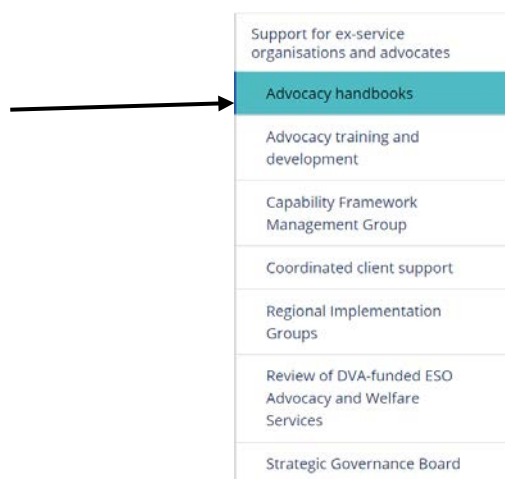
Under the "Support for Families" tab you will find further sub headings:

Support for families
Comparison of benefits for dependants
Partner Service Pension
Family Support Package for widowed partners
Help with the cost of child care
Income support supplement
Compensation for dependants under the MRCA
Bereavement payments
Pension for orphans and war widowed partners
Support for children of Vietnam veterans
Dependent children and your income support payments
Get student support
The effects of a special disability trust

Advocacy Handbooks such as the Rehabilitation and Compensation Handbook and the Wellbeing Handbooks can be found under “Civilian Life”



Then click on Advocacy Handbooks



CLIK is still available and can found at the bottom of the main page.

### Quick links

[Free mental health care for veterans](#)

[Mental health support services](#)

[Veteran Card](#)

[Receive urgent help and support](#)

[Forms](#)

[CLIK](#)

[Minister's website](#)



If you are having any difficulties accessing information, you are not alone, please do not hesitate in contacting a member from CAT and we will step through the website together.