



## Pensions have increased

Pension payments increased by \$15.00 per fortnight for singles on the maximum rate and \$22.60 fortnightly for couples combined on the maximum rate last Monday.

The September pension rise was due to an increase in the pensioner and beneficiary living cost index (PBLCI) in the six months to June 2010.

Pensions are indexed twice a year to the highest increase of three measures: the consumer price index (CPI), the PBLCI and growth in male total average weekly earnings (MTAWE).

Pensioners have received

increases of around \$115 per fortnight for singles and \$97 per fortnight for couples combined pension payments, as a result of Federal Labour's major pension reforms delivered in September 2009, and higher indexation in March and September 2010.

Parenting Payment and Rent Assistance also increased on September 20.

Adult rates of allowances, such as Newstart, and supplementary payments are also indexed on 20 September each year to the CPI increase for the previous six months.