



Road to GREATNESS
..... Linking Community through transport
37th edition November/ December 2011

Providing Transport Assistance for the Blue Mountains & Penrith Communities

MORE THAN JUST TRANSPORT - WE CARE !!

1. Door-to-door fortnightly shopping buses – the day depends on where the client lives.
2. VISTA - one-to-one shopping with support for higher need clients on a fortnightly basis.
3. Special Social Outings– Bi-monthly outing programs are available.
4. Health Related transport to local and out of area appointments– mornings or afternoons.
5. Transport to centre-based meals
6. Others-dependent on request and resources.



We have wheelchair accessible vehicles with trained staff.

GREAT Community Transport wins Community transport Organisation of the year !!!!!



NSW Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian, Accessible Vehicles Australia CEO Craig Legender and Community Transport Organisation president Helen Battellino present Great Community Transport manager Helen Walker with the award. Image courtesy of Community Transport Organisation. Photograph by Kylie Hilton, Hyperion Design.

See page 2 for more information about the award.

Great Community Transport (GCT) won Community Transport Organisation of the Year in Newcastle last week.

NSW Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian presented the award, along with \$2000, to GCT manager Helen Walker at the annual Community Transport Conference last Wednesday.

Great Community Transport provides people in the Blue Mountains and Penrith areas with affordable transport for medical appointments, shopping and social outings. GCT has more than 20 staff and more than 100 volunteers who embody the motto, More Than Transport, We Care.

“I am delighted that the hard work and dedication of all at GCT has been recognised in this award. The Blue Mountains and Penrith areas have significant transport challenges for people, particularly when getting older,” said Ms Walker.

“The staff and volunteers of GCT go above and beyond to make sure everyone in our community can get where they need to go.”

The Community Transport Conference is held every year and highlights one organisation that showcases excellence in innovation, best practice and overall quality of service.

The award is judged by the Community Transport Organisation, major conference sponsor, Accessible Vehicles Australia and the Department of Transport.

“GCT stood out for the excellent service they provide, but also for their innovative development of online booking tools and their extensive support and training for volunteers,” said Mr David Atkins, CEO of the Community Transport Organisation.

Gladys Berejiklian congratulated Great Community Transport on the win.

“I want to congratulate Great Community Transport for their dedication to customer service and thank all their staff and volunteers for all their hard work,” she said.

Ms Walker said the recognition of GCT was wonderful.

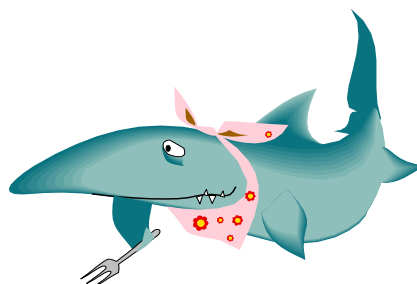
“The money will go towards continuing to serve the local community, so give our buses a wave next time you see them out and about,” she said.

Special Outings for November & December

The Special outings program for November & December is currently being circulated. Please book early to avoid disappointment. Now the weather has warmed up don't miss the opportunity to get out and about and see new places and make new friends. If cost is a problem please feel free to talk to Phillipa on 4759 2403

Brooklyn

A day by the Hawkesbury River
Fish & Chips, Desert + tea/coffee



Rouse Hill

Christmas Shopping in a village setting
Bring or buy lunch

Mounties for lunch

Sara Lee for Christmas Goodies
Cobbity for your wines
Lunch \$14.50 with Snrs card \$16.50 without



Christmas Lunch

Warragamba Workers Club
2 Course Lunch just \$20
The bus trip is a gift from GCT
Get into the Festive Spirit early !!!

Christmas Closure

Please be advised that both the Penrith & Mountains Offices will be closed from 4.00pm on Friday 23rd December and will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January at 8.30am.

Our answering machines will be operational during the Christmas closure and checked each day at approx. 4.00pm so if you have an urgent medical appointment please leave your name and **most** importantly your phone number and we will contact you as soon as possible to try to arrange transport to your appointment.

If you have already made appoints for the time we will be closed, please ring as soon as possible to advise us of these appointments.

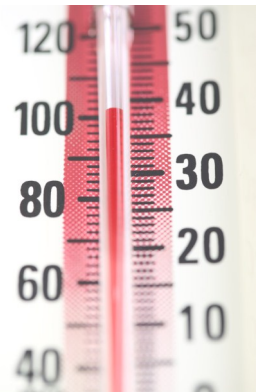
Thanking you for your co-operation,

GCT Christmas transport



Now that the weather is heating up please remember to:-

- ◆ On your pick-up day remain inside until your driver knocks on your door.
- ◆ Dress in suitable cool clothing.
- ◆ Always carry a bottle of water when travelling.
- ◆ Do your housework or gardening during the coolest parts of the day.
- ◆ Wear a hat when outside.



From the Assessor's Desk

Ruth, our client intake officer, says



Reassessments are conducted every two years however it is necessary for you to advise us of the following circumstances:-

- ◆ Recent hospitalisation
- ◆ Changes to your health or mobility
- ◆ New aids or equipment
- ◆ Change of address, phone number, emergency contact or GP
- ◆ Request for GCT volunteer carer or wheelchair

A reminder it is the policy of Great Community Transport that our drivers park in the street. If you are unable to get to the street from your front door, it is necessary for a home access Occupational Health & Safety inspection to be carried out. This will determine if it is safe for a GCT vehicle to use your driveway.

All information & concerns are confidential, Reassessment are done over the phone by Kendra and take approximately 15 minutes. If she is unable to contact you in two attempts by phone, a letter will be sent requesting you to call the office.

All new assessment & reassessment are done from the Lawson office.

Please call **4759 2403**

Thankyou

Ruth & Kendra



GREAT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT 7TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010 - 2011



The AGM gets underway



**Our client & Video star
Pat Daniels at the meeting**



**Helen Walker & David Bradbury Member
for Lindsay chat with Win Mann another
client and GCT video star**



**Staff member El Gibbs with
Board Member Mark Horton**



MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Board of Management, Staff
&
Volunteers of
Great Community Transport
would like to take this opportunity
to wish you and your family a
joyful and safe Christmas and a
prosperous new year.
We look forward to seeing you in
2012.

**Providing Transport Assistance
For the Blue Mountains & Penrith
Communities**

If you have a community service item you would like included on Great Community Notice Board please post to:-

PO Box 124, LAWSON 2783

Or FAX: 4759 2444

Or Email: maureenr@gct.org.au

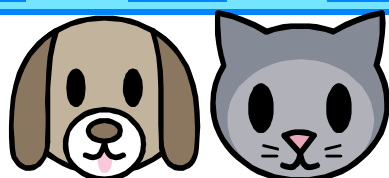


INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

Each new client with Great Community Transport receives information packages about our services and other relevant services they may need to know about.

Some of this information is available in other languages if required.

If you would like information such as the Great Community Transport brochure or the Home and Community Care Services booklet (printed by Nepean Access Project) in another language or know someone who would, please contact our assessor on 4759 2403 and she will send it out to you.



RSPCA Phone: 4782 2674

**Don't forget our four legged friends this Christmas
Blue Mountains RSPCA welcomes gifts of
suitable toys & treats for their residents over
the Christmas period.**

**If you would like to play Santa please take your
gift to :-**

121-125 Mort Street Katoomba

Open 10am to 3.30pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat

Great Community Transport Inc is funded through the Home and Community Care Program (HACC) which is a Federal and State Government initiative to assist frail aged, people with disabilities and their carers to remain in their own homes for as long as possible. Assessment determines eligibility for services. Some additional funding is received through the Ministry of Transport and the Area Health Service to provide limited transport assistance for people who are temporarily unable to use their usual forms of transport to their health related appointments.