



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.

Road to GREATNESS
..... Linking Community through transport

36th edition September 2011

From little things BIG things grow !

From humble beginnings 25 years ago GREAT Community Transport has grown significantly.

GCT now operates out of 2 sites serving both the Mountain & Penrith LGA's. Our fleet has grown from 1 car to 22 vehicles comprising sedans, a station wagon, and wheel chair accessible vans and mini buses. Included in our fleet are 6 "Family Cars" purchased through fund raising and each named in honour of a GREAT volunteer who has passed away from cancer. These vehicles are all driven by volunteers and allows us to provide transport assistance to people and places not covered by HACC funding.

GCT's management, staff & volunteers are sincerely grateful for the help & support we have received from the community that has enabled our service to go from strength to strength.

We look forward to providing even GREATER service over the next 25 years.

Special Outings

The special outings program for September & October is currently being circulated. Please book early to avoid disappointment. As always if cost is a problem please feel free to talk to Phillipa on 4759 2403



Geranium Cottage

Lunch \$25.00 choice of 4 mains + desert + Tea/coffee

Beautiful Geraniums & Pelargoniums for sale



Beautiful Bowral

Spring has sprung - It's tulip time again, let's go look and the tulips.

Bring or buy lunch



Lithgow Worker's Club

Come along for the drive and enjoy lunch at the club from \$7.50

Sausage Sizzle

Come & enjoy the fresh air and a sausage sizzle at Warragamba Dam. Bus trip & lunch just \$20.00

Please bring your own mug for Tea / Coffee



Meet some of our GREAT Team



L to R Kim Jackson Safety Compliance Officer , Rod Watson, Peter Odell & Peter Clifford our Senior Driver/Carers who along with Helen Walker & Ruth Goodwin comprise our OH&S Consultancy team who meet every second Thursday of the month.



Bruce Ritchie Driver/Fleet Manager Blue Mountains. Bruce is responsible for maintaining our fleet of vehicles .

AIDER Program

Assistance for Infirm, Disabled & Elderly Residents on bush fire prone land.

The NSW Rural Fire Service AIDER Program is a one — off free service supporting vulnerable residents to live safely and confidently in their home in areas where bush fires may start. The property must be bush fire prone, meaning an area of land that can support a bush fire or is likely to be subject to bush fire attack.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Aged residents and residents with disabling conditions who have limited domestic support from family, relatives, friends or other services.

Do you know someone who may benefit from the AIDER Program?

For further information about the AIDER Program or to apply for AIDER services,

Contact: **AIDER Program Co-ordinator**

(02) 8741 4955

Or email aider@rfs.nsw.gov.au



SPRING HAS ARRIVED & WITH IT THE WARMER WEATHER & THE POSSIBILITY OF **BUSH FIRE**



Now is the time to PREPARE !!!!

PREPARE Your Bush Fire Survival Plan

PREPARE Yourself

PREPARE Your Property

You need to take steps to prepare yourself, your family and your home. This means being prepared well before you can be affected by a fire.

LEAVE EARLY:



Leaving early is always the safest option. In some situations the choice to Leave Early is much more important.

These include when:-

- ◆ The fire danger rating is Catastrophic. Homes aren't designed to withstand a bush fire during these conditions. Any fire that starts & takes hold will be so intense that it won't be safe to stay & defend any home—no matter how well prepared it is.
- ◆ You have not prepared yourself or your property to give you & your home the best level of protection from fire.
- ◆ There are children, elderly or disabled people in your home. People who are vulnerable due to age, health or any other reason, should always leave early.
- ◆ Your house is not defensible. Some homes are not safe to defend because of their location or, construction.

STAY & DEFEND A WELL PREPARED PROPERTY

Consider the following if you plan to Stay & Defend your property:

- ♦ Is your property well prepared & maintained?
- ♦ Are you physically & emotionally prepared to defend your property?
- ♦ Do you know what to do before, during & after a bush fire?
- ♦ Do you have well maintained resources & equipment & does everyone know how to use them?
- ♦ Do you have access to water for fire fighting purposes e.g. a tank, dam or pool? Town water supplies can fail during emergencies.
- ♦ Do you have appropriate personal protective clothing for people that plan to stay?
- ♦ Do you have a back up plan?

You can not just stay & defend with out careful planning & preparation.

PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY



Regardless of your decision to Leave Early or Stay

& Defend, you still need to prepare your property against the threat of a bush fire or ember attack.

- ♦ A well prepared home is more likely to survive a bush fire. Even if your plan is to Leave Early, the more you prepare your home, the more likely is will be to survive.
- ♦ A well prepared home can be easier for fire fighters to defend
- ♦ A well prepared home will give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly & you can not leave & have to take shelter.

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

With thanks to the NSW Rural Fire Service

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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.

GREAT COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

For your information

Martin's Chemist St. Mary's Village Centre runs a number of free services for people with diabetes each month. These include shopping tours with a dietician to learn about how to better shop for diabetes friendly food, free information night each month and also free group sessions with a diabetes educator.

If you are interested in attending any session

Please call **9673 1010** for further information

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.