

JUNE 19

great community transport inc.

NEWSLETTER

A message from our Chairman

The funding landscape for Community Transport Organisations is becoming more and more uncertain. With this in mind, and with a desire to secure the important services the clients of Great Community Transport in Penrith and the Blue Mountains use every day, GCT wants to be proactive and has been seeking out partners that can help us build on our services into the future.

The Directors of Easy Go Connect in Blacktown and Great Community Transport in Penrith and Blue Mountains have recently signed an agreement to merge the two community transport services.

This will not change the services that we provide to you. We will continue to take you to your medical appointments, shopping trips, community meals and social outings. We are committed to our clients getting where they need to go and we hope that, through this merger, we will be able to increase and improve our services.

I feel positive about the move to work together with Easy Go Connect community transport. There are more similarities than differences, and we believe this is an opportunity to improve community transport services for the residents of Penrith, Blue Mountains and Blacktown. If you would like to know more or to talk to me about the merger, please call me at GCT or speak to our CEO, Rob Lake

Best wishes

Kevin Richards



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In Memorium

It is with deep sadness that we inform you of Jeff Watson's death. Jeff had dedicated 14 years as a volunteer working with Great Community Transport helping his community and he will be missed.

Jeff is pictured here with GCT Chairperson Kevin Richards at the recent volunteers thank you lunch.



**Thank you to our incredible volunteers
National Volunteer Week**



Changes to Fees

From 1 August 2019, GCT will be making changes to the way we set fees for our appointment trips. We want to make our fees simpler to understand and plan for. At the same time, as the costs of wages, fuel, rent and vehicles increase, we need to increase our fees slightly to cover these rising costs and help us improve our services. To do this, we will be moving to a fee of:

- \$15 for a return trip anywhere within one LGA, (Penrith or Blue Mountains)
- \$20 for a return trip from Blue Mountains to Penrith, Penrith to Blue Mountains or Penrith to Blacktown.
- A trip across 2 LGAs, Blue Mountains to Blacktown, for example will cost \$25.

We hope this will make it easier to budget for transport and that the increases for people will be minimal. As you know, GCT has a hardship policy which allows us to assist people who are having difficulty paying community transport fees. If you'd like to know more, please contact Linda, our client liaison officer.

Our fees for social outings will remain at \$25 and our fees for shopping will remain at \$10.

We have designed these changes to have minimal impact, and we hope that by moving to a set fee rather than distance based, some clients will, in fact, benefit.



Call 4722-3083 for all bookings

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