



## What's Happening

### From the CEO

Well the year is certainly flying past. I'm not sure that I am ready for winter. There certainly wasn't much summer.

Isn't it great that life is returning to a degree of normality. We are getting much busier as everyone returns to their appointments. It is wonderful to have full cars and buses zipping around the region. Of course the negative is that we are booking out so it is really important that you book as soon as you know your appointment time. As much as we would love to help everyone we do have a limited number of vehicles and drivers. Danielle, and the team work really hard to juggle trips to fit as many people in as possible. You will often have to share a car and sometimes wait for longer than your scheduled appointment duration. We are trying to make sure everyone can get where they need to go and appreciate your patience.

Your health and safety remains our number one priority when traveling with us. It is a NSW Government requirement that masks are worn on public transport and in public transport waiting areas (including in taxis and rideshare services). Please wear your mask when you travel in our vehicles.

New client contribution – We have worked really hard to keep our client contribution low and we have not had an increase since January 2020. However, we certainly weren't paying in excess of \$2 per litre for diesel in January 2020. The Board have approved an increase to our client contributions from 1 July 2022. The new schedule for our subsidised Community Transport is attached. Fees for NDIS, Home Care Package and non subsidised travel are available from the office.

Remember when you book with Community Transport you are booking a seat in a vehicle. If for any reason you require the whole vehicle to yourself you are now able to pay an additional \$100 fee for a non-shared vehicle. Non-shared travel is subject to availability.

Social Trips are underway again and we have some great winter trips planned. Make sure you don't miss out by booking as soon as possible.

Volunteers Wanted! Do you know someone who would love to become a volunteer with us? They might have recently retired or someone who's looking to give back to the community? Our volunteers are an integral part of what we do, and we ensure that they are trained in all the necessary requirements such as wheelchair training, and safe practices training as well as a yearly in-house training session with the team.

Wishing you a wonderful safe winter.

Kathryn Akre CEO

### We Are Covid Safe

- \*Sanitised vehicles
- \*Drivers wear masks and are fully vaccinated

### BCTG –SOCIAL TRIPS

**June 14 & 28**

**BRAG & Panthers**

Bus \$5pp

BRAG Free

Meals from \$15  
(own expense)

**July 12 & 26**

**Oberon Museum & The Royal Hotel**

Bus \$10pp

Museum \$5pp  
Meals from \$15

**August 9 & 23**

**Orange Regional Museum & Ex-Services Club**

Bus \$10pp

Museum Free  
Meals from \$12  
(own expense)

*\*prices correct at time of printing. Blackboard specials available*

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Queens B'day Long Weekend**  
11-13 June

**NSW School Holidays**  
2-17 July

**Bathurst Winter Festival**  
2-17 July



**Social Outings** With winter upon us we will be staying a little closer to home over the next few months and a focus on indoor destinations.

**June's Social Outing** will be a trip to Bathurst Regional Art Gallery and then to Panthers Leagues Club for lunch. These trips are scheduled for Tuesday June 14 & 28. The bus will be \$5pp, Meals start from \$15.

**July's Social Outing** will be a trip to Oberon and District Museum and then to The Royal Hotel for lunch. These trips are scheduled for Tuesday July 12 & 26. The bus will be \$10pp, Museum Entry \$5pp. Meals start from \$15.

**August's Social Outing** will be a trip to Orange Regional Museum and then to Orange Ex Services Club for lunch. These trips are scheduled for Tuesday August 9 & 23. The bus will be \$10pp, Meals start from \$12.

To book your spot call us on 6331 3322

**FOOD SAFETY** We are aware that some of you take home left over food (Doggy Bags) when travelling with us. Food Safety Legislation no longer allows establishments to pack left over food to take away. Due to the very high risk of Food Poisoning **you cannot pack uneaten portions of your meals to take home with you as food cannot be stored in our vehicles at the required temperatures.**

**TRAVELLING IN OUR VEHICLES** All of our drivers pride themselves on providing the best service to you. This includes looking after your safety not only when in our vehicles but also when you are getting in and out of the vehicle. **Please wait for the driver to open the door for you** when we arrive to pick you up and on reaching your destination. Wait for the driver to stop and park the vehicle and come around to open the door for you before trying to embark or disembark.

**LOST PROPERTY** Any property left in vehicles is noted and sent to our office for safe storage. Perishable items will be kept refrigerated for 48 hours then disposed of if unclaimed. All other items are disposed of after one month if unclaimed. If you do misplace an item while travelling with us please contact us on 02 6331 3322 as soon as possible after your trip.

**Plan your own adventure—Local Escapes:** We are offering trips of up to a maximum of 3 hrs in one of our vehicles, to visit destinations within our local government area. You may want to visit somewhere that holds a special place in your memory or go to a café that is slightly further afield. Maybe you just want a drive around Bathurst for an hour. Trips are limited to a maximum of 3 or 4 clients per vehicle at a rate of \$10pp for clients residing within the 80km/hr limits.

**Changes to the fortnightly service from Hill End and Sofala. From July 2022** we will be combining the Hill End and Sofala fortnightly service. The trips will now depart **Thursday of pension week** with a 9am Hill End departure and 9:30am Sofala departure. The return departure from Bathurst during the winter months is at 1:30pm with drop off in Sofala first then through to Hill End. Advance bookings are required by no later than 4pm Tuesday prior to the trip.

**Rock Forest & Dunkeld and Meadow Flat, Yetholme, Walang, Napoleon Reef & Raglan** Fortnightly trips continue on alternate Mondays (except public holidays). Bookings required by midday on the Friday prior to each Monday departure.

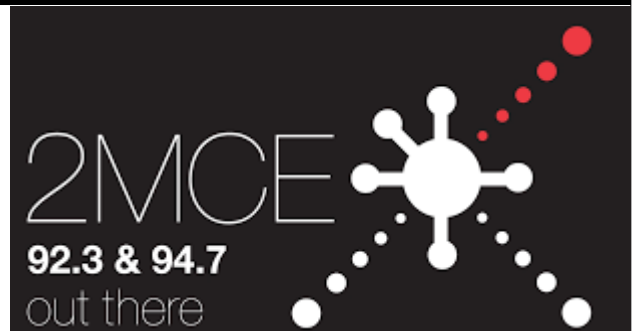
Feel free to share with friends and family living in these areas who may need assistance with transport. Please call us on 02 6331 3322 to register and book.



## SENIOR CITIZENS' UPDATE

Broadcasting on 2MCE on Bathurst 92.3 FM,  
Orange 94.7 FM and streaming via

**2MCE Radio. Tune in every Friday, 10.45-11 am  
for news of services available to seniors.**



Have you ever wondered what services are available for seniors in Bathurst across the Central West and beyond? Here's one way to find out.

Maree Curtis, a senior of some 88 years, broadcasts a weekly program on 2MCE Community Radio and shares with other seniors the available services and, most importantly, how to access them. Maree's interviews cover groups like Community Transport, The Neighbourhood Centre, The Seymour Hour on 2MCE, Community Pantry and Studio Benefit (exercises specifically for seniors) and many more.

These interviews are available as Podcasts via the 2MCE Radio's main menu; a Brochure profiling each interview will be available through the Bathurst Regional Council and the Orange City Council in coming weeks.

Tune in every Friday from 10.45 - 11.00 am on Bathurst 92.3 FM, Orange and Cowra on 94.7 FM or streaming via 2mce.org and see if there's a service that could benefit you and improve your quality of life.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health**

**Influenza** is a very contagious infection of the airways. It affects people of all ages. Although it can be a mild disease, it can also cause very serious illness in

otherwise healthy people. It can require hospitalisation and can cause death.

Vaccination is a safe and effective way to protect you from serious disease caused by influenza.

### Who should get vaccinated against influenza

Yearly influenza vaccination is recommended for people aged 6 months and over. Anyone who wants to protect themselves against influenza can talk to their immunisation provider about getting vaccinated.

**COVID-19 Booster**—also remember many of you are also eligible for your 4th vaccination (booster dose). Speak with your health care provider today

### #Dosomethinggood & go paperless!

We aim to have a positive impact, not only for our clients but also on our environment. So, if you are able, join us in going paper free and receive your accounts and newsletter electronically by registering your email with the office.



Do you use social media? To keep updated with all things new and what's happening at BCTG follow us on Facebook @Bathurst Community Transport

Feel free to share our Newsletter with a friend or if you have any questions, please give us a call on - 02 6331 3322

IMAGE CREDIT: APEX MEDIA



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Email: [coordinator@bctg.com.au](mailto:coordinator@bctg.com.au)

OFFICE HOURS 8:15AM to 4:15PM

MONDAY to FRIDAY

Taking the Bathurst Community  
where they want to be,  
when they want to be there.

[www.bctg.com.au](http://www.bctg.com.au)



## Bathurst Community Transport Group Inc.

### Services We Offer

Whilst we would love to be able to transport everyone every day we have limited cars and limited drivers. **Please book** as soon as you know about your appointments. Sometimes if you can be a bit flexible we can help you out.

When you book you are booking a seat in one of our vehicles and it is likely you will be sharing a vehicle with someone else. All vehicles are thoroughly cleaned before and after each shift. At this stage everyone in the vehicle must wear a mask at all times (unless a medical exemption can be produced). All drivers are triple vaccinated (and soon to be quadruple). Remember you must not travel if you are sick.

**Town Car:** Our Town Car is a wheelchair converted Kia Carnival which services the Bathurst township. Our driver collects clients from their homes and delivers them where they need to go. Our town car is very busy and can be booked out in advance so we appreciate as much notice as possible for your appointments. You may also book a regular scheduled trip in the town car. The car operates 8:30am to 3:30pm Monday to Friday. The Town Car is not a taxi service. It is one car and one driver. We have a long list of clients wanting to use the car so you will need to book ahead. We try and accommodate as many people as possible each day. Your flexibility is appreciated.

**Out of Town Transport:** Transport is available in BCT cars driven by our volunteers. These trips may be for medical or social appointments. For the safety of our drivers and clients, the earliest our cars can leave Bathurst is 7.00 am and they must be back in Bathurst by 6.00 pm. Therefore, we request that you book appointments between the following times.

Orange	Dubbo	Lithgow	Katoomba	Penrith Nepean	Parramatta Westmead	Hornsby North Shore /Sydney
9:00am -3:00pm	10:00am – 3:00pm	9:00am-3:00pm	9:30 am-2:30 pm	10:00 am -2:30 pm	10:30 am -2:00 pm	11:00 am -1:00 pm

**Transport for clients living outside the Bathurst Regional Council 80 km/hr limits:** Clients residing within the Bathurst LGA but outside the Bathurst town limits are eligible for transport to all locations covered by BCT. The contribution for travel to Bathurst is determined by the distance from your home to Bathurst Post Office. Depending upon where you reside, an additional contribution may be added to the cost of travel to Orange, Lithgow, Katoomba or Sydney.

**Social Trips for CHSP Clients:** Social trips are only for CHSP clients referred by MAC. Therefore, if only one partner is registered, then they are the only person able to attend the social trip. The partner must be separately registered with MAC. In order to attend social trips, clients need to be able to get on and off the buses without assistance. They also require good mobility to be able to walk short distances. This is to ensure the safety of clients and volunteers.

**Bus from Hill End & Sofala to Bathurst:** Each **Pension Week Thursday**, leaving **Hill End** at 9.00 am and **Sofala** at 9.30 am. The return bus departs Bathurst by no later than 1:30pm May-Sept & 2:30pm Oct-Apr. Bookings are essential for travel and must be received by BCTG by 4.00 pm on the Tuesday of each Pension Week.

**Bus from Meadow Flat, Yetholme, Walang, Napoleon Reef and Raglan to Bathurst:** Each **Pension Week Monday (excluding public holidays)**, leaving **Meadow Flat** at 9.00 am and **Bus from Rock Forest and Dunkeld to Bathurst:** Each **Off Pension Week Monday (excluding public holidays)**, leaving **Rock Forest** at 9.00 am. The return bus departs Bathurst by no later than 2:30pm. Bookings are essential for travel and must be received by BCTG by midday on the Friday prior to travel.

**Other destinations:** Please contact BCTG to discuss any other travel requirements within a 200km radius of Bathurst.

### Some Tips for our Trips

\*Please be ready 10 minutes before your appointed pick up time.

\*Please wait for instructions from your driver before entering or alighting from the vehicle. Your driver will open the door for you.

\*Unless prior arrangements have been made client contributions are paid to the driver.

\*Our drivers don't carry change so please have the correct money.