

1 September 2023 | Issue 3, 2023



LATEST NEWS

Greetings from the Desk of the CEO: Embracing Spring

It is lovely to see the weather warming up as we move towards spring, we look forward to getting out and about once more. With the changing of seasons comes the latest edition of our Spring newsletter, keeping you informed and updated on what's happening at Bathurst Community Transport.

Exciting New Group Outings: We've listened to your input and are thrilled to announce 3 group outings for spring tailored to your interests. From spectacular gardens to cultural and heritage excursions and everything in between, there's something for everyone. These outings not only offer an opportunity to socialise but to explore beyond our region.

Enriching Workshops and Information Sessions: We're delighted to inform you about a host of interesting opportunities. These initiatives, offer a range of workshops and information sessions tailored exclusively for seniors. Please contact us to arrange transport to and from these events.
(cont'd over page)

IMPORTANT DATES

1. **NSW School Holidays**
23 Sept-8 Oct
2. **October Long Weekend**
Sat 30 Sept - Mon 2 Oct
3. **Supercars**
2023 Repco Bathurst 1000
6-8 Oct
4. **Save the date: Friday 15 Dec**
BCTG Christmas Luncheon

A Helping Hand for Our Drivers: We greatly value the dedication of our drivers who ensure that you reach your destinations safely and comfortably. To make their tasks a bit smoother, please try and have the correct change when traveling. Paying the correct money eliminates the need for drivers to carry change, allowing them to focus on delivering exceptional service to you and others in our community.

A Fond Farewell to Melinda: Celebrating 15 Years of Dedicated Service: It is with a mixture of emotions that we announce the retirement of our town car driver, Melinda, who has dedicated an impressive 15 years to Bathurst Community Transport. Her contributions have been felt not only by our team but also by the countless individuals she has transported over her 15 years. Melinda's willingness to go the extra mile for our clients is truly appreciated. We wish her well as she embarks on a new chapter in her journey.



Kathryn Akre CEO

GROUP OUTINGS

The departure and return point for our social outings is the McDonald's on Durham St rear carpark . If you do not drive locally or cannot get to the departure point please let us know at time of booking and we will organise for you to get there in the morning and back in the afternoon, this is at an additional cost.

Many of the venues that you have requested require payment in advance to confirm our booking. These trips are **identified by a ticket icon**. In cases where a meal is included we will request your dietary requirements at time of booking.

Unfortunately we have had lots of late cancellations. This often means others have missed out on a trip. At short notice it is often not possible to refill the seat. **We will now be taking full payment for each trip at time of booking.** If you cancel a trip after payment has been received you will be refunded only if we can refill your seat.






Your safety and comfort is our priority. It is important to note the mobility requirements for each trip and choose trips which suit your mobility.


Advanced bookings are essential. Clients who are part of the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) or the Community Transport Program (CTP) are eligible for special subsidised rates. These clients are given priority with securing their spots for all advertised outings.

For those who are not registered under the CHSP or CTP programs, a non-subsidised rate is applicable. While we warmly welcome your participation, it is important to note that available seats are dependent on remaining spaces after priority bookings are fulfilled.


Calendar Key

Walking Alerts

-  You may need to walk more than 100m
-  You may need to navigate stairs.
-  Uneven Ground: This includes unfinished driveways, gravel pathways or grass. Unsuitable for those with wheelie walkers or walking frames
-  Wheelchair accessible
-  Not advisable for frames or wheelie walkers

 Lunch at own expense

***Please choose outings that suit your mobility.
Your safety & comfort is our priority**

 Ticketed Event: Payment must be made at time of booking as ticketed events require deposits and full payment to suppliers in advance.

No refunds will be available unless your booked space can be filled from someone from the waitlist.

Bookings are contingent on Government and venue Covid-19 guidelines. The onus is, and always will be, on the client to supply any certification requested by a venue.

Changes to outings may be made in order to comply with Government directives. Where an outing has been altered by such Government directives, clients will be entitled to a full refund on cancellation. Refunds for ticketed events, are contingent on the refund policy of the venue.



SOCIAL OUTINGS

Kandos & Rylstone

Travel to Kandos & Rylstone Visit Kandos Museum and learn about the lives of early settlers and the cement works. Travel on to Rylstone for a leisurely lunch and wander around this pretty town.

Departing Bathurst at **8:30am** and departing Rylstone at **2:00pm**

Wednesday Sept 13 & 27



**Pick Up from McDonald's
Durham St, Rear Carpark
CHSP/CTP \$23 bus & museum
NON-SUBSIDISED \$58**

Shopping Trip - Orange

A day out in Orange for shopping, and lunch. We will drop off and pick up from a central point in Orange for your convenience

Departing Bathurst at **9:30am** and departing Orange at **2:30pm**

Friday Sept 22



**Pick Up from McDonald's
Durham St, Rear Carpark
CHSP/CTP \$15 bus only
NON-SUBSIDISED \$50**

Cowra

Gardens are always beautiful in spring! Join us as we visit Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre before enjoying lunch at Cowra RSL.

Departing Bathurst at **9:00am** and Departing Cowra at **2:30pm**

Tuesday Oct 10 & 24



**Pick Up from McDonald's
Durham St, Rear Carpark
CHSP/CTP \$30 bus & garden
NON-SUBSIDISED \$65**

Shopping Trip - Lithgow

Travel to Lithgow to visit Target and other stores. Option to be dropped at Lithgow Workies for lunch at the Bistro or on Main St for one of the many cafes.

Departing Bathurst at **9:30am** and departing Lithgow at **2:30pm**

Wednesday Oct 18



**Pick Up from McDonald's
Durham St, Rear Carpark
CHSP/CTP \$15 bus only
NON-SUBSIDISED \$50**

Carcoar

Take a scenic drive to Carcoar, visit the Carcoar Dam, wind farm viewing area and a driving tour of the historical town. We head back to Blayney for lunch where the choice is yours to try cafe's, restaurants or country pubs for lunch!

Departing Bathurst at **9:00am** and Departing Blayney at **2:30pm**

Tuesday Nov 7 & 21



**Pick Up from McDonald's
Durham St, Rear Carpark
CHSP/CTP \$15 bus only
NON-SUBSIDISED \$50**

Shopping Trip - Penrith

Travel over the Blue Mountains to Penrith for a pre Christmas shopping day. Discover a multitude of lunch options all in one place.

Departing Bathurst at **8:00am** and Departing Penrith at **2:30pm**

Thursday Nov 30



**Pick Up from McDonald's
Durham St, Rear Carpark
CHSP/CTP \$20 bus only
NON-SUBSIDISED \$60**

Mystery Morning Tea

Come along for morning tea at a mystery location. Enjoy a tea or coffee with fellow BCTG clients. Morning tea at your own expense

Every Friday morning first pick ups at 8:30am

**Pick Up from your home
\$10pp**



Computer Coffee Club

Meets Monthly at Bathurst Library 2pm to 4pm.

Get Tech Tips: Gain new skills and confidence with easy hands on activities
Friendly Fun: Meet new people and learn in a fun environment
Free Afternoon Tea: afterwards relax and enjoy a cuppa and a chat
BOOK YOUR SPOT DIRECTLY WITH BATHURST LIBRARY ON 6333 6281

Call BCTG on 6331 3322 to discuss transport options





If you have eight or more friends, you can have your own bus for socials! Have a destination in mind? Call our office and we can work with you or your lifestyle village or group to accommodate your social outing ideas

Social Outings 2023 - In review

We would love your feedback!

Let us know what you loved about the trip! Tell us where do you want to go next?

May - Manildra



June - Parkes



August - Blue Mountains



July - Discover Bathurst





What's happening in the community?



Computer Coffee Club  **Meets monthly in the library**

Gain new skills and confidence with digital technology.

NEXT TOPIC:

Facebook continued: posting, commenting, sharing & more!
2-4pm Wednesday Sept 6

BOOKINGS PH: 6333 6281



D CAF (DEMENTIA CAFE)

D CAF is a meeting place here at The Neighbourhood Centre where carers and their loved one who is living with memory loss, can relax, socialise and discover ways to live well with Dementia.

D CAF runs every Wednesday between 10am-12pm.

Bookings are essential so that we can maintain the small and supportive group environment enjoyed by our members.

Give us a call on 6332 4866 to book your place.



ABOUT DEMENTIA

DEMENTIA IMPACTS CLOSE TO HALF A MILLION AUSTRALIANS AND ALMOST 16 MILLION AUSTRALIANS ARE INVOLVED IN THEIR CARE.

DEMENTIA CAN HAPPEN TO ANYBODY, BUT THE RISK INCREASES WITH AGE.

DEMENTIA FACTS

- Dementia is not a normal part of ageing.
- Dementia can affect thinking, memory and behaviour.
- No two people experience dementia in the same way.
- There is no known cure for dementia. Support for people living with dementia and their families is vital.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Learning about dementia is a good starting point.
- Understand that while the person may look fine, they have a condition of the brain that is deteriorating. This may cause the person to act irrationally at times.
- Remember that people with dementia do not enjoy crowds or noisy environments.
- Talk in a gentle, matter of fact way.
- Keep sentences short, focusing on one idea at a time.
- Allow plenty of time for what you have said to be understood.
- Ask about specific ways you can help.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Dementia Australia offers support, information, education and counselling.

Contact the National Dementia Helpline on 1800 100 500 or visit www.dementia.org.au

BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL

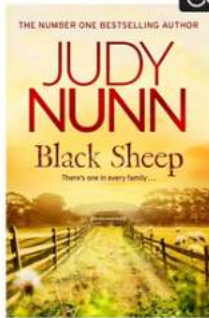
Author Talk

Judy Nunn



**WEDNESDAY
27 SEPTEMBER, 10.30AM**

Bathurst Library
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
6333 6281



Best-selling author Judy Nunn returns to Bathurst for her latest sweeping historical novel *Black Sheep*.

From the Shearing Wars of Queensland to the close colonial community of Goulburn, to the trenches of the Western Front, Judy Nunn once again brings Australian history vividly to life.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase on the day.

ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

CENTRAL WEST COMMUNITY EXPO

Wednesday, 6 September 2023 | 10am-2pm
PCYC, 2-10 Seymour Street, Orange



Come along and see what is available in your community

OVER 60 SERVICE PROVIDERS REPRESENTING, HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, DISABILITY, AGED, GOVERNMENT, LEGAL AND SOCIAL AND LIFESTYLE SECTORS

Freebies Offer: - Revenue NSW - Services Australia - Centimark - Free Birth Certificates for eligible people - Free Health checks - Breast Screen NSW - Free BSG - Coffee van on site

NSW Education | **NDSP PLAN MANAGERS** | **Cerebral Palsy ALLIANCE**

The Neighbourhood Centre

MEN CONNECT

Men Connect is a group that enables men to come together to share, to learn and to participate in the community.

THIS GROUP MAY HELP:

- Feel connected, heard and understood
- Develop friendships
- Enjoyment and fulfillment
- Develop new skills and knowledge
- To reduce the feeling of isolation.



WHERE TO FIND US:

Men Connect happens every Tuesday night 6.00pm - 7.30pm at The Neighbourhood Centre, 96 Russell St, Bathurst

RSVP by giving us a call on 6332 4866.

 [Facebook.com/MenConnectBathurst](https://www.facebook.com/MenConnectBathurst)

 [@TheNeighbourhoodCentre2795](https://www.instagram.com/TheNeighbourhoodCentre2795)

Discover More.

New Volunteers!

Winter brought with it a number of new volunteer drivers who are eager and ready to make a difference in the lives of our clients. These dedicated individuals have joined our team, bringing with them enthusiasm and a commitment to serve our community.

Some of you may have already had the pleasure of meeting these wonderful volunteers during our group outings or when they were paired up for buddy shifts. Their warmth and dedication have already made a positive impact, and we're excited to officially introduce them to our entire community.

Our commitment to providing reliable and caring transportation services remains steadfast, thanks to the dedication of our volunteers.

At Bathurst Community Transport, we are always open to welcoming new volunteers who share our passion for helping others. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our mission, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who rely on our services.

Do you use our Town Car?

We have a number of spots opened up in the town car!

Many of our clients who travel to a weekly appointment or activity book a regular trip in the town car. We have recently had a few changes in these bookings and a few spaces have opened both up earlier and later in the day. We try and accommodate as many people as possible each day. Our town car can be busy on some days, booking as far in advance as possible is advisable. When you are scheduling an appointment you may like to speak with us first to see what times we have available to get you there and back before confirming a time with your practitioner.

What is the town car?

Our Town Car is a Kia Carnival which can accommodate wheelchair users which takes our clients around Bathurst each day. The car operates 8:30am to 3:30pm Monday to Friday. Our friendly drivers Melinda & Scott look forward to helping use.



Who can use it?

Anyone who is registered as a client of Bathurst Community Transport can use the car. Our driver collects clients from their homes, for those who reside within the 80km/h speed limit zones, and delivers them to their appointments, shopping or social engagements within Bathurst. If you live outside the 80km/h speed limit zones but are in Bathurst CBD you can still book the Town Car to get from one place to another within the CBD.

Friends?

Do you have friends who need help with transport? Please encourage them to get in touch. We would love to help them.

Client Testimonial

I highly recommend Bathurst Community Transport's town car service. It is truly wonderful! The vehicles are always impeccably clean, creating a comfortable and safe atmosphere. The drivers are not only helpful and courteous but also possess excellent knowledge of the area, ensuring smooth navigation. They always know exactly where they are going. From start to finish, the professionalism and reliability of this service is outstanding. I have complete confidence in their expertise and have consistently had positive experiences. If you're in need of reliable transportation, I can't recommend this service enough. Bathurst Community Transport consistently delivers exceptional customer service, making every journey a pleasant one.

Thank you, Bathurst Community Transport, for your outstanding service!

Elizabeth R

Vale Jeff Larsen

It is with heavy hearts and deep sorrow that we farewell our dear friend and dedicated member of our Bathurst Community Transport family, Jeff Larsen who passed away on June 6, 2023. Jeff's commitment to BCT spanned many years, during which he tirelessly served as a volunteer driver and driving assessor for our team. His dedication not only showcased his passion for helping others but also his willingness to go the extra mile to ensure the well-being of our community members. Jeff's warm smile, friendly demeanor, and genuine care touched the lives of all those fortunate enough to cross paths with him. He will always be remembered and deeply missed.





**BATHURST
COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**
Freedom to Travel

bathursttours.com.au



1300 728 321

We are thrilled to introduce you to Bathurst Tours, the premier tour and transfer company that caters to the needs of both visitors and adventurous locals in Bathurst. As the sister company of Bathurst Community Transport, our mission goes beyond providing exceptional service—we are committed to reinvesting our profits back into Bathurst Community Transport, ensuring a sustainable future for this vital service. It's a win-win situation for everyone involved!



Upcoming Tours: Spring is the time to be getting out and about as the warmer weather takes hold. It's the perfect time to discover Bathurst and beyond with a Bathurst Tour. Here's what's on offer!

Mayfield Garden Private Exclusive Tour - Wednesdays & Thursdays: Sept 6, 7, 13, 14 & 20, Oct 25 & 26, Nov 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 & 30 - \$345pp

Elevate your Mayfield experience to a new level with our Private Exclusive Tour. A personalized journey awaits discerning guests, offering an intimate exploration of the garden's secrets. Prepare to be enchanted like never before. Our bespoke tour includes a private lunch within the glasshouse, accompanied by wines perfectly curated to complement the flavors. Let your taste buds dance amidst Mayfield's beauty.

Intimate Group Setting: 4 to 6 Guests Only

Mayfield Garden Shuttle Bus - Your Gateway to Delight!: Sept 19 - \$65pp (garden entry additional)

Embarking on a day trip to Mayfield Garden is now a breeze. Departing Bathurst Railway Station at 11am, an unforgettable day out is just a shuttle ride away.

Mayfield Garden Season Festival Shuttle Bus: Tuesdays and Thursdays from September 26 to October 19 - \$65pp (garden entry additional)

Experience Mayfield Garden in its full glory during the Spring Season Festival openings. Departing Bathurst Visitor Information centre at 9:30am join us on for an enchanting journey. Contact us to arrange group tours on alternate dates.

Grapes, Barrels, Mash & Stills Tour - 1st Saturday of each month - \$179pp includes tastings and lunch

Unveil the magic of wine, gin, whisky & beer making as we take you on a journey through vineyards, barrels, and the art of crafting exquisite beverages.

Cool Climate Winery Tour - 2nd Saturday of each month - \$65pp tastings at your own expense

Sip, swirl, and savor! Join us for a delightful exploration of cool-climate wineries that produce wines with a unique character. Immerse yourself in the elegance of wines that thrive in the crispness of the changing seasons.

Bathurst Brewery & Distillery Tour - 3rd Saturday of each month - \$145pp includes tastings and lunch

Raise your glass to innovation! Embark on a captivating tour of Bathurst's finest brewery and distillery. Discover the craftsmanship behind your favorite brews and spirits, and relish the blend of tradition and contemporary flavours.

Spread the Word: Share with Family and Friends!

Spread the news about Bathurst Tours! Share with your loved ones, and together, support Bathurst Community Transport. It's a choice that benefits everyone.

Book Your Adventure Today!

Embark on unforgettable journeys and explore Bathurst's hidden gems. Visit our website or call us to learn more about our tours and transfers. Choose Bathurst Tours—for exceptional service, lasting memories, and a thriving community.

BATHURST COMMUNITY TRANSPORT GROUP INC.

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