

June 2021

AN UPDATE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

GYMPIE Medical Transport



On Monday June 7, 2021, Federal Member for Wide Bay, Llew O'Brien MP visited GMT office in Monkland Street to officially handover the grant for funding towards the purchase of car 4. The grant was through Round 6 of the Stronger Communities program, supported by the Department of industry, Science, Energy and Resources.

During his visit Mr O'Brien said the GMT service fills a much-needed gap in our community enabling people to travel to their appointments where there are no public transport options, or the cost of travel is prohibitive.

"Gympie Medical Transport is a great local initiative and I encourage anyone who is interested in supporting them to get in touch with the committee by calling them on 0492 980 083" Mr O'Brien said.



GMT are grateful for the support from Llew O'Brien's office.

Highlights in this issue

From the President P.1

Visit by Llew O'Brien MP P.1.

May Statistics P.2

In the Community P.2.

From the President's Desk

Welcome to our June 2021 Newsletter. Already, we are halfway through the year and time seems to be flying by. The GMT office is seeing a marked increase in demand for services provided. This means our marketing strategy and community interaction is reaching the people who need to be informed of the great work GMT are doing.

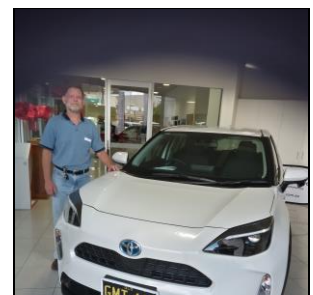
Some interesting statistics to date for your information - we now have over 300 referrals, 200 clients using our services, our cars have travelled 40,000 kilometres since February, and we are now in possession of our 4th car.

Each week sees the admin volunteers answering more telephone calls, responding to queries regarding travel dates and offering advice on all things travel related including the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme which is available to eligible patients who are seeking medical appointments outside the Gympie region when the nature of the appointment is not available or offered in Gympie.

Increased transport usage also means yet another call for volunteer drivers. We have thankfully recruited some new volunteer drivers who are always ready to lend a hand however now that we have a fourth car we are at times scrambling to find drivers who have not already committed their time to another cause

If you have some free time or looking for something to fill in your days, please consider putting your hand up to become a volunteer driver. You get to meet some great people and make some new friends along the highways.

The cars lined up in the photo below reflects the positive interaction GMT is having with the residents of Gympie requiring transport. 4 Cars in 4 months!



Graham, our IT Volunteer at the handover of car 4

MISSION STATEMENT

Establish a community-driven organisation staffed by volunteers that provides quality non-urgent medical transportation for residents of Gympie and Regions to specialist centres and hospitals as far north as Hervey Bay, south to Brisbane and all points between.

Volunteers urgently needed!!

GMT is steadily growing, and each week sees us answering more calls from the community looking for transport to appointments.

GMT is seeking volunteers in all areas listed below. If you have a few spare hours each week to offer your expertise, please consider contacting the office to make an appointment to discuss your skills.

- **Drivers (Urgent)**
- **Fleet Management**
- **Administration & Finance**
- **Company Secretarial:**
- **Fundraising:**

GMT is registered with Centrelink. If you have skills that suit one of our Volunteer needs above, and you need to fulfil volunteer hours to meet your Centrelink requirements, please give our office a call on.

0492 980 083



Gympie Medical Transport now has 4 cars, check out the numberplates.

GMT111

GMT222

GMT333

GMT444



GYMPIE MEDICAL TRANSPORT STATISTICS FOR MAY 2021

<p>27.3 Training Hours</p> 	<p>291.05 Administration Hours</p> 	<p>3.15 Fundraising hours</p> 	<p>Car Starts</p> <p>GMT111 19 Trips, 4421 klms</p> <p>GMT222 19 Trips, 4031 klms</p> <p>GMT333 18Trips, 3758 klms</p> <p>GMT444 4 Trips, 1108 klms</p>
<p>\$5000 donation from Freemasons</p> 	<p>Bev Goodall Receiving the Building Stronger Communities grant through Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources handover with Llew O'Brien MP</p> 		
<p>MAINTENANCE HOURS</p> <p>19.1 hours</p> 			

In the Community

On 8 April Bev Goodall attended Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander gathering to present an overview of GMT and how the service could assist their members in the Gympie region. GMT's service was well received by those in attendance.

GMT received an invitation to attend the Gympie Quota Club to celebrate their 60th Changeover luncheon at the Gympie RSL held on 17 April. GMT were grateful for the kind donation which will assist with ongoing marketing material and car seat covers for the four cars.

An invitation was also extended to GMT from the Gympie Senior Citizens Annual General Meeting held on 12th June. During proceedings, Bev Goodall, President of GMT was able to present a detailed overview of the service offered by our dedicated band of volunteers.



Happy birthday to our VOLLIES... Steven A, Mark G, Gerry H, Rhonda W, Merryn C, Julie S, Sally C, Graham M, Heather T and Kevin S.

Age is no barrier for client travel. GMT has identified the need for all age groups to have access to the transport being offered by the service, not just those who are over 65 years of age. If you know you have appointments outside of Gympie coming up, please give the office a call (0492 980 083) as soon as you know time and date to ensure your booking is secured.