

GREEN CROSS E-NEWS



SUMMER 2020/21

THE GREEN CROSS PROJECT INC
BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Members and supporters of Green Cross Project Inc (GCPI),

Plenty has happened since our Winter newsletter.

In late August 2020, GCPI held its Annual General Meeting. A key highlight was the creation of a new membership category: 'Honorary Life Member'. I am pleased to formally announce that the Committee has appointed Mr Barry Jamison KLJ OMLJ as an Honorary Life Member in recognition of his long and significant support of GCPI. Mr Jamison has been a member of the Committee for over 20 years and has recently retired from his accounting business. We thank him for his efforts and are delighted to recognise him in this fitting way.

We had two GCPI Committee of Management members retire at the AGM: Dr Robert West and Mrs Davina Johnson OAM. I thank them both for their many years of service to GCPI and take the opportunity to acknowledge our newest Committee of Management member Dr Ann Tomlinson. As a GP Dr Tomlinson's knowledge will no doubt make a significant and positive contribution.

GCPI has been saddened in the passing of two key members in recent months: Monsignor Tony Toms and

Chev Will Bailey AO. The contribution that these two members made to GCPI has been significant and both will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be extended to their families.

GCPI is proud to co-support the Street Doctor program (with cohealth). The Street Doctor has seen a significant increase in demand for its services, with 344 patients during 2019-20, an increase of almost 60% from the previous a 12-month periods. Given that the Street Doctor has been busy with CoVID-19 testing and a range of vaccinations for disadvantaged members of our community, it is likely that 2020-21 will see even more demand for its services.

Our Annual Report has now been finalised. For those that have not had a chance to read it, please feel free to access a copy via the website.

Finally, for those interested in receiving these newsletters, regularly please email the Honorary Secretary and request to be placed on the mailing list at vicsecretaryolj@gmail.com.

Anthony Kennedy OAM
Chairman, GCPI

GCPI GOES SOCIAL AND LINKS IN

GCP has established a Linked-in account. To find out what is happening at GCPI in real-time please 'link-in' to our page and receive our regular up-dates. To visit our page click [here](#).

For further information please feel free to email Committee of Management member Cesar Lopez at Cesar.Lopez@cam.org.au.

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NO UNEXPECTED SHOCKS FOR MONASH HEALTH

GCPI Committee of Management was delighted to learn that Monash Health has installed a defibrillator into the Outreach bus. Not only can Monash Health provide a range of health services but it can now be very confident that they are well placed should an emergency occur.

The device is equipped with enhanced Real CPR Help, featuring a full-colour display, and cloud connectivity that can automatically report AED readiness.

Key features include:

- Dynamic rescue images on screen guiding users through rescue;
- Powerful Real CPR Help® which makes the defibrillator easier for anyone to use; and
- Pads that can be used for both adult and pediatric rescues.

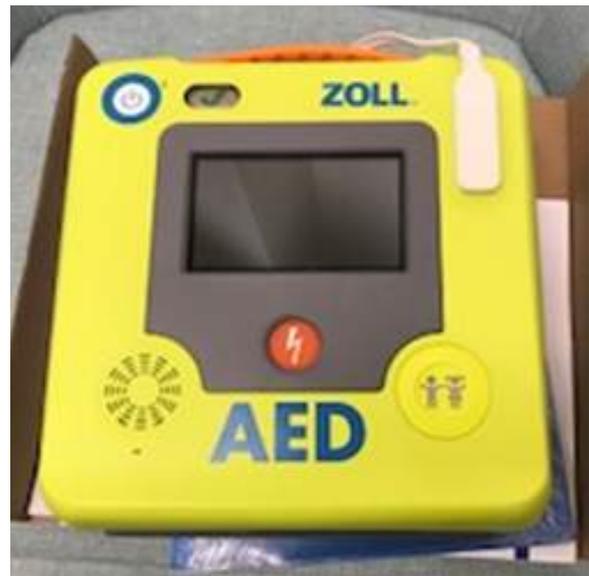


Image: Monash Health has installed a defibrillator into the GCPI Outreach Bus

GCPI'S BUS BECOMES A CORNERSTONE OF MONASH HEALTH'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 SPIKE

With a significant spike in the number the number of CoVID-19 cases in the Casey and Dandenong municipalities in September 2020, Monash Health was able to quickly deploy GCPI's mobile bus to undertake CoVID-19 testing. The Victorian Government also established an additional four testing facilities in the region at this time, bringing the total number of sites to 11.

The CGPI Committee of Management would like to think that it has, in a small way, helped to contain the

CoVID-19 cluster in the Casey and Dandenong regions and prevent the continuation of Melbourne's hard-lockdowns.

In addition to supporting the State's response to CoVID-19, the bus has also been used to provide clients with a wide range of health services. "Having the bus helps us be instantly recognisable to our clients, and is a brilliant way to transport equipment safely and securely. It also provides some privacy for clients if required" said Caryn Tocker, Assistant Director, Monash Health.



Image: A pop-up coronavirus testing clinic was established in the Dandenong Mall, amid increased efforts to stem the cluster in Melbourne's south-east. Image courtesy of the 'The Age'.



KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE

JOHN HERBIG



Above: John Herbig, a member of the Committee of Management

How long have you been a member of the Committee of Management?

I was admitted into the Order of Saint Lazarus in 1995

and Chev. Tony Sallmann AO LVO asked me to become an active in Green Cross Project Inc. So, in 1995, I joined a small team that worked hard to run Green Cross. It evolved into an incorporated entity with a Committee of Management. I am still a member of it to this day.

What roles have you played as a member of the Committee of Management?

I am a "Hands On" person. At various times, I served as Secretary, as Treasurer and as Chairman. And now, very happily, as a Committee Member. When serving as Secretary-General of the Australian Grand Priory, I was somewhat less active as an office bearer of GCPI.

What do you like/value most about GCPI?

Our mission is to provide service to the homeless and marginalised. We try to provide that with our outreach buses and with the wonderful help of our partners. Our buses are the means to achieve our mission and goals.

What encouraged you to join the Committee of Management?

The challenges of contributing to help the homeless and marginalised are being met by this very active team. It is most gratifying to be part of it.

ST VINCENT FEVER CLINIC & COHEALTH TEAM-UP TO CONDUCT JOINT HEALTH SERVICES

During Melbourne's second hard lockdown (when most homeless drop-in services were closed) the cohealth homeless team, in partnership with the St Vincent's fever clinic team, undertook joint outreach visits to people residing in Emergency Accommodation (budget hotels and rooming houses) in Melbourne's CBD and inner west.

Using the GCPI bus at these locations, the cohealth team were able to set up a mobile clinic to engage with people to ensure they had access to food, health information and resources, mental health and alcohol and other drugs support as well as flexible access to Covid-19 testing. Having access to the GCPI bus significantly increased the capacity for testing within the homeless community and supported them in staying informed and safe during the peak of the pandemic.



Image: the GCPI bus in action working across the CBD



VALE MONSIGNOR TONY TOMS

The GCPI Committee of Management was saddened to learn of the passing of former Committee member and long-time supporter Monsignor Tony Toms.

Tony joined Green Cross Project Inc. in 2003 and served as Deputy President until 2017. Although he became unwell, he continued to serve on the Committee and remained as a member until his passing. Over many years he played an active role in the outreach-bus liaison team in the western suburbs, initially in cooperation with the Western Region Health Centre and subsequently with cohealth.

Former Chairman of GCPI, Dr Walter Uhlenbruch AO KLJ OMLJ said that "we will always remember Tony in our hearts as a faithful servant of our Lord, an erudite priest and scholar, a great friend".



Image: Monsignor Tony Toms with Pope John Paul II

VALE CHEV WILL BAILEY AO

On 13 August 2020 Chev Will Bailey AO passed away at his home city of Geelong in Victoria.

GCPI has lost a long-time member and generous supporter. Will had a long and successful career in the commercial and financial sectors and in 1989 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for service to commerce and business, particularly in the field of banking. In 1991 the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa was conferred on him by the Monash University for service to the community.

Amongst his personal activities, Will and his family ran a sheep and cattle farm and a vineyard at Strath Creek, Victoria. He was also a collector of vintage cars, most notably Bristol motor cars.

The Committee of Management extends its condolences to his wife, Dorothy Bailey and his extended family.



Image: Chev Will Bailey longtime member of GCPI

WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

The Green Cross Project Inc Committee of Management expresses its deepest gratitude for the \$5,000 donation from the St. Andrew's Brighton Opportunity Shop Fund.

Not only is this donation most welcome, but comes at an important time for GCPI, given the impacts of CoVID-19 and the increased demand for all health services provided on our buses.

Thank you to Mrs Heather Sanderson and the volunteers of the St. Andrew's Opportunity Shop.



Image: Mrs Heather Sanderson presenting the St. Andrew's Brighton Opportunity Shop donation to GCPI's Dr. Ian Dickson AM



GCPI CHRISTMAS PARCELS TO THE HOMELESS

Each year for the past 10 years GCPI has provided Christmas parcels for distribution to homeless persons in Melbourne via its partner agencies. This year GCPI has made up around 220 parcels of chocolates - 120 of these will be distributed by cohealth in the northern and western suburbs, and 100 will be distributed in the Monash Health region.

With increasing levels of unemployment and underemployment in Melbourne's suburbs, many charities are now under greater pressure providing their services. It was in this context the Committee of Management decided this year it was even more important to ensure that society's most marginalised are not forgotten.

For far too many people Christmas can be a very difficult time. For some people, the humble GCPI parcel may be the only gift they receive at Christmas time. So, while a confectionery gift pack may be small it is certainly an important gesture.



Above: GCPI volunteers making up 220 Christmas parcels for disadvantaged people in Melbourne's northern, western and south eastern suburbs

CONTACT

Green Cross Project Inc.
C/o Jamison Alliot
Suite 2, 1949 Malvern Road
MALVERN EAST VIC 3145

DONATE NOW

To make a tax deductible donation to GCPI please email the Honorary Secretary, advising of the amount and your contact details.

BSB: 013 030
Account: 4404 37353

Honorary Secretary
vicsecretaryolj@gmail.com

