

GREEN CROSS PROJECT INC

NEWSLETTER



WINTER 2026
EDITION

Chairman's Note

The past six months have been a period of mixed fortunes for GCPI. The highly successful Gala Dinner at Ormond College and the acquisition of a fourth vehicle are examples of some very positive outcomes. However, the passing of the Rt Rev the Hon Dr Peter Hollingworth AC OBE KStJ SchLJ GCMLJ has been a source of great sadness for all GCPI members.

As outlined in this newsletter, GCPI was delighted by the support provided by the Order of Saint Lazarus (Victorian Commandery) through a highly successful fundraising event that raised approximately \$40,000. It was a great pleasure to present the keys to the new vehicle to the Operations Manager, Community and Ambulatory Services at Bayside Health during the Gala Dinner. This presentation symbolised not only the beginning of an exciting new partnership but also GCPI's ongoing commitment to assisting the homeless, marginalised, and disadvantaged members of our community.

Earlier in the year, GCPI also received funds from the Coopers Foundation. These funds, coupled with those raised from the Victorian Commandery, have enabled GCPI to complete the refurbishment of the new vehicle and cover the initial costs associated with bringing it into service in partnership with Bayside Health.

The passing of Dr Hollingworth is particularly sad given the strong interest and support he consistently showed towards GCPI. He not only generously hosted the Committee of Management

meetings at his Melbourne CBD office, but also attended them as an observer. His generosity, wisdom, and insights greatly contributed to GCPI's strength and development. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Hollingworth family during this difficult time.



Above: The late Dr Hollingworth & Mrs Ann Hollingworth DStJ

I once again reiterate my thanks to those who have taken out membership for 2025–26 and encourage those who have not done so to contact the Hon. Treasurer, Chev David Richards KLJ, at dcrich1945@gmail.com or [click here](#) for further details.

Anthony Kennedy OAM
Chairman – GCPI



GCPI secures a new LDV van for Bayside Health

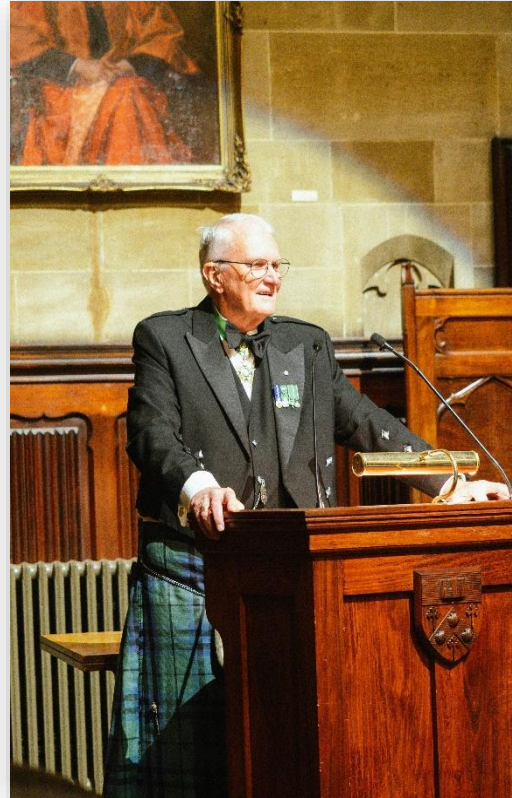
Over the past 12 months, the Committee of Management has worked tirelessly to raise the funds needed to secure and refurbish our next vehicle. GCPI was delighted to receive generous support from the Eirene Lucas Foundation and Coopers Foundation. This contribution not only helped us achieve our fundraising target but also served as a strong endorsement of the work we do within the community. The Foundation's support has provided renewed motivation for the Committee of Management and strengthened our confidence in GCPI's future. Thanks to this assistance, we are well-positioned to continue delivering our services and pursuing our goals in the years ahead.



Order of Saint Lazarus holds fundraising dinner at Ormond College for GCPI

One of the major highlights since the last edition of this newsletter was the joint fundraising dinner in April 2026 hosted by the Order of Saint Lazarus and GCPI. Co-hosted by the Master of Ormond, Dr Areti Metuamate, and Lady Potter AC CRMI, the event was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all who attended.

A special feature of the evening was the display of GCPI's VACCHO vehicle at the entrance to Ormond College, providing members and guests with a firsthand opportunity to learn more about GCPI's unique partnership model.



Above: Dr Ian Dickson AM KLJ MMLJ

We were delighted that Mr Jim O'Shea and his wife, Misha, were able to showcase the vehicle and speak with guests about its deployment across rural and regional Victoria, highlighting the practical impact of mobile healthcare services in disadvantaged communities.

The President of the Victorian Commandery, Dr Ian Dickson AM KLJ MMLJ, expertly served as Master of Ceremonies, guiding the evening's proceedings with warmth and professionalism. Guests were also shown a video demonstrating how GCPI's vehicles are utilised by VACCHO, cohealth, and Monash Health to deliver healthcare services directly to vulnerable and underserved communities.



The video provided compelling insight into the importance of bringing healthcare to those who might otherwise miss out on essential services and illustrated how this proactive approach can make a significant difference in the lives of people who often fall through the cracks of the health system.



Above: Anthony Kennedy OAM, Heather Sanderson, Ian Edwards, and Kunal Mahajan with the new vehicle.

To view the video, please visit: [Donate - Green Cross Project Inc.](#)

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of the keys to GCPI's new LDV van by the Chairman of GCPI to Mr Ian Edwards of Bayside Health (Peninsula Care Group). Mr Edwards spoke about Bayside Health's plans for the vehicle and how it would be used to support people experiencing homelessness and other forms of disadvantage, continuing the shared commitment of GCPI's healthcare partners to reaching those most in need.

Following the presentation, the Chairman delivered a short address reflecting on GCPI's 30-year history of bridging gaps in healthcare for vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. He acknowledged the vision of Tony Sallmann AO LVO, the leadership of the late Dr Walter Uhlenbruch AO, and the ongoing support of healthcare partners, volunteers, donors, and members whose contributions of time, talent, and treasure have enabled GCPI to overcome challenges and continue its mission of delivering care, restoring dignity, and creating positive change.



Above: Bryan Stertern-Gill and Domenic La Rocca inspecting the VACCHO vehicle.



Above: Committee of Management member, Max Carr and wife Brenda.

The speech concluded by highlighting the enduring power of community action, compassion, and shared responsibility to improve the lives of those often overlooked.



Above: Anthony Kennedy OAM and Ian Edwards.



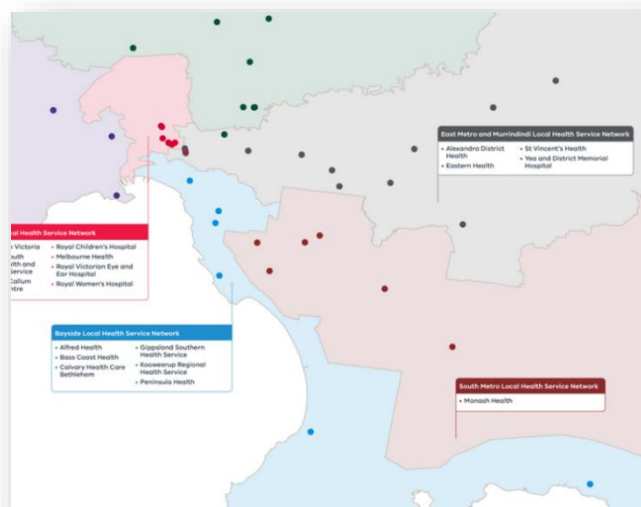
Above: Ormond College grand dining room with GCPI members, guests and friends

For a copy of the speech, please visit: [Resources – Green Cross Project Inc](https://www.greencrossproject.org/resources/gcpi-speech-2025)

More information on Bayside Health

During 2025, GCPI was engaged in discussions with Peninsula Health about establishing a community-focused health outreach program. These conversations were driven by a shared commitment to improving access to healthcare and strengthening support for vulnerable communities.

Map 1 – Metropolitan Area of Bayside Health



Source: [Source: Local Health Service Networks / health.vic.gov.au](https://health.vic.gov.au)

In 2026, several GCPI members were surprised to learn that our discussions would continue with Bayside Health rather than Peninsula Health. This change reflects broader reforms and restructuring across Victoria's public health system. Established in January 2026, Bayside Health brings together five respected health services:

- Alfred Health
- Bass Coast Health
- Gippsland Southern Health Service
- Kooweerup Regional Health Service
- Peninsula Health



As one of Victoria's largest integrated health networks, Bayside Health operates more than 15 major sites and a wide range of community clinics. Its services support people at every stage of life—from maternity and newborn care through to aged care and specialist health services. This expanded network enhances the capacity to deliver coordinated, high-quality healthcare across metropolitan, coastal, and regional communities.

Care Groups Designed Around Community Needs

To ensure local needs are understood and community voices are reflected in service delivery, Bayside Health has established three dedicated care groups:

- Alfred Care Group
- Peninsula Care Group
- Regional Care Group

These care groups work collaboratively to provide seamless, patient-centred care across the entire catchment area. Their integrated approach helps ensure that, regardless of where a person enters the health system, their care remains connected, coordinated, and responsive to their needs.

GCPI welcomes Peninsula Health's inclusion within the broader Bayside Health network. We see this as a positive step towards greater collaboration, stronger service integration, and improved health outcomes for the communities we serve.

ANOTHER WAY TO SUPPORT GCPI

Do you have items that are too good to throw out in the rubbish but that you no longer want cluttering up your house? Then consider donating these items to GCPI. GCPI will happily accept the items and sell them via Gumtree, with all proceeds being donated to GCPI. For further information, please email: vicsecretaryolj@gmail.com

DONATE NOW

To make a tax-deductible donation to GCPI, please email the Secretary with the amount and your contact details.

BSB: 013 030
Account: 440437353

Secretary:

vicsecretaryolj@gmail.com

AGM Date

GCPI AGM is planned for 24 August 2026, so save the date in your diary.

Green Cross Project Inc
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Are you on LinkedIn?



If not, please visit the GCPI page by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12464138/>

