



# NORTHERN PASSENGER TRANSPORT NETWORK VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

JUNE EDITION

**G**rasshoppers are starting to become a nuisance and we would like to ask if drivers could give the car a quick squirt if convenient to remove any grasshoppers. Unfortunately if they are left too long they will stain the paintwork.



## NEW STAFF

Hi everyone, my name is Cynthia Arthur, and I have just started a casual position with Northern Passenger Transport. I was born and raised in Melrose and have lived here all my life. Married to Neville, we have three children and nine beautiful grandchildren.



We live on the family farm just out of Melrose. I continue to play social / veterans tennis, and follow our grandchildren's sports also. I look forward to talking to you soon.

## MOBILE PHONE USE WHILE DRIVING

Driving while using a mobile phone is not permitted and is illegal and can cause both physical and cognitive (thought) distraction, leading to impaired driving performance. Using a mobile phone while driving can significantly impair a driver's:

- reaction time
- visual search patterns or scanning the road ahead
- ability to maintain speed and position on the road
- ability to judge safe gaps in traffic
- general awareness of other road users



Research has shown that using a mobile phone while driving increases crash risk by at least four times. Typically, run-off-the-road crashes and rear end crashes are most commonly associated with mobile phone usage.

If we need to call a driver we will leave a message on the mobile and understand that you will return the call as soon as you can. **You must not** answer the phone whilst driving.



## CONFIDENTIALITY

While travelling with clients, conversations regarding the client's family and friends is their own personal matter. There may be times when confidential information is raised at Volunteers meetings which is where the information stays.

It is really appreciated that Volunteers keep the staff up-to-date with who's who and what's what, you are our eyes and ears in the community but the information stops at the office.

If you have any issues regarding clients safety / welfare please contact the Office Manager on 08 8666 2255

## OFFICE REVIEW

A big thank you to the volunteers who have offered to be interviewed in the upcoming review by the Department of Community and Social Inclusion.

*Thank You*

**Northern Passenger Transport Network**

**Manager: Lyn Forster**

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MELROSE SA 5483**

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## Volunteer Meetings

Orroroo - 9am  
19 June

Jamestown - 1pm  
19 June

Quorn - 10:30am  
22 June

Peterborough - 10:40am  
19 June

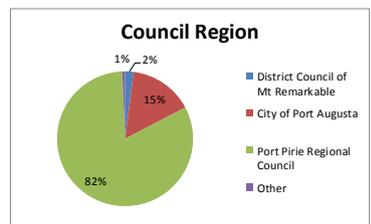
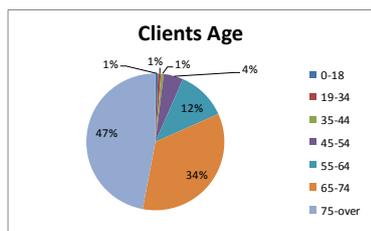
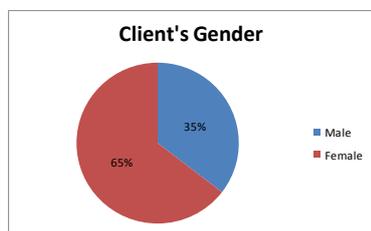
Gladstone - 2:40pm  
19 June

Melrose - 1pm  
22 June

### BUS SURVEY RESULTS

NPTN sent surveys to all of the medical bus clients in February and we have received approximately half of those back completed.

We have shown below some basic information regarding the survey respondents.



### FIGURES—APRIL

Trips: 53  
Kilometres: 18,142  
Hours: 358

### VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

We would like to thank those volunteers who have been ringing the office when they are unable to attend the next volunteer meeting, to see if there are any trips that they can do.

This is a great way of spreading the trips around, especially if there have not been many people attend the volunteer meeting for your town.

It certainly makes our job easier and is much appreciated.

### SPEEDING FINES

A friendly reminder that any speeding fines that occur whilst driving a NPTN vehicle will be the driver's responsibility.

Remember to slow down as you approach the smaller towns as these can certainly be where police are waiting. Another area to be aware of is the changing speed limits as you approach Adelaide.



### VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Clients have rights as do volunteers. As volunteers you are in charge of the vehicle and representing Northern Passenger Transport Network and with that comes great responsibility. Volunteers have the right to say **NO!** to us as office staff and to clients with unreasonable requests.

- Never feel pressured that you **MUST** drive.
- Do not accept any unreasonable requests from clients.
- Do not accept any unreasonable behaviour from clients.

Your work is invaluable to our communities and be assured that you are never being taken for granted.

You can bring up any issues at the volunteer meetings or phone the office on 8666 2255 with any concerns.

### SUPPORTING BODIES

Thank you to the following Councils and Government departments for the work and assistance throughout each and every year. We appreciate it!



"Volunteers don't get paid because their worthless, but because they're priceless."