

# UNITE!

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 38 | JULY 2024  
WINTER EDITION

CDC VICTORIA'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FEATURING UPDATES, DEVELOPMENTS AND THE PEOPLE WHO DRIVE THE BUSINESS.



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## WELCOME ONBOARD TO ALL OUR NEW EMPLOYEES

Craig Vinall, Rajiv Kumar, Jino Joseph, Jagroop Singh (BALLARAT), **John Stephenson, Naveen Kumar, Peter Fort, Daniel Leigh, Peter Rooks, Rosmari Ruiz, Colin Johns, Dushyanth Mupparaju, Petar Lackovic, Abhishek Verma, Milap Sharma (GEELONG)**, Mary Crump, Ravinder Singh, Clare Bleakley, Matthew Emms (MILDURA), **Gerard Faife, Salman Ali, Mehdi Dehghan Najmabadi, Nikhil Kulkarni, Vishal Vishal, Amarjot Singh, Jian Luo, Martin Lucia, Mose Matavao, Aravindh Rama Krishnan, Damir Totic, Lila Sing Thapa, Paul McAlister, Karanbir Singh (OAKLEIGH)**, Sartaj Singh, Kamaldeep Katoch, Md Sajjad Hossain (TULLAMARINE), **Jessika Harvey, Raghav Sreenivasa, William Hawksworth (HEAD OFFICE)**, Endalke Hailu Aragaw, Jimmy Tjong, Luis Gaudencio Jr Medina, Suman Pradhan (WYNDHAM)

## CEO'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the Winter edition of Unite.

For me this is the toughest time of the year, freezing cold weather, wet roads, and much less daylight. Not surprisingly these elements make driving much more hazardous. I am very pleased to report that overall, our accident rates are trending downward, and this is a direct result of better and safer driving. As professional drivers your ability to recognise early potential incidents before they happen is gold! Victoria has been the first state to completely roll out the Situational Awareness training package and the GreenRoad safe driver tool and I have no doubt this is supporting our improved safety performance.

I would like to thank everyone for their diligence in completing this training and using the GreenRoad tool to self-check safer driving performance. Our GreenRoad safety incidents are reducing, and we are therefore providing a smoother and safer journey for all of our passengers. Please continue to use this valuable tool and keep a watch on the front face as our accident rates continue to reduce.

Please stay rugged up through these Winter months and look after your health. You are so important in providing this valuable service to the community. If you ever doubt this, just imagine you are the person waiting at the bus stop that is just a pole and has no shelter and you turn your eyes to the left and see the CDC Bus approaching; what relief that moment brings is hard to describe!

Unfortunately, at the time of writing, I cannot give you much of an update on the current tender for all of our Metropolitan contracts in Wyndham, Sunshine, Tullamarine, and Oakleigh. We are up to round three of submissions for all the required documents. The government has advised that the outcome will be known by the end of September at the latest. Please do not worry about the outcome because regardless of the outcome, we believe Government and all the Operators will be working together to ensure all employees have opportunities to continue within the industry.

Heaps is going on around the State and within our great communities. In Ballarat, the team successfully completed the White Night shuttle service again, well done!

Ballarat also celebrated NAIDOC week with a Smoking and Welcome to Country ceremony by Uncle Barry.



Our Ballarat amenities are in dire need of an upgrade and the team has been working hard on how we can achieve this outcome. Thank you for your patience with this, I am sure it will be worth the wait!

Geelong is at the other end of their amenities upgrade and please check out the pictures to prove miracles can happen! Geelong will continue to grow as we have made the business decision to consolidate our Sunshine and Geelong paint shops. This decision was largely forced upon us due to the complexity of

the Sunshine leased property and we have been working with the team and the union to minimise the impact on our staff.



You will find a nice article on the great work Vision Australia and the Seeing Eye Dog do as they visited the Geelong depot and at Ballarat, the BusAble program returned after some time off and was well-received by the Chinese Australian Community.

Both are great initiatives to support those in need of a little extra assistance in utilising public transport.

July is a big month with NAIDOC week and the opportunity to recognise the past and make for a better future. Respecting and celebrating diversity are fundamental to our vision of providing essential services to our communities. June was also big with Pride month and more celebrations, and the opportunity to recognise and make social change and feast on some more sweets!

I trust you enjoy the other articles as much as I do. I am proud that we can support Fire Rescue Victoria and the initiatives of the Ballarat team that sponsor local causes all year around and now I see the Tullamarine team is also raising funds for their local charities.

You all have great reasons to be proud of the service you provide and the support that you give to your communities.

Thank you, please stay warm, stay safe, and stick together as a team.

Best wishes,  
**Jeff Wilson**

# FROM YOUR SERVICE DELIVERY MANAGERS



## OAKLEIGH

Hello from Oakleigh! Halfway through the year already and we have had an extremely busy first half of the year.

We have now had 2 successful roster changes which everyone has adapted to well and now have a workshop that is open until 10 pm Mon-Fri. A big thank you to the whole team at Oakleigh for taking on these changes with a can-do attitude and making smooth transitions as we set ourselves up for a successful future.

One thing everyone here would have noticed is the new faces around our depot with 25 new drivers commencing at Oakleigh so far in 2024. Thank you to all of our drivers for helping the new employees settle in at Oakleigh.

Well done to all of our drivers for taking onboard the messages around at-fault accidents as we have seen a 3-month declining trend in accidents and are now below where we were 12 months ago. Let's keep this going.



We will see another big 6 months coming up with a couple of service changes and roster changes and will continue to evolve to meet the needs of our customers.

Until next time, stay warm during the winter period!

**Virgil Incata,**  
SDM at Oakleigh Depot



## WYNDHAM

As we conclude another financial and contract year it is time to reflect on the successes, challenges, and confident approach

for the next contract year. Although it has been challenging to reach the on-time running targets, we have initiated alterations to the special running times from the depot for most starting points to reflect the current traffic conditions and your roster committee members have been made aware of those upcoming changes. These changes will be incorporated in the next round of shift and roster changes.

Our next area of focus is the "Green Road" application that provides you the statistics about your driving habits and will assist you in identifying the areas of improvement. Recent discussions with drivers have increased the level of chatter around this topic and it is pleasing to know that the interaction with the application has increased as we all curiously want to know about our driving styles and to ensure that we provide the best possible comfort to passengers travelling on our buses.



Last quarter witnessed 7 new bus replacements and eventually alleviated the fleet availability challenges from the workshop's watch. Special mention to workshop staff for managing a fleet with the current challenges associated with the shortage of workshop mechanics.

It is also pleasing to see a few compliments for individuals- Emir, Mersha and additionally an overall compliment for all driving staff as well. These compliments not only acknowledge the quality of your service provided but additionally, the passion that is shown and witnessed by passengers whilst performing your day-to-day role.

**Ravneet Walia,**  
SDM at Wyndham Depot

## GEELONG

We have well and truly welcomed Winter this year, so it's time to pull out the scarves, jackets, and beanies to rug up for the next few months!

Works have continued across the depot, most recently involving the bus wash area which is nearing completion ensuring safer facilities for all. As a recent safety initiative brainstormed by the SPaRCQ committee, reflective numbers were installed across the parking bays leading up to the fuel bay to make it both safer and easier for drivers to identify correct parking bays at night.

Around town, there has been a significant increase in both traffic and road changes following several level-crossing removal projects being undertaken with buses replacing trains between Geelong and Waurin Ponds. Teaming up to tackle a mammoth request, Sunshine and Geelong combined will be covering a massive 311 shifts from June through to August

ensuring passenger connections from V/Line services are continued.

With a number of new faces appearing around the depot, I'd like to welcome to the team Dushyanth, Petar, Milap, and Abhishek. I am positive that they will be great additions to the team.

Last, but not least, thank you to all for being so enthusiastic regarding the recent training modules which have begun rolling out across the company. There will be plenty more to follow which I'm sure you'll enjoy.



Stay safe and continue looking out for one another.

**Stephanie Wilkinson**  
Relieving SDM  
at Geelong Depot

## UPDATES



### SUNSHINE

Firstly, hello from Sunshine and I hope everyone is staying warm during this chilly winter! Sunshine recently held a pool competition with 16

employees taking part where the games were very competitive and a few shock losses. The ultimate winner that surprised us all was Jamie from Workshop, well done, and congratulations! Thank you to Steph for organising. We are looking at organising a table tennis competition again so please keep your eyes out for further communication.

I would like to acknowledge both Chris and Simon who have stepped into acting positions as Ops Coordinator and Supervisor while Steph has been assisting Geelong as Acting SDM. Both have done a fantastic job continuing to support the Sunshine operations. With on-time running both a key business focus along with contractual targets, I request all drivers to be proactive in providing feedback to Operations when you are faced with challenges that create late running, such as changes in road conditions, issues with journals, and increased traffic congestion in certain locations. This feedback is important and can be used to improve journals and running times.

A big shout-out to all drivers regarding GreenRoad. We have consistently seen an improvement in the Sunshine safety score and the safer we drive; we improve our customer's experience along with reducing risks to our employees. Remember GreenRoad is a tool for all drivers to use to improve their driving skills and make their workplace safer. If anyone needs more information, please come, and see Operations.

### TULLAMARINE

Hello Tullamarine for the first time as SDM!

I would like to thank all the Tullamarine staff for such a warm welcome and wish David all the best in his new role as OCC manager. I am sure you will hear him on the radio at some time. It's nice to be back at Tullamarine and working with a lot of familiar faces. Please do not be shy and come and say hello when in at the depot. As I am working between Sunshine and Tullamarine, I will not always be in, but rest assured you are being well looked after by Michael, Anita, and the rest of the Ops team. As I mentioned in my Sunshine article both GreenRoad and on-time running are a big focus and we are looking forward to working and supporting you all to improve both our safety score and on-time running results.

**Shaun Lawson,  
SDM at Sunshine Depot**

### BROKEN HILL

The Broken Hill Depot has seen a steady increase in charters for 2024 and is it only going to be busier going forward.

The team at the depot have demonstrated the commitment to the job and its fantastic to see, which makes my job a little bit easier.

With the influx of charters and the school numbers increasing we are looking for more drivers and a mechanic, which has proven to be a hard slog and very difficult.

CDC Broken Hill are in talks with Transport NSW to start a new Pilot Program hopefully starting soon. Broken Hill to Mildura weekly via Menindee and Pooncarie will help those communities that need to see doctors and do shopping.

Overall, CDC Broken Hill is punching well above their weight and it's a testament to all Staff and I thank them very much.



### MILDURA

CDC Mildura has been under pressure with our SDM and Charter Rep resigning. Wishing Paul Buttigieg all the best with his departure as SDM

Adrian and I are combining our strengths and collaborative planning to achieve operational excellence.

Erin Doering has decided to embark on a new chapter in her professional career. While we are sad to see Erin leave, we also celebrate the remarkable contributions Erin has made during her long 8 years with CDC Mildura. Erin consistently showed dedication, optimism, and teamwork. I am personally grateful for the friendship and her insights/encouragement that have helped me grow. It has been a privilege to work beside her and Erin will be truly missed.

Lastly, you are all doing a great job; drivers delivering excellent services, Workshop and Operations doing an exceptional job!

Stay safe.

**Chontelle Wait & Adrian Rouse  
Relieving SDM at  
Mildura & Broken Hill Depots**



### BALLARAT

Hello again from warm Ballarat, We are now in the midst of the year and the best weather is upon us.

Once again, the Ballarat Footy tipping competition is heating up and Adam Burdon alongside Andrew Wilson have current bragging rights at the time of going to print. Cameron Buckland has been relatively quiet and has not been offering as much advice as per previous years. There is always a twist and only time will tell.

### New Employees

The following new employees have commenced since the last edition here at Ballarat.

Craig Vinall, Jino Joseph, Rajiv Kumar, and Jagroop Singh.

Welcome to all from the Ballarat team.

### Fleet updates

There has been one new addition to the Fleet Volvo bus 228.

### Charter

Ballarat depot assisted the Visit Victoria, White Night in Ballarat on June 1st.

The White Night bus services included four special event bus routes and bus shuttle services to cater for Park & Ride locations. There were four special event bus routes that ran based on a hybrid combination of existing bus routes. A total of 9 buses ran for these services with the last service concluding at 1 am Sunday. Special mention and thank you to Rogers's wife Donna and daughter Emma who assisted with keeping the drivers and staff fed for the night to whom we are grateful.

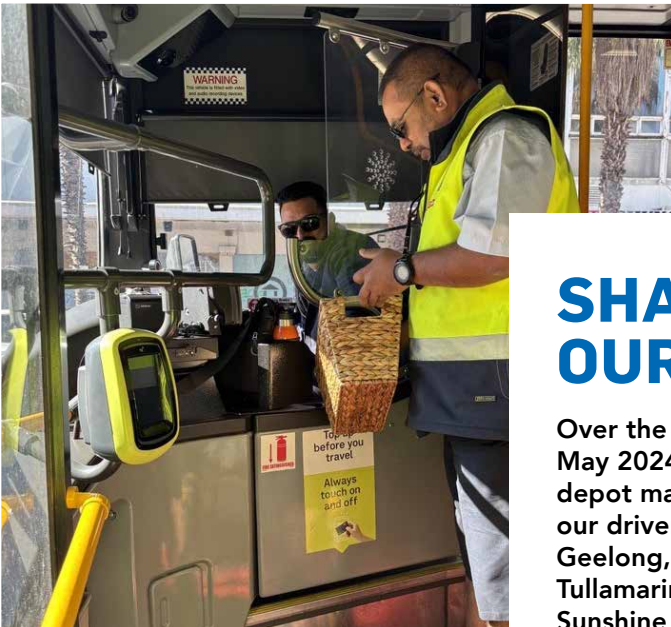
### Community

Ballarat BusAble Program.

In June, CDC Victoria in partnership with the City of Ballarat and V/ Line ran an invitational program for the Chinese Australian Community to assist in building confidence using the local bus and rail public transport systems. A big thank you to Stephen Barber and Swella Fernandes who facilitated the program on the days with support from Roger Henstridge, Bill Leatham, Natalie Hanson, Mark Stone, Dave Hutton, and Alice Strickland. The day was well received and a few laughs on the day made it even more special.

**Andrew Wilson,  
SDM at Ballarat Depot**

## COMMUNITY



## SHARING A RIDE WITH OUR DRIVERS!

**Over the months of April and May 2024, our head office and depot management staff visited our drivers on the road in Geelong, Oakleigh, Wyndham, Tullamarine, Ballarat, and Sunshine as part of our annual network visitations.**

These visitations were programmed for the benefit of head office management and front-line staff members. Head office staff visited various depots and the bus network that is operated by each of our depots.

This is a great opportunity to engage with drivers to see/observe their operating environment. Drivers also get the platform to meet head office staff members and discuss

anything that they wish during these visits. This process also enables head office staff to better understand the role and day-to-day life of our operating drivers.

We have drivers with bus driving experience ranging from 2 months to over 15 years. With over 7 million journeys made each year and a diverse range of drivers from over 70 different nationalities, engaging with our drivers on the network is an effort to ensure the care and safety of our drivers are met.

CDC Victoria's management would like to thank our drivers for the meaningful work they do by providing services to our communities.



## OAKLEIGH, GEELONG, WYNDHAM

To kickstart the run, our OCC and P&C teams covered routes 152,151, and 150 covering the length and breadth of suburbs within the Wyndham landscape such as William's Landing, Tarneit, Werribee, and Hoppers Crossing. Special mention to our drivers Lauren Hammett, Ainom Mehreteab and Minh Le for being such sports!

The team at Oakleigh were not far behind with members of various teams hopping on board. Safety, Compliance, Assets, Planning, and Charter all came together to engage with our drivers on the Huntingdale, Chadstone, and Caulfield routes within the Oakleigh network.

The Community Engagement team had their field day in Geelong, greeting drivers along the North Shore – Deakin interchanges. We hopped on route no 1 from GMHBA Stadium, South Geelong, then travelled to Geelong CBD to discover Deakin and the beautiful waterfront of Geelong.



## BALLARAT, SUNSHINE AND TULLAMARINE

On Part 2 of our network visits, we covered the runs at Ballarat, Sunshine, and Tullamarine

The drivers at Ballarat were full of life and excited to share their day-to-day experiences. Some of the drivers on duty were Chris Smith, Danny Singh, Reet Sohal, Micheal Muischek, Robbie Prosser, Kirat Brar and a few more.

David Hutton, our former SDM at Tullamarine ran a great show at the Tullamarine visit ensuring there was ample meet and greet between the drivers and the Safety and Planning teams that attended.

The Sunshine team were on a field day too with the Executive team in attendance where we discussed driver safety, daily routines, common issues encountered on journeys and other vital aspects of a driver's life.

All in all, to watch a million-dollar smile on driver's faces, some pleasantly surprised with these visits, some curious and others eager to talk was quite a warm feeling!



## BUSABLE

**CDC Victoria recently delivered an informative and interactive BusAble session to members of the Chinese Australian Community in Ballarat.**

The BusAble program aims to provide bus travel education and information to those with accessibility barriers.

More than 30 participants attended this session and gained valuable accessibility information and resources, myki basics, and safety education via classroom training and onboard a stationary bus.

Once again, we partnered with V/Line to bring in the train accessibility information. The session was run by Stephen Barber, our talented trainer who ensured the presentation was also in Mandarin with an interpreter to further help break down details. Alongside was our passionate bus driver, Bill Leathem who picked up and dropped off the participants from Ballarat Station and Lake Wendouree respectively.

Bill has been a bus driver with CDC for many years while Stephen joined CDC Victoria earlier this year and was excited to be a part of delivering the BusAble program as it forms a special place in his heart, being a frequent visitor of Ballarat.

The participants got an opportunity to ask all their questions about accessing public transport. One of the favourite parts of the session was getting onto a stationary bus. Andrew Wilson and Roger Henstridge, both from our Ballarat depot demonstrated how to get on a bus, touch on and off the Myki, access the bus ramp, usage of handrails, etc. Our OCC team which consisted of David Hutton and Alice Strickland were there to support the team and helped give away special CDC Victoria merchandise.

CDC Victoria has in the past partnered with SCOPE disability services and Travellers Aid to impart the BusAble program. We look forward to many more such collaborations in the coming months.





# COVER STORY



# HELPING FIREFIGHTERS BETTER THEIR EMERGENCY SKILLS!

Much like our efforts with Fire Rescue Victoria, on 27 June 2023, the team at Bannockburn Fire Brigade along with brigades from Stonehaven and Lethbridge, lent a CDC Geelong bus for a training scenario in the Bannockburn industrial estate.

Firefighters were given a tour of the bus, shown how to shut down the bus, how to isolate the batteries, emergency access, and emergency exits, and how to rescue passengers in an accident situation.

The team at CFA Bannockburn have expressed their gratitude:

“A huge thank you to CDC for use of the bus for training. All attendees are volunteers and give up their time to protect their communities and the contribution of CDC to allow as close to real life training as possible goes a long way to ensuring that, whilst, hoping we never have to confront a scenario like this one, we are trained to deal with it should it ever arise.”



# HELPING THE COMMUNITY (AND OUR FURRY FRIENDS !)

CDC Geelong had a visit from special four-legged mates who are Seeing Eye Dogs from Vision Australia.

Seeing Eye Dogs help enhance mobility for people with blindness and low vision.

We helped with William and his seeing eye dog Timber's training in learning how to board and disembark a low-floor bus safely as well as some basics of travelling on our coaches.



**4** special event bus routes covered  
*(Alfredton, Wendouree, Black Hill/Brown Hill, Sebastopol/Delacombe)*



A total of **9 buses** ran for these services

All buses ran on a frequency of **30 mins**



Park n Ride had approx. **1,500** attendees use the free service

+ approx. **2,500** travellers used the hybrid Route Service

= approx. **4,000** passengers transported on the night

# AND IT WAS ALL ...WHITE!

CDC Ballarat was the official transport provider for the White Night 2024 celebrations in Ballarat that ran in all its glory in June 2024.

This achievement marks another milestone in our continued success in supporting major events in our regional areas much like the year 2023 when we operated services for Geelong's White Night event.

These services ran based on a hybrid combination of existing bus routes.

Bus services operated from 17:30 on Saturday, 1st June 2024 with

the last bus leaving the event at 01.00 am on Sunday 2 June 2024.

The bus hubs at the event included drop off and pick up from Ballarat Railway Station.

Three of our bus supervisors attended on the night; Roger Henstridge, Raymond Alan Neville, and Bill Leatham.

Roger's wife Donna assisted with keeping the drivers and staff fed for the night and was also assisted by his daughter Emma to whom CDC Ballarat is very grateful.

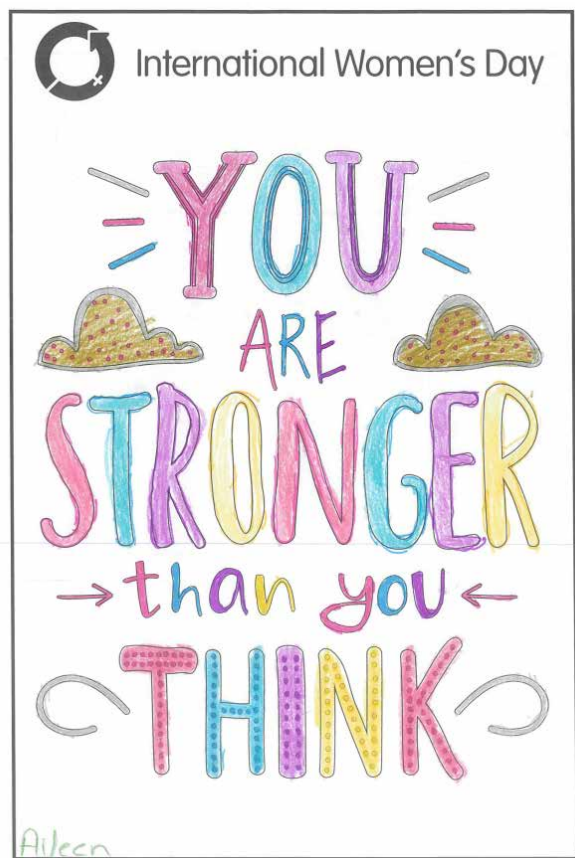
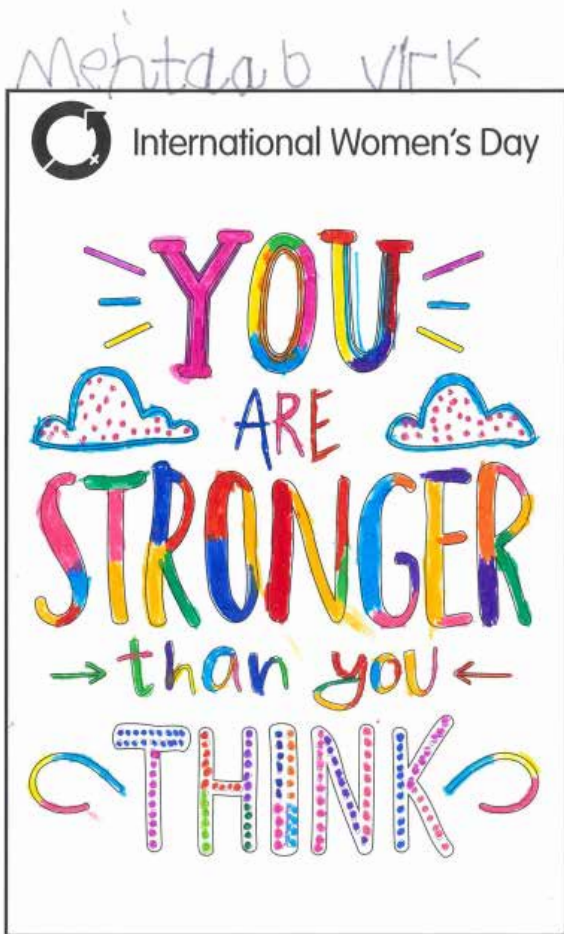
By partnering with White Night Ballarat, we further establish our commitment to supporting and contributing to our community!

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024 COLOURING COMPETITION

As part of International Women's Day 2024, our P&C team held a colouring competition across depots. Here's a small note from Team P&C announcing our winners and addressing all entries:

*"Thank you to all the amazing applicants who submitted their colourful creations. Your talent and dedication truly impressed us.*

*Our winners are **Aileen from Mildura** and **Mehtaab from Sunshine**. Trust you've received your Prezzy gift vouchers. Thank you again to everyone who entered; there are a lot of talented artists in our mix."*



### SPREADING SWEET JOYS FOR PRIDE MONTH

As part of Pride Month in June, CDC Victoria's head office in Truganina as well as all our depots received yummy cupcakes curated by Queer Town, an organisation that specializes in educational workshops

for collaborative learning on LGBTIQ+ inclusion and allyship. It's a long journey ahead but we endeavour to continue educating ourselves and finding ways to support and empower the LGBTIQ+ Community.



## RELOCATION SUNSHINE PAINT SHOP TO GEELONG

CDC Sunshine Paintshop operations have officially closed down and relocated to CDC Geelong. This step has been taken to optimise effective management of leased depot sites which require the transfer of spray-painting and booth/painting rooms and to streamline paint shop requirements into the one central location.

BEFORE



## GEELONG DRIVER RECREATION ROOM AND OTHER UPGRADES

The Driver Recreational Room at CDC Victoria's Geelong depot has recently undergone a significant and much-anticipated transformation. For a long time, the room lacked a ceiling, which resulted in insufficient temperature control and exposure to external elements. However, with the completion of these upgrades, drivers can now enjoy a marked improvement in comfort and convenience.

With freshly painted walls, a new roof and replaced carpet, and the pending installation of a split system, the space now exudes an inviting and comfortable

atmosphere, aimed at enhancing the experience for our drivers.

Additionally, the pool table has been recently refurbished with new cloth and cushioning, providing a refreshed and enjoyable gaming experience. Furthermore, drivers were delighted to find a shiny new table tennis table added to the room's amenities.

As part of the ongoing improvements at the Geelong Depot, it became apparent that we needed to enhance the facilities to better serve our female staff. Consequently, a new and improved toilet and bathroom were installed to ensure

their comfort and convenience. Meanwhile, for the male driver amenities, a revitalization effort was undertaken, including fresh paint on the walls and sealing of the floors to maintain cleanliness and hygiene standards.

Additional projects at Geelong include the removal of 8 underground fuel tanks and significant concrete enhancements aimed at improving staff safety by eliminating trip hazards caused by damaged concrete. Furthermore, asbestos sheets in the walls and roof have been successfully removed. The depot has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from employees regarding the project outcomes.

AFTER



## SHAPING YOUNG MINDS WITH THE CLONTARF FOUNDATION

ComfortDelGro Chairman Mark Greaves, ComfortDelGro Managing Director and Group CEO SK Cheng, and ComfortDelGro Director and Chairman of the ComfortDelGro Australia Board Russell Balding AO visited our depots in the Northern Territory in June 2024 to experience first-hand our operations in the Top End.



The tour was also an excellent opportunity to celebrate CDC Australia's partnership with the Clontarf Foundation, which seeks to improve the education, discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.

As part of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea event held at the Berrimah depot, we invited some young men from the Clontarf Foundation to interact with our team and meet our leaders including ComfortDelGro Corporation Australia (CDC) CEO Nicholas Yap.

## RED BUS CDC NSW COMMENCES SERVICES ON THE CENTRAL COAST

Red Bus CDC NSW has begun operating services on the Central Coast and surrounding areas!

Combining the legacy of the well-known Red Bus Services with the expertise of CDC NSW, passengers can expect the same familiar buses and drivers, ensuring a seamless transition.

The acquisition enhances CDC NSW's position as a leading provider of community transportation services in New South Wales, further strengthening our commitment to linking people, places, and communities.



## 'LIGHTS ON' FOR JADE

On the 5th of June 2024 as a gesture of respect, our drivers participated in a 'Lights On' day for Jade, a cherished bus driver in Rockhampton and a highly regarded member of our CDC team who passed away tragically in 2022.

As a mark of respect, our drivers kept their headlights on low beam from the start to the finish of operations on this day in honour and remembrance of Jade as we approached the one-year anniversary of his passing.

Thank you to all drivers who joined us in honouring and remembering Jade who was a dear friend to many at CDC.



## NAIDOC WEEK LEARNINGS

We thank community elder Uncle Barry Gilson for sharing his personal stories and insights with us to increase our understanding and deepen our knowledge as we continue our reconciliation journey as part of NAIDOC week celebrations.

Our Ballarat depot and its staff who we are very grateful to participated in a special Welcome to Country and a traditional Smoking Ceremony facilitated by Uncle Barry to pay our respects to the traditional owners of the Wadawurrung land.

Uncle Barry engaged our staff in cultural storytelling about his ancestors and their struggles and milestones through the years through traditional use of song.

It was great to gain an insight into how these songs often describe the actual geography of the land and sometimes form the basis of traditional names of everything; from the rocks and trees of the land to the birds and animals that lived alongside. Ballarat, for example is a word of native origin; "Balla" and "Arat" put together means 'resting place'. It was a campground or meeting place where groups gathered.

Let's continue to extend on our awareness to show respect, learn about cultures and histories, participate in community events, and show our support for Indigenous communities with initiatives that go beyond NAIDOC week.



## DEVOURING INDIGENOUS CUISINE, FULL OF NATIVE INGREDIENTS!

Pawa Catering, an Indigenous-owned and operated business based out of Footscray provided our Executive team lunch for their Business Performance meeting in July.

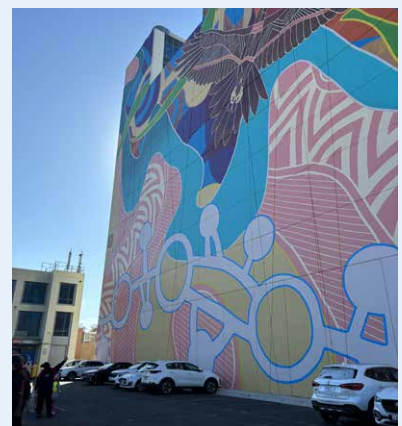
This small local business is doing a great job bringing together flavours of native ingredients while providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly product and place of employment for Aboriginal communities.

CDC Victoria is proud to be able to support a local Indigenous business while further diversifying our range of engaging with Social Procurement suppliers to help give back to the community.

## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK: ATTENDING A FIRST NATIONS ART TOUR ON A BUS!

On the solemn occasion of National Reconciliation Week, our Community Engagement team took off on a little road trip with members of the Wyndham City Council's Arts and Culture team.

The tour took us around key sites in the Wyndham landscape. It was a pleasure to hear from key First Nation artists and community members including a delicious native lunch at Wunggurrwil Dhurrung Community Centre.



## TULLAMARINE DEPOT WEAVING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES INTO ITS DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS

Our Tullamarine depot has used part of their staff vending machine proceeds to contribute to a small but noble cause. With a 10-cent levy on all products on average, they donated to Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, a facility some of its staff and their families frequent. And that's not all!

Taking their efforts a step further, for every bottle / can recycled, the depot saves 10 cents. When that bin fills to the brim, the team makes its way to the recycle station and cash everything in! The team at Tullamarine donated to Beyond Blue, a mental health and well-being support organisation through these efforts.



## REPURPOSING OUR OLD ASSETS TO FIRE RESCUE VICTORIA

CDC Victoria recently donated 2 additional training buses to the team at Fire Rescue Victoria that are being used for accident rescue drills and emergency procedures. This makes it a total of 6 buses we have donated so far with more on the horizon.

Chris Whelan, Senior Station Officer at FRV adds "CDC Victoria is helping us make the best training centre in Australia for large vehicles. Your support is awesome".

We hope to continue our efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle, and in this case repurpose our older assets for a bigger cause.

## ELECTRIC BUS (BEB) MILESTONES

Our Oakleigh depot officially welcomed Electric Bus no 5 and 6 in June 2024 bringing our total fleet to 6 Electric Buses currently operating in Victoria.

As we bring more and more electric buses into service, we continue to keep a greener future at the forefront of our operations for a better customer experience and a positive impact on the environment.

In the meanwhile, the first electric bus has officially completed 100,000 kms. Here are some it's fun facts!

The first Volvo fully electric bus went into service on 10 November 2022  
Bus number 186, Rego BS07RE

On Sunday 7 July, the bus clocked over 100000 on the odometer

80,000+ passengers carried

Regeneration from braking/slowing down recharged the battery with 54,379 DC kwh

103 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> emissions saved at the tailpipe

113,546 DC kwh consumed an average of 1.135 DC kwh consumed per km travelled

# CELEBRATING SERVICE MILESTONES

Name	Depot	Years of Service
Janelle Bottrell	Mildura	5
Kevin Farrell	Mildura	5
Matthew Fleming	Geelong	5
May Lim	Sunshine	5
Ali Ahmadi	Geelong	5
Priyantha Weerakkodige	Wyndham	5
Rajdeep Singh Lally	Oakleigh	5
Tan Pham	Sunshine	5
William Harrison	Wyndham	5
Andrew Friars	Geelong	5
Fikri Husen	Wyndham	5
Graeme Churchill	Mildura	5
Gunasiri Halihinga Liyanage	Wyndham	5
John Bol	Wyndham	5
Priyantha Athukorala	Oakleigh	5
Sudesh Kumar	Wyndham	5
Daryl Andrew Brundell	Oakleigh	10
Shayne Beasy	Mildura	10
Steven Pye	Geelong	10

Name	Depot	Years of Service
Maika Chang	Sunshine	10
Robert Prosser	Ballarat	10
Samuelu Tapusoa	Wyndham	10
Trevor Murphy	Broken Hill	10
Giuseppe Lancuba	Tullamarine	15
Barry Gathercole	Mildura	15
Nandasiri De Silva	Tullamarine	15
Alan Hirschausen	Broken Hill	15
Yu Sang Poon	Wyndham	15
Douglas Graham Merritt	Geelong	20
Jason John Holmes	Tullamarine	20
John Fuljek	Sunshine	20
Sam Mesfin	Oakleigh	20
Sudath Gajamange	Wyndham	20
Meu T Sam	Sunshine	20
Piliati Maulio	Sunshine	25
Jim Saisanas	Oakleigh	25
Alexso Porevski	Sunshine	30
Frederick Caruana	Sunshine	35
Stanko Rizeski	Sunshine	35

## SPARCQ AWARDS

### Leon Cray - Ballarat depot

Leon was driving along Walker St and noticed an elderly male lying in his driveway. Leon stopped to provide aid and contacted emergency services for him. Leon - thank you for rendering assistance to an elderly member of the community.



Community

### Nolan Quitano - Oakleigh depot

Nolan has taken it upon himself to collect all the recycled bottles and cans in our buses each night and takes them to collection centres for a refund.

He then brings the money back to the depot and puts it in the charity tin outside the Operations window.

He has collected hundreds of bottles and cans to recycle to date.



Community

### Stephen Barber - Ballarat depot

Stephen displayed great Quality being the Lead presenter and facilitator of the BusAble program delivery for the Elderly Chinese community on behalf of the City of Ballarat. Translating English slides into Mandarin for the group and simultaneously working in tandem with a Chinese interpreter. Dealing with technical issues during the presentation and continuing not to be deterred to keep the program session moving whilst informing participants of the steps to use and travel on the regional bus network. The extra time and effort Stephen put into the program presentation showed his commitment to the BusAble program and the community of Ballarat.



Community

### Johnny Amaya, Geelong depot

Prior to his shift commencing, Johnny assisted a member of the community that had fallen ill in the neighbourhood. With his quick thinking and proactive approach, he organised Emergency services ensuring this person's safety and comfort was looked after.



Community