



MEDIA RELEASE | 19 May 2022

Happy 30th birthday! Southern Communities Transport Scheme celebrates three decades of service to the local community

1992 marked the very beginning of a revolutionary transport initiative that would go on to support thousands of transport disadvantaged individuals on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

Last week, the Southern Communities Transport Scheme (SCOTS) held its annual volunteer appreciation BBQ to thank volunteers who have selflessly donated their time towards the Scheme.

This year's celebration, held at the Victor Harbor Recreation Centre, was extra special as it marked 30 years of service to the local community.

SCOTS is an initiative of the City of Victor Harbor and Alexandrina Council that assists people of all ages who are transport disadvantaged to access cost-effective transport options.

There are two main services provided to the community as part of the scheme:

- **Medi Ride** is a door-to-door community car service available for transport to medical or essential appointments both locally and in Adelaide.
- **The Community Shopping Bus** is also a door-to-door service, offering transport from Goolwa, Middleton, Port Elliot, Hayborough and Encounter Bay to central Victor Harbor.

Volunteer drivers and attendants are essential in the provision of these valuable services.

More than 65 current and previous volunteers attended the anniversary BBQ event on Sunday 15 May 2022 to acknowledge the collaborative effort over the years.

City of Victor Harbor Mayor, Dr Moira Jenkins, presented a number of milestone awards to volunteers who had contributed five, ten or fifteen years of service. A special hamper was also presented to Des Schirmer who has volunteered with SCOTS for 22 years.

"SCOTS is a highly valued service on the Fleurieu Peninsula, as it connects some of our most vulnerable community members with the essential services they need," said Mayor Jenkins.

"For many people in our community, the Medi Ride service is the only way they can get to appointments and surgeries."

"The Scheme would not be possible without the generosity of volunteers, who humbly give their time towards helping others. We can't thank these volunteers enough for their service!"

If you are interested in volunteering with SCOTS, you can contact the City of Victor Harbor on 8551 0500 or localgov@victor.sa.gov.au.

All drivers are subject to police clearance, driving assessments and medical checks as part of their application process.

SCOTS was established by the City of Victor Harbor and Alexandrina Council, with financial assistance from the South Australian Department for Human Services and the Australian Government Department of Health.

For more information about SCOTS, visit www.victor.sa.gov.au/transport