



Mudgee Guardian & Gulgong Advertiser

Tuesday 4/05/2021

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Cancer patients receive much-needed donation

CANCER patients across Mudgee who rely on their cars to travel to and from treatment will benefit from crucial new funding that Can Assist Mudgee has received from greenslips.com.au.

The funding has been allocated to help pay for local cancer patients' CTP green slip insurance, which covers costs like medical treatment and lost income for people injured in a road accident.

Can Assist Mudgee president, Bec Callaghan was extremely pleased with the donation.

"The funding from greenslips.com.au will certainly help recipients. It's another bill they don't need, we all know they're not cheap and that they come in at the same time as car registration and often other bills," she said.

"It's a stress that cancer patients don't need and we want them to focus on getting better."

Access to a car is essential for cancer patients in regional areas who may have to travel to Orange, Dubbo or Sydney for treatment, according to Ms Callaghan.

"There is a bus service, but to get to somewhere like Sydney is tough and after treatment, you don't want to be on public transport when your immunity is low," she said.

"When you feel so lousy,

vulnerable and tired after treatment, you want privacy and discretion and don't want to talk to other people."

Can Assist Mudgee provides practical and financial support confidentially to cancer patients within the Mid-Western region to cover expenses like fuel, accommodation, groceries, council rates, phone and utility bills.

Each year they help around 40 patients of different ages and who are at different stages of their cancer journey.

All the money raised for Can Assist Mudgee is directly put back into the community, but more awareness about the charity is needed, according to Can Assist Mudgee secretary, Jan Pirie.

"It's so important that people know 100% of the funds

stay in our local district, it's not going anywhere else. We urge local cancer patients to please ask for our support because that's what the money is there for, it's for any cancer patient in need and isn't means tested," she said.

Each year, Can Assist Mudgee aims to raise around \$30,000 to support all the requests made, but they have put a call out for more help to reach that goal.

"We do get other donations but we need a fair bit of money, because the bills of

those we help really mounts up. For example, it can cost \$600 a month just for the chemist bills," Ms Pirie said.

To provide donations or volunteer support, contact Can Assist Mudgee on 0439 994 539.

To keep up to date with all news from across the Mid-Western Region, head to mudgeeguardian.com.au/subscribe.



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COMMUNITY SPIRIT: Can Assist Mudgee volunteers are extremely happy with the donation, but need more help.
Photo: Can Assist.