

## Community Transport in the Shoalhaven has a new home

The new head office of Coast and Country Community Services, who provide the Shoalhaven Community Transport service, is now located at 24 Trim Street, South Nowra. Though we moved in at the beginning of July, the building was officially opened on November 8, 2019 by the Hon. Paul Toole, Minister for Regional Transport and Roads.

Staff, volunteers, community transport users and local dignitaries attended the event, which began with a welcome by Chairman Bill Cameron, Welcome to Country by Uncle Tom Moore and traditional smoking ceremony by Richard Scott Moore.

Some of our clients spoke about their personal experiences with Shoalhaven Community Transport, and we were even kept well-entertained by one young client.

CEO Stephen Fornasier said the move from the organisation's previous home was timely.

"We had at least 35 people through what was a four-bedroom house, every day," he said.

Our volunteers, which include drivers, bus assistants, Board members and administration assistants, are the life-blood of our service. The new building is just as important for them as for the Company.

"Now, this is the head office for the company and we have the potential to grow. We can also store all our vehicles in the one place.

The new building was built by volunteer Board member and driver Bill Selby, and his son David.

"He (Bill) mentioned it at the boardroom table and everyone's jaw dropped," said Mr Fornasier.

Bill's commitment to the Service is evident in this amazing project, and the Company and Team Members are grateful for the new, purpose-built premises.

Our clients had a nice time, as evident from the feedback we received:

*"We had a wonderful time by learning the history of Community Transport and see the beautiful building with all you great people working there. It was a very pleasant time." Mini and Harry.*

Coast and Country Community Services would like to thank everyone who attended our special day.

