



**Community  
Transport at**



## Community Transport Newsletter No.9 June 2021

TAS has provided expert advice, guidance and support for the CT sector for over 30 years. This general newsletter follows from our well-received COVID-19 coverage between April & September 2020. Please let us know of any items that might of interest to the wider CT sector.

### Volunteers' Week 2021 - Celebrating Community Transport's Volunteers

CTA: "Volunteers have always been at the heart of the community transport sector. In organisations all across the UK they've shown time and again what an enormous difference they make, giving up their time to support their communities. During the past year, we've seen volunteers work tirelessly to make a difference in incredibly difficult circumstances, some out on the road, delivering food, medicine and essential journeys and others from home, self-isolating but still calling passengers to keep their spirits up. This week (01 – 07 June) charities across the UK will be celebrating Volunteers' Week – and we want to celebrate your volunteers, sharing their stories and talking about how important they are to our sector. A huge thank you to everyone who has already got in touch with us to share their stories – over the course of the week we'll be posting them on social media and on here [CTA website], so keep checking back to hear more amazing stories about inspiring community transport volunteers!"  
<https://ctauk.org/volunteers-week-2021/>



### Changes to s19 and s22 Permit Application Forms

The Government website has now uploaded its revised PSV372 (s19) and PSV368 (s22) application forms for the Office of the Traffic Commissioner. In line with the recent guidance changes, these now both state at the beginning "A single legal entity cannot hold both a permit under the 1985 Act and an operator's licence under the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981."  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/applications-for-a-standard-or-large-bus-permit-psv372> and  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/applications-for-a-community-bus-permit-psv368>



Office of the  
Traffic Commissioner

PSV372

#### Application for a standard or large bus permit

##### About this form

You should complete this form if you wish to apply for a permit under section 19 of the Transport Act 1985. **Note: a single legal entity cannot hold both a permit under the 1985 Act and an operator's licence under the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981.**

Concern over West Norfolk  
Community Transport Changes  
Lynn News: "West Norfolk Community Transport's decision to cut back on one of its popular shopping routes has been slammed by a borough councillor. The Hardwick 6 service has reduced because of funding cuts and Jo Rust has said it will have a 'drastic effect on people who have no other forms of transport. It is valuable and vital service for those without access to a bus services or their own transport...This decision needs to be opposed.' The plan is to change the frequency of the Hardwick service from 30 minutes to 90 minutes. WNCT explained that the service to and from Hardwick and its out of town shops and businesses had been funded by Sainsbury's and then Tesco as a condition of their planning permission when they built

the stores. General manager, Fiona Matchett, said: 'We have been notified the funding is coming to an end in June 2021 so we reluctantly are looking at the level of frequency of the service. We shall still be operating the service Monday to Sunday at times that the passengers seem to use the buses but unfortunately the service will not run as often as before. The timetables will be advertised once the Department of Transport has approved it.' Daniel Yellop, senior transport officer at Norfolk County Council said: 'Hardwick Road is served by both First (Excel) every half an hour and by Lynx (37) hourly. Though it is unfortunate to see a reduction in frequency of the service 6, hopefully, First and Lynx should provide alternatives if needed, plus those parts of Hardwick Estate unique to the service 6 (Sainsbury's site, Oldmeadow Road etc.) will get provided with enough of a service for those wishing to use it.' WNCT has operated since 1992 and is not funded by the council. It was set up to provide affordable door to door transport for people unable to access public transport."

<https://www.lynnnews.co.uk/news/concern-over-west-norfolk-community-transport-changes-9197397/>



**Take me Home Country Roads, on Maddy's musical bus**  
 Mid Devon Advertiser: "A Dawlish-based folk band has made a video to drum up volunteers for a community project. Maddy and the Chaps are a country, folk and Celtic band with an enormous following – their Christmas video, A Fairy Tale of Dawlish, had more than 30k viewings on social media. For their next video, they have teamed up with Dawlish Community Transport (DCT) to make a video to encourage more volunteering. DCT offers accessible and affordable transport services for people who may be unable to use public transport, or need support in accessing shops, health appointments, services and leisure activities. East Teignbridge Community Transport Association Sally Preston said: 'They're a lovely team of mostly volunteers and a small team of

staff. During the last year a number of volunteers have had to withdraw from helping because of shielding and the organisation is desperate for more volunteers to ensure DCT can continue to help so many people, from children as young as five to the not so young. Their most mature passenger at present is 106!' Neil Salter, of Dawlish Beach Cams which runs five cameras around Dawlish and Dawlish Warren, agreed to support the project and has done all the filming and editing to get it ready for launch. After much consideration the band decided Country Roads by John Denver would be the perfect song, as the charity takes people on trips up and down the county roads of Devon in their range of minibuses. The video is out now and can be found on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and the band have also put clips on tiktok."

<https://www.middevonadvertiser.co.uk/article.cfm?id=120582&headline=Take%20me%20home%20country%20roads.%20on%20Maddy%27s%20%20musical%20bus&sectionIs=news&searchyear=2021> and the video is on You Tube:  
<https://youtu.be/AVaVwW1piKc>



**West Yorkshire Mayoral Election - CT Manager Interviewed**  
 ITV: "Mary O'Neill is from the Eccleshill Walkers group in Bingley. 'Villages are now cut off. If you don't have a car, you don't go anywhere. It's very isolating for people,' she said. 'Too much investment has gone to the south of England and it has done for generations. It has to change. We're in the wilderness up here. We need a local mayor and local money,'" said Ken Cocksedge, another walker. Angela Robertson, who runs the Newlands Community Transport says too many decisions on regional transport are made in London. 'We do need better public transport services. The trains in the Bradford/Leeds area are just horrendous. Overcrowded, never run on time. And we're still using old

diesel trains. In this day and age it's not acceptable.'

<https://www.itv.com/news/calendar/2021-04-27/west-yorkshire-mayoral-election-what-does-the-new-role-entail>



## Torbay Pensioners Celebrate Free Travel as Community Bus to M&S Returns

Devonlive: "A community bus service has been relaunched with concessionary bus pass holders travelling free for the first six months. Torbay Community Development Trust was forced to withdraw the number 65 bus in 2018, but the service which runs between The Willows and Market Street in Torquay via Hele, St Marychurch, Babbacombe and Plainmoor was back on the road yesterday. One of the first to take advantage of the reinstated service, which left from outside Marks and Spencer in the Willows on Tuesday, was Val Baker, who joined the service near her home in Babbacombe; it was her first trip to town since the pandemic started. 'It's a lifeline for many people and a lot of elderly people feel very isolated and trapped in their own homes with shopping being the biggest problem for them,' she said "I was able to pop into a couple of shops before getting the bus back again. It was great.' Seventy-seven-year-old Val was one of the original campaigners for the service when a private operator was forced to give up when subsidies were withdrawn and was devastated when the replacement 65 OurBus service also stopped two and a half years ago. 'It is so good to see it back. It isn't just a bus it is a community bus and everyone on it today was so happy, chatting away,' she added. The reinstatement of the service has been made possible by a £150,000 bus subsidy in this year's budget to help support a number of routes across Torbay. TCDT's Community Transport Coordinator, Kelly Bedoyan said: 'We are delighted to be able to bring this service back as we know how much it is needed and we are grateful to Torbay Council for helping make it happen.' Funding from Torbay Council will allow Our Bus to operate both the 65 and 61

service whilst a core of subscribers are recruited to keep the service running independently. The subscription service is modelled on the number 61 service, which has been running between Livermead, St. Luke's and Torquay since November 2019 – believed to be the first community bus service in the country to be funded solely by its passengers. The OurBus 65 service runs from 9am to 5pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and full details including the timetable can be found on the TCDT website.

<https://www.torbaycdt.org.uk/core-work/ourbus-torbay/>

<https://www.devonlive.com/news/devon-news/pensioners-celebrate-free-travel-community-5350528>



## Lanarkshire Community Transport Groups Receive Huge Cash Boost

Daily Record: "Numerous community transport projects across Lanarkshire have been given a huge boost thanks to funding from SPT. The grants support projects that act as a lifeline to locals, helping them access vital services and remain connected to their communities. Lanarkshire groups will receive more than £150,000 of funding as part of SPT's total allocation of more than £1.3 million across the Strathclyde region. Many projects in North and South Lanarkshire are set to benefit - increasing residents' social interaction and reducing loneliness. A lot of these projects ensure transport for those with special needs and kids' clubs, community bus services for the elderly and for those with mobility issues who find it difficult to access public transport. They also provide transport for patients to meet hospital or hospice appointments as well as routine out-patient appointments. One local project, Getting Better Together, based in Shotts, has been awarded £40,000 to support its core activities to provide accessible, affordable transport for socially or economically disadvantaged groups, voluntary groups and third sector organisations in North Lanarkshire. Glenboig Development



Trust has received £25,000 to provide transport services to a wide variety of groups such as nurseries, social work, children and youth groups, elderly and disabled. The Trust also operates shopping trips from villages in the Glenboig area of North Lanarkshire for local residents who have limited access to public transport. In South Lanarkshire, funding up to £25,000 will go to Blantyre Volunteer Ltd. The funds will support the organisation's provision of safe, accessible community transport services for groups and individuals. The funding will assist with the running costs of their vehicles and volunteers so that they can continue to provide group transport to the local community of Blantyre and the surrounding area during 2021/22. East Kilbride Community Transport will receive up to £15,000 to support its services which reach to other parts of South Lanarkshire. The funding will assist with the vehicle running costs, staff wages and volunteer expenses in order to cover the services the organisation provides throughout the year. Larkhall District Volunteer Group will benefit from up to £48,151 of funding which would help various community groups and an access to education service for local children. In addition, a volunteer car scheme for access to medical appointments and a pilot scheme of a shopping bus service for a particular deprived area of Larkhall may also benefit. Chair of SPT operations committee which approved the funding, Councillor David Wilson said: 'Given the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic, the last year has had a severe impact on all transport operators and this includes those working in community transport. However, it still remains that many of these community transport projects are lifelines services for those individuals and groups they support and help. Ensuring funding for their future operation and development is key to their success and will ensure they continue to deliver vital services in our urban and rural communities as we come out of lockdown restrictions.'

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/in-your-area/lanarkshire/community-transport-groups-receive-huge-24043149>

The full list of SPT's CT funding is available here:

<http://www.spt.co.uk/corporate/2021/05/spt-grant-funding-for-community-transport/>



## Community Transport Association - The National Bus Strategy – Resources for CTA Members

ctauk.org: "In March, the UK Government released its national Bus Strategy 'Bus Back Better' setting out its plans for improving bus services in England and signifying the Government's first step back from the deregulation of buses in 1986. The Strategy equips both national and local governments with greater powers to plan and run bus services and will introduce several key changes, including a move towards Enhanced Partnerships and franchising, changes to funding, greater support for demand-responsive transport and new zero-emission buses. The strategy will be of interest to community transport providers who run community buses, door to door transport and local authority commissioned services, so we've put together a number of resources to help you navigate the strategy and what it could mean for you. In the members' area of the CTA website you can find our detailed briefing document as well as a series of short videos looking at the opportunities and implications the strategy has for the community transport sector."

<https://ctauk.org/bus-strategy-resources/>



## All Aboard as Paisley Community Bus Plan Gets Green Light

Daily Record: "Community groups will stay mobile thanks to funding that will keep a lifeline transport service on the road. Paisley's Tannahill Centre has been awarded £10,000 from Community Transport Glasgow to start a bus service which will be used by organisations and charities throughout the region. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Community Transport Glasgow donated the use of a community bus in Ferguslie Park that allowed volunteers to collect donations and deliver food parcels to those who were self-isolating. Volunteers also went on to use the bus to deliver social isolation bingo in Ferguslie Park and beyond. Thanks to funding from SPT, the bus will continue to be used in Renfrewshire to pilot the need for a community bus that can be used for a range of groups and organisations, including lunch clubs for older people, after-school care and disability organisations. Jamie Mallan is the business transformation manager at the Tannahill Centre and a member of Renfrewshire Community Transport steering group. He said: 'We are delighted to receive this support from SPT so we can begin to provide a community transport service not just in Ferguslie Park, but across Renfrewshire. The pandemic has shown us how important meeting up with friends and being able to access everyday activities is to our own mental health and wellbeing and, thanks to this funding, groups across Renfrewshire will be able to help more people get out of their homes, or make new experiences as they participate in activities for the first time...The support for community transport in Renfrewshire has been phenomenal. From Community Transport Glasgow locating one of its buses here in Ferguslie, community groups such as KLASS Care through to Renfrewshire Council, Health and Social Care Partnership and Engage Renfrewshire are all coming together to ensure there is a co-ordinated approach to the scheme and that's fantastic. The funding will enable us to continue working with Community Transport Glasgow to employ and train a local driver for our pilot project over the next year.'"

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/aboard-community-bus-plan-gets-24064378>



## £35k CT funding boost hailed by Inverclyde Councillor

Greenock Telegraph: "The Inverclyde councillor who chairs the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport committee which has just approved grants worth £35k for two local organisations today hailed the funding boost. Councillor David Wilson says he is pleased that Ardgowan Hospice will get £25k, while Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group will pick up £10k. Mr Wilson said: 'Given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the last year has had a severe impact on all transport operators and this includes those working in community transport. However, it still remains that many of these community transport projects are lifelines services for those individuals and groups they support and help. Ensuring funding for their future operation and development is key to their success and will ensure they continue to deliver vital services in our urban and rural communities as we come out of lockdown restrictions.' SPT has allocated more than £1.3m to support key community transport projects across Strathclyde."

[https://www.greenocktelegraph.co.uk/news/19285910\\_35k-funding-boost-hailed-councillor/](https://www.greenocktelegraph.co.uk/news/19285910_35k-funding-boost-hailed-councillor/)



## North Yorkshire Golfers Raise Funds to Help Rural Transport

Gazette Herald: "A group of golfers have raised £1,150 for Ryedale Community Transport (RCT). Members of Malton and Norton Golf Club's Ladies' Section raised the funds through a series of event throughout last year. Karen Pickup, ladies' captain 2020, chose RCT as her charity before lockdown struck. She said: 'Normally we have a number of golfing events throughout the year as well as collections, raffles etc. for the ladies' captain's chosen charity but for obvious reasons we weren't able to do so...Nevertheless, I am delighted that the Malton and Norton Golf Club's Ladies' section were so generous and we were able to present RCT with a cheque for £1,150.'" Unfortunately, Karen couldn't attend the cheque presentation so the incoming ladies captain, Barbara Machin, did the honours. RCT, formerly known as Ryecat, provides affordable, rural transport solutions for people throughout this area. Their latest initiative is to encourage people who have been isolating for the last 12 months to take a short minibus journey, perhaps with a walk and light refreshments, to encourage them back into the community if they are feeling particularly nervous about venturing out."

<https://www.gazetteherald.co.uk/news/19276042.golfers-raise-funds-help-rural-transport/>



## Hagley's Popular Dial-a-Ride Bus Service Returns

Stourbridge News: "New operator Shencare Community Transport has recommenced its door to door service after it was paused, based on government guidance, just after Christmas. A partnership with Hagley Parish Council and Worcestershire County Council, the

service is available to Hagley residents who have difficulty accessing conventional public transport because of age, personal mobility issues or other factors. The service is available Monday to Friday between 9.45am and 2pm. Passengers must register to use it and bookings can be made by emailing [shencarevt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shencarevt@yahoo.co.uk) or calling 0121 476 1816 between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Telephone bookings are preferred as journeys can be confirmed immediately as numbers on the bus are restricted due to Covid-19 guidelines. Councillor Steve Colella, chairman of the service, said: 'This really helps many people who may have difficulties in being able to get back to something that is approaching some level of normality. The year that we've all had has been particularly difficult for those that might already be feeling the effects of isolation'."

<https://www.stourbridgenews.co.uk/news/19283936.hagleys-popular-dial-a-ride-bus-service-returns/>



## Dunfermline: Fife Council Funds Bus Service Expansion

Dunfermline Press: "Free door-to-door transport for vulnerable and elderly people is being rolled out across the Kingdom. The Fife Bus Service will work along the same lines as a taxi with passengers able to request a pick-up at a specific time and be taken to their destination. Previously, ring-and-ride was only available in Dunfermline, Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy and Leven but Fife Council will fund its expansion to cover the whole Kingdom and give a better service 'to those who need help the most'. Council co-leader Councillor David Ross said: 'By expanding the Fife Bus we will offer improved services to meet council objectives, aid recovery and provide fairer transport for all Fifers.' To expand the service, they'll buy four Mercedes Sprinter



minibuses, converted with accessible and wheelchair spaces, for £240,000, spend a further £101,000 to 'scale up' the operation and then £371,000, which includes new drivers and dispatch staff, a year to run it. It will launch in April 2022. At the Policy and Co-ordination Committee last week, Cllr Tim Brett asked: 'Can someone ask for a ring-and-ride service from one end of Fife to the other?' Transport manager Derek Crowe said: 'Effectively, for our system, Fife is split into 18 zones and the primary objective is to provide a service within that zone. It's not to travel from Tayport to Dunfermline or Kincardine. We can't resource that. For someone in Cowdenbeath, they could use Halbeath as a stepping stone so they could get a trip to Dunfermline.' He said it was a 'much more responsive and flexible service' that would allow people who were unable to use public transport to visit the shops, see friends, attend leisure centres and go to doctor's appointments. Cllr Helen Law queried why there were just two days for Dunfermline West and was told that the distribution of days was 'allocated on a population basis'. She said: 'Transport has always been very difficult in the West Fife villages, particularly getting from village to village, so I thought that would have been factored in and not just population.' Cllr John Beare said: 'It shouldn't go unsaid that we are expanding a service for people that are unable to use conventional public transport and investing close to £700,000 of public money.' Before the pandemic, there were ring-and-ride – offering on-demand travel anywhere within a zone – and dial-a-ride services, which had a fixed route, destination and times. A passenger transport working group agreed that dial-a-ride should be scrapped and an expanded ring-and-ride service would be more 'equitable'. However, evening journeys will not continue. A council report said: "Passengers can now choose where they want to travel and at what times; they are no longer time bound by having to spend x hours at a shopping centre waiting for their return journey on dial-a-ride.' The 'Dunfermline West' zone will operate on Wednesdays and Fridays and covers Balgonar, Blairhall, Cairneyhill, Carnock, Charlestown, Comrie, Crombie, Crossford, Culross, Dunfermline, Gowkhill, Kincardine, Kingseat, Kinneddar, Limekilns, Newmills, Oakley, Rosyth, Saline, Steelend, Torryburn

and Valleyfield. 'Dunfermline Central' includes Dunfermline, Kingseat and Rosyth and will run every day apart from Tuesday. 'Dunfermline East' covers Aberdour, Dalgety Bay, Dunfermline, Hillend, Inverkeithing, Kingseat, North Queensferry and Rosyth. It will operate on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The 'Cowdenbeath' zone includes Crossgates, Donibristle, Fordell, Kelty and Mossgreen, among others and the bus will operate here on Monday and Friday."

<https://www.dunfermlinepress.com/news/19325066.dunfermline-fife-council-fund-bus-service-expansion/>



## Milton Keynes Volunteer Driver's Service is Recruiting New Drivers to Help Provide Vital Transport for Community Members

MKFM: "The MK Volunteer Driver's Service is recruiting new volunteer drivers to provide vital transport for members of the community. The service has seen a significant increase in demand in the past month as COVID-19 restrictions have eased and the NHS has been calling forward people from waiting lists to have their treatment. Many of these people are isolated, older members of the community that need help to attend their medical appointments. That is why volunteer drivers are being called forward to help residents attend their chemotherapy and radiotherapy, physiotherapy and scans, to name a few. Volunteers can also help collect prescriptions and run errands for passengers. For younger members of the community, the vital service enables regular transport for vulnerable children to attend school, play and take part in therapy sessions. Journeys are often regular, either

daily, weekly, or fortnightly and can also be one-off requests. The team of volunteer drivers complete both local journeys and those over longer distances. Heather Oddy, Engagement Manager, said: 'Our pool of volunteer drivers is committed to covering each and every journey request we receive and to providing a safe, welcoming and reliable service to all our passengers. Demand for journeys is increasing at a rate we have not seen before. We are therefore looking to recruit new drivers to join our team to ensure we can meet this demand and continue to deliver our service with excellence...We are especially keen to hear from volunteers who can commit to regular journeys for school runs, either morning or afternoon or indeed both and those interested in fulfilling longer journeys on a regular basis, for example to Oxford or Northampton, to enable passengers to attend cancer treatments.' Vivienne is a passenger of the MK Volunteer Driver's Service and she regularly relies on the generosity of volunteers to get her from A to B. She said: 'Stephen, my Volunteer Driver, has made life easier for me and I can only reiterate what I've said in the past; that he excels at his voluntary job with excellence and every care with his driving and with his care of the passengers! I will always ask for him in the future and wish him well in every way.' Contact the team on 01908 670309 or [miltonkeynes@volunteeringmatters.org.uk](mailto:miltonkeynes@volunteeringmatters.org.uk) @volunteering\_uk to find out more about becoming a volunteer driver."

<https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/milton-keynes-volunteer-drivers-service-is-recruiting-new-drivers-to-help-provide-vital-transport-for-community-members/>



**VOLUNTEERING MATTERS** Funded by your local council

**Wanted! Volunteer Drivers**  
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- Short and long distance journeys
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- Covid-19 safe
- Join our growing service
- Help get MK moving again!

To find out more  
01908 670309  
[miltonkeynes@volunteeringmatters.org.uk](mailto:miltonkeynes@volunteeringmatters.org.uk)

## Mid Devon Mobility Pays Tribute to Retiring Community Car Driver Derek Goff

In Your Area: "Mid Devon Mobility (MDM) have thanked a retiring community car driver who is leaving the charity after 16 years' service. The charity has said a massive thank you to Derek Goff who has retired from his role. A spokesperson said: 'MDM would like to express their extreme gratitude to Derek for his contribution, his time, his effort and his support over the years, he has been a real asset to the charity. Derek began volunteering for Mid Devon Mobility in 2004 as a volunteer driver, he had many clients who would ask for him personally, he built up some fabulous friendships and every time he came to the MDM office he always filled it with laughter. In 2014 Derek decided he wanted to support the charity further and joined the charity's Trustee Management Committee and at one point even chaired the Committee. He guided the charity through some difficult times and out into brighter ones. Derek still remains part of the charity as a trustee on the management committee. Derek's contribution to MDM has been immense and they cannot thank him enough for all his hard work, dedication and support over the years.' To find out how you can help MDM call 01884 242099 where they can talk you through getting you on-board as a volunteer."

<https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/mid-devon-mobility-pay-tribute-to-long-standing-community-car-driver-derek-goff/>



## E-transport Scheme for Rathlin Island

Belfast Telegraph: "Rathlin Island is to get Northern Ireland's first community e-transport scheme. Infrastructure Minister



Nichola Mallon made the announcement as she visited the island and met with the Rathlin Development and Community Association. A community e-car scheme will benefit the wider community, while an e-bike scheme of 20 bikes will initially be available to all islanders and visitors working on the island. The community association hopes it can be extended for visitors coming to sample the island's natural beauty. Ms Mallon said: 'Rathlin Island is a unique and special place. It has the ambition to be a carbon neutral island and wants to continue to develop its blue green infrastructure. I am fully supportive of the strategic aim of the Executive's Rathlin Island Policy to advance a sustainable island community and I am delighted to announce the development of a community-led e-transport scheme for the island which is a major step forward for islanders and visitors alike. This is an exciting development for the people of Rathlin and I am very pleased to be providing this investment through my Blue/Green Fund to help bring about lasting change for people here. This initiative will support sustainable living, protect the environment and also promote active travel as an everyday form of transport and in doing so, will improve physical and mental health and our local environment.' Michael Cecil, chair of the Rathlin Development and Community Association, said: 'We share (the minister's) vision of a sustainable living and working environment and are delighted to hear of her support for a community e-transport scheme for the island.'.."

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/initiative-e-transport-scheme-for-rathlin-island-40447713.html>



## Teme Wheels in Tenbury Renews Appeal for Support in Getting an Electric Bus

Ludlow Advertiser: "A charity formed earlier this year to provide more community transport for Tenbury and the surrounding area is renewing its appeal for people to dip into their pockets to support the initiative. Teme Wheels is Worcestershire's newest community transport service and top of their to-do list is to provide the cleanest, greenest service possible and they want your help. The charity has launched a crowdfunding campaign to purchase an all-electric vehicle which will come fully equipped with wheelchair capabilities. Teme Wheels need to raise half of the £40,000 price tag themselves with the other £20,000 coming from the Spacehive local funding platform. The Charity's Chairman John Driver said that moving to electric would make an important contribution to green transport and cutting carbon emissions as desired by the Government. 'Making the transition to all-electric transport will both protect our rural environment and enable access to health and other essential services. If realised, Teme Wheels would be the first transport service of its kind in the area to be running a fully electric vehicle and well ahead of the government's current targets for cutting carbon emissions. Established in March this year, the charity was born to provide transport to those who are isolated and vulnerable in Tenbury Wells and the surrounding county border areas. Teme Wheels have already recruited a team of dedicated volunteer drivers who provide a door-to-door service to those in need of assistance and offer a variety of daily trips.' There is grant funding available but this will only match money that is raised locally. It is hoped that enough money can be raised to make an application possible by the end of June. However, there can be an extension but Mr Driver has said that he would only do this if there was sufficient local support. If the new group is able to move to electric vehicles then it will be pioneering and a new move for community transport. One of the issues that will need to be resolved is that if there is an electric bus running services there will need to be a dedicated charging point. It is hoped that a service could link the three counties of Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Shropshire. But one of the limitations with

electric vehicles is the range that is restricted to about 150 miles and this could be a problem in a large isolated rural area if charging points are not available."

<https://www.ludlowadvertiser.co.uk/news/19325166.teme-wheels-tenbury-renews-appeal-supporting-getting-electric-bus/>



## Wrexham Community Transport Scheme Chariotts Receives £1,000 Funding from Tesco Bags of Help

Wrexham.Com: "A community transport scheme in Wrexham has received a £1000 funding boost through the Tesco Bags of Help grant. Chariotts successfully applied for the funding, which was available to community groups and charities across North Wales, to part cover the cost of an accessible vehicle for its service. The organisation provides a volunteer led, wheelchair accessible transport service for all disabled people who live within Wrexham. The service is available to anyone who would have difficulty using normal public transport, no matter what their disability, their age or the purpose of their journey. Chariotts has a team of 30 volunteer drivers, a fleet of nine vehicles which are all able to carry someone in a wheelchair and up to three other passengers as well as the driver. Tesco have relaunched their charity / community organisation grant scheme now called 'Tesco Community Grants'. Tesco Community Grants will fund local good causes whose focus is on supporting Children and Families and food insecurity projects this year's theme is a 'Stronger Start'. Charities and not for profit community organisations are encouraged to apply for the grant. Tesco customers and colleagues can also nominate a cause that

they would like to see supported and they will be contacted by a member of the Tesco Community Grants team and encouraged to apply. To find out more about Chariotts you can contact them on 01978 312888.

For more information visit

[www.groundworknorthwales.org.uk](http://www.groundworknorthwales.org.uk) or contact

[enabler@groundworknorthwales.org.uk](mailto:enabler@groundworknorthwales.org.uk) .  
<http://www.wrexham.com/news/community-transport-scheme-chariotts-receives-1000-funding-from-tesco-bags-of-help-204584.html>



## Transport Barriers for Elderly and Disabled Peterborough and Cambs Residents Revealed in New Report

Peterborough Today: "A new 'transport for all' report is calling for greater awareness and more consultation on issues affecting older people and those with sensory impairments and learning and physical disabilities. The report, Keep on Moving, has been published by independent health and care champions Healthwatch on behalf of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Partnership Boards (CPPB). It highlights the difficulties faced by CPPB members – people with physical and learning disabilities, older people and people with sight and/or hearing loss – in travelling around their neighbourhoods and further afield. Some of them use mobility aids such as rollators and walkers, long canes, wheelchairs or assistance dogs to help them get out and about. And the barriers they come up against include:

- J Obstacles such as pavement signs or tables and chairs outside cafes and shops;
- J Parked cars and bicycles blocking pavements;
- J Dangers and nuisance from e-scooters being ridden on pavements and roads;

- ) Taxis not wanting to take people with assistance dogs;
- ) Uneven roads and paths dug up for repairs and not properly restored.

The CPPB works to improve adult social care services across the local area. It held a series of meetings with local councils and transport companies to discuss roads, taxis, public and community transport.

It now wants to see:

- ) More consultation over bus routes and community transport schemes;
- ) Discussions with disabled people on road and pavement changes;
- ) Visual and audio announcements on local buses and
- ) Disability and safeguarding training as part of licensing taxi drivers.

Graham Lewis, Healthwatch partnership development manager, who supports the partnership boards, said local councils had been pleased to have the feedback.

'The difficulties raised are everyday issues that really affect people in our local communities and their ability to stay independent and get around. Everyone needs to get to the shops, get to health appointments and make social trips and visits to friends and family. Some of our board members have told us how difficult it is to book a taxi with wheelchair access in advance, for example. Others have been refused a cab ride because they have a guide dog – or taxis pull away from the rank when they see a dog in the queue.'

The CPPB helps to improve local services for people who use adult social care: carers, older people and people with a learning or physical disability or sight and/or hearing loss. New members are wanted. For more information, contact Graham Lewis at Healthwatch on 0330 355 1285, by texting 0752 0635176, or by emailing

[Graham.Lewis@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk](mailto:Graham.Lewis@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk).

<https://www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk/news/transport/transport-barriers-for-elderly-and-disabled-peterborough-and-cambs-residents-revealed-in-new-report-3248296>



## Keep on Moving

A transport for all report from  
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough  
Partnership Boards

healthwatch  
Cambridgeshire

healthwatch  
Peterborough

## Tributes to Darlington Doctor and Film-maker...and Dial-a-Ride Founder

Northern Echo: "Tributes have been paid to a consultant and film-maker, Dr Yash Pal Suri, 89, died peacefully at home on May 10 surrounded by his family. Dr Suri was born in Pindigheb, India and then moved to Darlington. He married Sushil and had three children, Neeraj, Vanita and Sandhya and three grandchildren, Hari, Serena and Leela. As a young immigrant doctor, Dr Suri recorded his new life in reels of home movies and audio tapes. His daughter Sandhya said: 'His boundless curiosity, creativity, sense of humour and tireless documenting remained until the very last. He will be remembered as an esteemed physician, creative artist, film maker and chronicler. Experiencing Partition, then later migration to England, he was no stranger to struggle and upheaval. In the UK he became a consultant physician and dedicated himself to the care of the elderly at Darlington Memorial Hospital for over 20 years, establishing the town's first Dial-a-Ride service in 1989. He was also an active member of the police liaison committee, representing the local Hindu population and educating Durham police on Hindu issues. He engaged to the fullest with the world and the people around him at both a global and a personal level. He was a deeply sociable man who touched the lives of many. His legacy will live on in his family, in his published work, both medical and literary - 'From Delhi to Darlington' - and in



his Super 8 films which uniquely documented the immigrant experience in the UK and in particularly the North-East through his eyes and those of his family members over a period of 40 years. The films were compiled and screened theatrically and internationally in the feature documentary 'I for India'." <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/19327638.tributes-darlington-doctor-film-maker/#gallery0>



### Australia: The Community Transport Company Celebrates Volunteers and a New Logo Recognises their Valued Clientele

News of the Area: "The Community Transport (CT) Company operates within the Nambucca Valley and its surrounds. CT is a registered charity relying on volunteers to provide over 90,000 trips every year. During National Volunteers' Week CT celebrated their volunteers. CEO Bethany Langford said of the volunteers, 'We are grateful for and to them every day, but National Volunteers' Week gives us a good excuse to go the extra mile for them.' The volunteers were provided with barista made coffee, snacks made by Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan Aboriginal Corporation, plus windcheaters and water bottles with the charity's new logo. Of the new logo Miss Langford said, 'Our logo is reminiscent of fun things like soda pop, breweries and even biscuits! We want our passengers to know that we know they're vibrant, active and intelligent people – no matter what their age or mobility!' Within the Valley there are seven cars, one 23 seater bus, one 12 seat commuter and two wheelchair friendly vans/cars. According to Nambucca Valley Councillor David Jones, who drives for the company, the main service they provide is transporting community

members to and from medical appointments and the buses are also used for social outings. All drivers have police checks and first aid training, others have special licenses and some have experience with wheelchair and disabled clients. The company has a great relationship with the disability sector and they conduct many hospital transfers and some school-based programs. When asked about the best part of being a driver with the Community Transport (CT) Company, Cr David Jones found many positives. Cr Jones said, 'Being a driver for Community Transport is one of the most rewarding things I've ever done. Our clients are fantastic, they appreciate the service, they are engaging, funny, knowledgeable and often up for chat. There is an incredibly positive feeling about being involved with CT, it's a very sharing and caring community.' Cr Jones also enjoys the opportunity it gives community members that he transports to provide feedback about issues in Nambucca Valley they are concerned about."

<https://www.newsofthearea.com.au/the-community-transport-company-celebrates-volunteers-and-a-new-logo-recognises-their-valued-clientele-70912>



### Call and Go Transport Service Resumes in Fordingbridge

Salisbury Journal: "A door-to-door transport service serving communities in the Fordingbridge area is back on the road. Community First has resumed its Call and Go New Forest services across the District. It provides transport for shopping and social visits for those who cannot use regular public transport. Vehicles are wheelchair accessible. Gavin Rowe, Transport Manager for Southern Services at Community First, said: 'We are delighted to be able to welcome back our valued customers now that restrictions have

started to lift. We are here to help anyone who needs accessible transport now that shops and services are re-opening. We will provide further service updates to our customers as and when restrictions lift.' Services will run Monday to Friday for routes including the Fordingbridge area including Martin, Mockbegger, Ibsley and Sandheath. Covid safety measures in place include the wearing of face coverings and limiting passenger numbers to maintain social distancing. For more information about the transport service call 01425 461751 or email [callandgo@cfirst.org.uk](mailto:callandgo@cfirst.org.uk). "<https://www.salisburyjournal.co.uk/news/19330325.call-go-transport-service-resumes-fordingbridge/>



### Strathclyde Partnership for Transport Cash for Healthcare Appointments Branded 'too little too late'

Clydebank Post: "New money to help vulnerable and elderly Bankies get to healthcare appointments has been branded a 'stunt' by one local councillor. The Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) has approved the award of £16,000 to set up a community transport scheme in West Dunbartonshire in the form of a volunteer car scheme or 'demand responsive minibus' as part a £1.3 million spend on community transport projects across the west of Scotland. The local scheme will be for people who are unable to use existing public transport services to get to appointments at the new Clydebank Health Centre or at other hospitals. Council officials said it was expected that the pilot would help around 270 residents. And the money is to go to South West Community Transport Glasgow – a charity based in Nitshill. A pilot of a direct bus link between Clydebank and the Queen

Elizabeth University Hospital (QEUH) collapsed after six months because commercial operators wouldn't take on the route. Clydebank Waterfront Labour councillor Danny Lennie, who was a campaigner for the hospital bus from Clydebank before he was elected, told the Post: 'SPT have kept communities woefully short of vital transport for years and now they are trying to say they care. They did not care when Clydebank desperately needed better transport to the hospital. SPT should be providing transport wherever there is need. This is nothing more than trying to look good – way too little, way too late. The sooner transport is fully back in public hands the better for the paying public.' A spokeswoman for West Dunbartonshire Council said: 'We welcome this funding which will allow us to work with partners to pilot a project to train volunteers to provide door-to-door transport to ensure our most vulnerable residents can attend vital healthcare appointments. The service also aims to help tackle social exclusion and loneliness by offering these residents an opportunity to develop a supportive relationship with their regular driver, who will then be able to identify additional concerns and make any necessary referrals.' Councillor David Wilson, chair of SPT's operations committee, which approved the funding awards, said: 'The last year has had a severe impact on all transport operators and this includes those working in community transport. However, it still remains that many of these community transport projects are lifeline services for those individuals and groups they support and help. Ensuring funding for their future operation and development is key to their success and will ensure they continue to deliver vital services in our urban and rural communities as we come out of lockdown'." <https://www.clydebankpost.co.uk/news/19303814.strathclyde-partnership-transport-cash-healthcare-appointments-branded-too-little-late/>



## Volunteer Drivers Needed for Cumbria County Council scheme

News and Star: "Community-minded residents are being asked to come forward and join a county-wide transport scheme. Cumbrians interested in helping others get out and about are encouraged to mark National Volunteers Week by teaming up with the county council's Community Transport Service. New faces are needed at the social car and community minibus schemes, which provide transport for people who cannot make journeys by public or private transport. 'Our volunteers do a fantastic job and play a vital role getting people out and about, we couldn't provide a service without their valued efforts. We're always looking for more volunteers to support our community transport schemes, so if you have some time to spare we'd love to hear from you.' Volunteer drivers are needed across the county, but the main areas are currently Sedbergh, Ulverston, Grange-over-Sands, Wigton, Maryport, Workington and Silloth. Anyone interested in finding out more should contact Katy Wood, the council's Voluntary Transport Officer, 07788396194, or visit

[www.cumbria.gov.uk/communitytransport](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/communitytransport)"  
<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/19336197.volunteer-drivers-needed-cumbria-county-council-scheme/>

Also see:

<https://cumbriacrack.com/2021/05/30/volunteer-drivers-needs-to-help-across-the-county/>

## Pentyrch Surgery Replacement Set to be Two Miles Away with Little Access on Foot or Bus

Wales Online: "A surgery in a village near Cardiff will be replaced with a new building two miles away despite only being accessible for most by car. Planning permission was approved on Wednesday, May 19, for a new GP surgery in Rhydlafor, which will replace the Pentyrch Medical Centre. But the NHS still needs to sign off the final decision to move the surgery, before anything goes ahead. It is unclear when that approval might happen.

Residents living in Pentyrch, however, have complained that to get to the new surgery they will have to travel down Church Road: a winding country lane with no footpath, cyclepath or bus route. They added patients would struggle to get there without a car. Developers building the new surgery promised to pay £15,000 towards a 'community transport facility' to solve the problem, but no details about this have been agreed yet. Catherine Heyworth petitioned the planning committee at Cardiff council against granting permission for the new surgery. She told councillors the plans were 'vehemently opposed' by local communities in Pentyrch, Rhydlafor and Creigiau. She said: 'The £15,000 will not even sustain travel for Pentyrch for six months. And what happens after that?' The NHS has deemed the current surgery in Pentyrch not fit for purpose, too small and cramped. It is housed inside portacabins behind the village hall. Planning agents for the developer said the new two-storey building would provide much better health services. The new surgery will also be located just north of Plasdar, a housing development north-west of Cardiff where thousands of houses are being built. The Welsh Government put up funding for the new surgery in December 2017. The building will be located on vacant green land off the junction of Rhydlafor Drive and Llantrisant Road. It will have six consulting rooms, two treatment rooms, a pharmacy and 28 car parking spaces. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, details are scant of the proposed 'community transport facility' linking patients in Pentyrch with the replacement surgery, according to council planning officer Jacqueline Howard. She said: 'Details are still to be confirmed. This is uncertain at the moment because the bus industry has been badly affected by the

The poster features the Cumbria County Council logo at the top. The main title is 'Voluntary Social Car Scheme' in large blue letters. Below the title are two circular inset photos: one showing a person driving a car and another showing a person standing next to a car. At the bottom left, there is a car icon and the text 'What is a Voluntary Social Car Scheme?'. Below this is a paragraph explaining the scheme: 'The Voluntary Social Car Scheme is funded by Cumbria County Council. The scheme provides transport to members of the community of any age (under 18's must be accompanied by an adult) who cannot make their journey by public or private transport.' At the bottom right, there is a circular seal with text: 'Cumbria County Council Community Transport Scheme' and 'Partnership with the community'. At the very bottom, it says 'Serving the people of Cumbria' and 'cumbria.gov.uk/communitytransport'.



Covid pandemic, so it's not possible to give any further details of what this new service might be.' Councillors voted unanimously to approve the plans, despite the transport concerns. They discussed whether permission for the new building could come with a condition for the developer to provide a bus route from the new surgery to Pentyrch. But council planning officers said this would be 'disproportionate' and advised against it. Concerns were still raised however about the lack of sustainable ways to travel from Pentyrch to the new surgery. Councillor Michael Jones-Pritchard said: 'I have a lot of concerns about this. Does £15,000 overcome sustainability? That's not how it should be working. But no matter how much concern we have, it's not something we're able to refuse because it doesn't come under planning legislation.'"

<https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/pentyrch-surgery-replacement-two-miles-20637632>



### Barrhead Transport Project Awarded £25k by SPT

Barrhead News: "A Community transport project which provides a vital service in the Barrhead area has been handed a welcome cash boost. The £25,000 grant for Community Transport East Renfrewshire (CTER) will be used to help members of local voluntary and community groups get out and about. It has been awarded by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT). Barrhead-based CTER arranges shopping trips for older and disabled residents, as well as providing a volunteer car scheme to transport patients to their GP surgery or hospital appointments. Councillor David Wilson, chair of the SPT operations committee which approved the funding, told the

Barrhead News: 'Given the ongoing Covid-19 global pandemic, the last year has had a severe impact on all transport operators, including those working in community transport. However, it still remains that many of these community transport projects are lifeline services for those individuals and groups they support. Ensuring funding for their future operation and development is key to their success and will ensure they continue to deliver vital services in our urban and rural communities as we come out of lockdown restrictions.'"

<https://www.barrheadnews.com/news/19302675.barrhead-transport-project-awarded-25k-spt/>

### Glenkens Community Transport Set to Launch New Electric Bike Scheme

Daily Record: "The electric bike revolution is coming to the Glenkens this weekend. Glenkens Community Transport is unveiling six new electric bikes at the CatStrand in New Galloway. And people will be able to learn more about how the bikes and a new hire scheme will work. The group's manager Glen Murray said: 'The Glenkens is a hilly place and the idea of having an electric motor to give you a wee push is very attractive so we have had quite a lot of interest. They will be based at CatStrand initially but hopefully we will have bases in Dalry and Balmaclellan and in the surrounding area for locals and eventually visitors to explore the area or travel between the villages to see their friends or get their shopping. They will be able to hire them for a small fee, complete with helmet and hi-viz and use them for a day or half day. They can use it how they like but the good thing is it will help them get active and get some exercise at the same time.' The group, which has an electric car and is trying to raise funds for an electric minibus, has received financial support for the bikes from Cycling Scotland and Transport Scotland's Energy Saving Trust...The Glenkens Community Arts Project is also organising a family-friendly bike ride to coincide with the launch...For further details contact Chris Jowsey by emailing [chris@catstrand.com](mailto:chris@catstrand.com).

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/glenkens-community-transport-set-launch-24189402>



## Market Drayton Community Car Scheme Secures New Vehicle to Help the Vulnerable out of Lockdown

Shropshire Star: "A community transport scheme that gives vulnerable and elderly people the freedom to get out to hospital appointments and activities for cheap has secured a smart new car. The Market Drayton Community Car project has been run by community-minded trustees for 18 years, with a selfless team of volunteers driving those with limited mobility options around the county to appointments and activities. The trust took the opportunity to purchase a spacious new Citroen Berlingo, complete with wheelchair access and branding, to continue helping people as the UK steps out of coronavirus lockdowns. Trustee Maggie Edwards said: 'We do hospital, doctors, shopping, we take people to respite appointments – we do a lot of respite. Obviously at the moment nobody is going into Woodcroft [a care home in Market Drayton], that's a big part of our work. When everything's up and running we take people to lunch club at Fordhall Farm. With things easing now we're going to be back to doing that sort of thing.' Vitally, the scheme is intended as an affordable alternative to get around. A return trip within Market Drayton would typically cost £3 and to and from Princess Royal Hospital in Telford would cost £10. The community car trustee team consists of three people and there are six drivers, but they cater for about 300 people who are on their books. 'We're always looking for drivers,' said Maggie. 'They can do as much or as little as they like.' Learn more by calling 07908 235299." <https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/transport/2021/05/18/market-drayton-community-car-scheme-secures-new-vehicle-to-help-the-vulnerable-out-of-lockdown/>



## Council Praises North Yorkshire Volunteers who Braved Covid-19 to Help Others

In Your Area: "North Yorkshire residents who have helped keep the county's communities safe through the coronavirus pandemic are being thanked by North Yorkshire County Council ahead of National Volunteers' Week. Volunteers have always been part of the bedrock which gives the county its distinctive identity, but since last spring increasing numbers of people have put themselves forward to help others get through the biggest health crisis in recent history. Now their efforts are being applauded across the week, which runs from June 1-7, as the county looks to a bright volunteering future, invigorated by the surge of people who have found pleasure and satisfaction in helping others. For over a year, the county council has been working alongside partners with 23 community support organisations and the voluntary sector to provide a safety net of support for people without family, friends or neighbours to lean on during the pandemic. Thousands of volunteers have helped with shopping, collecting medication, walking pets, taking people to medical appointments and being there for a friendly chat...County Council chief executive Richard Flinton said: 'The last 12 months have been really challenging for many people in lots of different ways, but in North Yorkshire we can thank our incredible volunteers for helping to minimise the impact of coronavirus. Team North Yorkshire at its finest. Many existing volunteers have changed the way they work to help in different ways but many new volunteers and especially younger people, have put themselves forwards to help. Furlough may have given some

people the time they needed to get involved and help their neighbours and wider communities, which has been tremendous to see. All our volunteers deserve recognition and Volunteers' Week is there to do just that. We hope that in future many who have experienced the satisfaction of volunteering for the first time will continue and encourage others to come forwards too. The more people who contribute, the stronger our communities will be,' he said. Volunteers who have helped during the pandemic include Jill Burdis, a mini bus driver with Reeth and District Community Transport who agreed to take on shopping runs and office duties when the first lockdown started, expecting the change to last two or three weeks. Even after 14 months, Jill has no expectation of stepping back anytime soon. She said: 'We have got to know people so well they have become friends and you care for them as you would your own family....You can find the latest volunteering opportunities in North Yorkshire on the Community First Yorkshire website [www.volunteeringinnorthyorkshire.org.uk](http://www.volunteeringinnorthyorkshire.org.uk)." <https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/council-praises-north-yorkshire-volunteers-who-braved-covid-19-to-help-others/>



If you require any advice or support please contact us on 01772-204988 or email [john.atkins@taspartnership.com](mailto:john.atkins@taspartnership.com)