



Autumn 2007

Update

Reg. Charity No. 1065677

Please share this newsletter with your family & friends

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. There's a lot going on over the next few months so please make a note of things in your diary so that you don't miss anything. Shopmobility only receives 40% of its running costs from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council; this means that in addition to the money made from customer charges we have to raise £20,000 per year to keep going. Please can you help us to help you by supporting our events? The easiest way of doing this is to spread the word, encourage your friends and family to come, and bring you along too! Maybe we'll see you at our 'Gifts & Therapies Fayre' in November. See below for more details.

With all good wishes from Anne



Invites you to a Gifts & Therapies Fayre

*A pre-Christmas shopping extravaganza with the addition of
therapies to sample and evening/party wear to buy.*

*Saturday 3rd November, 10.00a.m. - 3.00p.m.
Old Basing Village Hall near Basingstoke £1 entry*

*Jewellery, Bags, Crafted Cards, Usborne Books, Nick Knacks, Towels, Mirrors,
Jams & Chutneys, , Personalised Gifts, Phoenix Cards, Children's Paintings,
Luxury Puddings, Aloe Vera, Reflexology, Hair & Beauty, Massage etc
Many more to be confirmed Ring Anne or Lin on 01256 476066 for details*

Shopmobility, Church Street, Basingstoke RG21 7QQ
Tel: 01256 476066
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Assisted by
Basingstoke
and Deane

Summer Trundle What a day! The original date was in the middle of the very bad weather and with the forecast looking equally wet the event was cancelled. In typical fashion the sun shone all day! After consulting those wanting to take part a new date was picked and surprise, surprise the heavens opened. Nine intrepid 'trundlers' went off in wet weather gear with waterproof maps to explore The War Memorial Park, Black Dam Ponds and Eastrop Park. On returning to Shopmobility there was much chatter about the appalling weather but they had to admit that they had still enjoyed the afternoon. Maybe the tea and cakes in the office helped. Some of those taking part collected sponsorship and approximately £500 was made. Thank you to all of those brave souls who took part. If you didn't and think that it sounds like fun watch out for details of next year's trundle in the spring newsletter who knows, maybe next year the sun will shine on us.

Talking about **summer** did anyone hire a wheelchair or travel scooter to take on **holiday** or for a day out? If you did, do you have a **photograph** of you on it that we could have for our holiday board? We are building up a display of where our equipment has been. Not only will it look good but it encourages other people to be adventurous too. We also have details of companies abroad who hire out mobility equipment so if you don't fancy taking equipment with you why not explore the option of hiring at your destination. Please ask for more information.

Doctors Surgeries on The Move Is your doctors surgery one of the ones that has moved into Crown Heights? If it has please don't be too dismayed with what you have read in the press or heard along the grapevine. This type of information can be very mis-leading. We have spoken to both surgeries and while they accept that they are experiencing teething problems at the moment they are working very hard to sort them out. Please don't be put off going to visit the doctor. When you ring to make an appointment ask how it is best to access the surgery and if the information is not clear don't be afraid to ask further questions.

Do you have problems with your hearing? Do you use a hearing aid? Yvonne John has started a group for those with hearing problems. If anyone would like to be put in contact with her please speak to Anne or Lin at Shopmobility. In the meantime she is trying to compile a list of public buildings, shops, offices etc where you might have a had a good or bad experience because of your hearing problems in particular when trying to use the loop system. If you can let us have that information we will pass it on to her so that she can endeavour to improve the use of loop systems.

Shopmobility Gift Vouchers are available from the office. In denominations of £2.50 for ease of use they are valid for 12 months. Why not buy some for a friend or ask your family for some for Christmas.

Birthday Celebrations It is almost 10 years since Shopmobility Basingstoke became operational! Monday December 1st 1997 saw Shopmobility up and running at last. Only just, mind! The telephone line had only been activated on Friday and the furniture arrived on that Monday morning! Our first volunteer literally had a notebook, pen and the telephone while the office was set up around her. Thankfully things have moved on a long way since then. To celebrate our achievements we are having a 'Birthday Tea' on Saturday 1st December at St. Michaels Church Cottage (behind St. Michaels church, Church Street). We would like to give you, our customers the opportunity to attend. Obviously there is not room for everyone so we shall be operating a draw. Every time you use Shopmobility between 29th October and 11th November you will be given the opportunity to enter the draw with 5 pairs of tickets up for grabs. Please only enter if you are able to attend.

Brand New Web Site! For those of you that have looked at our current, yellow web site I apologise, it is not the best of sites. However I am very excited to report that a brand new web site is currently being designed, free of charge by the husband of one of our volunteers. The address will remain the same www.shopmobilitybasingstoke.org but that is about it. Do have a look soon and give us your comments. It will be a work in progress, frequently updated with news, events and photographs so don't be surprised if we ask if you mind having your photograph taken doing your shopping one day.

The Puddings are Back Did you enjoy the 'Ultimate Chocolate Pudding', the 'Ultimate Orange & Lemon Pudding' or the 'Ultimate Triple Ginger Pudding' in the summer? If so then you're in for a treat. These award winning puddings are back on sale at Shopmobility together with the 'Ultimate Plum Pudding' and the 'Ultimate Brandy Butter'. Ideal for a family meal, a treat with friends or to enjoy at Christmas. Why not buy one for you and one for a present? All varieties of 1lb pudding are £5, the 2lb Ultimate Plum Pudding is £8.50 and the brandy butter is £2. There are discounts for multiple orders. But hurry, they do go quickly!

If you are looking for a small present for a friend or neighbour we also have smart, **Shopmobility Address Books** for sale. These are 6" x 8" and have a soft blue leather cover with the Shopmobility logo embossed on the front. These cost £4.50.

Did you know that if you visit the Post Office at the top of town you can go straight to position 11 if you are using a scooter or wheelchair? This saves you trying to negotiate the barrier queuing system.

We shall be holding a collection and a raffle in The Malls Shopping Centre on 13th/14th & 15th December if anyone is able to help for an hour or even two please speak to Anne or Lin.



Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 3rd November	Gifts & Therapies Fayre 10.00a.m.-3.00p.m. Old Basing Village Hall
Saturday 1st December	Shopmobility's 10th Birthday Party
13th/14th/15th December	Street Collection in The Malls Shopping Centre
24th December	Early closing 12noon
25th December	Closed
26th December	Closed
27th December - 31st December	Normal Opening
1st January	Closed

We will not be operating a **Gift Wrapping** Stall in Festival Place this year. There is a possibility that we will be doing it in The Malls instead but this is still under discussion. We will however be the recipients of a **Christmas Wishing Well** in Festival Place. This will be in Porchester Square (by the Sports Centre).

Take Control of Your Driving This is organised by Hampshire County Council and is designed to assist older people to continue driving safely for as long as possible rather than stopping people from driving. There is no test, there is an informal, confidential assessment. This is followed by a de-brief and suggestions of follow up action if appropriate. For more information speak to the road safety officer on: 01962 874600.

From time to time we are asked by the vehicle testing centre at Crowthorne to help them find people with disabilities to assist with the testing of new buses. This usually involves spending the day at Crowthorne with refreshments being provided. Transport is provided to and from Basingstoke. Would you be interested in helping with vehicle testing in the future? If so please speak to Anne or Lin so that we can build a list of people.

That's all for this time, I hope that you've found the newsletter useful. Please feel free to give any contributions for future newsletters to Anne or Lin.

