

Autumn 2008



# Update

Reg. Charity No. 1065677

**Welcome** to our newsletter. I hope that you enjoy the read. Please share it with your friends and family, they might like to support one of our events. Remember the more successful our fundraising events are the lower we can keep our charges! So why not come along, bring a friend, have a good time and help us to help you.

I hope that you enjoyed the summer months. I know that those who joined us on our annual 'Trundle' had a good time. The sun shone so it was a good day to be out and about in Basingstoke's parks. Over £900 was raised on the day too which was really good news. Speaking of going out don't forget that you can hire a manual wheelchair or travel scooter for days out and holidays. Please ask for further information.

*With all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year*



## Christmas Gifts & Therapies Fayre

*A pre-Christmas Shopping Extravaganza plus Therapies to Sample*

*Saturday 15th November, 11.00 - 3.00*

*Old Basing Village Hall, The Street, Old Basing,*

*£1 entry, Ample Free Parking*

*Start your Christmas shopping now to find those 'Special Presents'.*

*Choose from: French Clothes, Jewellery, Books, Cards, Ceramics, Pashminas, Textiles, Personalised Gifts, Chocolates, Preserves, Puddings, Glass Ware, Italian Foods, Pampered Chef, Gift Wrap, Craft Supplies, and much more....*

*& to treat yourself enjoy a relaxing mini Treatment or Tarrot reading*

*For more information ring Anne or Lin on 01256 476066*

*from Anne and all at Shopmobility*





## Shopmobility Basingstoke has Joined The Wessex Shopmobility Membership Scheme

Shopmobility schemes in the Wessex region have formed a network making it easier for customers to use those Shopmobility schemes within the network.

Once you join at one scheme, you are a member of all participating schemes. These include: Andover, Castlepoint, Chichester & Havant, Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Southampton, and Winchester. Please contact these schemes to find out about booking conditions and opening times.

Once you have become a Wessex Shopmobility member, you will be issued with a membership card. On production of this card you will then be able to use it to obtain membership rates at all participating Shopmobility schemes. When you re-register with us you will automatically be given the new style Wessex card. If you would like one sooner please ask.

Please note, you will still have to complete a registration form at each scheme upon your first visit but you will not need to pay a membership fee. You will also need 2 forms of identification one showing your name and address and one with your signature on. This information is required by **each scheme** for insurance purposes.

Please ask in the office for more information and do let us know how you get on using other schemes.

### ***Sunday Opening***

Do you know that we are open on Sundays? We are, from 11a.m. until 4.00p.m. This can be a good day to come shopping as the town is generally quieter and we tend not to have problems with our car park.

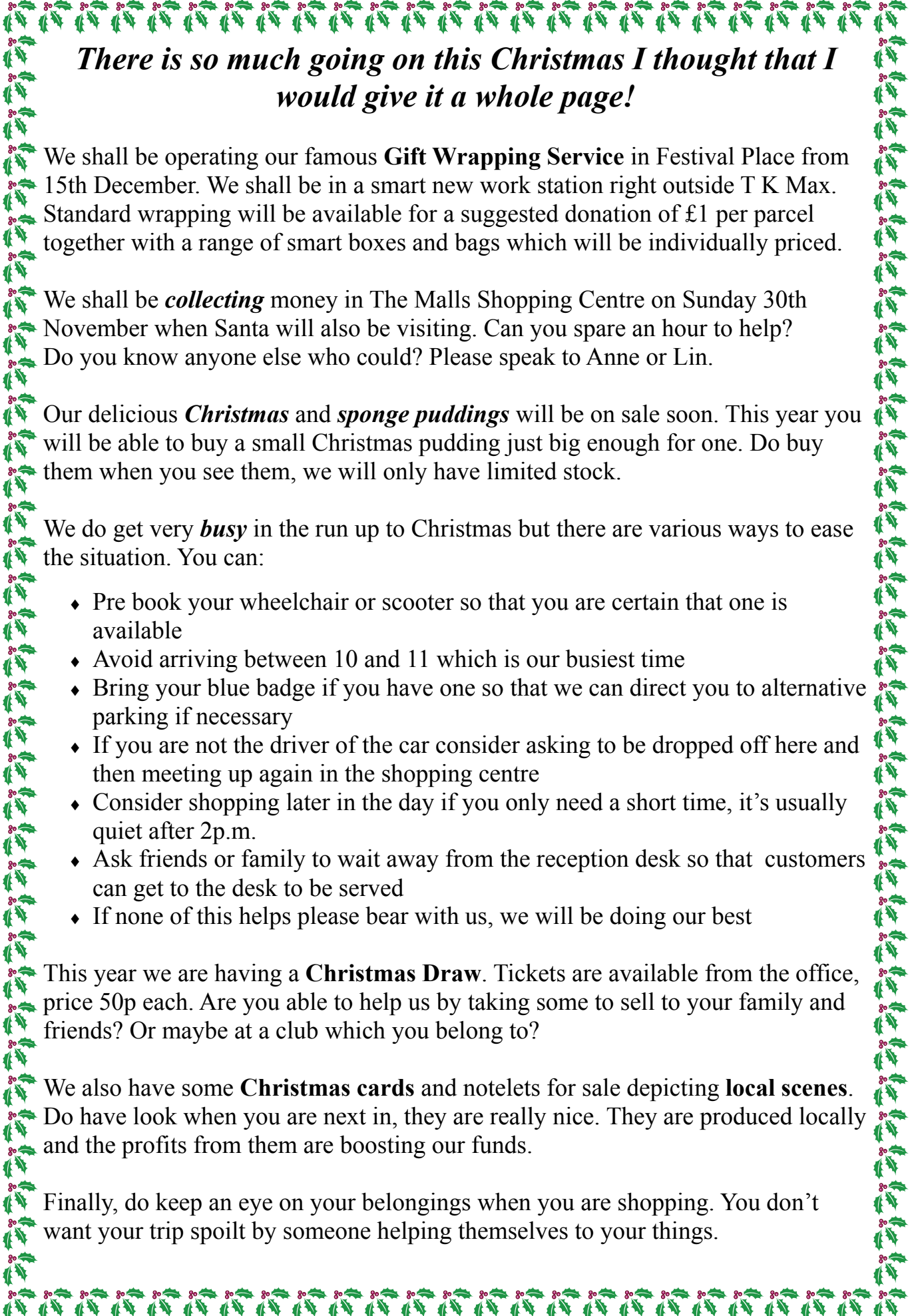
***The Rough Guide to Accessible Britain*** is a new publication produced in association with Motability. It has a wealth of information to help with planning days out and holidays. It retails at £6.99 but we have a limited amount for sale at a discounted price of £2.

### ***Travel Tokens***

Do you know that you can use Travel Tokens at Shopmobility Basingstoke? We accept the national Travel Tokens and those from Basingstoke and Deane borough council. We are also in discussion with and Hart district council to see if we can accept their tokens.

### ***Shredded Paper***

We often have large bags of shredded paper. If you would like some for your pets please do ask. While we try to remove all staples we can not guarantee this.



***There is so much going on this Christmas I thought that I would give it a whole page!***

We shall be operating our famous **Gift Wrapping Service** in Festival Place from 15th December. We shall be in a smart new work station right outside T K Max. Standard wrapping will be available for a suggested donation of £1 per parcel together with a range of smart boxes and bags which will be individually priced.

We shall be *collecting* money in The Malls Shopping Centre on Sunday 30th November when Santa will also be visiting. Can you spare an hour to help? Do you know anyone else who could? Please speak to Anne or Lin.

Our delicious *Christmas* and *sponge puddings* will be on sale soon. This year you will be able to buy a small Christmas pudding just big enough for one. Do buy them when you see them, we will only have limited stock.

We do get very *busy* in the run up to Christmas but there are various ways to ease the situation. You can:

- ◆ Pre book your wheelchair or scooter so that you are certain that one is available
- ◆ Avoid arriving between 10 and 11 which is our busiest time
- ◆ Bring your blue badge if you have one so that we can direct you to alternative parking if necessary
- ◆ If you are not the driver of the car consider asking to be dropped off here and then meeting up again in the shopping centre
- ◆ Consider shopping later in the day if you only need a short time, it's usually quiet after 2p.m.
- ◆ Ask friends or family to wait away from the reception desk so that customers can get to the desk to be served
- ◆ If none of this helps please bear with us, we will be doing our best

This year we are having a **Christmas Draw**. Tickets are available from the office, price 50p each. Are you able to help us by taking some to sell to your family and friends? Or maybe at a club which you belong to?

We also have some **Christmas cards** and notelets for sale depicting **local scenes**. Do have look when you are next in, they are really nice. They are produced locally and the profits from them are boosting our funds.

Finally, do keep an eye on your belongings when you are shopping. You don't want your trip spoilt by someone helping themselves to your things.

***Have you ever been into the Willis Museum?***

If not you might like to have a look one day. It's the white building facing the market at the top of town. They have forever changing interesting displays and a very nice coffee shop! There are stairs inside and while you can't take a scooter up them you can use the stair lift and their manual wheelchair on the upper floor. The staff are very helpful. (As reported by a Shopmobility customer)

***Community Innovations Team***

Heard of them? No, neither had I. But it looks very good. It has been formed by Hampshire County Council, the Primary Care Trust, local and councils and voluntary groups. Its aim is to help older people to keep well and independent at home. For more information speak to the Basingstoke team on 01256 362092.

***Do you want to be a Shopmobility Supporter?***

We are looking to form a group of people who would like to help with any or all of the following: collection days, sell raffle tickets, distribute flyers/posters, assist at events etc. We need to expand the number of people who currently help with these tasks so that no one person is over worked. This is often an enjoyable and sociable way of helping us. For more information or to put your name down speak to Anne or Lin. (You will be able to specify what you will and won't get involved with!)

***Mobile 'Phone Fundraiser***

Are you or anyone you know getting a new mobile 'phone for Christmas? If so, what will you do with the old one? You could give it to us to re-cycle. We can get £3 per mobile 'phone we collect so please ask around. Can you or anyone you know collect them at a work place or social club? This would really boost our collection. All monies raised will go into the vehicle replacement fund.

***Christmas Opening***

Christmas Eve 9.00a.m. - 1.00p.m.

Christmas Day - Closed

Boxing Day - Closed

27th December 9.00a.m. - 4.00p.m,

28th December 11a.m. - 4.00p.m.

29th December 9.00a.m. - 4.30p.m.

30th December 9.00a.m. - 4.30p.m.

31st December 9.00a.m. - 4.00p.m.

1st January - Closed

2nd January - Normal opening hours resume

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