



Update



Reg. Charity 1065677

The newsletter for Shopmobility Basingstoke

Hello and welcome to our newsletter. I hope that you are enjoying the autumn sunshine and making the most of the mild weather. Rumour has it that it will be a cold winter so be prepared! See the information on 'Hitting The Cold Spots' on page 2 for some useful information on how to stay warm and how to get help should you need it.

With all best wishes from Anne



Sadly our recent **Race Night** was cancelled due to a lack of interest. We needed to sell 50 tickets to break even but unfortunately sold only 33. Only 1 customer bought tickets, the rest were sold to staff, volunteers, trustees and their friends. Either we picked a bad date or a poor event, we don't know which. The worrying fact is that we need to continually fundraise (£25,000 per year) to keep prices at their current level but do find it difficult to put on events that customers can/will support. To help us, and you, we will shortly be conducting a quick survey in the office to find out what sort of events you would like to come to and what we need to consider when we put on an event. A big thank you to those of you who already bring things in for us to sell, support the 100 Club or have a collecting pot at home (more of those later in the newsletter.)

Good News! As a result of the wonderful nominations from customers, Shopmobility Basingstoke has been shortlisted to the final six in the Tom Hillier Awards! We will find out at the Awards Night on December 3rd if we have won or not. Thank you *so* much for taking the trouble to nominate us. Getting to the shortlist means a lot to me but even more to the volunteers who give up their time just for the love of helping you all. **Fingers crossed!**

Long let **Special Offers** for **Christmas & New Year.**

Why not hire a wheelchair or travel scooter for a few days and make getting out and about over Christmas/New Year easier.

Xmas Special

Weds 23rd to Tues 29th
December 2015
Travel scooter £33
Wheelchair £18
+ £100 returnable deposit

New-Year Special

Weds 30th December
To Sat 2nd January 2016
Travel scooter £27
Wheelchair £15
+£100 returnable deposit

Xmas & New Year

Weds 23rd December
to Sat 2nd January 2016
Travel scooter £55
Wheelchair £30
+ £100 returnable deposit

See inside for more details of 'Long Lets'.

With Christmas fast approaching it is advisable to book your vehicle. If you only need to be in town for a short time then it can be better to come in after lunch when the town and our car park are a lot quieter instead of first thing when everyone wants to come in.



Father Christmas and his reindeer will be coming to **The Malls Shopping Centre** (outside Wilkinson's) on **Sunday 22nd November**. We shall be there, soaking up the atmosphere, handing out balloons and collecting money to support Shopmobility (and keep the fees down.) Would you like to help us? We normally dress a bit Christmassy and have fun watching the entertainers too. You can do one hour or as long as you like. Please speak to Anne or Lin if you are interested.

Stay Warm This Winter Hampshire County Council have launched a campaign to help everyone to stay warm this winter. It's called '**Hitting the Cold Spots**'. Practical and financial help is available to help with heating issues including emergencies along with more general advice on how to get the best out of your heating system. For more information ring the helpful team on 08008048601 Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. So if you or someone you know is not warm at home please give the team a ring, they are there for people just like you.

Christmas is fast approaching, or so everyone keeps telling me. We shall be running our very popular Gift Wrapping Service from 9th December up to and including 24th December. We have a change of location this year. Our new 'home' will be on the upper level in Festival Place close to BHS in the old Tchibo unit. So, if you find wrapping tricky, come and get your gifts wrapped effortlessly. Or, if you love wrapping why not come and help us. It is great fun and really gets you in the Christmas Spirit.



Do you, or someone you know have dementia?

Viables Memory Club is a new club for people with early onset dementia. It takes place every Friday 10am -12noon and 1pm-3pm. Lunch is also available. It aims to provide a variety of activities and social contact for people who have been diagnosed with early onset dementia. For more information speak to Emma on 01256 473634. Do leave a message if she is not there and she will get back to you. Or email emma@viables.org.uk

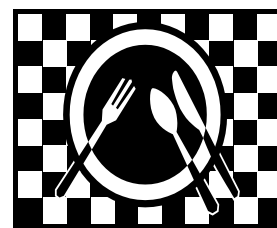
'On Tour'- By hiring lorries and sweet talking our wonderful volunteers to give up long, whole days we attended **The Transport Festival** and the **Alresford Agricultural Show** this year with equipment for hire. With Shopmobility at these events 46 people and their families were able to enjoy the event with a lot more ease. The two events also increased our fundraising success by £730. Watch out for more events next year. Although we cannot possibly attend all the events in the borough you are quite welcome to attend events in Eastrop Park and The War Memorial Park with equipment from the office or hire a wheelchair/travel scooter to take to events outside of the town centre.

In September 37 new customers registered with Shopmobility, 36 customers re-registered and 556 scooters/wheelchairs were hired.

Are you in the 100 Club Yet? £2 per month gets you into the draw with £1 going into the prize fund and £1 into our Fundraising pot. I have just had the pleasure of writing four cheques with a total value of £150 for this month's winning numbers! (One of the nicer parts of the job.) For more details just ask next time you are in or ring and speak to Anne or Lin. We currently have 150 numbers in the draw so the prize fund is currently £150 per month with four prizes of £60, £45, £35 and £10. Set up a direct debit and you won't even notice you are paying it, until you win of course!

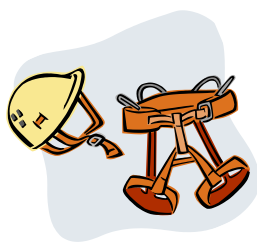
SUCCESS! If you were in The Malls Shopping Centre during the last weekend of September you will have seen us there busy talking to people about what we do and trying to get them to part with their cash. We tried a different approach this time in a quest to be more visible. We had a six foot square logo (paid for by The Malls) on the floor for people to cover with coins. We also had a five foot tall set of balance scales with a wheelchair on one end, touching the floor and a bucket on the other for people to put money in. Over the two days (long, hard days) we collected £373 and the weight of the money in the bucket lifted the wheelchair right off the ground! A big thank you has to go to the man who donated £60 of loose change found while clearing out his mum's house! I do have photos but unfortunately they won't reproduce well here so please ask to see them if you are interested.

We shall be holding our annual **Fund Raising Dinner** on **Wednesday 2nd March**. This is being very kindly hosted by The Restaurant at Basingstoke College of Technology. As the chefs are still in training this is fine dining at affordable prices. The cost is £25 per person for a 3 course meal. Would you like to join us? If you get family and/or friends together to make a table of 8 even better. Speak to Anne or Lin for more information.



Sunday Opening – Although we are not open on Sundays or bank holidays, we are able to leave **pre-booked equipment** for **registered customers** at Festival Place to be collected from the information desk outside Marks and Spencer's. It should be booked by 1p.m. on Saturday to make sure that we are able to get it to Festival Place for you.

For those of you who have been watching the building of **Waitrose** and **John Lewis** with eager anticipation you will be able to take equipment from here to reach both stores. We will test the route and let you know how to get there. For those of you who can wait until after Christmas we'll arrange to lead a group of you there sometime in the New Year. If you would like us to let you know when we have a date please give your name to Anne or Lin.



If you want something exciting to look forward to for 2016 how about taking part in our next abseil? This will take place on June 19th (Father's Day) at the North Hampshire Hospital. Not too tall, (only 60') if you've never abseiled before it's a good place to start. Entry will be £45 and gift vouchers will be available if you want to pay for someone's entry as a Christmas, Birthday or even Fathers Day present. Please ask for more information. We promise you a memorable event!

Last year 1,437 days worth of equipment was hired for days out, holiday, appointments etc

Seasonal Events & Closures

We shall be taking part in all of the events listed below and welcome your involvement:

Sunday 22 nd November	Collection in The Malls while Santa visits with his reindeer (Come and soak up the atmosphere while holding a collection pot)
Wednesday 9 th December	Start of Gift Wrapping Service in Festival Place
Thursday 24 th December	Final day of Gift Wrapping Service
Thursday 24 th December	Closing early for Christmas 1p.m.
Friday 25 th December	Christmas Day - Closed
Saturday 26 th December	Boxing Day – Closed
Friday 1 st January	New Year's Day – Closed
Wednesday 2 nd March	BCOT Dinner

If you would like one of our **Loose Change Boxes** at home do please ask. We currently only have a small group of people doing this so it would be great to have a few more. One person regularly asks neighbours in for coffee and biscuits and asks them to donate which works well too. Money from these goes purely into our New Vehicle Fund.

Might you Need Some TLC for your Lymph System?

The **Lymph Connection Clinic** offers MLD (Manual Lymphatic Drainage), a very relaxing massage like therapy which can help many different ailments including the maintenance of oedemas and lymphedemas. It does this by the therapist using light rhythmical movements on the skin which in turn stretches and stimulates the lymph vessels in the lymphatic system. This aids drainage and in turn helps rebalance the fluids of the body. It can also boost a sluggish immune system by increasing the removal of toxins and other waste products. This can reduce the risk of infection and thus helps to keep the immune system healthy.

For further information or to book an appointment, please contact:

Gail Harbers (MLD Therapist) Vodder CDT

At: **TLC Clinic - Tel. 07720 291197** or **Physical Balance Clinic: Tel. 01256 770022**

www.thelymphconnection.co.uk

We have a

Customer Representative.

Should you wish to discuss something about Shopmobility but not with staff or trustees you can ring Doris Hackett on 01256 760282 or write to her at Shopmobility and we will pass it on.

Would having a **wheelchair, travel scooter** or **walking frame** in your boot mean you went out and about more or attended an appointment easier? Then why not hire one from us? All equipment including standard scooters are available for hire at home too, please ask for prices. See the front cover for our **Christmas Holiday Special** rates.

“Everyone at Shopmobility wishes you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.”

Shopmobility Basingstoke does not endorse any advert carried in this newsletter

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