



# Update

Reg. Charity 1065677

*The newsletter for Shopmobility Basingstoke*

**Hello** Well, although it's still cold and windy I do believe that spring is on its way. I have managed to spend a couple of sunny spells working in my garden lately which has been rather wonderful. When you are next in town why not take a peep in Glebe Gardens (behind the church), you'll see a glorious show of spring flowers. Their colours are sure to brighten your day. Please do take time to read this newsletter, there are lots of things happening over the warmer months which you might enjoy and areas where we need your support too. In the mean time keep warm and enjoy the weather when it arrives!



nice

*With all best wishes from Anne*

A big **THANK YOU** to those who supported our recent Dinner at BCOT. Between us we raised a significant £1150! As part of the evening we had a raffle (well, you have to don't you?) We had some super prizes this year from Slater's Menswear, Newbury Building Society, Festival Place, Waterstones, The Entertainer and Mobile Phone Bitz. So if you are able to support them it would be a great way of saying 'Thank you'.

I'm also pleased to report that a local charity '**Four Lanes Trust**' have awarded us a grant of £500 to update our publicity materials. We will be buying some smart new banners, table cloths and printing some new leaflets. This will be extremely useful when we are out on our awareness days as we will be much more visible. More details of these inside.

**Remember**, your Shopmobility Basingstoke registration covers you for 12 other local schemes under the **Wessex Network** (Andover, Castlepoint, Chichester & Havant, Eastleigh, Fareham, Newport – Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Southampton City, West Quay and Winchester). You will have to give your details to them as our computers are not linked but you will not need to pay their registration fee, just their daily hire fee. Your re-registration is paid at your 'home scheme', this is defined as the scheme in your home town or the one you use most. For more information ask in the office or have a look at our website



[www.shomobilitybasingstoke.org](http://www.shomobilitybasingstoke.org)

**How are we doing?** Do we treat you as an individual? Do we go the extra mile to make sure that each visit is a positive experience? Do we do our best to make sure you enjoy your Shopmobility experience? If the answer to any of these is 'yes' please would you complete and return the enclosed 'Tom Hillier Award Nomination Form' inside so that we stand a chance of winning. If you can think of something particularly personal to you, then even better. Forms can be handed in to us or posted directly to the address on the form. If the answer to any of the above is 'no' then please speak to me (Anne) or Lin as a matter of urgency so that we can improve our service.

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As I am writing this, our grant from **Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council** has yet to be confirmed. Although the recommendation has gone to Cabinet that we should receive the same amount (which is in itself 15% down from previously) it is always a bit nerve wracking until it is confirmed. Even with this grant and the income from customer charges we are still £20,000 short each year which is why we have such an active fundraising calendar. Recent successes are: Christmas **Gift Wrapping** in Festival Place, **BCOT Dinner**, sale of **donations of scooters/wheelchairs**, our **100 Club**, sale of **Easter Chicks**, **Race Night**, **Quiz Nights**, **Coin Boxes** at home, sale of clothes and Bric-a-Brac in the office and sales on **Ebay**. We have also been the recipients of the collection held at the funeral of a customer who had passed away!



Are *you*, your family or friends able to support any fundraising initiatives so that we can maintain the customer charges at their current level? Easy choices are: **The 100 Club** – Shopmobility’s very own lottery. Pay in £2 per month, £1 goes into the prize fund and £1 to maintain the service. Currently the prize fund stands at £160 per month divided into 4 prizes increasing as more numbers are sold. **Coin Box at Home** – A collection box that you can have at home to put you loose change into. Some customers ask friends to make a donation when they come for tea/coffee. Monies collected this way go purely towards buying new scooters/wheelchairs. **Friends Club** – A new initiative! Pay £10 per year to become a ‘Friend’. Receive a free badge/key-ring, Friends Newsletter and priority booking for events. Monies go directly towards the purchase of new scooters/wheelchairs. **Bag Collection** – Donate unwanted clothes, shoes, bags and belts and we can sell them by weight. Next collection 9am **Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>**. Ask for a bag in the office or use any bin/carrier bag.



*Or maybe* you would prefer to attend something and have some fun while helping us to raise vital funds. **Would you like to come to:**

**A Quiz Night** – Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>, Church Cottage (behind St Michael’s Church), 7.30pm start £5pp tea/coffee provided, bring your own food. Max of 6 per team

**Lunch at BCoT** – Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup> £14.50 for a 2 course lunch with tea/coffee.

Organised especially for those of you who wanted to come to the dinner but find it difficult to get out, can’t eat 3 courses etc we have organised a lunch. Speak to Anne or Lin for more information. If transport is an issue we may be able to help.

**Information & Collection Days** – 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> September in The Malls Shopping Centre. Help us to tell the general public what a wonderful service Shopmobility is while collecting money at the same time

**A Race Night** – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October. (Town centre venue to be confirmed.) This is a fun evening betting (£1 per race only) on filmed races with a buffet supper. £15pp.



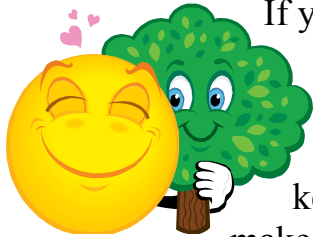
**Sunday Opening** – Although we are not open on Sundays, we are able to leave **pre-booked equipment** for **registered customers** at Festival Place to be collected from the information desk outside Marks and Spencer’s. You will need to make the booking by 1pm on Saturday to enable us to get it to Festival Place for you.

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We will be operating our popular **'On Tour'** service again this summer, taking equipment to **The Transport Festival** on 10<sup>th</sup> May 10am-5pm, **Alton Agricultural Show** on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 9am-5pm and **Alresford Agricultural Show** on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 9am-5pm. Equipment will need to be **booked in advance** as we are limited as to how much equipment we can take to each event. Normal charges apply at the Transport Festival but as the Agricultural shows are outside of our area the charge is a flat 'show rate' of £12. For more information or to make a booking please telephone the Shopmobility office on 01256 476066 and ask to speak to Lin or Anne



If you would you like an outing a bit closer to home then why not join one of our **'Trundles'**? Take one of our scooters/power chairs on an organised jaunt around Basingstoke accompanied by Shopmo staff. Make new friends and enjoy doing something different. Groups are kept to a maximum of 8 for maximum enjoyment. They are popular so make the decision and book. If they are oversubscribed we may be able to increase the dates. Currently we are going to:



**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** - Oliver's at Old Basing for lunch. 2 course early bird lunch and scooter/power chair £12.00 TBC leave Shopmobility at 11a.m. return approx 3.30p.m.  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June** – Historic Brookvale with tea/coffee & cake at Milestones. Leave Shopmobility 2p.m. return approx 4.30p.m. scooter/power chair and refreshments £7.50TBC  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July** – Basingstoke Parks followed by tea/coffee & cake at Shopmobility. Leave Shopmobility at 2p.m. returning at 3.30p.m. for refreshments. £5  
Friends/family are welcome to join us they can either do our training and take a scooter/power chair or walk. Either way we need to know who will be joining us. For more information or to book you place speak to Anne or Lin.

**Do you like going to the theatre?** Would it be easier if there was a wheelchair waiting there for you? With a little bit of organising we can leave one there for you to use. Leave it there and we will pick it up the next day and return it to the office.



There has been lots of change within the National Federation of Shopmobility (NFSUK). We are now proud to be part of a much bigger organisation the British Healthcare Trading Association (BHTA). We have to adhere to their extremely robust code of practise so you can have extra confidence in our customer care and systems of operation.

We are also ticket agents for **Morton's Coaches**. They have a very varied list of day trips available with pick up points around Basingstoke and Tadley. Pick up a brochure from the office. They will take wheelchairs, walkers and travel scooters as long as you or someone with you can put them in the baggage hold.

Due to our **successful fundraising and the sale of donated equipment** we have been able to update our fleet.

We now have 2 x 4 wheeled walking frames, a child's wheelchair and 3 new 3-wheeled scooters. The walking frame has a more modern design, is lighter in weight and folds more easily and neater than the traditional four-wheeled walking frames. The front wheels swivel, making it very manoeuvrable and the seat is quite comfortable if you want to sit and take the weight off your feet. If you don't always need a scooter but feel a bit unsteady with just a stick, or maybe you can't take a scooter away with you, then maybe you would find one of these useful. Charges £1.50 per day (+£100 deposit if taking it home/away). The '3 wheeled scooters' actually have 2 wheels in the front close together instead of 1, making them even more stable than the current 'Toms'. If you haven't used one yet ask to try one. One customer said 'That was the smoothest scooter I've ridden since 1986!'



## Do you, or someone you know have dementia?

Viabes Memory Club is a new club for people with dementia. It takes place every Friday 11am – 2pm and 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 Jayne Morgan on 01256 423830. Do leave a message if she is not there and she will get back to you. Or email [jm@hantswell.org](mailto:jm@hantswell.org)

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 the boot or your car mean you went out and about more often or more easily?

### **Then why not hire one from us?**

Wheelchairs £3.50 per day, Travel Scooters £6 per day, Walking Frames £1.50 per day. A £100 deposit is also required

**Weekend rates are available** Friday 3pm – Monday 10a.m

Wheelchairs - £7 and Travel Scooters - £12 + £100 deposit

For more information speak to **Anne** or **Lin**

*Shopmobility Basingstoke does not endorse any advert carried in this newsletter*

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