

Solihull Shopmobility

Issue 24

Registered Charity No. 1064688

July 2008

Volunteers Needed!

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Our two shops in Touchwood and Drury Lane serve hundreds of people with mobility problems who want to shop in Solihull Town Centre.

None of this could happen without the support of the dedicated volunteers who come to help out once or twice a week.

At the moment we need more helpers to answer the phone, take bookings and issue equipment.

If you think you might be interested in serving as a Shopmobility volunteer (or want to find out more) call us on 0121 711 4231 or call at one of the shops in Touchwood or Drury Lane.



Staff member Janet Belt with Mr Jackson

New Opening Times

Drury Lane

Monday to Saturday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Ring : 0121 711 8701 to book in advance

Touchwood

Monday to Saturday 9.30 am to 5.00 pm
Sunday 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Ring 0121 711 4231 to book in advance

Flying the flag.... for Solihull Shopmobility

This year we have our Flag Day on Saturday 23rd August.

It will be a great chance to raise money for Solihull Shopmobility and tell everybody what we do.

If you would like to help out on the day (even for an hour) then give us a ring on 0121 711 8701 or drop into one of the shops.

Unbeatable One-off Hiring Charges!

Non-members can hire a wheelchair for £3 a day.

Members can hire travel scooters for £10 a night with a £100 returnable deposit, or wheelchairs for £2 a night with a £50 returnable deposit.

See you at the Farmers' Market

On Friday 1st August we are running a stall at the Farmers' Market in the High Street.

So, as well as stocking up on 'fruit and veg', you have the chance to tell us what you think about Shopmobility and (hopefully) volunteer to help out at the 2 shops.

"Having been on crutches for 2 months and then on a stick, I found the motorized scooters were tremendously helpful in getting around the centre of Solihull. The volunteers were friendly and helpful at all times.

I am very grateful to your organization."

Mr. Patterson - Solihull

Sad loss of former Patron

Sir Robert Taylor OBE, former Patron of Solihull Shopmobility, has recently died after a long illness.

Sir Robert, who lost the use of his legs in a car crash, went on to become managing director of Birmingham Airport

and led it into a new era in the 1980s and 1990s.

A former RAF fighter pilot, he also served as Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands County between 1993 and 2006.



DisabledGo Solihull - Opening up business to new customers

In Britain today there are **11 million** disabled people. *DisabledGo* helps disabled people to access their community and promotes what businesses have on offer.

DisabledGo produces online access guides to towns and cities across the UK at www.DisabledGo.info. *DisabledGo* is all about **empowering** disabled people, providing accurate information so that they can make up their own minds about where they would like to go.

DisabledGo has been working with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and has surveyed over 1,000 businesses in the area. Information collected is displayed on www.DisabledGo.info, the most popular website for access information in the UK. Visited by over 100,000 people each month it has been Radio 2's website of the day and featured in many major daily newspapers. The website features 48,000 venues across the country.

It is not just disabled people that are affected by access issues but their families, friends and carers, people with temporary mobility problems and pushchair users. Disabled people spend **£80billion** each year. *DisabledGo* makes sure they can use that money at the shops and services where they will be treated with respect.



Staff member Beryl Comley at Touchwood

"This is the 1st time I have had the pleasure of going to Solihull. I think the facilities you provide are excellent. I would also like to say the lady who served me was most helpful and courteous."

Mr. Lomas – Burntwood

Fone Aid

Thank you everybody that brought their old mobile phones in. We raised a fantastic £225 for Shopmobility when we sent them off.

Solihull Shopmobility

Shopmobility is a service which promotes and enhances the independence of people with limited mobility by providing manual and electric wheelchairs and motorised scooters.

Mell Square Centre Management, Touchwood Centre Management and Solihull Council all give major funding to the charity.

The volunteers and staff help to deliver a 1st class service 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year.

Results from customer surveys indicate that more than half of Solihull Shopmobility members spend on average £50 a visit. That adds up to £250,000 a year extra being spent in Solihull Town Centre.



Staff member Lynda Johnson

Your Trustees

Solihull Shopmobility is run by a board of trustees and most are elected by the members at the annual general meeting. This year your trustees are:

Chairperson	Mary Conway
Vice Chairperson	Joan Edge
Treasurer	Dudley Warner
Secretary	Margaret Phillips
Trustee	Dawn Dawson
Mell Square	Paul Round
Touchwood	Tania Stowe
Solihull Council	Cllr. Robert Hall Caroline Naven

Ring David Williams (Interim Manager) on 704 8754 if you want to contact any of them or would be interested in serving as a Shopmobility trustee.

*"I have nothing but praise for Shopmobility staff at Touchwood. They are all very kind and patient. I have my own scooter at home but it cannot be transported, so am very grateful for the use of yours. God bless you all."
Mrs. McSherry – Acocks Green*

Contact Us

If you want to drop us a line please write to:

Solihull Shopmobility
19 Drury Lane
Solihull
B91 3BB

Or visit our website at:
www.solihull.gov.uk/shopmobility/

