

Solihull Shopmobility

Issue 26

Registered Charity No. 1064688

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Solihull Council Funds New Shopmobility Scooters

Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Charity Support Floods In | 2 |
| Raffle Prize Winner | 2 |
| Super Scooter | 3 |
| Readers' Comments | 3 |
| Annual Meeting | 4 |

Solihull Council have given Shopmobility a huge boost by funding £20,000 worth of new scooters and wheelchairs.

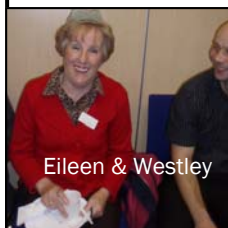
The start of 2009 will see 11 colt twin scooters and 4 manual wheel chairs added to the equipment fleet.

“Our members deserve the best” said new Shopmobility Chairperson Cllr. Robert Hall.

Volunteers Celebrate

Bonfire Night at Touchwood was a rare chance for all Shopmobility’s volunteers to have a party.

Volunteers help out at fixed



Eileen & Westley

times every week and often don't meet people who help on other days.

Special thanks are owed to John and Dawn Wilkinson who prepared the food.



Dawn Dawson, Tony Shaw and Joan Edge



“Shopmobility is a real asset for people with mobility problems in Solihull. The staff and volunteers are always helpful, friendly and professional.

As Cabinet Member for Community Services & the Environment I was glad to be able to approve the funding for purchase of new scooters and wheelchairs for Drury Lane and Touchwood.” - Cllr. Mrs Wild

Opening times at Drury Lane and Touchwood

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

Charity Support Floods in

Since the summer Solihull Shopmobility has received grants from 9 different charitable trusts to buy new scooters and wheelchairs.

So far we have had the following support:

- £50 from The Bewley Charitable Trust
- £2,000 from The Birmingham Mail Charity Trust
- £1,000 from The Bryant Trust
- £1,800 from CHK Charities Ltd
- £500 from The Cole Charitable Trust
- £2,400 from The Eveson Charitable Trust
- £2,000 from The GJW Turner Trust
- £2,400 from The Rowlands Trust
- £300 from The Yorkshire & Clydesdale Bank Foundation



 Clydesdale Bank |  Yorkshire Bank

Solihull Shopmobility manager, David Williams, said, "The support from charities, coupled with the Council's investment, means that we are well on our way to renewing all our fleet of scooters and wheelchairs."



Cllr. Wilde (above right) came to see our new scooters.

Three staff requests

- 1) Try to ring the shop before coming in so we can get the equipment ready before you arrive.
- 2) Remember to bring your membership card with you.
- 3) Try to get back to the shop at least 15 minutes before we close.

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.

£100 Raffle Prize handed over

This year's raffle raised over £1,500.

Regular Shopmobility customer, Margaret Haywood was the winner of the top prize.

Margaret said, "Just before Christmas - what a great time to win £100!"



Margaret collects her prize

Super Scooter Sale!

We are holding an equipment sale at the end of January. All the scooters (and wheelchairs) in the sale were in our fleet until just recently - ideal for personal use.

The scooters will be on sale for £200 each - but you will need to be able to transport the vehicle home yourself.

Where: 19 Drury Lane

What time: 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

When: Thursday and Friday 29th and 30th January 2009.

Charity Members' Meeting

All members are invited to the next members' meeting.

It will be held on Thursday 29th January 2009 at 2.00 pm.

The meeting will take place in the Civic Suite at the Council House.

The purpose of the meeting will be to reconvene the AGM held on Wednesday 26th November 2008 in order to ratify the decisions then taken.

Readers' Comments

In the last newsletter we asked you to tell us what you thought of us. Here are just a few of your replies:

- "A pleasure to be met with a friendly smile" - Margaret
- "Everyone was so kind" - Meg
- "After an accident I found this service invaluable" - Janet
- "Staff are kind courteous & most helpful" - Peter
- "So much better than being in a wheelchair" - Lesley
- "I'm very thankful to be able to use a scooter for shopping" - Pamela
- "Staff are very kind & helpful" - Elsie
- "Without your service I would be completely housebound" - Anna
- "Enables me to shop, and window-shop" - Ruth
- "I could not do my shopping without this service" - Winifred
- "All the volunteers are so helpful & kind" - Clarice
- "Coupled with the Ring & Ride, having a scooter enables me to do my own thing" - Josephine
- "I had heard & read about 'Adding Value' & 'Making a Difference'. I have seen it happen at Shopmobility. Suffering from severe rheumatoid arthritis & having limited mobility, I could just dream about shopping & getting around & never thought I would ever be able to do so. Shopmobility made it possible for me. I can now shop & go about independently. It is a fantastic service with very helpful & friendly staff. This is truly 'Adding Value' & 'Making a Difference'. Thank you for making such a big difference to my life" - Neena

Annual General Meeting

On 26th November the AGM took place in the Council Chamber. Cllr. David Bell, Mayor of Solihull, presided over a lively meeting and congratulated everybody for running such a successful service.

The raffle was drawn, with prizes donated by town centre businesses. First prize was £100 in cash - thanks to a kind donation by local mobility specialists, A M Mobility.

The accounts to 31 March 2008 were presented by Trafalgar's (the Charity's auditors) and several constitutional amendments were agreed.

Following elections, the new

Management Committee of Trustees is as follows:

Chairperson: Cllr Robert Hall

Vice-Chairperson: Mary Conway

Treasurer: Joan Edge

Other Trustees: Caroline Naven (Council), Paul Round (Mell Square), Tania Stowe (Touchwood), Anthony Howle, Harry Taylor, Joan Coverson, Barbara Hunter, Roy Banks and Lynda Johnson.

The Mayor thanked Dawn Dawson and Margaret Phillips, who were standing down as Trustees, for all their hard work.

The meeting finished with a light buffet.

Questionnaire 2009

With this newsletter you will find a copy of the **Solihull Shopmobility Questionnaire 2009**.

Please fill the Questionnaire in and return it to us by 1st March 2009. We are raffling a bottle of champagne and, if you return your form, your name will be entered in the draw.

This is the first membership survey since 2004 and will be a great help to us in delivering a better service. It will also allow us to prove how much you all contribute to the prosperity of the town.



Cllr. Hall

"It looks as if the world economy will be going through tough times in the year ahead.

Nevertheless, here in Solihull, we will carry on delivering a quality Shopmobility

service for everybody that needs it.

I would like to thank all the hardworking staff and volunteers for the huge part they play. My priority this year will be to increase the amount of fundraising the Charity carries out." - Cllr. Robert Hall

