



Okehampton District Community Transport Group



NEWSLETTER – March 2024 (86)

Member 100

Member 100 January 2024

Results of the January draw;

1st K Parker £30.00

2nd G Brooks £20.00

3rd S Heathman £10.00

Member 100 February 2024

1st £30 J Gillet

2nd £20 D Mudge

3rd £10 F Glover

Well done all!

Spring into Volunteering - Become a Community Champion!



COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

REAL COMMUNITY DIFFERENCE

Become a Community Champion with ODCTG!

- ° Arrange coffee mornings in your Town or Village
- ° Check that we have information and recruitment volunteer driver posters up in surgeries, community spaces etc
- ° Share potential fund-raising ideas
- ° Meet up with the team and other Community Champions approximately 4 times a year to share ideas and coordinate efforts
- ° Help arrange social days for all volunteers

If you are interested in any of the above please contact Paula for a friendly chat.

Our community champions help in many ways, whether driving or helping us with admin in their communities, or at our coffee mornings. Please give me a call 01837 55000, or drop me an email manager@odctg.co.uk. Let's have a chat about what you can do to help ODCTG.

Thank you all for taking part. If you would like to join the 100 Club, contact the office on 01837 55000. For £12.00 annual membership you could win a share of the prize fund each month.

Introduce a Community Car Driver

Do you know someone who can drive, is sympathetic, kind and who likes to make a difference to others. Please point them in our direction! If you recommend someone and they complete a journey for us, we will enter you and them in our raffle to be made at our coffee morning on the 4th May 2024!

To help you convince someone to at least have a chat with us about volunteer driving here are a few pointers and some information to start your conversation with them.

Here's a few reasons why our drivers volunteer....

"I could see that some of my elderly neighbours were struggling to get reliable transport to medical appointments, and wanted to help".

"It's a great Charity and I wanted to do something which really mattered".

And here are some lovely comments from our passengers:

"The driver helped me find out where I needed to be. So helpful & kind".

"We had a lovely chat and a bit of a laugh, which put me at ease as I was worried about the appointment".



Benefits of Volunteering

- * choose when you are available
- * make a positive difference to others
- * improve your self-esteem, confidence and wellbeing
- * gain invaluable work experience
- * add your volunteering role to your CV
- * receive training and develop new skills
- * all our drivers receive a mileage allowance for their journeys
- * opportunity to gain a CPD accredited certificate, for Disability Awareness Training. Provided by Devon Insight and supported by Devon County Council
- * volunteer within a supportive team

Our four step process to becoming a volunteer community driver:

- * Express your interest through our website go to;
<https://odctg.co.uk/volunteer/>.
Or complete our application form
- * We will invite you in for a chat
- * We will arrange for you to go on a journey with one of our experienced drivers....

....Subject to DBS & References, you can start volunteering!



Spring Giving

If you are unable to volunteer, you can still help us. Did you know;

- * £5 could help someone enjoy an outing and make new friends.
- * £10 helps to bring a person home from hospital.
- * £25 could go towards vehicle maintenance costs.
- * £50 contributes to our vehicle certification requirements.
- * £100 could add to our fund for vehicle replacement.

You can now donate securely through Paypal on our website. www.odctg.co.uk. Or look out for the “minibuses” in our vehicles.



Pricing

As costs continue to rise, we as a charity are feeling it too. It is disappointing to have to increase prices, however, we have to protect our valued services. We hope with funding and an increase in donations we will be able to reduce these in the future. The new prices are as follows and are effective from, Monday 1st April 2024.



Ring & Ride: From Monday the 1st April;

Out of town service £7.00

In Town service £5.00

Community Car: From Monday the 1st of April;

All town runs will be £6.00

Trips: From Monday 1st April;

In town pickup £13.00

Out of town pick up £15.00



Ring & Ride - routes

Monday: Sticklepath – Okehampton

Tuesday: Winkleigh – Okehampton

Wednesday: Bridestowe – Okehampton

Thursday: Hatherleigh– Okehampton

Friday: Halwill – Okehampton



What's your idea!

If you have an idea or suggestion for our services, fund-raising or how we can involve more of you in our social occasions we would be delighted to hear from you. The best way to do this so we don't jam the phones(!) is to email office@odctg.co.uk.

**ODCTG Coffee Morning
Saturday 4th May 2024, 9-13:00**

Whilst the Charter Hall is closed, our venue for this Coffee Morning will be the Parish Church room.

Please pop along for refreshments, usual cake, raffle, books and of course bric-a-brac, and other stalls.

If you have some good quality bric-a-brac you would like to donate please call the office 01837 55000 and we will arrange for a drop off time or we may be able to collect.

Distributing our newsletter



We have had some issues emailing out our Newsletter, and you may not have received our last edition if you have a gmail account. I hope we have now resolved this. Our newsletter is also published on our website www.odctg.co.uk so if anyone reports not having seen it via email or post, please let them know they can find it there.

If you have received this newsletter but would like to be taken off the mailing list (either post or email) please let us know.

Local Events & Information

Okehampton Library:

Spring Coffee Morning – Saturday 23rd March 10:00-12:00

Join the Friends of Okehampton Library for hot drinks and biscuits, there will also be a last chance to buy draw tickets in their chocolate raffle.

Libraries Unlimited

THU 14 MAR
19.15 – 20.15
Okehampton
Library
£3

FAREWELL JAMAICA

With Artist Neville Connor



librariesunlimited.org.uk/events
Use as often as you like. No charge. £2.00.
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Supported by



EXETER
LIVE BETTER

South West Water – Tuesday 26th March 09:00-13:00

South West Water will be at the library to offer support and advice to customers regarding their bills and how they can help them further. Find out if you are eligible for a tariff that could save you money. Free water saving devices will be available.

Library Cuppa & A Chat - Tuesdays 13:30-15:30 Enjoy a natter with other customers. Refreshments will be available. Just drop in.

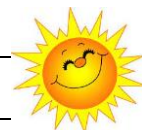
And finally....



Okehampton District
Community Transport Group

Don't forget our coffee morning on Saturday May 4th - 09:00-13:00! Parish Church Rooms. May the Fourth be With You.

Summer Edition



The summer edition will be out mid-May!

Trips – General Information & Our Spring Destinations

Please call or email the office to book on our trips. If you cannot make a trip please let us know as soon as possible so we may be able to offer your seat to someone else. If you find yourself on the reserve list, whilst we appreciate this may be frustrating, please bear with us, if we can run another bus as we have a full reserve list (and a driver) we will, and let you know as soon as we can.

Pricing

Each trip from the 4th April 2024 will be £15.00pp for out of town pickups and £13.00pp in town pickups. When we can, we will run lower cost local trips.

Trips – March – May 2024

March

Sat	9 th March	Honiton Market Day & Otter Nurseries
Tuesday	12 th March	Exeter Cathedral
Sunday	17 th March	Sunday Lunch - Bath House & Time in Exmouth
Tuesday	19 th March	Babbacombe (Bygone museum or Babbacombe village) Torquay
Saturday	23 rd March	Quince Honey Farm & Barnstaple

April

Thursday	4 th April	St Bridgets Nurseries & Darts Farm
Saturday	13 th April	Bovey Tracey (Coffee) & Teignmouth
Sunday	21 st April	Sunday Lunch at the Durrant House Hotel (£12.50 2 courses) Bideford & Westward Ho!
Tuesday	16 th April	Tavistock Market
Saturday	27 th April	Donkey Sanctuary & Sidmouth
Tuesday	30 th April	Stratton Homeleigh Garden Centre or shopping in Bude

May

Thursday	9 th May	Green Lanes - Barnstaple
Tuesday	14 th May	Launceston Town & Homeleigh Garden Centre
Sunday	19 th May	Sunday Lunch at Windy Ridge Eating House, Trerulefoot, Saltash Small £9.95 & Large £13.95
Tuesday	21 th May	Street- Somerset
Wednesday	22 nd May	Green Dragon Lunch, Northlew 2 courses £10.00 + tea & coffee (Manager's special £10.00 trip fare)
Tuesday	28 th May	Atlantic Village - Bideford

The trip list and the reserve list are strictly, first come, first served.