

Information on Volunteering

Gloucestershire has over 500 volunteers involved with community transport.

The services that these volunteers provide are literally a 'lifeline' to some of the passengers. If you can spare any time at all it would be invaluable to the schemes.

It is not just about driving, office based staff, fundraisers and people with computer skills are also required.

How much time should I give?

A few hours

- A week
- A month
- Any time at all !!!

We will find a suitable role for you!

For further details please contact the Community Transport Officer (see details below).



What the users say

- The drivers are patient and good humoured
- I would be lost without the transport
- I think the service is wonderful
- The drivers are very friendly
- Very good service, drivers are polite and helpful
- I have been using the transport since my arthritis set in badly



Community Transport

February 2005



0845 0450302

Community Transport

Community Transport & Project Officer
Integrated Transport Unit
Gloucestershire County Council
Shire Hall, Gloucester GL1 2TH

Tel: 01452 425334

Fax: 01452 425995

Email: communitytransport@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Website: gloucestershire.gov.uk/communitytransport



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL



What is Community Transport?

Community Transport is a friendly, safe and affordable transport service provided by local groups to help a range of people with transport problems. Local councils fund part of the service, along with donations and fundraising activities.

How is transport provided?

1. Dial-A-Ride (DAR)

Wheelchair accessible minibuses provide door-to-door transport upon telephone request. (Passengers must be registered members).

2. Voluntary Car Schemes (VCS)

VCS are provided by volunteer drivers using their own cars to transport those unable to access public transport. (Most schemes do not have wheelchair accessible vehicles). There is a charge for using the service.

3. Community Buses

A community bus is a minibus which is operated to a scheduled timetable and all drivers are volunteers.

What type of journeys can you make?

Individual Community Transport organisations determine the type of journey they will provide. Journeys may include shopping trips, medical appointments, welfare visits, lunch clubs and transport to residential homes.

Who is Community Transport for?

To use Community Transport you must fit the criteria below:

- Have no transport and
- Are elderly, frail or
- Have a disability (permanent or temporary) or
- Need to use a wheelchair, or:
- Be an able bodied person with no access to public transport and do not have frequent or convenient access to a car.

Some groups may take passengers who for a medical reason are unable to use their car on a particular day.

Gloucestershire Minibus Scheme

The county also encourages minibus sharing through the Gloucestershire Minibus Scheme. This allows groups and community organisations to borrow vehicles in return for a contribution towards the running costs. For further information please contact Chris Strangeway on 01452 425018 or chris.strangeway@gloucestershire.gov.uk

How much will it cost?

All Community Transport groups are run on a not for profit basis, therefore fares are kept to a minimum and vary between groups. Please contact your local provider for a quote.

A2binfo.net

To find details of the Community Transport group nearest to you, log onto the A2b website at www.a2binfo.net

How do I find my local Community Transport group?

To find your local Community Transport group please ring 0845 0450302. This service will provide you with the details of the services available in your area.

How do I arrange a journey?

Simply telephone your local Community Transport service. Their numbers are listed inside this leaflet. Please give at least two days notice.

They will ask you;

- Name, address & contact number
- When you wish to travel
- Where you need to travel to and from
- Any mobility or health problems you may have



Last Year

Voluntary Car and Dial-a-Ride Services made over 211,000 journeys and covered approximately 695,000 miles!



CHELTENHAM

Cheltenham Community Transport 01242 515388
 Charlton Kings Senior Citizens Welfare 01242 517337

COTSWOLDS

The Villager Community Bus Service 01451 831594
 North Cotswold Community Bus Association "The Hedgehog" 01386 430075
 North Cotswolds Voluntary Help Centre 01608 651115
 Bledington 01608 658525
 Cirencester* 01285 658802
 Tetbury* 01666 502514
 Fairford 01285 713852
 Westcote 01993 830107
 Todenham Good Neighbours 01608 650305

GLOUCESTER

Gloucester City Dial-A-Ride 01452 502100

STROUD

Dursley & District Good Neighbours 01453 548474
 Ring & Ride 01453 759005
 Wotton Volunteers 01453 542091
 Stroud & District Volunteer Centre 01453 759005
 Here To Help (Cam) 01453 542873

FOREST OF DEAN

Bream 01594 562985
 Coleford 01594 834847
 Lydbrook Community Care (Ruardean, English Bicknor, Dymock) 01594 860143
 Dymock 01531 890645
 Forest Call-a-Ride 01594 834847
Dial-A-Ride
 Newent* 01531 821227
 Coleford 01594 844558
 Lydney 01594 845968
 Cinderford 01594 844558

TEWKESBURY

Tewkesbury Volunteer & Help Centre 01684 297209
 Dial-A-Ride 01684 293763
 WRVS Voluntary Car Scheme 01684 294535
 Deerhurst Community Care Group 01452 780293

DETAILS FROM ONE LOCAL SCHEME

- All local hospitals and health centres are serviced – eg. Gloucester, Cheltenham, Hereford, Ledbury, Bristol, Oxford, - and Newent, Staunton, Mitcheldean and Ross Health Centres.
- Evening and weekend trips are provided when drivers are available.
- Car sharing is encouraged, and it reduces charges to individuals.
- All scheduling is done via our software system.
- Our phone line is staffed from 9.00am – 4.00pm.

CONCESSIONARY FARE SCHEMES

All six districts in Gloucestershire operate their own concessionary fare schemes for elderly and disabled residents, to help them travel more cheaply on local buses, taxis, and in some cases trains.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Cheltenham 01242 264218
 Cotswolds 01285 623370
 Forest of Dean 01594 812461
 Gloucester 01452 396487
 Stroud 01453 754417
 Tewkesbury 01684 272252

FREE GLOUCESTERSHIRE TRAVEL GUIDE

For the elderly, people with disabilities, and the ruraly isolated. It's free! To get your copy, contact the Integrated Transport Unit in Shire Hall. Telephone 01452 425610.

*Also operates a voluntary car scheme