

WEALDEN • WHEELS

Community Transport for Local Villages
The Old Granary, Pevington Farm, Pluckley, Kent TN27 0PF

Spring
2016

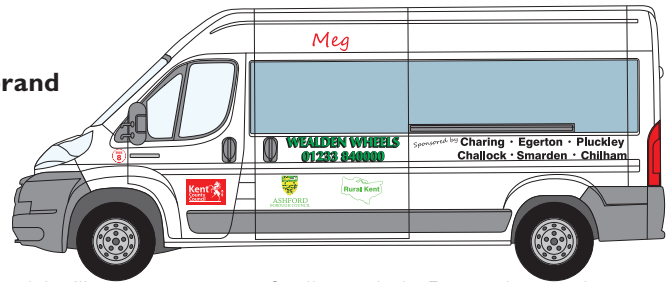
Welcome to the latest newsletter from your community transport company

Exciting news!

Our followers on Facebook will have seen our news - we've a brand spanking new, bespoke minibus joining our fleet soon!

Those of you with long memories will remember we applied to the Community Bus Fund for a new 17 seater wheelchair accessible minibus over a year ago.

We heard in March last year we had been successful, and despite the wheels within the Department for Transport not turning as quickly as we might like, payment was finally made in December and so our order has been placed! Meg as she has been named is a Fiat and will be our first automatic minibus. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for news of her arrival!



We need more volunteer drivers

We are delighted to welcome three new drivers, some of you may have already met Yvonne, Sharon and Terry. BUT we still need more!

Our continued success is totally dependent on time donated by our volunteer drivers. Quite simply, we can't operate without them.

Please consider joining us - there is no minimum time-commitment, and no pressure to do more than you want to. You need to be over 25 and under 70 and have no more than 3 penalty points on your driving licence.

To drive our biggest buses you also need to have Category DI (or a PCV) on your licence.

We provide training by way of MiDAS - the Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme,

run by two of our friendly volunteer drivers Gavin and Ron. We will also arrange a First Aid training course for you with the British Red Cross.

On the reverse of this newsletter is an advert for volunteer drivers. Please could we ask our members who have access to a notice board, shop window or another prominent position, to please put the advert up and help spread the word!

If you know of anyone who isn't a member of Wealden Wheels, but is happy to display the advert, please give the office a call so we can send them a copy.

If you know someone who may be interested in driving for us, please ask them to call the office for a 'no-obligation' chat!

Staff changes

Those members who ring the office may have detected the dulcet tones of a new member of staff.

Well, we say new, but in reality, Mike Dawes has been volunteering at Wealden Wheels under the bonnet with all things mechanical and as a driver for quite some time. Mike now works one day a week, with his main responsibilities being the weekly vehicle checks and general maintenance of our minibuses.

Liz Reid who was full time is now part time, working three days each week, and Chris Housman one day.

We continue to trim unnecessary expense from the operation to ensure maximum value for money for members, and with the addition of Mike, our fleet is receiving regular in-house TLC!

New year, new prices?

'Oh no' we hear you cry, 'more price increases'...fret not! We're delighted to tell you that membership rates and hire fees will not increase for 2016.

Self-drive hire rates are also staying the same and remain competitively priced, resulting in a considerable saving if you can provide a driver from within your organisation. Contact us for more details.

For regular updates
follow us on Facebook.



Wealden Wheels is your village community, not-for-profit transport initiative, supported by Kent County Council and Parish Councils of Challock, Charing, Chilham, Egerton, Pluckley and Smarden.

Please may we take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all our members for using our services. We are very grateful for your support and in particular that of the parish councils of Challock, Charing, Chilham, Egerton, Pluckley and Smarden who continue to be staunch supporters of Wealden Wheels.

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Community Transport for Local Villages

We Need Volunteer Drivers

Have You...
Got some spare time?

Do You Fancy...
Getting out and about a bit?
Meeting some new people?
Doing a bit of driving?

If you've answered yes, and are aged between 25 and 70 with no more than 3 penalty points on your driving licence, then please call us!

Our website and Facebook page have lots of information about Wealden Wheels and what we do.

For the human touch, just ring the office and speak to Liz, Chris or Mike who will happily answer any questions you may have!

Training is provided.

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Find us on Facebook

