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WRCC NEWS UPDATE

October 2015

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New Shoppa-Hoppa comes to town

Back & 4th Community Transport launched Shoppa-Hoppa in February 2014 providing an assisted shopping service for residents in parts of Warwick District. The service has proved to be extremely popular with local residents who are transported by a fully trained volunteer driver to the supermarkets around Leamington Shopping Park.



For those that need help, they are met and escorted around the supermarket by volunteers who help them to do their shopping. This might involve guiding shoppers who are partially sighted and assisting to read labels and reach items from the shelves or

pushing wheelchair users round the store allowing shoppers to choose their own items. The passengers are then taken home when everyone has finished their shopping. The return journey costs passengers just £6 and carers can travel free.

One of our passengers said "It's such a great service; I'm able to get out of the house, have a chat with new friends while we are on our journey, then when we arrive someone is there to help me get round the store. Sometimes we even stop and have a coffee – a real treat! The driver is always so cheerful and helpful and I'd be lost without it!"

From 12th October 2015 a new day will be introduced as there are now too many shoppers for just one day.

For people living in the following areas the service will operate on Wednesdays:

- Brunswick
- Cubbington
- Milverton
- Newbold
- Offchurch
- Radford Semele
- Sydenham
- Wappenbury
- Weston-Under-Weatherly
- Whitnash



For people living in the following areas the service will continue to run on Mondays:

- Aylesford
- Barford
- Bishops Tachbrook
- Budbrooke
- Emscote
- Hampton Magna
- Hampton on the Hill
- Hatton
- Heathcote
- Myton
- Norton Lindsey
- Saltisford
- Sherbourne
- Warwick Town
- Wasperton
- Woodloes



Our drivers and assistants are all volunteers and we are always looking for extra people to help out. If you have some spare time and think this might be something that would interest you, please call 01789 471595 to find out more about how you can help or email transport@wrccrural.org.uk

To find out more about using the service, which day you can travel or to register to go on

Shoppa-Hoppa please call our office on 01789 471595 and we'll be happy to help.

New affordable homes completed in Stockton



Two housing needs surveys that were undertaken by WRCC provided the building blocks that have helped to bring forward a lovely rural exception development of 17 new affordable homes in Stockton, much to the delight of the new residents.

The scheme has been developed in partnership with WRHA, Stonewater, Stockton Parish Council, WRCC and Stratford District Council.



Stonewater worked with contractor Heyford Homes to deliver the affordable properties as part of a larger 17-home development which provides three two- and three-bedroom houses for shared ownership and a mix of six two- and three-bedroom houses and three two-bedroom bungalows for affordable rent. The additional five homes will be sold by Heyford Homes on the local market.



The affordable properties, which are built on former farmland, each have a garden and allocated parking as well as access to a community copse area adjacent to the development on land owned by Stockton Parish Council. Stonewater and WRHA are contributing £2,000 each to help develop this feature which is being provided by the Parish Council.

Find out more at: ruralwarwickshire.org.uk

Would your community benefit from affordable homes for local people?

[Contact us for more information.](#)

Energy Warwickshire offers fantastic deal for LPG users

Energy Warwickshire is delighted to announce a brand

new deal for bulk LPG users. As from 1st September 2015 we are able to offer bulk LPG for just 35p per litre. The price is fixed for 12 months with no more than a 3.5 % rise going into year 2. The offer also comes with a £250 fuel credit for new members joining the scheme.



If your contract with your current supplier is coming to an end or you want to find out more information, please give us a call on 01789 842182.



Energy Warwickshire is also able to offer LPG cylinders at very competitive rates. Our current prices can be found on our [website](#).



Energy
Warwickshire
is run by WRCC

Energy Warwickshire oil syndicate prices

Our bulk kerosene and red diesel syndicate is saving households an average of £60.00 on an order of 1000 litres. Our most recent prices have been:

October member prices

Kerosene 29.11ppl - saving 6.84 pence per litre against the market high and 4.54ppl against the average

Red Diesel members price 40.85ppl - saving 6.1ppl against the market high and 3.95ppl against the market average.



September member prices

Kerosene 29.80ppl - Saving 7ppl against the market high and 4.57ppl against the average.

Red Diesel 40.10ppl - Saving 6.97ppl against the market high and 5.95ppl against the average.

August member prices

Kerosene 28.97ppl - Saving 10.98ppl against the market high and 6.61ppl against the average.

Red Diesel 42.95ppl - Saving 9.52ppl against the market high and 3.95ppl against the average.

Health Transport Service

Partnerships, Volunteers and Booking fees



The Health Transport Service has experienced an unprecedented increase in the number of journeys provided to people struggling to access health and social care appointments, growing by 41% over the last year.



The project co-ordinates volunteers using their own cars with passengers who are unable to access conventional transport. Over the last year, the project has started to provide journeys in partnership with West Midlands Ambulance Service and Warwickshire County Council's People Group.

Funding cuts over the same period have regrettably led to the introduction of a booking fee for each passenger journey. The publicity surrounding the introduction of the booking fee led to an incredible £1,200 in private donations from people who clearly value the service provided. The partnerships with the Ambulance Service and Warwickshire County Council have also helped generate income to keep the service alive, but further fundraising will be an ongoing requirement.



With the service being used more and more, new volunteer drivers and administrators are desperately needed. Marsha is one of our newest recruits and has recently joined us as a volunteer administrator. Marsha has first-hand knowledge of the difficulties people experience when trying to attend medical appointments and wanted to help others in the same situation. She is working one morning a week at our Wellesbourne office and is thoroughly enjoying the challenge along with knowing she is helping her local community.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in volunteering for an administration or driving position please call Gareth on 01789 472613

Lions hand minibus keys over to

Back & 4th Community Transport



Wellesbourne & District Lions Club has handed the running of their community minibus over to Back & 4th Transport. The Lions have very generously gifted the bus so that it can continue to be used in the Wellesbourne area by groups that are eligible to hire it, and also so that more use can be made of the vehicle to provide services for the local community.



Back & 4th provides vehicles for community and voluntary groups from South Warwickshire to go on trips locally and further afield. A dedicated team of volunteer drivers give hours of their time to assist all sorts of people to get out and about. The vehicles are 15 and 16 seaters and costs are kept to a minimum, making day trips affordable for small groups.



The latest addition of the Lions minibus means that even more local people will be able to travel and in recent weeks the minibus has taken groups to Toddington for a trip on the steam railway, to Moreton-in-Marsh market for some retail therapy, to a farm in Radford Semele for a visit and to a local pool for nursery school swimming lessons.



Having this extra vehicle will make a huge difference as Back & 4th continues to increase the number of community journeys it delivers every month. Local people often have difficulty accessing public transport and hiring full sized coaches is out of the question as it is far too expensive.



Back & 4th Transport is extremely grateful to Wellesbourne & District Lions for gifting the minibus to us.

If you would like to find out more about how to book this vehicle or any of our other wheelchair accessible vehicles for your community or voluntary group outing, please give us a call on 01789 471595.

Dates for your diary

WRCC Annual General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 24 November 2015

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: The Conference Centre, Warwick Enterprise Park (HRI), Wellesbourne, Warwickshire, CV35 9EF, United Kingdom

Details: A short meeting followed by refreshments and an opportunity to meet the WRCC team.

Community Buildings Event 2016

Date: 5 March 2016

Venue: Binley Woods Village Hall

Details: In November 2013 WRCC held an event for people involved in village halls and community buildings, with workshops and information on issues that affect them. The event was very popular and we've decided to organise another one on Saturday morning, 5 March 2016 at Binley Woods Village Hall.

The agenda and invitations will be issued nearer the time, but please put the date in your diaries and tell anyone who may be interested in attending.



WRCC seeks to ensure Warwickshire communities are thriving, vibrant and sustainable - places where people want to live and work.

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