



registered charity no 27578722



## NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2017

### for Passengers, Volunteers and friends of the charity

The Winter 2016/17 Newsletter received positive feedback so we are pleased to provide the latest edition. We welcome new passengers and volunteers joining us over recent months. The charity has continued to gain publicity through events and publications, both locally and across West Sussex. Examples include “Storrington on Show”, Horsham Volunteers Fair, articles in “Your Steyning”, Parish magazines, as well as regular inputs to village magazines such as in Billingshurst or Wisborough Green. Please help us to increase publicity where possible, for both volunteers and passengers.



We have continued to operate 12 minibuses across 8 Divisions in rural West Sussex. Vehicles have been fitted with the prestigious Queens Award logo, following our award in 2016; also sponsorship logos for a number of villages – thanks to Fowlers and Osborne Humphreys for your support

**Annual General Meeting** - The AGM will be held on Wed. 19 July at Fittleworth village hall, starting at 10am. All members, whether passengers, volunteers, or associate member groups, are welcome to attend. As well as summarising the 2016 accounts, the Chairman and other Officers will review the 2016 activities and look forward to the plans for the current year. Copies of report available at the meeting or via website or on request to Hon. Sec. Alan Goss 01903 740557



### Message from Chairman Alistair Sheppard

I would like to thank our Passengers for their continued use of the service and trust that you are looking forward to a warm summer, whether on shopping trips, seaside visits, lunches or special events. We are very happy to welcome passengers of all ages. Our volunteers continued support to their Division, is the foundation of our successful operation. Keep up the great work. and ....safe travels!

**Vehicle update** - Two replacement vehicles have recently been purchased in line with our fleet management plan, these purchases are funded by the charity's own funds, membership and trip fees, as well as support from external sources such as grants, and sponsorship. Local village fundraising especially where the new vehicles are being used, is warmly welcomed.

In February we also received a grant for revenue support from the West Sussex County Council Transport Bureau, this provides much needed help to the increasing costs of fuel, servicing and repairs.

## Donations, legacies and sponsorship

- Additional income is necessary to maintain our minibus fleet and retain affordable fees.
- Sponsorship programmes are available to compatible partners.
- Legacies can be a way of showing your appreciation through including us in your will.



## Volunteering

- We need volunteers to help in a variety of roles - drivers, escorts, administration - to support the local community.
- Volunteers also welcome as Trustees, managing the direction of the charity.

 **Raise FREE donations**

for us just by shopping online

**Yes, it's that easy!**

A percentage of every pound you spend online will be donated to us when you shop via:

[www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/westsussexminibus](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/westsussexminibus)

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Stay in touch 

## Changing our Charitable Status

A Special General Meeting was held on 21 March, and agreed to apply to the Charity Commission to change our status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). We expect to finalise this change in the summer, this will not affect the normal day to day operation of our service

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