



Shopmobility

Newsletter

March to September 2011

Welcome and introduction

As I sit down to write this newsletter, I realise that it is over a year since I started at Shopmobility. What an enjoyable year it has been. The staff and volunteers are always ready with a listening ear and friendly smile and it is thanks to them that Salisbury Shopmobility is the success that it is.

Cindy Demain-Griffiths

Shopmobility Team Leader

We held a volunteers' training day on 1 June 2011 for all our volunteers and staff. Although this meant we had to close Shopmobility for the day, we felt it was worthwhile. Many volunteers were able to learn something new to improve our service to our customers.



During our road show in Salisbury Market Square in April, we trained approximately 30 people.

Some have come back to us as regular customers or volunteers and others just enjoyed the opportunity to try out a scooter, thereby raising their awareness of Shopmobility.

We celebrated the 3,000th use of a powerchair by Sue Bunce.



Wheelchair walks

Helen Farmer has kindly taken over the leadership of the wheelchair walks to allow Pam Rouquette to retire. We thank Pam for her efforts over the years.

This year our walks have taken us to the Constable exhibition, the water meadows, Milford Hill and Bourne nature reserve, the Greencroft and the Arts Centre.



We have purchased three new scooters and three new wheelchairs. One wheelchair is a 14 inch chair to cater for our younger or frailer customers. We sold one of our older powerchairs and donated two scooters to the Riverbourne community farm and a child's wheelchair to the children's ward at the hospital.

We were kindly donated a Quantum powerchair by Mrs Joyce Smith so now have 'Joyce' as a popular addition to the fleet.

Mobear raised £61.00 for the Stars Appeal by taking part in the Teddy Bear Parachute Jump. He very nearly came a cropper when he got caught up on the Fire Engine but luckily the 'teddy medics' were on hand to rescue him. Mobear has become so popular he was getting double booked and so we have introduced Bill and Itty bears to help him. Please do consider taking any one of them on your holiday and bring us back some photos to put on our board. Just put your name in the teddy diary on the desk.



We took a group of volunteers and staff to Marwell Zoo by kind invitation of Gowrings Mobility.



Local MP joins the team

Our local MP John Glen spent a day with us as a volunteer.

He arrived early and spent half an hour being trained.

He threw himself wholeheartedly into the duties of the day during his visit to Shopmobility.

He delivered scooters and wheelchairs to the customers, ensured that they were comfortable and even had time for a quick chat with everyone. He was an invaluable part of the team and is welcome to come back anytime.

Wilton Carnival

F.O.S.S held a tombola stall at the Wilton Carnival to raise funds for Shopmobility. It was a glorious day and we raised just over £300. This young man was particularly lucky as he won three prizes out of the five tickets that he bought.

If you can help with fundraising ideas or as a volunteer we would love to have you as part of our friendly team.





We are knitting 'Teddies for Tragedies' to send to an organisation that supports children in disaster areas.

Patterns are available from Shopmobility. If you are not a knitter you could make a colourful bag 10 x 13 inches with a drawstring for the teddy to rest in. Please send all teddies and bags to Shopmobility by the beginning of November.

The Salisbury Illuminated Carnival is on Friday 21 October this year. Our theme (predictably!) is 'Wheeling the Olympic Torch around the World'.

We are filling Christmas shoeboxes for the Trussell Trust to send to Bulgaria so please bring something small to put into the box by 18 November. A list of suggested items is on the noticeboard.

Christmas dates

Friday 16 December 2011 - 11am	Luxury Hamper Raffle Draw	
Wed 21 December 2011 - 11am	Carol Service; mince pies and mulled wine	
Sat 24 December 2011 - 1pm	Early closing for Christmas Eve.	
Monday 26 December 2011	Boxing Day	closed
Tuesday 27 December 2011	Christmas Bank Holiday	closed
Wed 28 December 2011	Shopmobility holiday	closed
Thursday 29 December 2011		open
Friday 30 December 2011		open
Sat 31 December 2011 - 1pm	Early closing for New Year's Eve	
Monday 2 January 2012		closed

Bad weather arrangements

If the weather is really bad Shopmobility may not open for health and safety reasons. Please ring before you set out to make sure that we are operating.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas and New Year from all at Salisbury Shopmobility. Thank you for all your support and friendship.

