

Volunteering

We always welcome volunteers to help with our transport services.

If you can spare a few hours of your time there are a number of ways to get involved:

Minibus Drivers: If you are under 75 years old and have a valid driving licence you could volunteer to drive one of our three minibuses. We have a number of regular weekly routes together with requests for day trips and outings and are always keen to recruit reliable volunteers who would be willing to help take groups out. Full training on the use of disability equipment will be given.

Escorts: Our escorts are people who may not wish to drive but who are happy to go out on the minibuses and assist passengers climbing on and off the bus and walking clients to and from their front doors. They may also be asked to assist with passenger safety by fastening seatbelts, helping to operate the tail lift and securing wheelchair passengers on board the buses. Full training will be given.

Hospital Car Drivers: Volunteers who use their own cars to take people to and from a variety of medical appointments, including visits to local hospitals, doctor's surgeries, dentists, opticians etc.

Support Us

We are a 'not for profit', charitable organisation and as such rely heavily on fundraising, donations and legacies to enable us to continue providing the excellent and vital service which we provide to our local elderly residents.

If you feel you could help us financially in this way, please contact our Treasurer, David Robinson who will be happy to give you details on ways to make donations.

Newsletters

Our newsletters contain all the information you need about the services we provide and who to contact for each one. We are very grateful to the local shops and businesses who have supported us by taking up advertising space – this has enabled us to introduce colour printing and a glossy finish to our newsletter, giving it a more professional look. Our newsletters are published three times a year and can be found in a large variety of public buildings and shops around the town.

Website

We are proud to announce the launch of our new website which is also full of interesting news and information, along with electronic versions of our newsletters.

Our website can be found at:

www.ageconcernheathfield.org.uk



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Hospital Car Service

Kim and Chris Clinch

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About Us

Age Concern, Heathfield and District is a local, independently registered charity affiliated to the National organisation rebranded as Age UK.

Our minibus service started in 1990 with the aim of taking older residents in and around Heathfield to collect their pensions and do their weekly shopping. We now have three specially modified buses to enable wheelchair access and a team of sixteen volunteer drivers. We have a number of regular weekly bus routes and also receive requests for day trips and outings throughout the year.

The Hospital Car Service has been running for many years when it became apparent that in addition to the minibus service, there was also a demand for individual transport to and from medical appointments. This service offers door to door transport for health related appointments to such places as doctor's surgeries, dentists, opticians and local hospitals.

Both our minibus and hospital car services are run entirely by volunteers. We have a Chairman and Executive Committee who regularly meet to ensure the efficient running of the service.

We are always looking for new recruits – if you would be interested in joining our friendly team of volunteers, or would like further information on ways in which you could help us, please give us a ring.

Minibus Service



Our minibus service offers transport to a number of local events such as the very popular lunches held at The Union Church in Heathfield and the Country Lunches at Punnets Town Village Hall. In addition passengers are picked up and transported into Heathfield for weekly shopping trips and to visits to the Holdenhurst Day Centre.

Each of our buses has been specially modified to enable easy access via a tail lift to passengers who have limited mobility or those confined to wheelchairs.



Minibus Hire

We offer groups, residential homes and clubs who cater for the elderly to book our minibuses for day trips and outings. Please contact us for availability and prices on 01435 866960.

Hospital Car Service

This service provides individual, door to door transport for those wishing to attend a variety of medical appointments. Drivers use their own private cars, and, with permission from their insurance companies, help to take passengers to local hospitals, doctor's surgeries, dentists, opticians and clinics. Passengers are asked to pay 45p per mile for their return journeys and the drivers can then claim back their expenses

The service is administrated by volunteers who take the daily calls and allocate drivers from our team of volunteers for each job.

If you need transport to a medical appointment, or know of someone else who does, please ring us on 01435 882121