

Hospital to Home with hoppa

Our new hospital to home patient transport service is working well and is freeing up beds and saving the NHS money.

During the first two months of operation, we took home 234 patients who were well enough to leave the Royal Surrey County Hospital but who did not have transport arranged.

How the service works

We have a driver and a passenger assistant based at the Royal Surrey from 1 – 9pm, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

They are on hand to respond to requests from staff to take patients home. The Hospital to Home service is available to patients aged over 18 who reside in Guildford and Waverley. It is also available to people in surrounding areas for pre-approved use during periods of low demand.



Hoppa gets festive

This year, we are taking part in the very popular Christmas tree festival at St Andrew's Church in Farnham.



We feel we are very much a part of the Farnham community and are delighted to have been invited to take part in this event.

There will be 120 trees decorated by local business and community organisations – see if you can spot our tree.

The festival is on from 10am to 5pm on Wednesday 4 to Saturday 7 December and from 12 – 5pm on Sunday 8 December.

Musicians will perform throughout the festival and there will be a café selling teas, coffees, homemade soup and cakes.

If you would like to visit the Christmas tree festival, call us to book a ride.

Christmas and New Year service



There will be a few changes to our operating schedule over Christmas and the New Year. See the table below to plan your Christmas travel.

Monday 23 Dec	Normal Service
Tuesday 24 Dec	Normal Service
Wednesday 25 Dec	Closed
Thursday 26 Dec	Closed
Friday 27 Dec	Normal Service
Saturday 28 Dec	Closed
Sunday 29 Dec	Closed
Monday 30 Dec	Normal Service
Tuesday 31 Dec	Normal Service
Wednesday 1 Jan	Closed
Thursday 2 Jan	Normal Service

Hoppa secures European funding

A grant worth nearly £26,000 has been awarded to hoppa in recognition of the contribution it makes towards improving the quality of life for people in rural Surrey.



hoppa applied for the LEADER grant to help fund the purchase of a new bus. LEADER is a grant programme from the Rural Development Programme for England which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

The new bus is being used for our new Hospital to Home service. The LEADER grant covered 76% of the

cost of the new vehicle and we funded the remaining balance of 24%.

Many areas of Waverley are unserved by public transport which means an increasing number of people rely on hoppa to take them to the shops, medical appointments and social activities.

The number of pensioner households in Waverley is forecast to rise by more than 40% within 25 years and households with people over 85 will more than double. In addition, the findings of a survey showed that of 1,000 Surrey adults aged over 65, 53% often feel lonely, particularly

LEADER is a French acronym for 'Liaison Entre Actions de Developpement de l'Economie Rurale', which translates roughly as Liaison Among Actors in Rural Economic Development!



when they are home alone. We predict that all these factors will lead to a greater number of people wanting to use our services.

To meet this demand, we need a reliable fleet of vehicles and currently aim to replace three vehicles a year with newer, efficient and more environmentally friendly models. However, with it costing around £35,000 to buy a new bus and get it on the road, we are becoming increasingly reliant on securing funding from benefactors and grant giving organisations. If you can help us raise money for our next new bus, please do get in touch.

Carol Service

Age UK Surrey is holding its annual free carol service at Guildford Cathedral on Thursday 19 December at 11am.

Guildford Cathedral Singers and The Rock Choir will perform. Tea/coffee and mince pies will be served in the cathedral from 10.15am.

All welcome.



Target set to raise £25,000

Hoppa is really excited to have been invited to take part in the trial of a new community fundraising initiative by Aviva.

The first stage involved us making an application through Crowdfunder. Once this was accepted, we were asked to create a project page explaining our project and why we want to raise money for a new bus.

Aviva employees are now browsing the various project pages submitted by charities and will donate the funds they have been given by Aviva to their favoured charities. We hope that Aviva

employees will support our cause when they read about the difference hoppa and the Hospital to Home service make to people's lives.

We are aiming to raise £25,000 which will be put towards the purchase of a new bus so we can expand the Hospital to Home service. As well as saving the NHS money, more importantly, an additional bus will enable us to transport even more people home after they have been discharged from hospital.

If you or anybody you know would like to help support the expansion of the Hospital to Home service, please join the Aviva employees and make a donation at <https://acf.crowdfunder.co.uk/hospital-to-home-with-hoppa>

Giving that won't cost you a penny

Without supporters like you, there would be no hoppa. As a registered charity we rely on the goodwill of our friends and followers to keep going. But did you know that giving to hoppa need not cost you a penny?

We have registered with Northbrook Fundraising who sell gift wrap, cards, toys and accessories. If you place an order and choose Waverley hoppa Community Transport as the beneficiary (by entering "hoppa" in the beneficiary box), we will receive a 20% cashback from Northbrook. See what they sell at www.northbrookfundraising.co.uk.

We have also signed up to Amazon Smile, operated by online superstore Amazon. Simply shop with Amazon through the link smile.amazon.co.uk, select hoppa from the search box and we will receive 0.5% of the net price of your purchases. Just remember to log in to Amazon at smile.amazon.co.uk every time.

Similarly, by registering with Give As You Live (www.giveasyoulive.com/join.hoppa) you can shop from thousands of high street names, such as Sainsbury's, Boots, M&S and ebay, to help hoppa. Give As You Live

receives a small commission from the shops and gives half of that to hoppa.

Finally, hoppa has teamed up with Giveacar. If you have a car you are ready to dispose of, Giveacar will collect it at a time convenient to you, auction or dispose of in an environmentally responsible way and make a donation to hoppa based on the auction or scrap price. Giveacar will send you a receipt so you know how much your gift has raised.

You can find out more about all of these schemes at www.hoppa.org.uk/about-us/fundraising.

Get out this December >>>

Motivating yourself to get out and about during the cold weather can seem like a bit of a chore so we've come up with some ideas for which we think it will be worth making the effort.

Cranleigh

Café Culture – a weekly café for anyone aged over 50 who wants to meet new people and enjoy a get together in a friendly, social environment.

Wednesday from 2 – 4pm at Manns coffee shop.



Farnham

Judy – A biographical drama film about showbiz legend Judy Garland and featuring some of her best-known songs.

Wednesday 11 December at 11am at the Farnham Maltings. Other dates and times available.

Godalming

Jack and the Beanstalk – It's panto time in Godalming and Jack is on a mission to slay the fearsome evil giant. There will be fun, laughter, song and dance. To book call **01483 361101**.



Friday 13 December at 1.30pm at the Borough Hall Godalming. Other dates and times available.

Haslemere

Haslemere book group is looking for new members. Speak to a member of library staff if you are a book lover who enjoys discussing books.

Last Thursday of the month from 2 – 3pm at Haslemere Library. If you need transport, give us a call to book your ride.

Put the fun in fundraising

Fundraising for hoppa can be fun and sociable, energetic and challenging, great for the grey cells or even relaxing – but it is always highly valued by hoppa and our customers.

There are as many ways to fundraise as our buses have had oil changes. Sponsored knits, tea dances, board game afternoons, film evenings, Christmas raffles, curry nights, coffee mornings and cake sales are just a few. You could even 'donate your birthday' and ask for donations for hoppa instead of gifts.



hoppa is a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity which relies wholly on donations, grants and sponsorship to keep its fares affordable. We are also currently fundraising for a new navigation system to help our vehicles run more efficiently.

If you would like to hold a fundraising event for hoppa, please get in touch for a chat. Call Steve Forward, general manager on **01252 681701**.



New Voluntary Scheme in Godalming

Godalming Good Neighbours is a local voluntary scheme that offers a variety of help for people who do not have anyone else to help them.

Help includes: Transport to medical appointments, shopping, picking up prescriptions and providing company for those who are alone.

For more information contact Rachel Roberts on godalminggoodneighbours@gmail.com or **07943 274461**.

Remember hoppa

More and more people are helping charities that they care about, after they pass away, through their wills or by making a legacy. A gift that is left to hoppa in a will, will enhance the quality of life for many local people who may be elderly, lonely and isolated because they do not have access to transport.

Making or updating a will is one of the most important tasks we do and there is a lot to consider, particularly those loved ones who you may wish to provide for. If you would also like to think about supporting hoppa and our customers through your will, your generosity would greatly benefit your community.

Meet Les



Name: Les Connor

Started with hoppa: April 2013

Nicknames: Unknown

Interests: Fishing

Les, 68, was born and raised in Chiddingfold and from leaving school he worked as a bricklayer until his retirement. After leaving the building trade, Les joined hoppa in 2013.

When asked what he likes about working at hoppa, Les said "I really enjoy the variety of the job, one day I'll be working with school children, the next day it will be dial-a-ride passengers and the next it will be non-emergency hospital patients. Every day is different".

When Les isn't working, he enjoys travelling and fishing.

Published by Hoppa Waverley Community Transport. If you have any comments about this newsletter, please send them to Steve Forward, General Manager, Waverley Hoppa Community Transport, Unit 8, Towergate Business Centre, Coopers Place, Combe Lane, Wormley, GU8 5SZ or email him at enquiries@hoppa.org.uk.