



# Wivey Links

The Newsletter For Wivey Link

Issue No 21 - November 2016

Wivey Link Telephone 01984 624666

You can book Wivey Link from Monday to Friday 9.00am until 1.00pm. We are not open Saturday or Sunday. Messages left on the Answerphone on Friday afternoon and over the weekend will not be dealt with until Monday morning. Please book as soon as you can to help our scheduling and avoid disappointment. Thank you.

## Co-op Local Community Fund

Did you know Wivey Link has been selected, along with two other local charities to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund? Every time you use the Co-op to shop and swipe your membership card at the till, 1% of what you spend will go to Wivey Link. The current period is set to continue until 18th March 2017.

If you haven't done so, please register for a Membership Card and then (hopefully!) select Wivey Link as your chosen charity so we will benefit from your local spending, especially with Christmas on the way.

More information can be found here:-

[www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund)

## Volunteer Drivers required

### Could this be you or someone you know?

Although it is unlikely that any of you, our lovely customers, would be in a position to help, perhaps you do know someone (friend, neighbour or relative perhaps) that would be interested. If they could spare 2 days per month or more, enjoy driving and meeting interesting people, please ask them to come and talk to us about volunteering as a driver with Wivey Link. They will be driving a Wivey Link car to collect passengers, taking them to their destination in the local area as well as making a real difference to people's lives.

In addition, we also require 'Drug Runners' for Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings each week - the 'drug runner' will collect medication from the local pharmacy and deliver to patients in Wiveliscombe who may find it quite difficult to get out and about. This can be done by car, bike or on foot.

For further information please telephone 01984 624777 or visit the Community Office in Wiveliscombe.

## Kevin has got hitched!



For those of you who haven't had Kevin Sheppard driving you around recently and wondered what has happened. Well, on the 24th September, Kevin got married and is now living with his new wife, Shivaun, in Bristol. He promises he will be returning to Wivey around about Christmas as he has a few local Christmas dinners booked!

All of us at Wivey Link send them our best wishes for a happy married life together.



## Are your walking frames or crutches still required?

If not and they are cluttering up your cupboards, then contact Jill in the Community Office and we can arrange to collect and return them to Musgrove Hospital as they will be able to make use of them for other patients. It will save the NHS money of course as every little helps. Obviously, this also applies to any surplus wheelchairs as well.

## Our New Directors

Two new Directors have recently joined the Board of Wiveliscombe Area Partnership.



Andrew Smith recently retired as Relationship Director, Corporate Banking South West for Lloyds Bank Plc. He has lived in Huish Champflower for over 24 years. Currently serving as a trustee for Hospiscare Exeter and a non executive at Devon and Cornwall Housing Ltd, he was previously a governor of Kingsmead School.



Steve Ross and his family moved into the area in 1999 and his children attend local schools and colleges. Steve has represented the area as an Independent District Councillor at Taunton Deane BC since 2011 and represents Wivey Town Council on the board of WAP. Steve is also a member of the Somerset Waste Board, the organisation that manages waste and recycling for Somerset.



## Wivey Link Christmas Hours

The Wivey Link service and Community Office will be closed from 1pm on Friday 23rd December 2016 and reopen at 10am on Monday 9th January 2017.

The extended closure period this year is for essential vehicle servicing and office administration changes. The Wivey Link vehicles will be off the road for this period as they clock up high mileage and need some attention.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Please be sure to make your bookings for the 2nd week of January 2017 by Wednesday 21st December 2016.

**As the office will be closed over this period, messages left on the answerphone will not receive a reply until after the festive holiday.**

**Wivey Link is supported by:** Jones Garage Wiveliscombe, The Jim Laker Fund, The Wiveliscombe and District Rotary Club, Taunton Deane Borough Council, Somerset County Council, Wiveliscombe Town Council and the Parish Councils of Ashbrittle, Bathealton, Bishops Lydeard, Brompton Ralph, Chipstable, Clatworthy, Cotford St Luke, Fitzhead, Huish Champflower, Milverton and Stawley. Appley, Brompton Ralph and Wiveliscombe WI's and a host of individual donors.

## Wivey Link drivers win TDBC Citizenship Award



The following nomination statement was taken from the Taunton Deane Borough Council official press release for the Citizenship Awards, in April 2016



"Wivey Link was set up nearly 15 years ago to help combat isolation in this rural area and many of the drivers have been volunteers since the beginning. They drive an average of 125 miles a day - mostly short journeys enabling people to get out to doctors, chiropodist and hospital appointments, or the hairdressers and day centre. The drivers often go beyond the call of duty to ensure that passengers get to the correct department for their appointments or safely indoors with their shopping. They are regarded locally as "Jewels in the Crown" providing a vital service to the older and infirm members of the community."

A big "thank you" and well done to all Wivey Link Drivers who give their time tirelessly to this excellent service. This is a well deserved award.

### Wheelchairs

Please note that Jill in the office retains details of your disability aids so she can be sure that these can be accommodated when you travel. If you change your disability aid, for instance, to a wheelchair, please advise the office immediately so Jill can update her records and arrange for an assessment of its suitability to be carried on our Wivey Link vehicles.

### A few statistics for you:

From April until October 2016 we have transported 5,373 passengers, driven 44,794 miles and spent £6,257 on fuel.

Have you any friends or neighbours whom you think would benefit from using Wivey Link to get to their appointments and shopping trips? Do them a Christmas favour and tell them what a great service Wivey Link is and get them to register!

### Recycling reminders



Don't forget, we still recycle plastic milk bottle tops, ink cartridges and laser toners, used postage stamps, and mobile phones. We also recycle 'trigger' tops from bottles. These are all used to raise funds for various local charities.

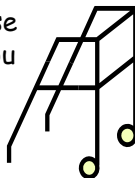
To give you an idea, we have added your contribution of bottle tops to over 2 tons of tops collected elsewhere in South Somerset, worth over £200 for Multiple Sclerosis. That equates to about 300 large black sacks of bottle tops!

### Lots of shopping?



### Walking Frame? Shopping Trolley?

A reminder to please let us know when you book as you may need to travel in one of our large cars.



### Santa in the Square

**Wednesday  
7th December**



Santa arrives at 5.00pm to switch on the lights assisted by children from Wivey Primary School with music provided by the Town Band. Why not also join the Wivey Link team in the Community Office for mince pies and Jill's special mulled cider.



A warm welcome to you all.

### A Date for your 2017 Diary



Please note that the 10 Parishes Festival will take place from Saturday 9th to Sunday 17th September 2017, with the Street Market and Carnival on Sunday 10th September.

We know this is an early reminder but once it's in your 2017 diary, then there can be no excuse for not coming along and enjoying the fun!

The Trustees, Staff & all the volunteers at the

Community Office & Wivey Link would like to thank

everyone for their support over the last 12 months & wish you all a very

Happy Christmas & a peaceful New Year.

