

Woodcote Volunteers



Woodcote Winter Wheels: Driving Health and Happiness!

We are pleased to say that our new initiative to help our clients over the winter months is going well, and as of the date of writing this, over 70 clients have benefitted from free drives.

Due to the generosity of both the Co-op Community Fund and Woodcote Rally, we are able to provide free drives over the three winter months of December, January and February.

It may be useful to reiterate here our criteria for accepting requests for a drive: clients should live in the villages of Woodcote, Ipsden, South Stoke, Crays Pond, Whitchurch Hill, Goring Heath and Checkendon. In addition, clients should have no means of transporting themselves to where they need to go. In practice this normally means they don't have their own car and/or they are unable to drive and/or public transport is not an option. Our range is generally about 20 miles radius of Woodcote – which means we can take clients to Oxford, Abingdon, Reading, Wokingham, Henley, Thatcham to name a few. If in doubt, please phone us to ask! We have a friendly and helpful office team who take calls between 9.30am and 11am Monday to Friday and our answerphone is checked each day for messages left.

Tea Parties for our clients

Our next Tea Party will be on **5th February 2025** at 2.30pm, finishing at 4pm. We are being treated to a talk by Age Uk about scams awareness – a really useful subject, I am sure you'll agree.

Tea Parties are held at the Community Centre in Woodcote. We provide tea and home-made cakes and there is no charge. Please give us plenty of notice if you need a lift by calling our office phone number.

New Volunteering opportunities with us

We are looking for people to join us to help in the following roles:

- Volunteer Driver – without drivers, we wouldn't be able to offer this service at all! Enjoy interesting conversations with our clients while providing an essential service
- Safeguarding Champion – ensure our safeguarding duties are carried out
- Client Liaison – keep in touch with our clients and be their voice on our committee
- Volunteer Coordinator – recruit, induct and support new volunteers

Please go to our website (shown below) for detailed information about each role and how to contact us for an informal chat if you are interested in knowing more.

Blue badges

Just a reminder that we can help our clients to apply for a Blue Badge if they think they may be eligible. Please call our office phone number if you would like to be passed on to someone who can advise.

TO FINISH.....

If you could help in any way, we would love to hear from you! Please go to our website to find out more about the various roles and how to contact us.

If you need a driver, please give us at least three days' notice as it can be hard to find someone at the last minute – but we will always try!

- **To book a driver, call 01491 681171 giving as much notice as possible.**
- **To volunteer, email: info@woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**
- **Our website: www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**
- **Facebook page: www.facebook.com/woodcotevolunteers**
- **General enquiries – call 01491 681171**