



Media Release

Local community car scheme appeals for volunteer drivers

Could you spare a few hours a week to volunteer, helping people in the local community with essential journeys? That's the question being asked by the organisers of Saham Toney's Community Transport Scheme.

There are more than forty similar schemes across the county but, as Jill Glenn, co-ordinator of Saham Toney's dedicated community transport scheme, explains, "Our scheme has no drivers at all just now! We're in urgent of people who are willing to give a few hours of their time to drive local residents on straightforward but essential journeys. We ask only that volunteers provide their own vehicle, for which a mileage allowance is paid."

In a mainly rural county like Norfolk, community transport is many people's only means of getting to and from doctor or hospital appointments or just to the local shops. It plays an important part in tackling social isolation and is especially important for older people and those with disability issues, but can also be a lifeline for younger people and families who lack their own transport.

Commercial operators often find rural routes uneconomic and in some areas of the county there are just no transport choices available. It's community transport schemes like that at Saham Toney that can make life-changing differences for some residents. Around 250,000 journeys a year are provided across Norfolk, providing a lifeline for many people, helping them to live independently and access healthcare appointments, social activities, education and employment.

If you could help as a volunteer driver, or would just like to find out more about what might be involved, please contact Jill on 01760 441738 or e-mail her at jillglenn6@gmail.com.

