



NEWS - AUTUMN 2019

SWAN Transport is a volunteer car scheme providing transport for those in B&NES who are older, frail or disabled on a low income. If you would like a journey or to drive for us, please call: 01761 439548.

Swan Transport Fashion Show...

Carol Curtis, one of Swan's volunteer drivers organised another very successful charity fashion show, which was hosted by M&Co in Midsomer Norton to raise funds for SWAN. The event took place in the store on 26th September and it raised just over £430. The event would not have been possible without the 18 volunteers from the local area who modelled on the night, showcasing M&Co's clothes to the delight of the audience. The Swan Chairman was modelling the men's range on the night, so all eyes were on Chris being the only man in the modelling team. Organiser Carol even had her own moment, surprising us by coming out to model at the end of the show accompanied by Chris and Swan's office volunteer Anna on either side of her, getting lots of claps and cheers.

Suzie, the M&Co compere and all the store staff made everyone feel very welcome and even made tea for the drivers, which was much appreciated as they had transported people to the show and couldn't enjoy a glass of wine. A fantastic raffle and tombola added extra to the event and gifts were donated from a number of Radstock and Midsomer Norton shops and individuals. Swan's thanks go to: Bike it, Hair Razor, McColl's, Bath Dancewear, No 10 Café, Headlines, Jacarandas, Wetherspoon's, Keith Ingram shoes, Essence café, Oils & Coils, Pure Beauty, Midsomer Norton DIY, Rose Craft and a number of individuals.

Sarah Oughton, Swan's Volunteer Transport Co-ordinator said "We would like to thank all the people who supported us on the night, including Carol and all those who gave their time to make the event a great success".



Fashion Show organiser Carol with Chairman Chris and office volunteer Anna



Model Jayne



Model Karen



Model Josie



Models Sylvie and Lizzie



Model Diane

Swan
Fashion
Show
2019

Introducing Swan Driver – Mike Wilson ...



My name is Mike Wilson and I live with my wife Hilary and black Labrador in Keynsham. I have been retired for several years, having worked for Sparrows Cranes and Mitsubishi Kato amongst several other jobs in construction (the picture left shows me driving a crane).

Chris Harvey recruited me for Swan saying "ere Wils, you will like volunteering for Sarah, she is a lovely person and the idea is good". All of our clients are nice people who are glad of the help we give and are quite

often the only face they see during the week!! One of my passengers who has special needs always gives me a big smile when I see her and enjoys going to her work experience.

I feel that this service should occur in all towns and cities around the country, especially due to the fact that hospital services are tending to centralise and public transport is diminishing. Keep on enjoying volunteering everyone and try not to get on Sarah's or Ann's naughty step!

Would you like to join our Swan Team?



Our aim at present is to have 40+ drivers, so please call Sarah / Ann in the office if you would like to find out more: 01761 439548, or alternatively email us at: swan.transport@btconnect.com

Review of 2018 – 2019

As there will be a low key AGM this year, this is a summary of our last year...

In total SWAN's transport service has undertaken 5476 journeys this year – an 11% increase on last year. The B&NES Council funded 'Supporting People' transport project undertook **1963** journeys. SWAN's other transport projects delivered **1439** health related journeys, plus **2074** community journeys. The largest increase in demand was for the community transport journeys which showed a 37% rise. SWAN drivers travelled the equivalent of two and a half times around the world in 2018/2019, and SWAN now averages 456 journeys per month.

SWAN launched a pilot project earlier this year in the form of a monthly social event called the Cuppa & Chat coffee morning, as part of new developmental work relating to loneliness and isolation. It has been aimed at our existing passengers and has been well attended, with much positive feedback received.

Volunteers have continued to play a large part in the success and smooth running of SWAN. During this year the transport service had up to 31 volunteer drivers and we also benefited from the services of 1 administration volunteer in our office. Our trustees are all volunteers and we have had one new trustee join during the course of the year.



Cuppa & Chat Dates... Weds 23rd October, Weds 20th November...

SWAN TRANSPORT: 01761 439548 / swan.transport@btconnect.com

SWAN Transport is a member of



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You can donate to Swan here: <https://localgiving.org/donation/swan-transport/>

Website: www.swan.btck.co.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/swantransport/

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