



Hi everyone,

In January 2017 we launched our Transport Service for those in and around Debenham who had difficulty in getting to a medically related appointment – hospital, GP surgery, Heath Centre, dentist, optician, osteopath, chiropodist, physiotherapist, and so on. We realised not only how hard it was for anyone without access to a car, or not having close family or friends nearby to help, just to get to Ipswich Hospital by bus never mind all the other places where they might be asked to attend – And let's not forget the time involved. So, we wanted to offer a simple, friendly and personal service that would pick them up at their front door, take them comfortably and directly to their appointment, wait with them, and return them back home without any fuss or worry. More than that, it should be just like being with a family member or close friend. That is how, over the past 8 ¾ years we have provided lifts on well over 1000 occasions for a lot more than 100 individual passengers – some short journeys – to the GP surgery, - most to Ipswich, Stowmarket, Eye, and Framlingham - but also others as far afield as Colchester, Cambridge and Norwich. And it is all owing to the amazing kindness and generosity of our drivers.

As you will have guessed, it does take quite a lot organising - taking bookings, finding drivers, confirming lifts, arranging parking, invoices, payments, and expenses. That has been my job, and it has been a pleasure, especially chatting to our passengers and drivers as the “Voice on the Phone”. However, it is now time for me to hand over the reins to Lucy and Janice and Sally. Like all changes, it will take a little while. There will be a new number (07724 049056) to call and a new voice (Lucy or Janice) at the end of the line, but otherwise it will be just the same as always.

Finally, do look out for our “1960s Party” at the Leisure Centre on November 21st – and our new “Care to Dance” in collaboration with Dance East. Details on our website and Facebook. And to finish, my special thanks go to the URC for their very generous “Harvest Service” donation.

Very best wishes,

Lynden

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