

SPELTHORNE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Newsletter No. 06



Autumn/Winter 2018

SVD – Latest News

Finances: The SVD are in a fairly comfortable financial position at the moment, but our funds, mainly gained from bequests, are slowly dwindling. Donations given by clients do largely cover drivers' mileage expenses. However, other SVD costs for insurance, Duty Officer telephone costs, website hosting, Annual Party, stationery, DBS checks, etc, has led to us losing money for each of the past 5 years. There is no cause for concern, but the committee will keep an eye on the situation at regular intervals.

AGM: Our Annual General Meeting was held in July at the Council Offices in Staines. Among the attendees were the Deputy Mayor of Spelthorne, Cllr Mary Madams. All the members of the SVD committee were re-elected. There were no new nominations.

SVD Personnel: We currently have a pool of 20 drivers and 6 Duty Officers who man the phone. We are always on the lookout for more volunteers!

No. of Drives: There were 972 drives undertaken by SVD in the year leading up to April, 2018. The majority of those were to destinations within the borough, but we also ventured out to neighbouring Chertsey (St. Peters Hospital), Addlestone, Walton, Woking, Frimley, Guildford, Harefield, Carshalton and London.

GDPR: The General Data Protection Regulation came into effect at the end of May. SVD will not disclose client's details to any third party and will ensure personal information is held securely and protected.

Ashford Clinic: Podiatry/Chiropractic services ceased at Ashford Clinic from 1st October. Patients now have to travel to other clinics within the borough instead. The receptionist at Ashford Clinic used to arrange transport for many clients, so those clients who require a driver to their new clinic will now have to ring SVD direct.

Driver's Log Sheets

We are at that point of the year when our Treasurer, Michael Wright, will be asking all drivers to submit their completed Driver's Log sheets (up to 31st October).

Therefore, could all drivers ensure their Log sheets are sent to Michael as soon as possible in November.



SVD Committee:

Chairperson: Anne Grigg
Secretary: Gill Peters
Treasurer: Michael Wright
Members: Judy Hall, Evelyn Lawrence, Stuart Surridge
Surrey Community Action Advisor: Vicki Turton



SVD Driver Profile

The driver profiled in this edition of our newsletter is Michael, our Treasurer.

Name: Michael Wright

Wife: Cheryl

Children: 2 girls

Joined SVD: Early 2016, became Treasurer in 2017

Favourite Foods: Mainly Italian

Hated Foods: Curry

Likes: Exploring, either on holiday or on a day out to see what is around the next corner. Going to the theatre – Guildford, Richmond or up to the West End. As a member of the National Trust and RHS, I enjoy walking around gardens and old houses.

Dislikes: Cruising. Tried it once, but I felt like a prisoner. Not many 'corners' to be found on a ship.

Favourite Sports: Mainly football, including watching the mighty Staines Town FC. Watching the Ryder Cup and managed to attend four years ago, while up in Scotland.

Favourite Holiday Destination: Anywhere in Italy, seeing the real Cuba, New York City and watching the wildlife in Canada.

Least Liked SVD Destination: The Eye Clinic in Ashford Hospital.

Hobbies: Playing badminton each week, gardening, long walks and reading crime thrillers...essential piece of kit while sitting in hospital waiting rooms.



SVD Annual Party

As in previous years, we will be looking to hold another Annual Party in January (details to come).

Drivers don't often get the chance to meet up with each other. They may, on the odd occasion, bump (sorry, not a very good choice of word!) into each other in a waiting room at a clinic somewhere. But, this event provides a welcome chance for drivers to socialise with other drivers within our organisation, so is regarded as an important function.



SVD Contact Details:

Duty Officer Tel No. 07817 926736

Hours: 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon, Mon to Fri

Website: spelthornevolunteerdrivers.org

Email: spelthornevolunteerdrivers@gmail.com

