

# Borderhoppa Report for Harleston Town Council

The Borderhoppa continues to help passengers within the town as well as surrounding villages to reach vital facilities they may otherwise be unable to get to such as the doctors, dentist, hair appointments and basic food shopping.

On Mondays we continue to transport people to the Harleston Lunch Club at Jays Green as well as being available for any other journeys into the town. In the afternoon we also bring Dickleburgh Primary School pupils to use the swimming facilities at ASHS.

On Wednesdays we transport 3 bus loads of passengers coming into the town from various surrounding villages to visit the market and other shops and facilities within the town.

On Fridays we continue to support passengers from Harleston and surrounding villages to reach the shops and facilities in Diss with a bus journey in both the morning and afternoon.

On other days we support passengers from Harleston to attend appointments in other locations such as Fressingfield Doctors. We also take our passengers to visit loved ones in various care homes around the area such as Oaklands in Scole and Culrose in Dickleburgh.

The Borderhoppa continues to be available for community groups to hire as well as offering special outings to our existing members to locations all over the region whether it be for lunch, shopping or a leisurely trip to the seaside.

Transport is also provided to the ASHS and Harleston Primary School when required.

Our Big Lottery Funding ended in August and as well as no longer receiving funding from Suffolk County Council we still strive to help as many people in the area as possible. We have slightly downsized in terms of vehicles and staff but without allowing it to have a major impact on the service we provide to passengers looking to reach Harleston from the surrounding villages, covering 56 parishes in total.

We currently have 5 mini buses and an accessible car, 3 drivers, a Scheduler, a marketing/promotions & admin assistant and a manager. We do however now have the ability to call on a few volunteer drivers to supplement our existing drivers when multiple vehicles are required on an outing or group hire.

In the last 12 months we have been able to conduct over 1600 passenger journeys into Harleston Town Centre from surrounding villages and over 1100 from Harleston and surrounding villages to Diss on Fridays.

With the end of the Big Lottery Funding we now rely heavily on our funding from Norfolk County Council, South Norfolk County Council and are greatly appreciative of any other grants or donations offered to us so that we may continue to support as many people as possible in reaching vital facilities and continuing to live independently.