



WINTER/SPRING NEWSLETTER



We at BCT hope you all had a nice Christmas and we wish you a Healthy & Happy 2016.

At BCT we have some new ideas for 2016 to send out to you. We are beginning by re-introducing our Newsletter. We are planning to do a Newsletter every other month. This is our way of reaching out to you so as we can keep you updated on all the news, events, offers etc. You can also check our website out. If you have any news you wish the BCT community to know about please contact Jackie ext 207 email jacqueline@brentct.org.uk a Monday afternoon.

In our Winter/Spring newsletter we would like to give details of our services. No doubt many of you know what we do offer but some of you may not.

Brent Community Transport
Studio 41-42, Building 56 South
Magnet Road
East Lane Business Park
North Wembley
HA9 7RG
0203 114 7022
www.brentct.org.uk

The Services BCT Offers Our Community

Community Car Scheme (CCS) – This service is to help people with journeys which they may otherwise be unable to make. It is a door to door service to take you to any destination within the M25. This service requires advance bookings and is subject to availability of vehicles and drivers. To be able to access this service to meet eligibility criteria set by LB Brent you must contact the London Borough of Brent, Concessionary Travel Team. The cost of the journey is £2 for the first 10 miles and a charge of 75p per mile thereafter.

Transport Services for Schools – Schools tend to require transport for larger numbers and our coaches and buses are able to accommodate their needs. Schools in the borough book our coaches and larger buses to transport children for educational and recreational outings. Local clubs such as Brent Dolphins find our larger vehicles very useful to attend their swimming galas held at various venues across the country. Wembley Primary School, Chalkhill Primary School and Oliver Goldsmith Primary School use our coaches on a weekly basis to take children to swimming lessons at sports centres. BCT also work with Mill Hill School Foundation in providing home to school transport Monday to Friday. Like BCT, Mill Hill Foundation is a charity that believes in strong partnership working and both charities do just that. BCT also provides similar home to school services to The John Lyon School and St Anthony's School including their transport needs for sport and extra activities.

In delivery of the school transport services both our CT partners (Barnet & Harrow CT) are playing a very important role and are a big help in the success of these services.

Minibus Group Transport – Under this service any of our fleet of 8 to 16 seat accessible and standard minibuses is available to be used by any of our members, statutory groups and voluntary organisations; these range from sports clubs, faith groups, day centres, care homes and support groups.

Voluntary Community Bus Services – This members' voluntary bus service is used by organisations that have their own MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) and D1 qualified drivers. Hiring a minibus based on self-drive means that organisations can keep their costs low and also have much

more flexible access to the use of the vehicle. A wide range of organisations use this service.

These are just a few of our services we offer to the local community. In further editions of our Newsletter we will set more of them out.

Like most successful charities we need people to help and work towards the day to day running of the organisation.

We are desperately looking for competent drivers. We are proud to be in a position to offer almost London living wage hourly rate. If you would like to join the BCT team or know of anybody who would like to, please send in CV to us (hr@brentct.org.uk) and we will be pleased to consider you.

Volunteers are a huge asset to the running of the organisation. By either, being a Trustee on the Management Committee, driving, Passenger Assistant, helping in the office or anything else, again we would be pleased to hear from you. By giving just a few hours of your time can be extremely rewarding and a great benefit to the people who rely on our services.

During the month of December, we at BCT were certainly getting into the Festive Spirit. Again we ran the Festive bus and as usual it was a success. We took **5 buses** into London to see the lights. We had the usual music, refreshments and Santa joined us on every trip.

The staff and volunteers of BCT had a lovely get together at The Gurka Valley, restaurant on the Harrow Road. The owner and staff made us very welcome and the food was delicious. If you are interested in trying it the details are:

305 Harrow Road, Wembley Triangle, Wembley HA9 6BD. 020 8902 4039/8991. (They offer 10% on all Takeaway collection orders over £15. Also a free home delivery within a 3 mile radius on orders of £25).

We are in the middle of winter now with cold weather, dark nights. No more Downton Abbey, XFactor or Strictly Come Dancing, just longing for the Spring

to come along with the light nights, bulbs spurting up, warmer weather and birds singing plus many more beautiful things Spring has to offer.

In the meantime why not join us for a 'Tea Dance' at Wembley Civic Centre on Monday 15th February 2016 from 12:30 to 16:30. It would be great fun to watch others dancing or you can join in and have a little twirl!!! We are supporting this great event by offering our service users a discounted charge of £3 for entrance fee. If you would like to attend, please contact the BCT office to book your place and arrange for your transport needs. Group transport can be arranged for the return price of £2 per person, this is for registered and non-registered people.

Just to finish off our Newsletter we would like to introduce Rama Bhudia who is our new Booking Co-Ordinator, CCS. She joined us in December and is settling in very nicely; it seems like she has been with us forever. If you need to contact Rama her extension is 202 or 203 and she would be delighted to help you.

For more information on BCT services please check our website –
www.brentct.org.uk

All the Staff at BCT wish you a very Happy and Healthy
2016 and look forward to being of service to you in
2016.

