



## Youth Bus Update – November 2017

It's that time of year again when the nights are dark and the frost draws in, everyone's talking about Christmas and asking where has the year gone? Well it's flown by on the youth bus with 58 sessions taking place since April and over 500 people using the bus!

Here's a summary of some of things we have been up to and what's happening during the rest of 2017.



### New faces on the bus!

We are still recruiting staff and have opportunities available for learning placements and casual worker posts. Two new people you may have seen at sessions recently are Sophie and Andrew. We caught up with them on the bus to see what they think of the service we provide and find out a bit more about them.

Hi! My name is Sophie and I am currently on my placement year at Wychavon. I am studying Marketing at the University of Gloucestershire, and am so far really enjoying it – not sure how much I will agree with that though when the work load increases in my final year!

I am from Evesham and have lived there almost my whole life, and this is where I am currently living whilst on placement. When I am not at work I enjoy going out for food (pizza mostly), shopping and going to theme parks - which unfortunately are expensive habits for a student.

Hi! Im Andrew, I study at Bournemouth University and I'm currently on my placement year with Wychavon District Council as the Tourism and Regeneration assistant. I'm already involved in planning The Plum Festival, Asparagus Festival and much more!

### What were your first impressions of the youth bus?

"It's packed with fun things for children to do and when you first walk on you don't expect it to be as spacious as it is. It has a friendly feel to it and you can tell the children really enjoy having the youth bus come and visit them. All the children I have met so far have been really friendly and enthusiastic, one even persuading me to a bit of karaoke. The bus gives the children time to relax, play games and have snacks and socialize with others that live in their area."



"I think it is a good initiative to encourage children to socialise in a fun and safe environment, we need more facilities like this for young people"

### What are you most looking forward to during your time at Wychavon?

"I am most looking forward to learning new skills which will not only help me in my final year at university but also when I graduate and start my career. Along with that I hope to meet lots of new and interesting people and learn from their experiences."

### Some dates for your diary

#### Thursday 23 November

Stoulton 4.30-6pm

#### Wednesday 29 November

Badsey 4-5pm

Bretforton 5.15-6.30pm

#### Thursday 30 November

Cropthorne 4.30-6pm

#### Thursday 07 December

Great Comberton 3.45-4.45

Elmley Castle 4.45- 6pm

#### Wednesday 13 December

Cropthorne 4.30-6pm

#### Monday 18 December

Stoulton 1-2pm

Inkberrow 3-4.30pm

#### Wednesday 20 December

Offenham 3-4.30pm

#### Thursday 04 January

Great Comberton 3.45-4.45

Elmley Castle 4.45- 6pm

#### Wednesday 10 January

Middle Littleton 4-5.15

South Meadows 5.30-6.30

"I am looking forward to seeing the tourist projects and events that I am involved in progress, and more sessions on the bus!"

If you have more questions you'd like to ask Sophie or Andrew chat to them on the bus!



### A helping hand

We are now nearly in the final year of our external funding so Parish support is vital to help us to continue. We have done amazingly well at getting external funding since the project started in 2009 and it's enabled us to convert the bus and keep us on the road. With more competition and less funding available though small donations really help to sustain what we do. We also think it's important that parishes want to help young people in their village by providing a contribution to our service.

Special thanks goes to **Great Comberton Flower Show, Elmley Castle Parish Council, Great Comberton Parish Council, Rooftop Housing, South Littleton Parish Council and Offenham Parish Council** who have all helped to support our work this year.

Remember we always give priority to villages that give us a donation so please encourage your parish council to support the bus! More news on this will also follow in a special news sheet. And get in touch with Rob if you have ideas about how you can help the bus.

**Keep warm and see you on the youth bus soon**

*Rob, Lee, Sophie, Andrew*

The Youth Bus Team

### Thought for the month

*You are your only limit...if you believe you are already half way there*

