

1st December 2020

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Winter Newsletter! I hope you are all keeping safe and well? For a year that has seemed to drag on, we somehow find ourselves in December and Christmas is just around the corner! With the news that the vaccine will be rolled out from next week, it offers us a glimpse of light at the end of the tunnel and fingers crossed we can get back to some sort of normality in the coming months. Roll on 2021!

Recent News

With the November lockdown restrictions, the office was closed and we returned to working from home. We have decided to continue to work from home until at least the New Year. We are continuing to offer transport for essential medical and hospital appointments in our own vehicles. This does limit us to how many journeys we can physically do, therefore, anyone using the Dial-a-Ride for reasons not associated with medical appointments, risks losing the service altogether.

Please be rest assured that drivers and volunteers are continuing to follow bact Covid 19 procedures and are aware of the responsibilities that they have and have agreed to follow our guidelines to help keep you and our drivers safe. We ask that all passengers, unless exempt, wear a face mask whilst on board, there is hand sanitiser for you to use before and after your journey too. Windows and vents on the bus will be open to improve air circulation so please wrap up warm as the weather is getting cooler! We will continue to ask for fare payment when we phone you to confirm the trip, please have your card ready. We will not save your card details.

As yet, we have not resumed the Community Car Service. If you need contact us to arrange transport our phone lines are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm, if our lines are busy please do leave a message and we will get back to you.

Christmas Opening Times



Over the Christmas period, subject to driver availability, we aim to fulfil your transport requests for medical/hospital appointments. Our phone lines will be open 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday except on the bank holidays; Friday 25th and Monday 28th December and Friday 1st January.

We will be scheduling journeys in advance, so if you have an appointment between Thursday 24th December and Friday 8th January please let us know by Friday 18th December or as soon as possible, thank you.

Fundraising



A big thank you to all that have donated to our foreign coin currency appeal, so far £500 has been raised. All donations go towards keeping our services running.

We would love for this figure to keep growing, so if you have any foreign coins that you would like to donate please give us a call and we will arrange collection. Alternatively, they can be dropped off at Beccles Car Shop or The Kirkley Centre (in an envelope)

100 Club

Our 100 Club is open to anyone and for £1 a number per month you have a chance of winning the monthly jackpot of £50! With a bonus draw in December. All support is gratefully received. Please phone and ask for Sam, she currently works on a Tuesday and Wednesday for more details. Here are the details of the **bact** 100 Club winners from the last few months, well done to you!

August 2020	£50 – Pam Woolsey	£25 – Lillian Haward	
September 2020	£50 – J Doylend	£25 – Neil Macpherson	
October 2020	£50 – Jim Lumsden	£25 – Ann Papworth (kindly donated to bact)	
November 2020	£50 – Brenda Ayers	£25 – Jean Debenham	
December 2020	£100 – Ann Papworth	£50 – Beth Adams	£25 – Janet Culf

Spotlight on Volunteer/Staff - in keeping with recent spotlight features, here's pictures of the bact staff! Can you guess correctly and put a name to the face? We miss speaking to you all and can't wait to resume a normal service.



Festive Fun

For a bit of fun, can you find the words in the puzzle below!



Bells
Rudolph
Elves
Merry
Celebrate
Jolly
Reindeer
Candles
Santa
Frosty
Mistletoe
Chimney
Wreath
Greetings
Season
Gift
Noel
Christmas
Holiday
Cards
Sleigh
Giving
Northpole
Stocking
Tree
Candycane

Finally

Thank you for your continuing support during this year. As a small organisation, your commitment and support is vital for our survival so we can transport you when given the go ahead. Thank You! Also, to help spread the word about bact, if you or your family use social media, you can keep up to date with our going ons by liking us on Facebook. Please invite your friends and family to like us too!

Although this year has been challenging, it has been humbling to see and hear the stories of how local communities have pulled together to help one another. We really do have some good spirited people among us, including our volunteers, drivers and staff – a massive thank you to them all for all they have done!

Please do look after yourselves during this time. If you need help, please do get in touch, even if we can't help, we can point you in the right direction. We're also here if you need a chat!

On that note, from all at bact, we wish you a very *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

Take Care and stay safe.

Beth Adams
Assistant Manager