

“The Future of Community Transport”

Community transport has enormous social and economic benefits to communities across the United Kingdom. Its role in combating loneliness and social isolation, helping people remain independent and access their communities cannot be overstated. Because of community transport, tens of thousands of individuals can access the transport they need, regardless of their circumstances.

I think this paragraph above summons up everything we try to achieve here at GoFar for our passengers.



"Going on a GoFar outing is like going out with a big group of friends," quotes from one of the passengers, "You get to know people and we all get on so well together". "The drivers are all so friendly, efficient, but also caring, especially to those of us who are not too mobile".

Its evidence like this that shows how much our services are needed within the community; but we offer more than a seat on a minibus. We bring people together and provide a community on the minibus which encourages friendships to be created, and socialising to take place.

2019 brought many changes to the Team here at GoFar. We continued to support our members at a time when we had to undertake a major change to the organisation's operating base and secure the relevant funding.

The growth of the port, subsequently, meant our West Dock compound was needed for development by ABP. Thankfully, we managed to find a suitable compound in Carlisle Street and secured funding from Awards For All, Garfield Weston and Hull & East Riding Charitable Trust. This ensured we could purchase and convert three freezer trailers into offices, meeting, and storage rooms for when we moved in October 2019.

We managed to secure three years funding from The Brehlms Trust and the Anna Maria Charitable Trust which has helped fund our leisure/social outings and we maintained our current contracts through East Riding of Yorkshire Council for another 5 years.



We future proofed the organisation for the possible changes to our licensing requirements by the Department for Transport and trained all paid drivers to full D1 license entitlement and CPC.

In September 2019, we said “Goodbye” to Andy Scott as he left us for pastures new and we welcomed Stuart Ross to the GoFar team.

Over the last year, the whole GoFar team have demonstrated their ability and loyalty to GoFar; adapting to change and supporting the growth and development of the organisation.

Then 2020 broke, things were looking better for the GoFar. The Monthly outings were fully booked, MediBus was busy, we made the finals in the Charity of the year category at the Goole & Howdenshire Business Awards. Everyone was looking forward to the Spring and Summer weather. Then the country was hit by Coronavirus and we went into Lockdown. I am not going to report too much on this now as the situation is still ongoing. But like everyone, things here at GoFar have been very tough and strange over the last few months. As the nation very very slowly and tentatively starts to return to some form of normality, so do we, here at Gofar.

I would like to thank all the GoFar team for what they have done over the last year and during the pandemic. Hopefully, everyone has stayed Safe and Well and we look forward to seeing you out and about on the buses again very soon

Christine Dales
Business Manager