

Public statement

Trowbridge and the surrounding villages have a very active Community Link Scheme (TACLS) designed to serve those vulnerable adults and elderly citizens locally who are unable to use public transport and have no other way of travelling. Volunteer drivers take them shopping, to GP surgeries and Trowbridge hospital as well as further afield to Bath and Bristol for hospital appointments.

A dedicated band of volunteers work from home manning the phone line every day. Taking calls from clients, updating the database and allocating drivers for each appointment, these co-ordinators really get to know our clients and welcome the opportunity to provide this valuable service

We also have a minibus picking up people for day care and lunch clubs in the town. Volunteer drivers and escorts take over 80 people each week for vital socialising, activities and a hot meal in the churches and community centres.

TACLS has an urgent need for more volunteers to take part in any role; you can give as much or as little time as you like but know that even one hour a week will help someone get to a clinic or go shopping and make a big difference.

This role will be ideal for a mum at home, the newly retired, part time workers with some spare time, and people who want to give back to the community.

This is the sort of thing we do:

Giving 1 hour of your time = a trip to Roundstone surgery for a flu jab

2 hours = drive to Devizes for a cataract operation consultation

3 hours = a morning or afternoon shift driving or escorting in the minibus. Or a trip to the RUH Dyson Centre for an oncology treatment

4 hours = a trip to Bristol Southmead hospital for vital neurology or spinal appointments

1 day = a co-ordinator shift using a laptop and phone provided by TACLS, talking to clients and drivers

If you feel that you can support your community please ring TACLS on 07969 347042 and have a chat or visit <https://trowbridgelink.org.uk/>