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Firstly, I would like to begin with an important announcement. Many of you may have read in the Whitby Gazette, the sad news that Whitby & District Community Transport will close at the end of August.

This is mainly because of a lack of volunteers to run their Volunteer Car Scheme, minibus drivers for their other services, compounded by an ever increasing demand for community transport.

The Covid 19 Pandemic, lockdowns and restrictions also had a huge impact on W&DCT and their Trustees finally made the decision to close the charity. DAG and W&DCT have worked closely over a number of years, and share much in common, especially our charitable aims which are to help disabled people, the elderly and those in need, and many of our Members are also members of W&DCT. This is why they made the decision to transfer their assets to Whitby DAG when they close.

Please be aware that this does **NOT** mean that DAG will be running a Volunteer Car Scheme to take people to their Hospital appointments, or running the Guisborough Shopper - NYCC has taken this back in house. Over the

next few months DAG will be looking at what services we might be able to reintroduce, **but this will be dependent on how many volunteer drivers we have, and our capacity to deliver a quality service.**

Many of you will be able to remember that back in March 2020 we had to say goodbye to the DAG minibus, which has served us so well over the years but had become too unreliable and expensive to run. **I am delighted to announce that we have bought a replacement and will soon be in a position to run some trips. This is fantastic news as we know just how important the trips and outings are to our Members.**

I would also like to say a big Thank You to everyone who helped out at our Dockend fundraiser on Saturday 28th August, After over a year of not seeing people face to face, it was really nice to do something “normal” again (albeit with Covid 19 precautions in place) and **we raised the grand total of £645.70.**

Finally a big Thank You to **Caroline Davies** who held an online “Summer Fete” to raise funds for a portable hoist. The Fete included a raffle, bingo, name the teddy bear and cupcake sale. Caroline put a huge amount of time and effort into the fundraiser and along with a donation which was made directly to DAG, raised a total of over **£1250!**

Caroline hasn't just helped her mum, or DAG Members as the hoist will make a huge difference to all disabled people who want to use the beach wheelchairs but need help to transfer. If you would like to help DAG by organising a fundraiser – we would love to hear from you!

Until the next time

Ian

DAG at Church House

For the time being Church House remains closed to the public, so please **telephone us** first if you need help and advice. If you do come to Church House and wish to speak to us, please ring the **WS&R DAG buzzer**, and one of us will come to meet you at the door.

We will see people by appointment, but initial contacts will be by telephone.

It is still possible to catch and spread COVID-19, even if you are fully vaccinated. **Please play your part by exercising common sense, considering the risks, and taking the necessary actions to protect ourselves and others.** Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Sally Jones - Memorial Service

Many of you will remember Sally Jones, member and trustee of DAG, who sadly passed away at the end of last year.



Now that Covid restrictions have lifted, her family will be having a gathering at St Mary's in Sandsend, on Saturday 11th September to remember Sally.

If you would like to attend please let us know at the DAG office, and we will pass your name on to her family.



A New Bus for DAG!

Way back in March 2020, just as Covid 19 took hold and the first lockdown loomed, DAG had to say a fond farewell to our much loved minibuss which we

used for our Members' trips and outings. Our plan was always to replace the minibuss because we know just how important our trips and outings are to DAG Members.

We had reached the stage where the bus seemed to be in the garage for repairs more often than it was out on the road. It also needed a major, and costly piece of work to sort out the electrics. Both factors made the otherwise difficult decision a little easier to make. None of us could have known how the length of the lockdowns and Covid 19 restrictions, would impact on this decision, but as it turned out, the bus would also have been left sitting idle while still costing DAG money.

Fundraising began in earnest in late 2020, and we are delighted to announce that we have now bought a VW Crafter, which is only four years old. We are deciding on the livery, and have been in touch with our trip volunteers to make sure that they are still willing and able to return to their roles. We will soon be ready to resume some Members' trips so please **"Watch this space!"**.

Whitby DAG would like to say a massive **Thank You** to everyone who has helped with our fundraising over the last 12 months and to the **Normanby Charitable Trust** and the **Coble Courier** for their support.

Swimming for Wellbeing Sessions

Weekly sessions, every Wednesday, 2-3pm, at Whitby Leisure Centre. We have the sole use of both pools.

PLACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED - you must book your place, each week, in advance. Anyone turning up at the Leisure Centre without a prior booking will not be allowed to join the session.

For more details, and to book your place for each session, contact **Sally** at the DAG office on **01947 821001**.



Pictured above: DAG Member Ian, using the poolside hoist.



DAG Fundraiser At Dock End

The sun shone for us on Saturday and town was busy, so we were hopeful that we would get plenty of support at our fundraiser.

We raised **£568.70** on the day (with a grand total of **£645.70** including pre-sales). The Tombola made over £300 towards the final total.

Thank You to Roger, Richard N, Richard W, Wendy T, Jacqui J and her daughters and grandson, Tom, Hannah, Janet and Brian, Wendy G, and DAG staff Judith and Ian. All your hard work helped make the day such a success.

A Day in The Life of Asa at DAG

I can't believe I've been with DAG for about three months. Sometimes it feels like I've been here forever and then, a moment later it feels like I'm brand new. It was suggested that I do a "day-in-the-life" breakdown of what it's like to work with the mobility hire which sounded like a nice idea, so here I go:



My day tends to be broken down into two. Half is based in the office, sorting through paperwork, maintaining the booking diary, taking phone calls, etc. Then for the other half I'm out and about, or at the Library Garage.

The average day at DAG really starts the day before. Particularly for a busy Friday or Saturday, planning out the day beforehand is absolutely crucial if you don't want to be running around like the proverbial noggin-less rooster! It is also an assuredly futile gesture as you will soon find out the next morning. It doesn't matter how much planning you do, there will inevitably have been at least a thousand complications and alterations which have somehow manifested themselves since you left the office.

Chances are, you'll have about an hour before you need to do anything practical, so it's time to get out the laptop, sanitise the phone and whip open the booking diary. But don't get too comfortable. Just because you've got to re-do your day's plan and get on top of any changes, it doesn't mean the people on the end of the phone will have mercy on you. If you're lucky, your first call will at least be relevant to the mobility hire and will, almost certainly go something like this:

"Hello, we've just come on holiday and... our scooter

has broken down/my [insert family member here] has broken their leg/ we couldn't fit our scooter in our car... can we hire a scooter today please?"

In one call your morning is now full up. Once you've got the details of this last minute booking taken, its already time to head down to the Library for your first collection; those emails are going to have to wait.

I recently had an on-the-day wheelchair booking for a family from Northallerton. I asked them when they returned, how their, very short, day out had been and the gentleman said: ***"Oh, we went to the Magpie as they had a lift for my Mum's chair and they said it was a 45 minute wait for a table."*** I assumed he was complaining about it to me. Then he said: ***"Which was Brilliant! I was so glad they could get us in so quickly!"*** Despite their journey to Whitby and back being longer than the time they spent in the town, their attitude really brightened up my day.

We make plenty of deliveries, from the Royal Hotel all the way to (and these are the most fun) places like Sandsend! I have been learning about the multitude of access issues for holiday accommodation around Whitby - narrow pavements, too many steps for a ramp, steep gradients, narrow doorways or simply nowhere to store the scooter are the most common problems. Often customer and owner/ managers seem to be unaware of these issues and the booking sites aren't any help either. It has become very evident to me that there is little or no consideration of accessibility in the tourist industry, and it seems utterly wrong that there seem to be no rules requiring wanna-be holiday home owners to make any sort of assessment.

**My best advice to anyone with mobility impairments?
Plan ahead.**



Thinking Of Travelling To Europe?

Make Sure Your Passport Is Valid, Before You Travel.

Many of us will be familiar with the practice of extra months being added to the expiry date of the new passport, if it has been renewed before the previous one expired. **However, post Brexit, when travelling to Europe, new rules apply which may make your passport invalid, and it is easy to get caught out.**

It is recommended that on the day you travel you have at least six months left on your passport. Most European countries require you to have at least three months left on your passport on the day after you leave.

In addition, your existing EU passport must also be less than 10 years old on the day after you leave. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the minimum period needed.

These rules apply for travel to and between most countries in Europe. They do not apply to travel to Ireland, where you can continue to use your passport as long as it's valid for the length of your stay.

The changes to passport rules may not apply to UK nationals resident in an EU country or an EFTA country (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland).

Full details are available on <https://www.gov.uk>

In Other Words: It's Working by Janet Fife

Back To The Drawing Board - the 'drawing board' is a draughtsman's table. The expression comes from a 1941 cartoon in the New Yorker magazine by Peter Arno (pictured right), showing a crashed plane and a gent in a suit walking away with rolled-up plans under his arm. The caption is, '**Well, back to the old drawing board.**' This wry response to **failure** caught on very quickly.



Cut and dried - refers to timber cut and seasoned, ready for use in projects such as building and cabinet-making.



Keep One's Nose To The Grindstone - tools such as scythes and billhooks needed constant sharpening, but the steel overheated if kept too long on the grinding wheel. To make sure this didn't happen, grinders bent low over the grindstone. The phrase dates back to the 16th century.

The Daily Grind - before modern times everything from flour to knives and axes had to be ground by hand. '**Grinding**' or '**the grind**' came to refer to any hard and repetitive task which wears people down.

Grind To A Halt - in windmills, when the wind dropped grain clogged up the millstones.

Run Of The Mill - Originally, the output of a mill or factory before it had been graded for quality. It soon came to mean '**general**' or '**average**'.



A local voluntary organisation and registered charity providing practical and emotional help for carers, the people they care for and older people living on their own.

Caring Together
Whitby & District

For details please phone **01947 605757**.

Scarborough & District CAB

citizens
advice

Contact Details

Website: www.scarcab.org.uk
Online Advisor: citizensadvice.org.uk/chat
Tel: 0808 278 7889 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)
Email: info@scarcab.cabnet.org.uk
Relay UK: 18001 0800 144 8884

Contact DAG to be referred directly to Scarborough CAB for general enquiries and their money, welfare benefits and debt advice service.



Dalewood Trust supports adults with learning disabilities providing leisure activities, adult education, volunteering and work experience.

They also provide services for the wider community in the Whitby area – **Shopping, Laundry, Meals on Wheels and Afternoon Teas.**

For more information and to arrange services

Tel: 01947 600583
Email: info@dalewoodtrust.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DalewoodTrust/>



allcare
 .co.uk

**UNIT B3, ST. HILDA'S BUSINESS CENTRE,
 THE ROPERY, WHITBY, YO22 4ET**

Telephone/Fax: 01947 825555

E-mail: info@allcare.co.uk Website: www.allcare.co.uk

Mobility Scooters and Wheelchair

Sales – Accessories

Make your donations to DAG go further through

- Gift Aid (if you are a UK Taxpayer)
- Give as You Live
- Leaving a Financial Gift in your Will
- Amazon Smile
- LocalGiving
- Easy Fundraising



Contact the DAG office for details.



The Computer Centre
 Repairing Whitby's computers for over
 15 Years

Sales & Repairs

Computers, Laptops, Tablets & Phones

E: sales@apc4me.co.uk W: www.apc4me.co.uk

Visit: Unit G1B St Hilda's Business Centre, The Ropery

T: (01947) 605859

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- Would you like your details to be added to/ removed from our newsletter mailing list?
- Do you have any articles, stories, items wanted/ for sale or information you would like to be included in our newsletter?



Send the details to the DAG office by the 20th of each month.

DON'T FORGET - you can get a PDF version of your newsletter by e-mail. It gets to you more quickly and saves on paper, printing & postage costs for us!

Find us at Church House Centre, Flowergate, WHITBY, YO21 3BA Mon, Tues & Thurs 9am-5pm; Fri 9am-4.30pm

Telephone: 01947 821001 Email: info@whitbydag.org.uk
Website: www.whitbydag.org.uk

Mobility Equipment Hire has re-opened. All enquiries should be via the DAG office.

Reg. Charity No: 1131037
Company Reg: No: 6956837



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