



cuckmerebuses.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE

High Sheriff Visits Cuckmere Buses

The High Sheriff of East Sussex, Jane King, recently expressed an interest in finding out more about the charity behind Cuckmere Buses. It provides vital bus services in the Cuckmere Valley and surrounding areas taking people in outlying districts to nearby towns for shopping, appointments or for leisure purposes. It also provides circular services around Hailsham and Seaford towns.

The Office of High Sheriff is an independent Royal appointment with a central role of supporting the Crown and the judiciary, plus actively lending support to the voluntary sector and similar agencies and organisations. Along with her husband, William, the High Sheriff visited the bus company in late November and met some of its volunteer team at its base at Berwick. Hosted by Managing Director, Philip Ayers, Mrs King was told about the organisation and its structure which had started operations over 45 years ago. It now runs a fleet of modern Mercedes 16-seater low-floor minibuses and Mrs King was impressed to hear that the whole organisation is run entirely by volunteers - some 40 fully trained volunteer drivers and support teams.

Over a very enjoyable Sussex Cream Tea, discussions took place about services operated, driver recruitment and the slow-to-recover passenger numbers. Mrs King commended Cuckmere Buses, saying "This is a valuable lifeline for people in our community, especially those living in the more rural parts of the county. I was so impressed to hear about the wide range of their services and the fact that they are all run by volunteers giving selflessly of their time to residents in parts of East Sussex". She suggested some possible areas which might benefit from additional services and helpfully suggested some organisations which might be able to help support Cuckmere Buses in developing their area of operations. Philip Ayers responded, "We very much appreciate the High Sheriff's interest, and will certainly follow-up on the suggestions made". A visit was then paid to Berwick Service Station which looks after all the servicing and maintenance of the fleet. Then, after looking through some of the company's photos and articles from past years, Mrs King was presented with a bouquet from company secretary, Susan de Angeli. Full details about Cuckmere Buses and their timetables are available on their website cuckmerebuses.org.uk. Concessionary passes are available on all timetabled routes.

End

Issued 28 November 2022

scf



Winners of **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service**

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd. is a Charity and a Company registered in England and Wales.

Charity Registration No: 1120494 Company Registration No: 6032000.

Registered Office: The Old Rectory, Litlington, POLEGATE, East Sussex, BN26 5RB. VAT Reg. No. 351.1070.06

Chairman: Mrs Beryl Smith Managing Director: Mr Philip Ayers Secretary: Mrs Susan de Angeli

Related pics



The High Sheriff, Mrs Jane King and Cuckmere Buses MD, Philip Ayers



The High Sheriff, Mrs Jane King, and her husband meet volunteers from Cuckmere Buses



Four buses from the Cuckmere Buses fleet



Winners of **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service**

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd. is a Charity and a Company registered in England and Wales.

Charity Registration No: 1120494 Company Registration No: 6032000.

Registered Office: The Old Rectory, Litlington, POLEGATE, East Sussex, BN26 5RB. VAT Reg. No. 351.1070.06

Chairman: Mrs Beryl Smith Managing Director: Mr Philip Ayers Secretary: Mrs Susan de Angeli