

**PRESIDENT**

Mrs RACHEL KINCHIN-SMITH

**DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES**

(Members of the Management Committee)

Captain CHARLES NIXON-ECKERSALL, RN (Retired)

*Chairman*

Mr JOHN STEELE

*Retired from the Management Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006*

Cllr ALASTAIR MILNE HOME

*Representing Banbury Town Council*

Cllr PAUL O'SULLIVAN

*Representing Cherwell District Council*

Mr RORY McLOED

*Appointed – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006*

Mr WILLIAM COLQUHOUN

*Appointed – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006*

**SECRETARY AND GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr BRIAN PRICE, FCA

**FINANCIAL CONTROLLER**

Mrs JANE PACE

**ADVISERS**

**AUDITORS** - UPSTONE.BLENCOWE

**BANKERS** - LLOYDS/TSB and COVENTRY BUILDING SOCIETY

**LEGAL** - APLINS

**Registered Office:**

Unit 17, Beaumont Business Centre, Beaumont Close, Banbury, Oxon OX16 1TN

Registered in England & Wales No. 4212660  
& Registered Charity No. 1086879  
VAT Registration No. 623 9110 62

# BANBURYSHIRE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION LIMITED

*President: Rachel Kinchin-Smith*

*Chairman: Charles Nixon-Eckersall*

---

## Annual Report 2006 / 2007

This is my ninth report to you as Chairman. It covers all aspects of our activities in our 20th year of operation. These continued under four main headings; Dial-a-Ride, the Cherwell Villager and Kidlington Lynx scheduled services, Group Transport and Bicester Town Shopmobility. I report under each of these headings.

### **DIAL-A-RIDE**

Our Dial-A-Ride service within the Banbury area started in January 1994, initially on one day a week, funded by Oxfordshire County Council. We now provide twenty daily services a week covering Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington. Twelve of these services are in Banbury, two town buses for each working day and two rural services, one on Wednesdays and one on Thursdays. Bicester has a town service on Mondays and Thursdays, and a rural service on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Kidlington has a town service on Thursdays and Fridays, and a rural service on Wednesdays. From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006, Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council increased their respective funding to allow us to re-instate the two rural Wednesday services around Bicester and Kidlington that ceased on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005.

The Dial-a-Ride services are for mobility-impaired people whose impairments make the use of conventional public transport difficult, and who are registered with BCTA, at which point they become members of the Dial-a-Ride community.

Registered members pre-book a service on the day before they need to use it. The service picks the member up at his or her home and returns them to it at a pre-booked time. 78 passenger journeys were carried in the month of January 1994, now the average per month is some 4,300.

The Dial-a-Ride service is free to holders of Cherwell District Council bus passes. Passengers without local authority bus passes pay £1 per single journey within the towns of Banbury, Bicester or Kidlington, or, £2 per single journey from outside those towns. National Travel Tokens are also accepted. The fares charged will be amended slightly with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007.

**YEARLY DIAL-A-RIDE JOURNEY FIGURES**

	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07
April	829	2,150	2,606	2,232	2,332	3,295	3,810	3,985	4,562	4,444	3,691
May	1,166	2,288	2,503	2,214	2,671	3,808	4,386	4,210	4,282	4,348	4,375
June	1,172	2,358	2,589	2,423	2,669	3,572	3,551	4,069	4,940	4,842	4,576
July	1,229	2,436	2,077	2,653	2,733	3,557	4,334	4,675	5,134	4,362	4,140
August	1,292	2,078	1,669	2,281	2,763	3,522	3,715	3,937	4,381	4,231	4,591
September	1,368	2,014	1,759	2,603	2,724	3,418	4,003	4,226	4,822	4,644	4,765
October	1,919	2,029	1,626	2,472	2,885	4,084	4,506	4,888	4,584	4,261	4,723
November	1,669	1,673	1,694	2,627	3,331	4,178	3,937	4,112	5,031	4,664	5,112
December	1,771	1,995	1,805	1,955	2,348	2,956	3,358	3,771	3,703	3,617	3,765
January	1,733	1,776	1,779	2,148	2,975	3,457	3,725	3,295	3,745	3,885	4,348
February	1,689	1,877	2,131	2,630	3,102	3,748	3,805	4,111	4,130	3,957	3,831
March	2,000	2,120	2,568	2,916	3,399	4,008	4,152	4,082	4,365	4,603	4,808
<b>TOTALs</b>	<b>17,837</b>	<b>24,794</b>	<b>24,806</b>	<b>29,154</b>	<b>33,932</b>	<b>43,603</b>	<b>47,282</b>	<b>49,361</b>	<b>53,679</b>	<b>51,858</b>	<b>52,725</b>

**CHERWELL VILLAGER AND KIDLINGTON LYNX scheduled services**

These village services started some years ago, with funding from Cherwell District Council and the Rural Development Commission, to provide scheduled minibuses between the surrounding villages and the main towns in the Cherwell District Council area which either had no commercial bus services or they were inadequate. The Cherwell Villager and Kidlington Lynx scheduled services are free for holders of Cherwell District Council bus passes. National Travel Tokens are also accepted. The number of passengers carried on these two services has declined in recent years. Both services are loss-making and it has been agreed by Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council that they will be converted into additional Dial-a-Ride rural services with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007. This conversion will provide for a more flexible service for passengers and use of the vehicles. Details of the changes have been notified to the current users of both services.

**YEARLY CHERWELL VILLAGER PASSENGER FIGURES**

	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07
April	276	302	293	273	264	370	329	311	258	352	276
May	253	263	300	288	376	307	289	301	337	301	326
June	281	266	362	330	361	348	275	332	413	305	291
July	269	334	311	333	433	391	356	346	350	331	279
August	196	279	310	331	379	361	329	291	337	289	296
September	188	312	339	293	365	306	325	401	376	266	297
October	264	235	296	308	363	344	365	388	367	299	299
November	292	282	346	362	369	340	359	430	439	328	313
December	266	281	358	237	243	278	288	424	310	202	222
January	225	247	299	307	367	330	322	370	335	273	305
February	252	287	288	335	322	297	330	336	368	259	267
March	293	343	338	347	365	334	369	311	390	284	280
<b>TOTALs</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>3,431</b>	<b>3,840</b>	<b>3,744</b>	<b>4,207</b>	<b>4,006</b>	<b>3,936</b>	<b>4,241</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>3,489</b>	<b>3,451</b>

**YEARLY KIDLINGTON LYNX PASSENGER FIGURES**

	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07
April	209	275	214	240	192	252	166
May	225	219	229	217	201	194	188
June	242	270	136	260	238	238	214
July	216	272	251	215	228	169	194
August	230	215	246	165	248	218	230
September	171	186	277	286	230	260	206
October	245	231	296	276	237	208	226
November	214	230	202	265	327	255	244
December	174	171	171	291	240	196	156
January	278	224	174	211	274	252	159
February	251	200	222	232	246	196	172
March	260	209	288	240	254	210	220
<b>TOTALs</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>2,706</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>2,915</b>	<b>2,648</b>	<b>2,375</b>

**GROUP TRANSPORT**

Under this activity BCTA provide low cost transport for a wide variety of organisations concerned with the welfare of the elderly and young people within the Cherwell District Council area. The demand for this service has remained good and there has been a shift during the year from hirers wishing to drive our buses themselves, to them wishing to be driven by our own drivers. The figures of usage over the last ten years and a sample list of the groups and organisations that use the service on a regular basis, are set out below:

Year	No. of Bookings	No. of Users	Mileage
1998/99	273	108	18,571
1999/00	272	139	21,703
2000/01	205	94	17,211
2001/02	163	67	24,214
2002/03	145	56	23,914
2003/04	146	60	24,312
2004/05	188	83	29,344
2005/06	188	72	30,378
2006/07	185	56	45,286

Regular organisations that use our group transport service:

Banbury Challenge Club
Air Training Corps
Labour Sports
Cheshire Home
St Johns Social Club
Banbury District Carers

Brooklands Nursing Home
The Three Tuns Social Club
St Paul's Church
The Holly Tree Club
Numerous other Community Groups

Such trips offer time for fellowship, for meeting new people and getting to know others better.

**BICESTER TOWN SHOPMOBILITY**

This successful service, paid for by Cherwell District Council and managed by BCTA, continues to prove popular in providing the less mobile people of Bicester and its surrounding area with increased mobility when shopping in the town. Currently, we have approximately 40 regular

users, with 2,681 loans made over the past year. The service is open six days a week between 9.00 am and 4.30 pm. On the five days in the week on which the Dial-A-Ride service operates in the Bicester area, we transport several members from their homes to the Shopmobility centre.

The equipment consists of 9 electric scooters, 5 manual wheelchairs, and one electric wheelchair. Mrs Elizabeth Addley, the manager, is assisted by three part-time assistants, without whose full commitment the scheme would not be successful. We also assist with the running of the British Red Cross Medical Loan Scheme. Two members of the staff are qualified to issue the Medical Loan equipment.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **GRANTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR**

#### **Dial a Ride Service**

Cherwell District Council paid £127,516 as an operating grant for the Dial-A-Ride services, of which £10,000 has been allocated to bus replacement. Oxfordshire County Council paid £22,669.

#### **Cherwell Villager & Kidlington Lynx scheduled services**

Cherwell District Council paid £7,576 for these two services.

#### **Management**

Cherwell District Council paid £15,067 towards the management costs of the company.

#### **Bicester Town Shopmobility**

Cherwell District Council paid £24,200 for this service, of which, we understand, Bicester Town Council provided £5,000.

We are grateful to all the local authorities concerned for their continued support.

### **INCOME**

Income generated from passengers by means of fares amounted to £64,377 for the year compared with £56,418 for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

### **SURPLUS**

A surplus of £16,798 has been made for the year which compares with a surplus of £7,880 for the previous year. The surpluses are modest in relation to the activities of the company and are carried forward in unrestricted funds.

### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Capital expenditure during the year was £32,007. Two second-hand vehicles were purchased in a rolling programme of upgrading of the company's bus fleet.

## **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS/STAFF**

Management Committee Members for the year covered in this report were:-

### **Directors and Trustees**

Captain Charles Nixon-Eckersall – Chairman

Mr John Steele – retired 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006

Cllr Alastair Milne Home – representing Banbury Town Council

Cllr Paul O’Sullivan – representing Cherwell District Council

Mr Rory McLoed – appointed 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006

Mr William Colquhoun – appointed 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006

### **General Manager and Secretary**

Mr Brian Price, FCA

### **Financial Controller**

Mrs Jane Pace

The Directors and Trustees posts are all honorary. The General Manager post is part-time and is financed by grant from Cherwell District Council. The Financial Controller is paid on a time-incurred basis.

In addition, we have three full-time members of staff, nine bus drivers, and a full-time manager of the Bicester Shopmobility office, supported by three part-time staff.

## **VEHICLES**

At the date of this report BCTA owns nine minibuses, four Mercedes Benz 15 seaters, two Mercedes Benz 10 seaters, one Renault Master 16 seater and two 16 seater Ford IVECOs.

## **VOTE OF THANKS**

This report would be incomplete without warm thanks to my colleagues on the Management Committee and to the staff and drivers and those who support BCTA in so many ways. We are also most grateful to Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council for their continuing commitment to our provision of community transport services and to the residents of the Cherwell District Council area who use them.

*Charles Nixon-Eckersall*  
*Chairman*

*29<sup>th</sup> June 2007*