

The Hilltop Villages Good Neighbours Group

One of the strengths of our community is the willingness of local people to offer a helping hand to others. In short you might call this a spirit of 'neighbourliness'. Last summer some villagers got together to identify how we could build on this neighbourliness with anticipated cut-backs in public services that will impact on our rural community, by forming 'The Hilltop Villages Good Neighbours Group'.

The first major initiative of the Group is the:-

Extreme Weather 4x4 Car Scheme

The last two winters brought heavy snowfalls and prolonged periods of freezing weather conditions. At times local roads became impassable or dangerous to negotiate safely without a 4x4 car.

A group of volunteers have come together to operate a **4x4 Car Scheme** during periods of such **extreme weather**. The special telephone number below will be manned by volunteers within the Parish and drivers with 4x4 cars will be on-call to help fellow parishioners with vital transport needs, e.g. to get to urgent medical appointments, restocking essential food supplies, or collecting an urgent prescription. It may sometimes be possible to 'rescue' stranded villagers at local stations or in the environs of the villages! If weather conditions prevent social services reaching a client, and near neighbours are not available, then volunteers may also be able to help with certain vital tasks. NB. It will be totally at the discretion of Group organisers to decide if the weather conditions dictate, and the need is urgent and appropriate for a volunteer to be called out.

This service is free; however a contribution towards the driver's fuel costs would be welcomed. In the meantime you are encouraged to prepare for another harsh winter, both at home and for daily journeys!

0845 8 735 737

Please note:- The Car Scheme will be in operation from 9am to 7pm and only during periods of extreme weather. At other times you should contact the police or social services. See the directory.

We would like to express our appreciation to.....

Green Telecom, based in Chesham, who generously supplied the telephone number, free of charge!*and also*

Mrs Tricia Birchley, our local County Councillor, who has awarded the Group a grant from her Community Leaders Fund.

Hilltop Villages Good Neighbours

Extreme Weather 4x4 Car Scheme & Community Services Directory

This leaflet has been produced for residents of Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards Parish by the newly formed Hilltop Villages Good Neighbours Group. As well as announcing the launch of this Group, it provides important information about its first initiatives - An **extreme weather car scheme** and a **directory of useful contact numbers**.

Inside.... you will find a directory of useful community contact numbers. We will update and distribute this periodically.

On the back page you will find further information about the Good Neighbours Group and the launch, in time for this winter period, of the 4x4 car scheme, run by local volunteers for fellow residents of Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards Parish. It will operate during daytime hours, if and when extreme weather and road conditions prevent safe travel by normal vehicles, for those with vital transport needs.

Further information.... If you would like to help with the 4x4 car scheme, would like to be involved in working on other initiatives of **The Hilltop Village Good Neighbours Group**, have any questions about the Group or the Directory, please contact: - **Chris Brown** on tel: 758890, or email: chrisbrown@rayshill.com

Keep this leaflet close to your telephone, and put the Extreme Weather Scheme number into your mobile and your car!

Hilltop Villages Good Neighbours Directory

Welcome to the first edition of this **Hilltop Villages** information leaflet. We hope the following list of telephone numbers provides you with a reference point for contacting important services available to our community.

This Directory will be updated periodically and distributed via Hilltop News and will be also available on *www.cholesbury.com*.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police –Fire–Ambulance 999

TVP Non-Emergency number & Local Police Team 101
(if out of area) (0845 8 505 505)

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
Victim Support 0845 450 3883
Childline 0800 1111

NHS DIRECT
24-hour health advice and info 0845 46 47

UTILITIES
Electricity - Eastern - general enquiries 0800 783 8838

Water - general enquiries and emergencies 0845 9200 800

BT 0800 800 150

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Buckinghamshire County Council 01296 395000

Chiltern District Council 01494 729000

HILLTOP VILLAGES

Good Neighbours Extreme Weather Car Scheme 0845 8 735 737

Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards Parish Council 01494 758408

IN TOUCH

Telephone advice service for people living independently
01296 383304

ADULT SOCIAL CARE (Bucks County Council)
Info on receiving care in your home 08453 708090
Out of hours emergency 01494 675802

AGE CONCERN BUCKS
General info and advice 01296 431127

AFFORDABLE WARMTH
Grants may be available to warm your home 0800 107 0044

ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY
Information and support 01494 670909

BRITISH RED CROSS
Free service when you are discharged from hospital
01296 316626

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MIND
Day services and support for mental and emotional well-being
01494 792244

BUCKS VISION
Advice, equipment and social clubs for those with sight loss
01296 487556

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU
Free independent info and advice for benefits, housing, legal, debt, consumer issues, etc 0845 092 0137

DIAL-a-RIDE
Charity providing door-to-door transport 01494 766123

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE
Books, magazines, DVDs delivered to your home 08452 303232