

Up to
Christmas, you can
travel **FREE** on the Cranleigh,
Godalming and Haslemere
Shoppa service

WINTER 2022

hoppa

NEWS

FREE TRAVEL this December

This year, we celebrated our 20th anniversary and to thank all our wonderful customers for their support, we are offering free travel on our hoppa Shoppa service.

Up to Christmas, you can travel **free** on the Cranleigh, Godalming and Haslemere Shoppa service: people in Farnham already get to travel free with a valid bus pass.

So, whether you want to meet some friends, do some shopping or visit the hairdressers before Christmas, please book early as it will be first come first served.

Thank you for helping us to serve the local community.

From all of us at hoppa, we wish you a very happy Christmas.

Christmas and New Year Schedule 2022/23

Plan when to travel with us over the Christmas and New Year period.

Friday 23 December	Normal services
Saturday 24 December	Closed
Sunday 25 December	Closed
Monday 26 December (Bank holiday)	Closed
Tuesday 27 December (Bank holiday)	Closed
Wednesday 28 December	Normal services
Thursday 29 December	Normal services
Friday 30 December	Normal services
Saturday 31 January	Closed
Sunday 1 January	Closed
Monday 2 January (Bank holiday)	Closed
Tuesday 3 January	Normal services

If you have a regular booking with us and are going to be away on the day you normally travel, please let us know so we can tell the driver not to call for you.

If you are planning to pick up some last-minute bits and pieces in the week before Christmas, please book your seat early as we expect to be busy!



Passengers feature in new film about hoppa

Getting the word out about hoppa and explaining who can use it and how it is different from a normal bus is a constant challenge for us.

With the help of 18-year-old student filmmaker **Zac Wilding** from Godalming and some of our customers, we have made a short film giving an insight into what makes hoppa special.

Watch the film at www.hoppa.org.uk and see if you can spot anybody you know! Please also tell friends who might be thinking about registering to use the service so they can see what hoppa is all about.



Our short film has been entered into the **Charity Film Awards** and to get through to the next stage we need your vote.

Visit hoppa.org.uk and follow the instructions on how to vote. It's very quick and easy and simply requires your email address for verification purposes and one click on the **vote now** button.

Vote for us!

CO-OP LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

We've been chosen by the Co-op to be part of their **Local Community Fund**. This means that when Co-op members buy selected items, 2p for every pound spent will be donated to a good cause.

If you are a Co-op member, please choose us as your favourite cause. Your support will help us to buy a new electric minibus so that even

more passengers can benefit from a quieter, smoother journey and also help us to reduce carbon emissions.

You can nominate hoppa and see how much has been raised so far at <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/74563>



It's what we do

SAVING WITH A SMILE

There are a number of ways you can help us fundraise which won't cost you an extra penny. One such example is relevant to people who shop on **Amazon**. Amazon Smile is operated by Amazon and lets you enjoy the same selection of products that you find on amazon.co.uk but with one difference.

Every time you shop on Amazon Smile, they will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price of eligible items to your favourite charity. If you would like to help raise money for hoppa and for there to be no extra cost to you, please visit **smile.amazon.co.uk** and select *hoppa* as your charity.

Free travel to Christmas markets

We are delighted to have been invited by Farnham and Haslemere Town Councils to provide a free shuttle bus service to their Christmas markets. The Haslemere market is on **4 December** and the Farnham market is on **11 December**.

The hoppa bus will cover set routes and will operate throughout the day so that people can leave their car at home and enjoy a free ride to and from the market.

See www.haslemere.com and www.farnham.gov.uk for details about the routes.



Farnham Lions inspect the fruits of their fundraising efforts

On a wet day at the end of the summer, a pride of Farnham Lions made a special visit to Hindhead Golf Club to see the latest addition to our fleet.

The Lions helped hoppa trustee Richard Knight raise **£15,500** during his year as Club Captain. This money went towards the purchase of our first electric minibus. The new bus mainly covers Farnham but it has also been used on the 504/505 route, the Gosden House school run and has served as the Godalming and Haslemere shoppa and the Hospital hoppa.



AN EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR HOPPA

We are excited to have ordered our second electric bus and hope to take delivery of it just in time for Christmas.



This is the second electric bus to join our fleet and shows our ongoing commitment to reducing our carbon footprint. The new bus has a range of approximately 150 miles so we will be able to do a school run and service a hoppa shoppa route before having to recharge the battery.

As well as helping to clean up the air in our towns and villages, we estimate it will be forty per cent cheaper to run the electric bus than the diesel equivalent.

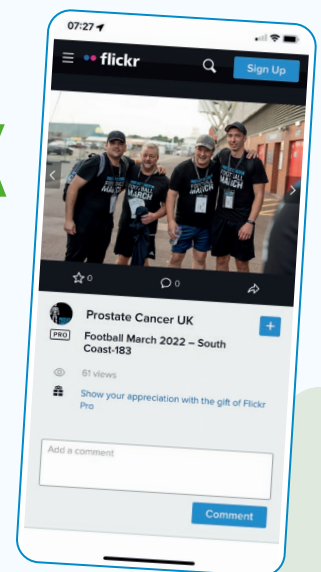
Raising money for Prostate Cancer UK

Our annual Christmas jumper day will soon be upon us and this year we are raising money for Prostate Cancer UK.

The charity was suggested by our driver Tony who was diagnosed with prostate cancer in September 2021. Tony has successfully undergone treatment at the Royal Surrey and has recently received the all clear which is fantastic news.

When he was first diagnosed, Tony contacted Prostate Cancer UK and found them to be a very helpful source of information. To help others benefit from the charity's work, Tony, his son-in-law and two friends, decided to join hundreds of other football fans and take part in a fundraising football march.

The **26.2 mile** marathon walk started at Portsmouth football club, went on to a ground in Eastleigh and ended at St Mary's in Southampton.



The walk took **9.5 hours** which included a couple of stops. Tony raised **£820** which will go towards helping other men beat prostate cancer. More information about the charity can be found at <https://prostatecanceruk.org>.

26.2 miles



9.5 hours



£820



Meet Mike and Tracey

To help cover our costs we provide school transport on behalf of Surrey County Council. Driver Mike and passenger assistant Tracey have worked together as a team for nearly eight years and have been responsible for getting children safely to and from Gosden House School. We caught up with them to find out more about a typical day on the buses!

Name: Mike Tidy

How long at hoppa:
7.5 years

Role: Driver on the school route and occasionally the shoppa service in Godalming, Haslemere and Farnham. Also steps in to help out when needed with escorting and the Hospital hoppa service.

Prior to joining hoppa, Mike worked for the ambulance service and before that he was a postman. Both roles have given him fantastic local knowledge, so he is very good at taking short cuts to avoid traffic hold ups.

Asked how he got to hear about the role at hoppa, Mike said: *"A mate of mine used to work for hoppa and he told me they were looking for a driver. I decided to apply and am really glad I did. I thoroughly enjoy working at hoppa. Everybody is very friendly and supportive and there is no pressure. I get a 'thank you' every week and that means a lot."*

Explaining why he thinks the hoppa service is special, Mike says: *"hoppa does provide a lifeline to people. Everybody is so busy these days but passengers can rely on us to take them to the hospital or the shops when there is nobody else to help. Environmentally, there is also the added bonus that we are helping to*



keep a few cars off the road too."

In his spare time, Mike and his wife love to travel with the Far East and Asia being favourite destinations. When he's not travelling, Mike enjoys photography and supporting live music at a grass roots, local level.

Name: Tracey Langdon

How long at hoppa:
Nearly eight years

Role: Passenger Assistant

Tracey's role is to ensure children with additional needs get to and from Gosden House School and that they are happy and entertained during the journey.

Tracey says: *"The children range in age from 4 to 16 and although able-bodied, some are non-verbal so I took it upon myself to learn Makaton which is a form of sign language.*

"On the journey to school, I sit amongst the children so I can see and hear – some of the older children have asked me if I have eyes in the back of my head because I never miss a trick!"

Tracey has always worked in care giving roles. Prior to hoppa she did care work and before that she was a stay-at-home mum. At hoppa she is venturing into new territory, having



agreed to have a go at driving a bus so she can stand in when needed.

Away from work, Tracey is an artist. She describes her painting as abstract, fluid art. She is also very creative in the kitchen and enjoys baking cakes. She has even agreed to make her daughter's wedding cake which includes a semi-naked cake and multiple cup cakes.

Tracey says she would recommend working at hoppa to others. She adds: *"The role is very rewarding and I like that I have the time in between school runs to get things done."*

If you know somebody who is looking for a job that is rewarding and involves working with a friendly group of people, please refer them to the job opportunities page on our website at www.hoppa.org.uk.



Tesco tokens raise £500

Thank you to everybody who used their blue token to vote for us when shopping at Tesco superstore in Guildford and the Express stores at Guildford railway station, Guildford Bridge and Milford Tesco earlier this year.

Your votes meant we received **£500** from the *Tesco Community Grant* which has been put towards the purchase of our next electric bus.

Every penny we raise enables us to speed up the switch to more environmentally friendly buses.

Thank you for helping!

TESCO
Community Grants