Okehampton District Community Transport Group

ODCTG – Newsletter – JANUARY 2025 (90)

We have lots planned for this year and we want you to get involved. There are lots of ways you can help and support us, so if you see anything that takes your fancy, please don't be shy, contact us and get involved!



Funding is a primary concern for any charity and we are so lucky that in Okehampton we have a community that is so generous.

Our target for 2025 is to raise £35k through hosted events, grant applications, sponsorship, and community generosity. This fundraiser has "35 for 25", as its tag line. We will keep you posted on how we are doing with a "35 in 25", dashboard which will be posted on our Website, Facebook and in our newsletter, we will also take it around to events, so you can see how our fundraising is progressing.

Ways now in which you can help ODCTG reach this goal;

- A small regular amount through monthly Direct Debit/Standing Order direct to us
- Donate via our totalgiving page https://givi.ng/1024617
- Join our member 100 Club

More details on events throughout the year will be posted on our Facebook page and in future newsletters.



Our lovely Sarah is doing the Great Western Run. Sarah is donating the proceeds to ODCTG. If you would like to sponsor Sarah please click on **this link**. The sponsorship form will also be available at our **Coffee Morning on the 5th April,** you can also pop into the office. We will post the online donation link on our Facebook page.

Sarah has started her training (in this weather!) and in her words "truly horrible, like dragging through treacle!". We know you can do this Sarah!



In December we held our Christmas Lunch & Raffle at the Green Dragon, Northlew, for our members and the ODCTG team. We were joined by the children of Northlew Primary School who raised the roof with their lovely Carol singing, thank you to all the children and the staff.

What a wonderful meal and what a lovely atmosphere. Thank you to all who came and for making it such a special occasion.



















The raffle had some amazing prizes and we thank Helen Cann, for working so hard for us, and everyone who donated, a big thank you. **An amazing £158 was raised!** Which helps to kick-start our fund-raising campaign for 2025.

Thank you to Red Lion Bazaar, Godfrey Short & Squire, Bude information point, Jess Martin at Sleek, The White Hart, Immersion, Dartmoor Museum, Co-op, Alan French, Ashbury & Manor Hotels, Okehampton Golf Club, Angus McPhie, Budgens, Okehampton Computers & Repairs, The Falcon Hotel, Bude, The Cubby Hole, Purple Penguin, Little Gift Company, Crumb Cafe, Devon Antiques, Donald's, Countryside Furniture, Heart of Flowers, and all those who brought prizes along on the day and to those who gave anonymously.

My apologies if I have missed anyone out.

☺ We were delighted that Oke Tree Network had raised an amazing £366.00 at their recent coffee morning, we are so thankful and grateful that they thought of us as their beneficiary, and you can see how this has impacted on our "35 in 25" Dashboard so far, at the end of this newsletter. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.

Member 100 Club

Member 100 October 2024

£30.00 S McKeogh

£20.00 K & SM Hutchings

£10.00 M Sanders

Member 100 November 2024

£30.00 W Hennessey

£20.00 K Grant

£10.00 Donated

Member 100 December 2024

£30.00 M Mahoney

£20.00 A Barraclough

£10.00 Donated

Member 100 January 2025

£30.00 D Oughton

£20.00 B Welham

£10.00 Donated

Well done all!

If you would like to join the 100 Club, contact the office on 01837 55000. For £12.00 per year you could win a share of the prize fund each month.

Ring & Ride - routes

Mon: North Tawton – Okehampton
Tues: Winkleigh – Okehampton
Wed: Bridestowe – Okehampton
Thurs: Hatherleigh – Okehampton
Fri: Halwill – Okehampton

01837 55000 to book

This is a door to door service and we ask passengers to be ready for their pick up from 09:00.

Volunteering

Do you know someone who is sympathetic, kind, patient and who wants to make a difference to others? Please point them in our direction!

We need volunteer drivers in all our areas but especially in Hatherleigh, North Tawton and Winkleigh.

We are also seeking more drivers for our wheel-chair-accessible vehicles.

Here are a few pointers and some information to start your conversation if you know someone who could be a potential volunteer.

Benefits of Volunteering

* volunteer from home
* choose when you are available
* make a positive difference to others
* improve your self-esteem, confidence and wellbeing
* meet new people
* receive a mileage allowance

Our newsletter is published on our website www.odctg.co.uk and on Facebook. Copies are available from our office and on our minibuses.

We try to keep costs to a minimum, so let us know if you would like to receive the newsletter by email, but are currently receiving it by post.

If you would like to be taken off the mailing list, please let us know; by email office@odctg.co.uk

If you have an idea for an article for our next edition, please submit to office@odctg.co.uk

Local Events

Okehampton Library Book Bingo Launch - From January 2025

Join our year-round reading challenge for adults! Read 12 library books across the year, each square has a different prompt on your bingo card. Once you have completed a square, come in to have your bingo card stamped and move on to another square. They can be completed in any order; when all 12 have been stamped, bring your card into the library to be entered into a prize draw to win a book bundle and mug – funded by The Friends of Okehampton Library. Completed bingo cards must be handed in to the library by 10am Saturday 20th December 2025. Collect your bingo card from Okehampton Library at any point in the year.

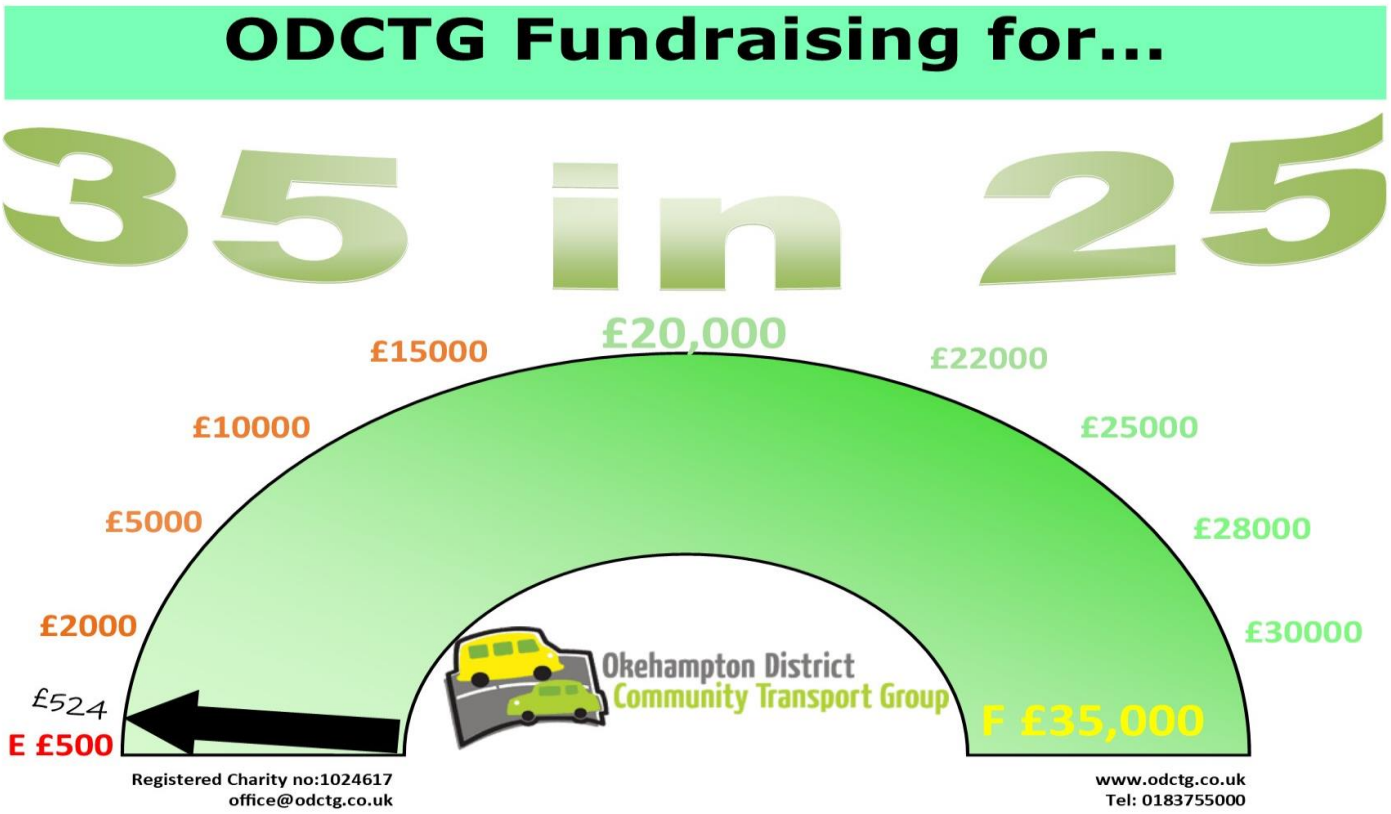


Figure 1 - ODCTG Dashboard example

Trips – General Information & Our Destinations

We want to make these journeys as enjoyable and interesting as we can for all. Please keep sending in your suggestions for future journeys and feedback.

TO BOOK: Please call or email the office. If you book and then cannot make a trip please let us know as soon as possible so we can offer your seat to someone else**.**

All trips are booked strictly first come, first served. Sometimes we may need to "reserve seats together" and we politely remind you that not all disabilities can be seen. **Cancelling:** We reserve the right to cancel or change the dates/destinations of our trips at any time. This could be, but is not inclusive of; weather conditions, number of passengers travelling, and driver availability.

We would love to see your pictures taken on our trips. Please send them in to office@odctg.co.uk. By sending your photos to us, you agree, that we can use them for promotional, marketing & social media purposes.

Trip List Jan – March 2025

14th January	Tuesday	Barnstaple – Green Lanes
19th January	Sunday	Sunday Lunch at Jamaica Inn
21st January	Tuesday	Tavistock
26th January	Sunday	Sunday Lunch at Toby Carvery in Sidmouth
6th February	Thursday	Trago Mills in Newton Abbot
11th February	Tuesday	Exeter
15th February	Saturday	Honiton & Honiton Market
18th February	Tuesday	Dawlish
23rd February	Sunday	Sunday Lunch at the Peter Tavy Inn
25th February	Tuesday	Otter Nurseries in Ottery St Mary
6th March	Thursday	Kings Garden Centre in Sidmouth
9th March	Sunday	Sunday Lunch, The Falcon Hotel in Bude
11th March	Tuesday	Exe Bridges Retail Park and Exeter Quay
15th March	Saturday	Jacks Patch Garden Centre in Bishopsteignton
18th March	Tuesday	Dartmouth
23rd March	Sunday	The Anchor Inn in Dulverton
25th March	Tuesday	Newton Abbot