



CUCKMERE BUSES

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Community Bus receives Quality Award

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd. is delighted to have been awarded the Community Transport Association's prestigious Quality Mark. Only eight other community bus organisations throughout the country have received the award since it was introduced in 2012.

Cuckmere Buses is a volunteer-run company and has provided bus services in and around the Cuckmere Valley since 1976, operating 363 days a year. It runs services to and from Eastbourne, Hailsham, Lewes, Heathfield and Seaford as well as villages in the South Downs National Park and the Cuckmere Valley itself.

Philip Ayers, Cuckmere Buses' Managing Director, says "We are pleased and proud to receive this award which reflects our vision of *being the Community Bus service of choice in our area*. It is a credit to our whole team of volunteers."

Cuckmere Buses, which has some 75 volunteers, but no paid employees, continues to attract people interested in driving services around the area, or helping in an administrative capacity. Anyone interested in volunteering is invited to contact the company on 01323 870920 or 07802 305155. Or visit our website at www.cuckmerebuses.org.uk or email volunteer@cuckmerebuses.org.uk

The Award of the Quality Mark to the Company is valid for three years from 1 May 2014, before being reassessed.

The Quality Mark Award is based on a variety of standards which confirm that Cuckmere Buses is operating within the relevant legislation, including governance, transport, employment and health and safety, and working in accordance with best practice within the voluntary sector. The Quality Mark is endorsed by the Charity Commission as it shows how "charities are challenging themselves to meet the high expectations of their regulators, their funders, their service users and the public."

Pictured is our "Quality Mark champion" and volunteer driver, Stewart Fuller.



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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

Note for editors:

- Cuckmere Buses, the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus (CCB), is an independent charity run entirely by trained volunteers. It was launched in 1976 to supplement existing bus services and provide bus links for village residents to their nearest towns throughout the Cuckmere Valley area.
- Based in Berwick, East Sussex, Cuckmere Buses now have around 65 volunteer drivers and 10 additional volunteers who run its fleet of nine minibuses, eight of which are low-floor, providing an important link with shops, doctors' surgeries and social facilities for those who do not live on a main bus route.
- Cuckmere Community Bus was awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK, for outstanding work undertaken in their local communities.
- Cuckmere Community Bus has been awarded the Community Transport Association's prestigious Quality Mark confirming that they are operating within the relevant legislation and best practice within the voluntary sector.



For further information on this Media Release, please contact:

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