



News Release

Community Transport Charity Receives Funding Boost

Great Yarmouth based charity Centre 81 has received a funding as part of the tenth round of donations from The Bernard Matthews Fund which is administered by the Norfolk Community Foundation.

The community transport charity, Centre 81, which provides door-to-door transport for its members to remain as independent as possible, received £1071.

Centre 81 provides a valued community service supporting members to go shopping, visit family or undertake health related journeys that they would not otherwise be able to do due to physical or financial restrictions. The funding will enable Centre 81 to continue expanding their services due to increases on demand over the past couple of years. Centre 81 also acts as a “social club on wheels” providing: theatre trips, outings to the Norfolk Broads, visits to garden centres and museums and libraries.

Diana Staines from Centre 81 said:

“We are very grateful to the Bernard Matthews Fund for the money received. The money will go towards specialist equipment for our transport services, used by a wide variety of people, including wheelchair users. The equipment will ensure the safety of our members, while also promoting their independence. For many, Centre 81’s transport is their social club on wheels and assists those who wish to be active within their community. The money received from Bernard Matthews will assist us to provide a safe and valued service to all.”

The Bernard Mathews fund, which was launched in October 2009, has already provided over £60,000 worth in grants to help a wide range of rural charities and voluntary initiatives across Norfolk, Suffolk and Lincolnshire. It is administered by the Norfolk Community Foundation.

Andrew Sherwood, Human Resources Director at Bernard Matthews, commented: “Supporting groups located in the heart of our communities has always been important to Bernard Matthews and the fund is just one aspect of our commitment to corporate responsibility.

“The fund aims to give at a truly local level and make a real difference to community support projects such as Centre 81. These are worthy projects fulfilling vital roles within Norfolk.”

The Bernard Matthews Fund awards grants of up to £2,000 to support community groups working in Norfolk, North Suffolk, and Lincolnshire. To find out more information about the fund or how to apply for grants, visit www.norfolkfoundation.com/funds/bernard-matthews-fund.

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Notes for editors

- Details of the Bernard Matthews Fund can be found on The Norfolk Community Foundation website at: www.norfolkfoundation.com/funds/bernard-matthews-fund
- The fund for applications for January 2015's round of grants is now open