

Holme Valley Parish Council



Press Release

30th April 2007

Roger Batley – a local hero!

For the last five years, Mr Roger Batley, a bus driver with Stotts, operator of the Holme Valley minibus service, has driven a free of charge mini bus service on Boxing Day. Kirklees MC funds the cost of the hire of the bus and pays for the fuel, and Stotts adds this amount to the money collected from passengers in donations. Mr Batley gives his time organising the service; Stotts generously donates the cost of this service.

This year a total of £120 was raised, and, as in previous years Mr Batley has donated it to the Chairman's Charity Appeal.

Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Andrew Otterburn, gratefully received the cheque from Mr Batley, describing him as a "local hero". "Mr Batley gave up his Boxing Day in order to drive people to the Hospital in Holmfirth and into Huddersfield and has collected a tremendous amount for the appeal – he is a real local hero". The three charities that will benefit from the appeal are Friend to Friend, Special Needs at the Phoenix and Kirkwood at Elmwood.

Mr Batley added that "he would like to say a special thank you to all the people that used the service and made the job worthwhile. Passenger numbers have increased each year, and this time 175 people used the service."

Photograph: Cllr Otterburn, Mr Batley and two mini-bus passengers, about to board the service to Royds Avenue.



Notes to editors:

The Holme Valley lies on the edge of the Pennines in West Yorkshire. It has boundaries with South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Greater Manchester, and within West Yorkshire, with Meltham, Huddersfield, and Kirkburton. It is some 25 miles from Sheffield, Wakefield, Manchester and Leeds.

Its two main centres are Holmfirth and Honley, but the villages and communities of Brockholes, Cinderhills, Hade Edge, Hepworth, Hinchliffe Mill, Holmbridge, Holme, Jackson Bridge, Netherthong, New Mill, Scholes, Thongsbridge, Upperthong and Wooldale are all within the Parish Council's area.

The Parish Council area is split into 16 wards although this will change in 2007 when elections will introduce a new number of Members and changed Wards. The 31 Members currently represent a population of some 25,000. It is one of the larger local councils in England & Wales.

Holme Valley Parish Council

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