

Barbara Bus

at the
**National Spinal Injuries Centre
Stoke Mandeville Hospital**

The Barbara Bus Fund provides a wheelchair accessible bus for use by inpatients at the NSIC.



Are you fed up with being stuck in the hospital?

Would you like to be able to get out for the day?

Find out how the Barbara Bus Fund can help you.

Introduction

The Barbara Bus Fund began in 1968 at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in Stanmore. Barbara Werndly, a long term patient there, set up a donation based registered charity, the aim of which was, and remains, to provide a means of transport for people who because of their disability are unable to use conventional forms of transport.

Over the years the Fund has helped to transport thousands of people – sometimes just down the road to the dentist or hairdresser, to family parties, christenings, weddings and funerals, to theatres and cinemas, restaurants and shops and further afield to respite and holiday centres and even day trips and holidays abroad.

You will find full details of the Fund on our website – www.barbarabus.com.

At Stanmore the Fund has grown and developed and now has a fleet of ten modern, specially adapted vehicles which can be borrowed for anything up to two weeks at a time. At Stoke Mandeville we have a new vehicle which will accommodate 2 wheelchairs, driver plus 4 passengers, for the use of patients in the Spinal Injuries Centre.

Vehicle Profile

The Barbara Bus at the NSIC Stoke Mandeville is a Vauxhall Vivaro Combi named 'Barbara', Registration Number NU63 JYO and these are the details you will need to know about it:

- Diesel Engine
- Manual transmission
- 5 seats including driver
- 1 - 2 wheelchair spaces
- Internal Dimensions for wheelchair:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Entry height | 1597mm (62") |
| Max internal height | 1494mm (58") |
- External Vehicle dimensions:

| | |
|--------|---------------|
| Length | 4782mm (188") |
| Width | 2206mm (86") |
| Height | 1960mm (77") |
- Wheelchairs secured with 4-point webbing system
- Electronic winch
- Retractable side step for easy access to rear seats

Outline of terms of use

- All registered drivers will be covered by the BBF fully comprehensive vehicle fleet insurance
- No smoking permitted in the vehicle
- Fully comprehensive insurance covers all drivers who register
- Please fill tank with diesel and leave vehicle clean and tidy on return
- Return to designated bay in NSIC car park

Contact Details

For bookings, enquiries, driver registration and donations:

Barbara Bus Fund

Louis Fleischmann Building
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital
Brockley Hill
Stanmore
Middlesex HA7 4LP

T: 020 8416 0733

Email: office@barbarabus.com

Website: www.barbarabus.com

Wednesday, 03 April 2019

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can use the vehicle?

Any patient at the NSIC who uses a wheelchair and cannot easily transfer to travel in a standard car seat.

How much does it cost?

The Fund makes no set charge to use the vehicle; users are asked to replace the fuel and make a donation to the charity.

Where can I go in the Vehicle?

Wherever you like – but please bear in mind that there is only one vehicle for all the patients to share.

Who can drive me?

Any friend, relative, or carer who has a full manual UK driving licence and is aged between 25 and 79 years of age. Non-UK driving licences can be considered for short-term use – please contact the Stanmore Office for further information. Each driver must register with the Fund before driving and will also need to have a vehicle demonstration before they drive the vehicle. Demonstrations can be arranged with a Case Worker or OT at Stoke Mandeville.

How can I register a driver?

Driver Registration packs are available to pick up from the NSIC Reception desk.

What about insurance?

Once drivers are registered they are automatically covered by our Fully Comprehensive Insurance and Public Liability Cover.

How do I make a booking?

Call the Fund on 020 8416 0733 between 10am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday or e-mail the address below to check availability.

Where does my driver pick up the vehicle keys?

Vehicle keys are held at the NSIC Reception 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, at all other times from the NSIC Bleepholder 779.

Will my wheelchair fit in the vehicle?

The vehicle can take a large wheelchair or two smaller ones (see measurements overleaf)

Can I use the vehicle after I leave the NSIC?

Unfortunately this vehicle is solely for the use of inpatients at the NSIC however head office at RNOH Stanmore has vehicles available for loan to those in the local communities.

How can I make a donation to the Fund?

You can send a cheque to the Fund at the contact address below, made payable to 'Barbara Bus Fund'. If you are a UK taxpayer you can complete a Gift Aid form which increases the value of your donation – call 020 8416 0733 for details. Alternatively you can go to the Barbara Bus page on www.justgiving.com or you may like to set up a Standing Order if you plan to use the vehicle frequently.