

Year 9 2025 Community Wheelchairs report

The Community Wheelchair scheme continued to be busy in 2025 with 31 loans, some short term and others longer. We have 6 wheelchairs available for anyone in the community to borrow. This year they have supported residents on medical appointments, going on holiday in the UK, visits to the shops, garden centres and many other places. In addition, they have been loaned to people who have had an injury or an operation such that they need support. Those of you who have experienced the scale of some of the hospitals may appreciate that the walk, for example from the x-ray department to the fracture clinic at the LRI, can be demanding; a wheelchair can provide support both physically and mentally.

The wheelchairs can be delivered and collected. Training is provided including how to fold the chair into a car.

Thank you to everyone who has donated a wheelchair to the scheme. The range of chairs enables us to meet hopefully the needs of different people and the circumstances of the loan. We are delighted to announce that, at the end of 2025, the GNS bought a new lighter wheelchair to be used especially for medical appointments as it is easy to transport and push. We also have one that the client can propel themselves, but this is necessarily heavier and so difficult to manoeuvre into cars etc. This range has largely come about by donations from the community. Thank you for your generosity. They are an invaluable resource for us all.

Thank you also to Bromakin, the mobility specialist in Loughborough for their continued support and advice.

Year 9 2025 Meeting Up report

Volunteers are invited to meet up socially every month. This can be an opportunity to ask questions about the GNS as a member of the steering group is always present. However, it is also the opportunity to make and meet friends, including if you are new to the community. It is a valued and lively time and enjoyed by everyone.