# The Voice



## What's On In Gateshead?

Welcome to our special 'What's On' Edition of 'The Voice', informing you of all our activities available in Gateshead for everyone over 50.

We would also like to tell those of you that haven't heard yet, that we have moved into The Felling Hub, just across the road from our old offices. Our telephone number is the same and the new address can be found at the end of this newsletter.



We have two Get Together Groups, four Friendship Groups, a Reminiscence Group and an Art Group who meet regularly in different parts of the Borough.

There is a small charge for each group, which goes towards refreshments and subsidised entertainment or equipment.

Please browse through the following pages to find out more about what is happening and how you can get involved.

We are "The Voice" of Older People in Gateshead – let us know your issues and concerns. This will help us to take these forward to the relevant departments, and enable your "Voice" to be heard.

## **Friendship Groups**

#### Lobley Hill

This Group is due to start on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February from 10.30am to 12.30pm at Lobley Hill Community Centre on Scafell Gardens.

Why not come along and help shape the group from the beginning? Everyone over 50 is very welcome.

If you have any ideas on what sort of activities the group should have, then it's your chance to have your say in the way it is run.

We also need volunteers to help run the group as it will be run by the members for the members, but they will be fully supported by Gateshead Older People's Assembly until it is up and running.

#### Felling

Felling Friendship Group meets every other Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at The Felling Hub on Felling High Street.

The group have regular speakers, bingo sessions and raffles. They pay £1 a session subs which includes refreshments and goes towards outings and other entertainment.

The next meeting will be on 28<sup>th</sup> January, and then on 11<sup>th</sup> February they will be entertained by Speakers from the Magistrates Court. Later this year the speakers will be about subjects from The Loch Ness Mystery, to Autographs and The History of the Co-op Movement, so there is something for everyone.

New members are always needed, if you'd like to join just come along on the day and you will be made very welcome, or you can call us for more details.

#### St Helen's

St Helen's Friendship Group is held in St Helen's Church Hall on Belle Vue Bank in Low Fell. They meet every other Wednesday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

The group enjoy regular speakers, bingo sessions and raffles. The cost of a session is £1 which goes towards room hire, speakers and outings.

The next meeting is on 4th February when Marion Anderson will be telling the tale of 'The Wicked and Worthy Women of the North'. The following meeting is on 18<sup>th</sup> February then on 4<sup>th</sup> March the speaker is Liz Close from the 'Happy to Help' service.

New members are always welcome, just come along on the day or call us for more information.

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#### **Birtley**

The Birtley Friendship Group meets every other Tuesday from 10.30 to 12.30 at St Joseph's Parish Centre in Birtley. The sessions cost £1 to cover refreshments, entertainment and room hire.

The next meeting is on 27<sup>th</sup> January, then 10<sup>th</sup> February and the 24<sup>th</sup> February meeting will be a food tasting session with Wiltshire Farm Foods.

## **Get Together Groups**

We have two Get Together Groups in Whickham and Low Fell.

**The Low Fell Get Together Group** meets at St Peter's Church Hall on Kells Lane once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.

The group have regular activities and outings, including trips and speakers. The cost is £1.50 to cover room hire, refreshments and activities.

The next meetings are 9<sup>th</sup> February and 9<sup>th</sup> March and new members are very welcome.

**The Whickham Get Together Group** meets on every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, at Whickham Community Centre on Front Street.

The group have regular activities and outings, including trips and speakers. The cost is £1.50 to cover room hire, refreshments and activities.

The next meetings are 5<sup>th</sup> February and 5<sup>th</sup> March and new members are always welcome.

## **Art Group**

The Art Group meets every other Thursday at The Felling Hub on Felling High Street. Everyone over 50 is welcome, whatever your artistic ability from beginners to experts. All materials are provided, but if you have any special equipment then please bring it along.

The session costs £1.50 to cover refreshments and materials.

The next session is on 29<sup>th</sup> January - from 10.30am to 12.30pm. New members are very welcome just come along on the day or call us for more information.

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## **Reminiscence Group**

The Reminiscence Group meets every other Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at The Felling Hub on Felling High Street.

The Group talk about 'the old days', but also have themed sessions on shopping or maybe bring in old photographs or look at old maps, and they go on occasional outings in the summer, the last visit was to the archives at Beamish Museum.

New members are always welcome. There is a small fee of £1.50 to cover refreshments and subsidised outings.

## Volunteering

All of our groups are run by older people for older people, so volunteers are always needed to help run the groups, it could be anything from making the tea, washing up, taking the subs, running the raffle or bingo or organising outings for the group.

We also need volunteers of any age (over 18), who want some work experience as a receptionist, to cover the reception at The Hub on Monday to Friday afternoons. Cover is needed for 20 hours a week from 12pm to 4pm, but shorter sessions can be arranged if needed. Even a couple of hours a week would be fine. If you know anyone who may be interested in work experience please pass on our contact details to them.

### **Contact Us**

By Telephone: 0191 438 1721
By email: admin.assembly@btconnect.com
Find us on Twitter and Facebook
By post:
The Felling Hub
58 High Street, Felling, Gateshead,
Tyne and Wear,
NE10 9LT
The office is open: Monday - Friday 9:30am - 4:00pm

As you know, due to funding restrictions, we are no longer able to post newsletters to you, but if you have access to email we can send our newsletter to you electronically.

If you would like us to do this please email us, so we can add you to our email list.

Advantages to email delivery include: not missing a copy of the Newsletter, being the first to know about events, and seeing the various images in colour.

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