

'Not in Our Family' a great success!



Over 80 people, including The Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Gateshead and professionals from other organisations, attended the performance of 'Not in Our Family', by Little Cat Theatre Group at St Josephs Church Hall in Gateshead.

The Assembly was awarded funding from the office of The Police and Crime Commissioners for Northumbria, and the production was based around the Police and Crime priority area of 'Domestic and Sexual Abuse'.

The very powerful play, which highlighted the many forms elder abuse can take, was written by Peter Ross from Little Cats Theatre, after consultation with a group of older people from the Assembly.

The event was also covered by the local TV channel **'Made in Tyne and Wear'**.

*Very realistic
and well
thought out*

*Was
brilliant,
made me cry.*

*Should be taken
into schools. Start
at the bottom*

Some quotes from the audience of 'Not in Our Family'

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.

What's On

Friendship Groups

Lobley Hill

This Group meets every other Tuesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at Lobley Hill Community Centre on Scafell Gardens. Next meeting is 17th March.

Felling

Felling Friendship Group meets every other Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at The Felling Hub on Felling High Street. Next meeting is 25th March.

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 1.00pm to 3.00pm. Next meeting is 18th March.

Birtley

The Birtley Friendship Group meets every other Tuesday from 10.30 to 12.30 at St Joseph's Parish Centre in Birtley. Next meeting is 24th March.

Get Together Groups

We have two Get Together Groups in Whickham and Low Fell. New members are always welcome, just come along on the day.

The Low Fell Group meets at St Peter's Church Hall on Kells Lane once a month on the 2nd Monday, from 1.30pm to 3pm. Next meeting is 13th April.

The Whickham Group meets on every 1st Thursday of the month, from 1pm to 3pm, at Whickham Community Centre on Front Street. Next meeting is 2nd April.

Art Group

The Art Group meets every other Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at The Felling Hub on Felling High Street. Next session is 26th March.

Reminiscence Group

The Reminiscence Group meets every other Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at The Felling Hub on Felling High Street. Next meeting is 19th March.

There is a small charge for each group, which is decided by the members.

New members are always needed at all the groups, 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.

We have also been awarded funding from the Capacity Building Fund to set up a further four friendship groups. If you would like us to consider starting a group in your area please contact us on 0191 4381721 or email

admin.assembly@btconnect.co.uk

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General Election Rally

Age UK England is holding a General Election Rally in London on Tuesday 24th March. Older people are invited from all over the country to join a debate at the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre about making the UK 'a great place to grow older'. There will be speakers from all of the main political parties who will explain what their parties, if elected, would do to improve the UK for older people, today and tomorrow.



Age UK

Alan Dougall, Vice-Chair of the Gateshead Older People's Assembly. "I've got an old age pension and my private pension but you get no interest on your savings nowadays so the money is going faster."

Alan will be attending the rally in London along with six other members of the assembly

Human Rights Workshop

Gateshead Older People's Assembly are running a free Coffee Morning for older people at the Felling Hub on April 24th, to raise awareness of older peoples' human rights. Following a training programme delivered by Age UK England entitled 'Our Rights Our Voices', we now have eight human rights ambassadors who will be available on the day. Places at this event are limited so please contact the office to book a place. It is most important that you do this to arrange catering etc. Contact the office as soon as you can.

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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.

Even if you can only manage an hour a week we would like to hear from you. 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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