

# Coming Soon

## Theme Groups

### Economy & Environment

Wednesday 20th February 10.30—12.30 Havelock Street Community Centre

Speaker—Nathan Hopkins. Groundwork to talk about Street Champions, among other issues

### Transport

Friday 29th February 2.00—4.00 Wesley Court Community Centre

### Health

Monday 3rd March 10.15—12.15 Havelock Street Community Centre

Speaker—Liz Pattinson, Workforce Development Manager, to talk on the Mental Capacity Act

### Positive Images

Wednesday 5th March 10.30—12.30 Havelock Street Community Centre

### Community Safety

Monday 10th March 10.15—12.15 Havelock Street Community Centre Speaker— To be confirmed

## Table Top Sale

Once again GOLD members are organising a Table Top Sale which will be held at Havelock Street Community Centre during March. As in previous sales there will be a charge for sellers of £5 per table and admission will be free to buyers.

More information will be given in the next newsletter, so watch this space.

## On Wednesday, 13th February

Mary Hall, the Voluntary and Community Sector Liaison Manager for Darlington Borough Council, is going to attend the Get Together being held at Wesley Court Community Centre at 10.30am to tell members about her work with Local Involvement Networks (LINKS) in Darlington and to answer their questions.

Please come along to find out more.

**The GOLD Dance Project** took place in the Market Square on Sunday, 3rd February. Despite the very cold wind members had a great time trying out different sequences and manoeuvres with the trolleys, very kindly loaned to us by Sainsbury's. A great deal of interest was shown in our filming and some very positive comments were made by members of the public of all ages. The finished DVD will be available for viewing very soon.



This document will be made available on request to Adult Social Services in Braille, large print, and on audio cassette, also available in other languages. Telephone 01325 346200



گر آپ کو انگریزی کے علاوہ کسی دوسری زبان میں یہ معلومات درکار ہیں تو سوشل سروسز ڈیپارٹمنٹ میں اس ٹیلیفون نمبر 01325 346200 پر رابطہ قائم کیجئے۔

如您需要本出版物除英文以外的版本，请与社会服务部联系：01325 346200。

আপনি যদি এই প্রকাশনার কপি ইংরেজি ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় চান তাহলে সোশাল সার্ভিসেস বিভাগের সাথে 01325 346 200 নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।



Newsletter 30

February 2008

## Gold members have their say!

In January members of GOLD were offered the opportunity to give their views to Steve Rose from the Darlington Partnership on the Sustainable Community Strategy. Lively discussion took place and many suggestions were made about the 'One Darlington' vision. One issue which members felt strongly about was that all residents, including those who live in the villages, should have equal access to the town by public transport and that people should be encouraged to use the services to ease congestion on the roads. It was agreed that to achieve this would take a great deal of educating and influencing residents on the benefits to all the community of cutting down on the use of cars.

The consultation on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy: Issues and options, which replaces the Local Plan, was hosted by Karen Johnson, a planning officer for the Council. Karen came along to explain the document and to ask what members would like Darlington to be in the years to come. Members appreciated being asked to contribute to shaping the future of Darlington and many suggestions were made.

Some of the suggestions put forward at the Core Strategy meeting were:

- making a green, quiet space in the centre of town, away from the noise and fumes of the town traffic
- more single storey homes for older people or those with restricted mobility and ensuring that new apartments have lifts installed to make the upper floors accessible for older people wishing to 'downsize'.
- movement reactive lighting could be installed to safeguard buildings and to cut down on light pollution.

We would like to thank all members who gave their time to come and join the consultations to give their opinions and suggestions towards these two draft documents.

By being involved in this way we can help shape the future of Darlington.

In the near future members will be asked for their views on the Draft Older Persons Strategy for Darlington.



# Feedback

## Health Group

The Health Group had its biggest ever attendance with 25 members present. We are delighted that more and more people are coming along, to take part, to give views and offer opinions, and to hear speakers and take away information. This February we were pleased to welcome Caroline Dowell of the Stroke Association. Caroline gave lots of information about how to recognise a stroke, how people can go about cutting down their risk of a stroke, and the work of the Stroke Association. We were also joined once again by Amanda Dexter of the Primary Care Trust, who was our speaker at the January meeting. Amanda brought along further updates on the Primary Care Trust planning for the next financial year, and the Out of Hours Services. The group will soon be carrying out another survey into podiatry services, so if you find one popping through your postbox, please fill it in and send it back to us. We want to make recommendations to the Primary Care Trust to make sure that the service can be as effective as possible for people who need it.

## Sockburn Hall Visit

Once again members were fortunate with the weather for their recent visit to Sockburn Hall.

The worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Marian Swift, went with members to have a look at the renovations taking place. Laura, the niece of the current owners, showed members round the site, and also showed them the ancient church, which is steeped in history.

Members had the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the volunteering opportunities that are available to help with the restoration. The morning was finished off with refreshments.

Laura is coming to the Get Together on Wednesday, 23rd April at Wesley Court at 10.30am to talk to members. It is hoped that a further visit will take place later in the year.

## Foot Care

Did you know that there is a clinic at Bishop Auckland where you can have your feet treated by students from New College at Framwellgate for £5 per session? The students are supervised by fully trained staff from the College and you do not need to access this service through your GP – you can ring to make yourself an appointment.

There are two new patient clinics per week, where staff will assess the treatment you will need. Different treatment needs are undertaken on different days of the week. Once you have been assessed an appointment will be made for you.

The clinic is located on Watling Road, Bishop Auckland, between the traffic lights and the Fire Station. If you would like more information, or would like to make an appointment please ring 01388 605161. After April, when the new National Bus Pass comes into operation, you will be able to use public transport to get to Bishop Auckland FREE.

## Contact details

**Unit 1D**  
**Enterprise House**  
**Valley street North**  
**Darlington**  
**DL1 1GY**

**Telephone: (01325) 380719**  
**Fax: (01325) 488634**  
**Http://gold.darlington.org.uk**  
**Email: gold@darlington.gov.uk**

# What's on

## Library Events for World Book Day 2008

A series of activities has been organised at Crown St and Cockerton Libraries to celebrate World Book Day March 6th.

### Monday 3rd March - Cockerton Library 6.30pm.

Author Linda Carlino will be talking about the writing of her book 'That Other Juana' The story is that of a 'mad' Spanish Queen who was locked away for many years during her reign. She was the sister of Henry VIII's first wife, Katherine of Aragon. Places need to be booked— please ring Cockerton Library on 01325 461320. Tickets 50p

### Tuesday 4th March - Crown St Library 10am.

Popular local author Marian Husband will be talking about her most recent titles. Places need to be booked - please ring Crown St Library on 01325 349610. Tickets 50p

### Tuesday 4th March - Crown St Library 6.30pm.

Crime and Wine Evening. Fun activities based around the theme of Crime - Quizzes to test your knowledge and memory of all things crime, famous books, films, TV villains. Places need to be booked - please ring Crown St Library on 01325 349610. Tickets £1.00

### Wednesday 5th March - Crown St 2pm.

The Poetry Reading Group will be offering their usual wide-ranging afternoon session open to visitors. Crime is the theme but is as ever flexible to whatever comes up. Places need to be booked—please ring Crown St Library on 01325 349610. FREE

### Saturday 8th March - Crown St Library 2pm.

Ever wanted to murder someone - in fiction, of course? Then an afternoon with John Dean could help you plan your dastardly crime. The author of six crime novels, published by Robert Hale, John will be letting aspiring writers and readers into some tricks of the trade. Places need to be booked—please ring Crown St Library on 01325 349610. Tickets 50p

## Did you know

that the Durham & Darlington Fire Service will come to your home and do a free fire safety check, and if necessary will install smoke alarms?  
 Call 0191 3324222 to arrange a visit.

GOLD members are being offered the opportunity to learn basic computer skills by Darlington Library. This would be an introduction to computers and to the internet. The tutors are used to working with complete beginners.

This course can only be run if there are 10 people and the cost would be £30 for 10 weeks for those over 60, or £20 if you are entitled to pension credit or means tested benefits.

**If you are interested in this offer please contact GOLD on 01325 380719**

## Doorstep Crime

PC Adrian Rutter and Community Liaison Officer Jacqui Snowball from Durham Constabulary are keen to hear from any groups or individuals who would like to receive awareness training in respect of doorstep crime.

This training can take the form of a presentation to a group meeting or can be delivered on one-to-one basis in your own home. Contact Jacqui on 01325 346832 to arrange this.

