

Coming Soon

Group Meetings

Health - Monday, 2nd February 2009 at 10.15am
Havelock Street Community Centre: Speaker - Elizabeth Shaw, Patient and Public Involvement, Tees, Esk & Wear Valley NHS Trust: Mental Health Services

Promoting Positive Images and Publicity

Wednesday, 4th February 2009 at 10.30am
Havelock Street Community Centre

Implementing the GOLD Review - Monday, 9th February 2009 at 10.15am Havelock Street Centre

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that a person needs services in place to return home and they don't already have any, or need an increase because of the change in their circumstances, they will request an assessment of need.

The nature of the assessments can vary depending upon the individual's needs. The services provided may be homecare support, home bathing services, day care or provision of assistive technology. Others, however, may need a placement, either in a residential or nursing home on a permanent or temporary basis. Intermediate Care is another option where a person who needs short term support could either be given a temporary placement in one of two designated homes within Darlington, or could receive short term support at home.

Forthcoming attractions!

The following films will be shown next month:

February 2nd - Ghost Town
February 9th - Mamma Mia!
February 16th - Easy Virtue
February 23rd - Quantum of Solace

The doors now open at 10.30am and the price has gone down to £2.40.



Why not have a relaxing morning with a cup of tea and biscuit?

For more information ring the Odeon on 0871 22 44 007

Members of GOLD will be able to take part in a visit to Rosemary Court Extra Care Housing to look at Assistive Technology Equipment which assists people to remain in their own homes safely for longer.

If you would like to book a place please contact the GOLD Team.



Newsletter 39

January 2009

We wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year

Gold Christmas Party 2008

This was our biggest party ever as this year 144 people accepted our invitation to attend and - including the Gold members who organised the event - we had about 160 present.

Guests were entertained by 'Santa' (Sandy) who played seasonal music and organised the sing-along and, when he became overheated in his costume, received plenty of "Oooohs" and "Aaaahs" when he disrobed to the strains of 'The Stripper' - I hasten to add he was wearing his shirt and trousers underneath!

The Red Hall Dancers came and provided demonstrations of their skills and were warmly applauded - especially the very little ones who were so sweet. The Dinsdale Ringers who play hand bells also added to the afternoon's entertainment with a selection of music including Christmas carols to which people could sing along.

Midway through the afternoon a light buffet was served with tea or coffee followed by either a piece of Christmas cake or iced sponge cake - both made for us once again by Lesley.

We had our usual raffle with many prizes being donated. Thanks to all those who contributed. The afternoon came to an end around 4.30pm with all the guests receiving a small gift from GOLD as they left.

From comments on the day, and also from letters received by Lesley and Claire, this year's party was once again greatly enjoyed by those attended. A big thank you is also due to all the members who were involved in the planning of the event and ensuring the day went well.



There will be a Community Safety Event held on Monday, 9th March 2009, at Bondgate Methodist Church, to give people the chance to talk to Community Safety Staff. More details will be given in the next newsletter.

An inclusive approach

If English is not your first language and you would like more information about this document, or if you require information in large print, Braille or on tape please contact GOLD on 01325 388845 .

- Urdu** اگر آپ کو یہ سہولت چاہیے کہ اس معلوماتی دستاویز کو اپنی زبان میں اور اس کے ساتھ ساتھ اردو میں بھی پڑھ سکیں تو براہ کرم 388845 پر فون کال کریں۔
- Punjabi** ਜੇ ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਨੰਬਰ 388845 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ 'ਓਡੀਓਨ' (Odeon) ਨੰਬਰ ਦੱਸੋ।
- Hindi** यदि आप यह प्रकाशन अंग्रेज़ी के अलावा अन्य भाषा में चाहें है तो कृपया संदर्भ नम्बर (रेफरन्स नम्बर) अलाबर निम्नलिखित 388845 पर संपर्क करें।
- Cantonese** 如果你需要其他語言的版本，請與以下電話聯絡並報出參考號碼：388845
- Bengali** যদি আপনার ইংরেজী ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় এই প্রকাশনাটির দরকার থাকে, তাহলে নম্বরে ফোন করুন এবং সূত্র নম্বর উল্লেখ করুন। 388845
- Arabic** إذا رغبت الحصول على هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى غير اللغة الإنجليزية يرجى الاتصال بنا على رقم الهاتف التالي: 388845 مع ذكر رقم الاشارة.
- Polish** Jeżeli chciał(a)by Pan(i) otrzymać poleką w wersji językowej tego dokumentu, proszę zadzwonić pod numer 388845 i podać numer identyfikacyjny dokumentu.

This document will be made available on request in Braille, tape or large print.

Feedback

Implementation of the future working arrangements of GOLD

Following discussions at the review meeting held on Tuesday 13th January about the future working arrangements of GOLD, it was agreed that representatives of the members would work with the GOLD Team on the documentation for the Governance and roles and responsibilities of the Task and Finish Groups.

If you were not at the previous meeting and would like a copy of these papers please contact the GOLD office before the next meeting, which is on Monday 9th February 2009 at 10.15am in Havelock Street Community Centre.

Bank Top Station

Darlington Borough Council are asking the public for their ideas for improving access to Darlington's main line station. Bank Top is one of 31 stations selected to take part in a national programme to develop a Station Travel Plan. The plan will look at ways to:

- improve the station's environment and information for travellers in the station
- Improve the environment and travel information on the approach to the station
- improve access to and from the station for passengers arriving by foot, car, taxi, bus or bike

So far 400 passengers have been interviewed, 42 people attended a Talking Together event on the

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13th January, and people have e-mailed and rung in with their ideas. Some of the main issues raised have included connectivity with bus services, access from Neasham Road through the tunnel walkway, access through the underpass from Victoria Road, improved lighting under the bridge on Parkgate and environmental improvements in and around the station. Issues have also been raised around the cost and location of car parking at the station.

Work on the travel plan is being supported by funding from the Association of Train Operating Companies, Darlington's Local Motion Project (funded by central Government) and through a European Regional Development Fund grant made available to Darlington through the Council's partnership with 8 other towns and cities taking part in the Interreg IVB North West Europe Programme.

There is still time to tell us your views, ring 01325 388527 or e-mail connecting@darlington.gov.uk

Do you know about the Hospital Discharge Team?

When someone is admitted to hospital nursing staff will refer the person to the Discharge Team if they feel they need advice, information or an assessment of need. The team is made up of both health and social services professionals.

Some people may just require information and advice about what services they can access within the community, such as information about hot meals, or contact telephone numbers for the Access and Contact Team should they find they need support once they have returned home.

If the Discharge Nurses or Care Manager identify

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Contact details

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Http:// gold.darlington.org.uk
Email: gold@darlington.gov.uk

What's on

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Branding and Awareness Exercise

PALS in NHS Darlington and NHS County Durham want to know what you think about the service they provide, and whether you recognise their leaflets, posters and other literature when you see it.



NHS County Durham and NHS Darlington



Over the past two years, the Primary Care Trusts have undergone a number of changes, and PALS, as your 'local customer care' service has changed with them.

We are now doing a piece of work to find out:

- whether local people know about us and the services we provide
- whether people recognise our leaflets and posters
- what people think of our services
- how people would like us to communicate with them

In order to get as representative a view as possible - from the geographical spread of the county, as well as a broad range demographically, we would like to know your views.

We are talking to a number of groups so that we can cover the key issues above. It is also an opportunity to update individuals about the PALS service in NHS Darlington and NHS County Durham. All issues discussed will remain confidential. The views that we gather will result in a review of current literature, and help us to design new resources that are most beneficial to you.

GOLD are holding a consultation meeting with Kathleen Sheehan, the PALS Manager on Tuesday, 3rd February, 2009 at Havelock Street Community Centre, at 2pm.

We would appreciate your help in putting this important piece of work together - if you would like to take part in this consultation and to find out more about PALS you will be very welcome. If you have any further queries, or any concerns about taking part, please contact Kathleen Sheehan, PALS Manager (East) on **0191 587 4837**, or Email kathleen.sheehan@cdpct.nhs.uk

If possible please ring the GOLD Team on 388845 to let us know if you are going to attend this meeting.

Ola' - Are you 50+ and would like to speak Spanish on your next holiday? We have small friendly classes where you can learn and have fun. The 8 week course starts February 6th 2009, at Bradbury House Age Concern Darlington. To book your place phone Karen McGuire on 01325 362832

There will be a St. Patrick's Day Table Top Sale at Havelock Street Community Centre on Saturday, 14th March 2009. More details will be in the next newsletter.

Fame (or notoriety) at last!

The GOLD Trolley Dance has been nominated for the Best of Darlington award in the category for 'Putting Darlington on the Map'.

The video has been viewed by over 77,000 people on Youtube and has been shown at many international film festivals. We will keep you informed of how we do at the awards ceremony.