

E.C. Fortnightly

Issue 18

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What's the Elders Council doing?

New - Active Voices Course no. 3

If you would like an opportunity to make a difference in your community, develop your skills, knowledge and confidence, then join us at Active Voices. This is a free short course helping you to explore a range of interesting and topical issues, carry out practical projects, try new experiences, meet new people and have some fun. The course, which starts on **17 April and ends on 22 May, takes place on Tuesday mornings from 10.00 am – 1.00 pm at the Carnegie Library, Riverside Community Health Project, Atkinson Road, Benwell, Newcastle NE4 8XS**. A light lunch will be provided at each session. To book your place or find out more contact **shylands@wea.org.uk** or call **0790 005 1720**. The course is delivered by a partnership between WEA, Newcastle University and the Elders Council of Newcastle.

The 2nd Active Voices Course ended on 28 March 2018. As well as a successful project involving local bus services, the group members acknowledged that they have learned different and useful techniques for working together. Thanks also to St. Martins Community Centre Team for providing an ideal meeting place.

Elders Council at Work - Future Homes

This Newcastle project aims to show that well designed, affordable housing is possible and adaptable for young, middle and older generations.

The Elders Council is a valuable member of the cooperative group that has taken this project forward. including gathering the views of multi-generational and professional groups on housing needs and designs. Other organisations closely involved in the project include Newcastle University; Newcastle City Council; Science Central; Karbon Homes (a large housing association); Ryder Architects; Sustainable Communities Initiatives; Zero Carbon Futures,

Recent progress includes:

- A Community Interest Company (CIC) is under formation and the Elders Council will be a member.
- First unit designs are being finalised taking account of the consultation groups inputs, available good technology and materials, plus the specific site and planning factors.
- The location of the four demonstration housing units is now focused on the Science Central Site (just re-branded as the Helix Site).
- The first occupation target for the demonstration units is around the end of 2019. The master plan for The Helix Site envisages more 300 housing units so there will be plenty of scope for Future Homes to continue with housing innovations way beyond the first demonstration units.

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Dates for your diary

Newcastle cathedral consultation

St Nicholas Cathedral would like you to join them on **Thursday 19 April** from **4 to 7pm** for a community consultation of the Common Ground in Sacred Space project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. For more information on the project [click here](#).

'With the End in Mind'

On **Monday 23 April at 7.30 pm** Dr Kathryn Mannix, Consultant in Palliative Care, will be at St. Hilda's Church Thornleigh Road Jesmond NE2 3ET to talk about her book 'With the End in Mind'. If you are interested in joining the audience just go along.

2018/19 Artist Residency Programme

Newcastle Arts Team are beginning to plan their **2018/19 Artist Residency Programme** and after 5 successful years of delivering Residencies in partnership with local Communities across Newcastle are keen to offer this opportunity out to new partners and to hear how local groups can work together to continue to develop creative ideas. For more information about the partnership email: alison.flanaganwood@newcastle.gov.uk .

Deaflink have issued an update on their successful British Sign Language week. For more information about this and other news [click here](#)

Activities at St. Martin's Centre

If you live in the East end of Newcastle the regular events held at St. Martin's Centre may be of interest to you. For more information [click here](#).

The RAF are looking for local people to volunteer to fundraise in Newcastle on Saturday 19 May as the North East celebrates the RAF centenary. To register now [click here](#) and be a part of history as the achievements of our RAF heroes are celebrated!

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Opportunities

Tyne & Wear Museums have published details of their latest exhibitions, if you would like to visit [click here](#) for more information.

BBC Newcastle (Radio) are looking for local people who will be celebrating a 70th birthday in July this year. They would like people to talk about their own experience of the NHS – which also celebrates its 70th anniversary in July 2018. There is nothing complicated about this – it's just a way to reflect on what the NHS has brought to us over the years.

Anyone who is interested can make contact, via email please to – nicki.hornby@bbc.co.uk .

VOICE continue to provide information, courses and lectures of great interest to our community. The News & Blogs page is always of interest. To view and register [click here](#)

NEXUS are asking local users to tell them about using the Metro To view and complete the survey [click here](#).

City Guides 2018 the new brochure is now available to view [here](#) . There are some interesting new walks along with many favourites.

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Information

Sign up for regular updates

Did you know that you can sign up for regular updates from the following local organisations that provide valuable up to the minute news?

For Transport information from Newcastle City Council [click here](#).

For NHS England In Touch bulletin [click here](#) .

For Northumbria Police updates [click here](#).

Community Mental Health Services

Following extensive consultation Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group have issued the latest update. For more information [click here](#).

Communities and Neighbourhoods - Stronger Together

The City Council have issued a timely update about how to protect yourself and your community. For more information [click here](#).

Alongside this the Newcastle City Council Voluntary Service are supporting the initiative **Conversation not Confrontation**.

Choosing a Care Home a recent article in the Financial Times highlighted the important issue of considering all options available and knowing the facts before you choose. For an interesting personal story [click here](#).

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