



Something fishy going on here...

This month we have been creating ceramic fish plaques under the expert guidance of our resident potter Mel. We'll go on to paint them in August, so look out for the re-



sults next month! To find out more about Mel, take a look at the feature on the back page.

Carpet bowls

Ever fancied trying your hand at carpet bowls? Jim (who some of you will already know from the community as a squash coach and keen fisherman), has now run two (very lively and popular) sessions for us on Wednesday mornings, and has more planned - check out the timetable to book your slot!



News from the board

Hello Everyone!

I hope you are all doing well. The summer seems to be over for the moment; it has gone from really hot to quite cool and showery all of a sudden. The rain is needed though.

Well what a night Summer Tyne Crime turned out to be! We were amazed that a little local charity like Chrysalis managed to organise an event like that! Apart from raising so much money (we haven't got a final total yet but it will be over £6,000 – an amazing amount) everyone was happy and enjoying themselves in true Chrysalis fashion. The whole evening was like a well oiled machine with our lovely volunteers seamlessly doing their jobs. It was a successful and fun evening and hopefully it has put Chrysalis on the map a bit more.



Rosie: Chrysalis'
Chair

The Geordie Chapter have postponed their visit and it is now scheduled for Saturday 23rd September. They are going to ride into our carpark and people can view the bikes, talk to the owners about them, maybe have their photo taken and then come in for a coffee and cake. We hope it will raise a bit of money as well as being fun.

The AGM looms up: once the day arrives it is good fun and a happy day but there is a lot of preparation to complete. The job of writing the Annual Report usually falls to me (with help from David our treasurer) so I need to hurry up and get on with it!

The next item in the calendar for the board of trustees is a strategy day. This is where we plan for the future and evaluate the services we are providing. We have an external facilitator who makes it fun as well as keeping us on track – because we are all so passionate about Chrysalis we can talk for hours about it!!

We are delighted to have been chosen as the beneficial charity for Tynedale Gift fair which is due to take place end of October/beginning of November. They are kindly going to provide a quiet first hour for us again; we will probably meet down at the Mart and have the opportunity to browse the lovely gifts, then have a cup of tea together - more details to follow.

The other exciting news is that we are planning a trip to Hexham Races in early November. They have kindly offered us a nice room with a gorgeous view of the racecourse. Those that are interested can enjoy the racing and the rest can enjoy lunch and a natter. More details to follow. There is an outside possibility that I may have a horse running that day which will make it all the more exciting.

I am getting ready for my Australia visit in September – it is getting nearer now and I'm really looking forward to it.

I hope to see you all at the AGM.

Rosie x

Summer Tyne Crime

CRIME WRITING DUO HELP TO RAISE THOUSANDS FOR LOCAL CHARITY

Over £6000 was raised at Summer Tyne Crime thanks to our two favourite authors.

Multi-award winning Ann Cleeves and Mari Hannah entertained 200 people at the Summer Tyne Crime event, which was held in the Function Suite at Hexham's Auction Mart on Thursday July the 6th.



The two writers kept the packed room entertained with tales about how they first started writing, as well as chatting about their much-loved characters Vera, and Stone & Oliver. They also talked about the many locations around



the North East which feature in their fiction, and answered questions from the audience.

Local TV presenter Chris Jackson hosted the evening, which included an auction, during which bidding was fast and furious, with prizes including trips to the set of ITV's

“Vera” and even the chance to be named in future books.

Rosie said: “This event has not only raised thousands of pounds, it has also brought the community together. The money raised will go towards a continuation of our work, which supports those living with dementia, their carers and families. We are delighted that so many people attended, and had a brilliant evening, as well as donating so generously to our cause.”



She also extended her thanks and gratitude to the two authors, as well as all of the local businesses who supported the event.

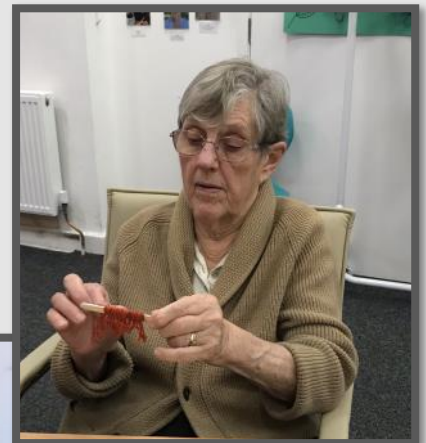


News

AGM

Our AGM is taking place on the afternoon of August 16th. Even if we say so ourselves, we do host the best AGMs - we couple them with a party: food, drinks and entertainment. So if you would like to come, drop us an email!

We always make time to fit Carolyn's crafting sessions into the timetable, as these are really popular: each session is a contrasting mix of utter concentration, and social interaction, and there's always something artistic to take home!



Comments about Chrysalis

"Always so warm and welcoming"

"It's a laugh a minute"

"...they always leave in a good mood"

"...very happy place..."

"It motivates us to get on with our hobbies"

"The welcome she gets is so lovely!"

Trips

Trips

We've had a busy couple of months on the trips front, with lots of visits and events including an Alpaca encounter, a trip back in time, a musical interlude and a couple of cinema treats.



Janet: Trips and Prudhoe coordinator

Have a look below at what we have coming up, and if you would like to come along, or want any further information, please let me know - it would be lovely to see you! Janet xxx

Heritage Walk of Hexham

A walk with a difference: on 22nd August we will be learning about Hexham's heritage, on a guided walk, highlighting the many areas of historic interest that we have on our doorstep. Headsets are available so we can hear all that is being said by our guide. The walk is on the level and involves no steps, so is accessible to all, including those in wheelchairs. Walking is kept to a minimum, but there will be plenty of talking, listening and learning! The walk will start and end at the Queen's Hall and finish with a hard earned coffee and cake in the cafe.



Queen's Hall Hexham

On 12th September, with the working title of "The Core Music House Band Present...", the Queen's Hall will be hosting a relaxed afternoon of music for Chrysalis members, followed by refreshments. We'll be asking for requests and favourite musical genres so it can be geared to our preferences. Look out for further details from me soon!



More activities

Here is a sample of some of our other recent activities. If you want to see more, then check out our social media (links at the bottom).



Social Media

 @ChrysalisClubTynedale

 @ChrysalisClubTynedale

 @Chrysalis_Tyne

More trips

Alpacas

In June, we paid a visit to Nero Black Alpaca just outside Hexham. We were hosted by Paul and Kathryn Shrimpton, who introduced us to part of their herd of alpacas. They have around 40 in total, and we got to meet the new mums with their babies, who were all so cute! We were incredibly lucky with the weather and had glorious sunshine, and had a very entertaining and educational time, with Paul giving us lots of information about the habits and care of these beautiful animals. The highlight was when we were each given a handful of food, and were instantly surrounded by hungry alpacas - eating from our hands!



A magical day, and one of the best attended events we have had, so we definitely need to go back again next year! Huge thanks to the family of the late Joyce Greensides; Joyce is a former member of Chrysalis, and this trip was funded by money raised at her funeral.

Beamish

In July we had a fabulous day filled with lots of nostalgia! We spent the morning in the 1900s town of Beamish, and the afternoon in the 1900s pit village. There was so much to see and do, and this provoked lots of memories of days gone by for us all. From the items on display in the shops in the town, to the proggy mats in the colliery cottages, travelling around the site on the vintage trams and buses, and chats with the staff and volunteers dressed in period costume, we had a ball; and not just a one day visit - each of our members who came along now has a ticket to visit the museum as many times as they like for free for the



next year. The afternoon ice creams were funded by the sales of jewellery made by our lovely member Sylvia. The coal vanilla ice cream was quite a surprise to open, as it is black - but was absolutely delicious!

Carers and After-carers

Carer Support Group

Our monthly Wednesday afternoon session currently has 5 or 6 carers regularly attending but we sometimes have up to 12. We are a bit short on chaps - gentlemen, please know that you are welcome too!

It's a friendly welcoming group offering peer support, ideas and information sharing.

On August 2nd, Neil from BRIC will join us for some of the session to talk about



BRIC

Roving IT Training!

We are bringing our training to you.
BRIC are delivering tailored IT training to various locations within Northumberland to make enhancing your digital skills more accessible.

Contents of sessions:

- Using digital devices
- Searching the internet
- Communicating online
- Digital Wellbeing and Online Safety
- Navigating Windows
- File management



his organisation and how they can help with IT training, so if you need help with using your devices or setting up a spreadsheet, for example, it could be for you!

Future speakers at the group may include Carers Northumberland, occupational therapists...any other ideas for speakers/ organisations that you might find helpful, please let me know.



Mel: Carer support
admin and premises
officer

After-carers' Social and Support Group

For carers who are bereaved or whose partners are in residential care we meet, usually on the last Friday of the month, for lunch or coffee, often a walk and occasional trips. At the end of June a small group of us enjoyed a lovely day at Wallington. We had lunch together, enjoyed a bit of the scenery,



looked at lovely plants and had a really interesting wander around the Hall, particularly enjoying the intricate dolls' houses. Next meet-ups are Friday 28th July and Fri 25th August. Contact Mel for further information.



Even more trips!

Melrose Quartet

This was a last minute addition to our calendar, so was only attended by a small number of members, but what a treat it was. The Melrose Quartet are a folk band based in Sheffield, who were playing at the Queen's Hall in Hexham in the evening, but came along to the Chrysalis premises in the afternoon for a private performance. They are all incredibly talented musicians - and lovely people too! They performed a half hour acoustic set for us, then stayed for coffee and cake and to chat with our members. They're back at the Queen's Hall in December with their Christmas show - hopefully we can arrange another visit for them!

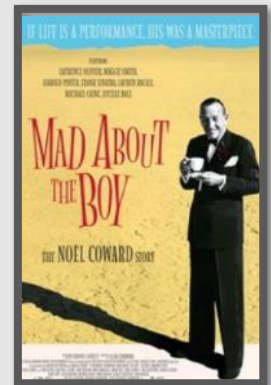


Forum Cinema

At the end of June, our Forum visit was to see "Mad About the Boy - the Noel Coward Story." It told the rags to riches story of the very talented actor, screenwriter & song writer, and was enjoyed by all who came along.



In July, the Forum treated us to that old favorite Indiana Jones, with Indiana finding himself in a new era, approaching retirement...a popular choice with a good cohort of Chrysalis in attendance!



Dates for your diary

- Tuesday 1st August - Wylam/Prudhoe open afternoon
- Wednesday 16th August - AGM
- Tuesday 22nd August - Heritage Walk
- Tuesday 12th September - Queen's Hall Hexham Trip
- Saturday 23rd September - Geordie Chapter Coffee Morning
- Saturday 7th October - Bag pack at Tesco
- Monday 30th October - Tynedale Gift Fair
- Friday 10th November - Trip to Hexham Races!

Fundraising



Chrysalis Club
Tynedale

Looking for a space to rent in Hexham?

Chrysalis Club rents rooms for your meetings, events and activities in our light and airy building, conveniently situated close to the centre of Hexham on Corbridge Road. Please get in touch for our current availability.

**Prices from £12 per hour + a
seasonal utility charge**

For bookings and further details please contact us on
07760 124539 / 01434 408080
info@chrysalisclub.org.uk
FB/Instagram: @chrysalisclubtynedale



PayPal
Giving Fund

Got a PayPal account?



Chrysalis Club
Tynedale

We would be extremely grateful if you would like make a donation to support our work here at Chrysalis. If you have a PayPal account then please follow the QR Code below to our PayPal Giving Site.



There is also the option on our PayPal Giving Site to support Chrysalis Club Tynedale when you shop online with PayPal. Set us as your favourite charity, and you can choose to donate £1 when you checkout with PayPal.

Prudhoe and district at Wylam

Wylam

We had a busy but wonderful afternoon in Wylam last month with activities such as boules outside and golf indoors...we even put the tables out for open-air coffee and cake (although some of us kept our coats on!)

During the session, the lovely volunteers from Cycling Without Age came and took our members out on their trikes...what a fabulous day! If you would like to come and visit our Prudhoe and district group, held at St Oswin's Church Hall in Wylam, why not pop down to our open afternoon - see the advert below for more information.



Open afternoon at Wylam

Potential volunteers, new members and carers, come and find out about Chrysalis, and join us for cake and a cuppa

Tuesday August 1st
1:30 - 3:30
St Oswin's Church Hall
Wylam

And finally...focus on our professional tutors

Mel Hopwood - Melanie Hopwood is an accomplished potter and runs her own pottery and ceramics business, and provides Chrysalis with fun, creative sessions for all abilities which are very popular with our members.

Under Mel's guidance members undertake a variety of projects, which undergo firing, painting and glazing, to produce some beautiful objects.

Mel says: I have enjoyed creating with clay for over 20 years. A graduate of Staffordshire University (1995), Artist-in-Residence posts at Barnard Castle School, Uppingham School and Pangbourne College gave the opportunity for me to explore and develop my earlier creative practice.

My current studio is at The Hearth Arts Centre - my base since 2004 - in ideal proximity to rugged countryside, city and coast which happily fit with my work ideas and themes.

Artworks are available to view at my studio but I also exhibit in group and solo shows around the UK and am a member of the Northern Potters' Association.



I enjoy sharing my love of clay with people of all ages and abilities. I have run ceramics/pottery workshops in schools, museums and community venues and regular sessions for people living with dementia at Chrysalis.