

# Talk 2 Us Newsletter

## February 2010



### Good News!

Talk 2 Us have been awarded a grant from the Northern Rock Foundation for £55,226. This will be enough money to keep Talk 2 Us going for 2 years. We have also been awarded some money from the Greggs Foundation and the Barbour Trust. We are going to have a very busy year. We have made lots of plans.

We have made a 'PATH' with some help from Dave Woolley. P.A.T.H means 'planning alternative tomorrows with hope. It shows all the hope and dreams we have for Talk 2 Us in the future.

### Hate Crime DVD

We are doing some planning for a DVD about hate crime. We want to make a film to show people the effect that hate crime has on peoples' lives. We are working with Ritchie Miles from the police and some children from local schools.



## David Hingsburger

Athena, Malcolm, and Robert from Talk 2 Us went to see David Hingsburger at Central Square. He talked about relationships and people with learning disabilities. Athena said, "it was very interesting, what he said made sense. He knows what it is like for people who use wheelchairs."



## Rose Lodge

Stewart from Talk 2 Us went to have a look around Rose Lodge in Hebburn. This is a new assessment centre for people with learning disabilities. Stewart noticed that some of the bathrooms did not have hand rails. He mentioned this to staff and they said they would look into it. We were pleased to see the gardens were accessible for people who use wheelchairs and there were raised flower beds.



## A camcorder for Talk 2 Us

We have been given £700 from the Learning Disability Partnership Board. We will use this to buy a camcorder for Talk 2 Us. We want to make some films with people with profound multiple learning disabilities.

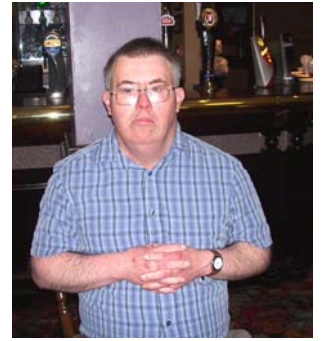
We have also bought some portable microphones.

These will be useful for when we have events at larger venues.



# All About Malcolm

My name is Malcolm Barron. I have lived in South Tyneside all of my life. I am the secretary of Talk 2 Us.



Talk 2 Us is somewhere I can have a chat. If I have got any problems I can get them off my chest.

I have got my own bungalow which I share with Norman.

My hobbies are making hooked mats and watching television. My favourite programmes are the 'White Chapel Murders' and quizzes like 'Deal or No Deal.'



I have been a lifelong supporter of Newcastle United. Alan Shearer is my favourite player. I play bowls at the Jack Clarke.

I also go to St Paul and St John's Church in South Shields.



## Changes to the Metro by Stewart Chappell



Joanne, Mike and I went on a demonstration of the audio and visual announcements that are going to be put on metro trains.

A voice recording is going to be used to tell people what the next station is. There will also be a display board with this information on. This will help people with disabilities use the Metro.

We told Nexus that we thought the voice on the recording should be a louder. We also said that the words on the display board were going past too quickly for some people to read. These changes are going to put in place in the new year.

## Deprivation of Liberty Training

Talk 2 Us had some training about a new law called the Deprivation of Liberty Act. This law is to protect people from abuse. The training was led by Paul, Susie, Irene and Phil from Skills for People. It included a drama workshop. It was very good. It made it easier to understand.

