

InfoNOW news 26 November 2021

NEWS

InformationNOW 15th Birthday celebration

[InformationNOW](#) is celebrating its 15th birthday at the City Library on Friday 3rd December with the help of [Radio Tyneside](#), a popular community radio station.

Taking place between 10 am and 12 noon, Kate, Lauren and the team from Radio Tyneside will be in conversation with people who were involved in the original design of the website, supporters of InformationNOW and partners across the voluntary sector involved in the use and promotion of the website.

We have the Bewick Hall for the occasion and Library customers will be able to listen to the show within the library building.

The Council's digital team and volunteers managed by Lisa Dawson will be on hand to show people how to access and use InformationNOW. Pui Lee, a freelance artist, will be inviting people to help create a concertina book and banner to commemorate the website and she has kindly been paid for by the Arts Development Officer at the Council.

If you are passing, pop in and help us create a fun and creative atmosphere. Recordings from the live show will be broadcast during the following week on Radio Tyneside each day.

For the last fifteen years, the website has been supported by Adult Social Care at Newcastle City Council and [Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group](#). The concept and design were developed through the Quality of Life Partnership and the [Elders Council of Newcastle](#) and the website has grown from strength to strength, from offering information and a directory of organisations, to including a wide range of community events which are accessible to all.

Library social distancing and mask wearing rules will apply as advised on the day.

International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women or White Ribbon Day

Thursday was International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women or White Ribbon Day as it's more commonly known. This year the theme is All Men Can because, when it comes to ending male violence against women and girls, all men and boys can make a difference. Events to mark the day began with raising the White Ribbon flag at the Civic Centre. Staff and the public were also encouraged to show support by wearing a White Ribbon on the day and to make the

[White Ribbon Promise](#) to never commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women.

A new campaign Don't be that Guy has been started by Police Scotland. It aims to have frank conversations with men about male sexual entitlement. Most guys don't look in the mirror and see the problem. [Watch and listen on their twitter feed.](#)

InformationNOW has articles on: [hate crime](#) and [adult abuse](#)

New Newcastle Local Offer website launch

The website for children, families and for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

[Newcastle's local offer website](#) contains information about services and fun things to do for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (aged 0 to 25 years)

On the Local Offer you can find information about:

- activities in the local area
- where to access support
- services available to you and your child with SEND (special education needs and disabilities)

You can also search InformationNOW using our widget on their page.

Opportunities for action

Give your feedback on having an Annual health check as an adult with a learning disability

If you live in Newcastle and have a learning disability or you care for someone with a learning disability, [HealthwatchNewcastle](#) would love to hear from you.

People with a learning disability often have poorer physical and mental health. An annual health check can improve health by spotting problems earlier.

Healthwatch Newcastle is gathering experiences of annual health checks for people in Newcastle with a learning disability. They're working with city-based organisations supporting people with a learning disability and their carers and are also running two online surveys (the deadline to respond is Friday 14 January 2022).

[Take part if you're over 18 years, have a learning disability and live in Newcastle](#)

[Take part if you care for an adult in Newcastle with a learning disability](#)

Deadline Friday 14th January 2022

InformationNOW has articles on: [learning disability](#) and [housing and support services for people with a learning disability or autism](#)

Creative workshop, 3rd December 2021

Would you like to get involved in helping InformationNOW create a banner for future meetings and to record our history so far? Pui Lee will be running the workshop alongside our celebrations in the Library. We have divided the Bewick Hall into two sections and we'd love you to make a contribution. Pui will give you a few visuals to prompt some thoughts and then you can get creative with collage, pen, paper or writing. We have written a couple of poems, but we are sure you can do better.

If you'd like to come along, then email us at informationnow@newcastle.gov.uk and we will give you a time slot between 10 am and 12 noon. That way we can keep you safe at your own table/or working in a pair or family if that suits you. We will try and give you a chance to get creative on spec on the day too.

#Get involved.

World Aids Day, 1st December

World Aids day is on 1st December each year and the symbol of support and to raise awareness is a red ribbon. This day offers an opportunity to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV and to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness. Over 101,600 people are living with HIV in the UK. Globally, there are an estimated 36.7 million people who have the virus. Despite the virus only being identified in 1984, more than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history.

The Eyes Open Steering Group was established in the North East of England in 2003 as a way of regionally pooling resources to widen and strengthen the impact of work at both local and regional levels regarding HIV/AIDS; they now also cover Cumbria, the objectives of Eyes Open are:

- to guide the delivery of educational initiatives.
- to develop community events to raise awareness in the general population.
- to cooperate and work with individuals, voluntary organisations, and statutory authorities to raise awareness, increase understanding and reduce onward transmission.

The plan is to paint a nail red in schools and work places to encourage conversations about HIV – both how to protect yourself from the virus, and to remove the stigma attached to being diagnosed with it.

Please support their work by tweeting, FB or painting a finger nail red and send a picture to LetsNailHIVStigma@outlook.com and on the 1st Dec 2021, also post the picture on your social media and tag them on the posts with the hashtag #LetsNailHIVStigma

InformationNOW has an article on [sexual health](#). and [Sex in Later Life](#)

Resources

Carers Employment Rights Webinar Celebrating Carers Rights Day 2021

Prevention, Information and Advice Network meeting with Newcastle Carers

Following on from our Carers Employment Rights Webinar which we ran yesterday, as part of the Prevention, Information and Advice network meeting in partnership with Newcastle Carers, you can find all of the information about support that is available for carers, benefits and funding opportunities on InformationNOW:

- [Looking after someone](#)
- [Support to prepare for work](#)
- [Carers Wellbeing Fund](#)
- [Carers assessments](#)
- [Carer's Allowance](#)

[Newcastle Carers](#) provide specialist support to help carers find work, training or education. Through one to one or virtual support they can help you:

- address barriers that are stopping you from returning to work, training or education.
- develop skills such as CV writing, interview techniques and job applications
- understand your transferable skills as a carer
- online with free to download factsheets

[Watch the webinar here](#)

#WeCareToo Animations from Newcastle Carers

Young carers aged 8-15 from across the city have been involved in creating four animated films. Their hard work, exciting ideas and amazing designs have come together, with the help of design agency Sail Creative. This project has given young carers a great platform to have their voices heard in a creative way. The animations will help to raise awareness of the experiences young carers' face and the benefits of getting information, advice and support at the right time.

[Watch the videos on Newcastle Carers website here](#) All of the young carers involved in developing the animations receive support from Newcastle Carers.. They hope to see positive change through the use of the animations, including greater recognition of young carers and more young carers being identified.

Events & Activities

Carpet Bowls at Fawdon regular sessions
Beyond the Waves for Grief Awareness Week

Contemporary dance class for people with a learning disability or autism
Health and Wellbeing class for people with a learning disability

Online Pop Up Choirs
Line Dancing with Age UK
Exercise for Men with Age UK

Just a few of the WEA Christmas sessions
Christmas Wreath Making
Christmas Lecture – winter wonderlands in paintings
The Bach Christmas Oratorio
A Christmas Carol Out loud

Carers related:

[Carers Focus Group](#)
[Young carers awareness and identification training](#)

Organisations Updated

[Sight Loss Councils Tyne and Wear](#)
[Liberdade Community Development Trust](#)
[Fast Futures](#)

Articles Updated

[Heating problems and how to pay for them](#)
[Energy saving tips](#)

Last updated: November 26, 2021

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NEWS InformationNOW Thank you to everyone who came along to our focus group session. Your feedback was invaluable and you were so generous with your time and insights. We're pulling all this information t...