

Toryglen Community Hall, Case Study September 2014
Ms BC is a female and 79 years old.

When Ms BC arrived in the hall she seemed very panicky and confused, when trying to ascertain what she was looking for she was very incoherent. We made her a cup of tea, and once she had calmed down we sat and chatted to gain an understanding of what she was looking for, as it was nearly lunch time we invited her to stay for her lunch, very reluctantly she did.

My story, BC

“My first experience of the community Hall was only about 6 months ago, when I was looking for a meeting that was taking place regarding the sheltered housing. I was exhausted by the time I had arrived at the hall as I had walked for half an hour. The walking had taken its toll on me as I have mobility problems, I was offered a cup of tea and invited to stay for my lunch.

I was a bit reluctant as I didn't know anyone, however the staff convinced me to stay and I am so glad that I did as I enjoyed the company.

I suffered from a brain aneurism 6yrs ago at the age of 73, I didn't have any symptoms, and it was my daughter who realised something was wrong when we were on the phone, as I had stopped talking. She rushed over and I was admitted to hospital where I stayed for 7 months and I was confined to a wheelchair. There was talk of me going into residential care but my son felt I was still too young and I was referred to the southern general where a stent was put in and I can honestly say I have not looked back since.

I have made new friends since coming along to the hall and I look forward to a Monday, it's also given me the confidence to join other groups. I enjoy a wee game of bingo, being able to chat with people my own age and it makes me feel a sense of belonging.

Through friendships built over the last 6 months I have also started to attend other Lunch clubs like the Salvation Army, Dixon Carers and the David Cargill centre, this helps breaks my week and I know that I will receive a healthy meal, it also gives me something to do and I enjoy the company, it really brightens my days up being out doing different things and meeting different people.

Because of the lack of bus service to the community hall, I now walk to the hall, even although its slowly, this is keeping me active and more mobile, I also feel more mentally alert as I am now engaging in conversation.

I am glad I live in my own home as this means I can get out and about, go places like the hall, I like coming here to the hall meeting and talking to others and getting a nice meal. I didn't realise what was happening on my own doorstep and that there was so much going on within the hall, I feel I have been missing out for so long”.