

### Our second meeting – held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October at City College Coventry

Our second meeting was as successful as the first. About a dozen people came along and it was enjoyed by all...

I asked everyone how they'd like to spend their time at the meetings and they told me they didn't want an agenda as such – they wanted to be able to just have a laid-back chat. As such we all sat in a big circle and talked – and it was great how easily the conversation flowed from one thing to another – wheelchairs, walkers, keeping cameras still whilst using them, exercise, supplements, accessible hotel rooms, train travel – all sorts! If however you have a specific idea for a future meeting please just shout.

I am very pleased that we've managed to find a much cheaper home for our next meeting – thanks Sue! See details below. The cost of hiring this room is £12 in total, which is FAR better than the £50 we're paying at the moment. To pay for this, people have so far been very generous: the group was given £27 in donations at our first meeting and £90 at our second, which means we have enough to cover room hire and tea/biscuits for a while! Of this £117 in total I have used £7 for drinks and stamps (for posting newsletters to members who don't have email). I will let you all know how we're doing money-wise each newsletter. A HUGE thanks to everyone who donated.

This money also may help us maybe be more adventurous with our events. I will look out for things we can see and do as a group, and it was suggested that we meet in Coombe Abbey for a picnic in the summer which was a really good idea. I also thought we could go to Naidex which is an independent living exhibition held at the Birmingham NEC (see [www.naidex.co.uk](http://www.naidex.co.uk)) when it's on in April. Unfortunately it's too late to plan a Christmas event – definitely next year! Keep the suggestions coming – I am taking note of the ones so far and will try my best to make them happen...

### Our next meeting

Sue (Kieran's mum) has booked a room for our next meeting so please put it in your diaries now – it would be great to see you there!

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2 – 4pm**  
**Exhall Old School Community Centre,**  
**Exhall Green, Exhall CV7 9GL**

This is off School Lane in Bedworth. Type the post code into Google for a map (see enclosed map if you received this newsletter in the post). Buses 20 and 48 go here – get off at the Baylon Road stop.

## Contact list

I would like to draw up a contact list that can be shared amongst members so you can keep in touch with each other between meetings. If you're interested please get in touch - I can't share your contact info without your permission. Also tell me what to share, i.e. your email or/and phone number.

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***I'd welcome any suggestions of anything specific you'd like to see in future newsletters and meetings – please get in touch! I hope to see as many of you as possible on December 11<sup>th</sup>!***

### ***Who I am and how to contact me:***

*I am Katie Henderson, friend of Ataxia UK and named contact for the group. You can contact me by e-mailing [katie@ohbother.co.uk](mailto:katie@ohbother.co.uk) or phoning 07565 247 183. I am also on Facebook and so is the group; search for "Ataxia UK Coventry".*