

# SAFE Newsletter

February 2025

## Welcome to our February newsletter

February is a month of mixed messages. Spring seems to be here as flowers begin to emerge and the days get a little longer, yet it is still Winter and it will let us know. It is still important to keep safe and warm and keep an eye out for each other. This is one of the messages that has come across very much in the workshops we have held recently in Oldham and Newcastle - how valuable it is to have someone to watch out for you. This helps us to feel safe and keep safe.

This month's newsletter marks the success of our workshops, shares some of the outputs and looks forward to our next steps in the project. We have now held four workshops, attended by 27 people in total, and have produced some impressive and engaging works of visual art as well as some striking poetry. With the help of our partner organisations we have recruited people to take part from across the Oldham and Manchester area as well as across the North East.

Enormous thanks to everyone involved. We will be carrying out one more set of workshops before we reach the end of the first phase of work. After that we will be moving on to interviews with people who have experienced adult safeguarding processes and with the families of those who have experienced this. We will keep you up to date with this. Finally, a new feature this month. Events and courses that may be of interest are listed at the end of the newsletter.

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## SAFEGUARDING ADULTS FOR EMPOWERMENT

Any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, or for more information about the research, contact:  
keith.chappell@sunderland.ac.uk

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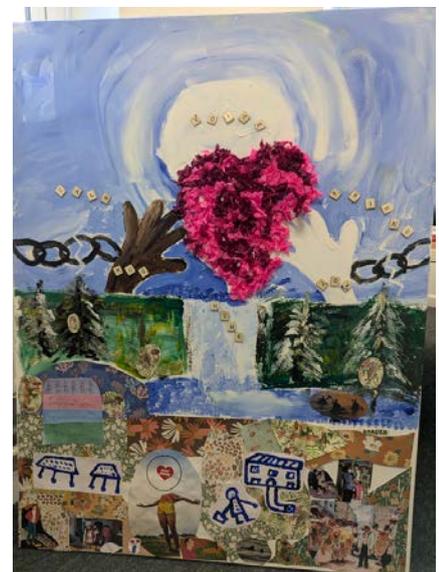
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## Creative Workshops in Newcastle

Our second set of creative workshops took place on 22nd and 23rd January at Newcastle Arts Centre and were attended by people from across the North East, from Jarrow to Sedgefield and a significant group from Sunderland. Once again a great atmosphere was created by the facilitators. Jess (our team artist and facilitator) joined this time by Tess from Made by Mortals.

Two groups spent two half-day sessions each creating art and producing a piece of poetry together. Also during the sessions we discussed what it means to be safe as you get older.

We wish to extend our thanks to all those who participated, whether in Newcastle or in Oldham. The contributions received were rich with insights from many years of experience and will guide the rest of the research and be shared with those who work in adult safeguarding in a range of roles. We are working on the analysis now and will share more of what we have learned in upcoming newsletters.



SOME OF THE ARTWORK FROM THE NEWCASTLE AND OLDHAM WORKSHOPS

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## Next Steps

The completion of the creative workshops marks the end of the first phase of data collection for the project. We are now moving to the next phase which will involve interviews with older people who have been through local authority safeguarding processes and with family members of those who have been through the process.

We will be consolidating our understanding of what it means to be safe for older people and gaining insight into how safeguarding experiences feel for those going through the process and how it can be improved.

Working together with our local authority partners in Oldham and Newcastle we will be recruiting people

for one to one interviews over the coming months.

This is a key step in understanding safeguarding procedures from the perspective of those most impacted and this will then inform the following steps where we will be interviewing social workers and advocates.



“In the church it was like a community I haven’t had for a very long time”  
(Workshop participant)

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## Team Profiles

**KEITH CHAPPELL - Post-Doctoral Research Associate, University of Sunderland**

Keith joined the SAFE team in April 2024 from his role as Lived Experience Insight Lead at Victim Support where he sought to help the voices of victims of crime be heard in the criminal justice system. He has a background in sociology and has previously been involved in projects in education, the sociology of religious groups, and with child abuse survivors. In addition to his research work at Sunderland he also continues to teach at the University of Leeds and works in conflict resolution as a mediator.

Keith is passionate about the aims of the SAFE project and loves being a member of a gifted and incredibly friendly team.

In his spare time Keith enjoys walking, music, and the constant battle of trying to renovate an old house (the house is winning).



**KEITH CHAPPELL**

## DATING SAFETY

As we approach Valentine's Day it is worth thinking about safety when looking to start new romantic relationships later in life. AgeUK have some useful advice

[HTTPS://WWW.AGEUK.ORG.UK/INFORMATION-ADVICE/HEALTH-WELLBEING/RELATIONSHIPS-FAMILY/DATING-IN-LATER-LIFE/](https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/health-wellbeing/relationships-family/dating-in-later-life/)



## Events and Courses

Below are some courses and events relevant to adult safeguarding that you may find interesting. If you have any courses or events that you would like publicising please get in touch.

**Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA)** affects up to 10% of families in the UK.

**Fri, 7 Feb 2025 13:00 - 14:00**

What is CAPVA? Why does it happen? What barriers families affected by CAPVA face?

If you are a practitioner, a community member, or a parent, and you are interested in finding out the answers to these questions, please join us to our free "lunch and learn" webinar on CAPVA.

Safer places  
[Link to book](#)

### **ONLINE COURSES**

eLearning Course: Understanding Financial Capability & Recognising Financial and Economic Abuse  
**Ann Craft Trust**

**FREE ONLINE COURSE, JOIN MODULE ANY TIME.**

**[LINK TO REGISTER](#)**