# **Shared Reading Groups**

## Oct-14

| Loc.                   | Returns | Yes | No | Maybe |
|------------------------|---------|-----|----|-------|
| Torfaen Mind           | 3       | 3   |    |       |
| Age Concern Oakfield   | 6       | 6   |    |       |
| Age Concern Abersychan | 4       | 4   |    |       |
| Book Cwtch             | 2       | 2   |    |       |
| Total                  | 15      | 15  |    |       |

% of participants who answered "Yes" to the question "I find the sessions a positive experience"

100%

Additional Questions:

(15 Feedback forms were returned)

"Were you looking forward to this visit?" – 8 people responded to this question – 100% of responders answered "yes"

"I feel other group members listen and value my views" – 14 people responded to this question - 100% of responders answered "yes"

"I am enjoying stories I wouldn't normally read" – 15 people responded to this question - 100% of responders answered "yes"

Number of responders who described the sessions as:

Fun - 9 - 60%

Informative -9-60%

Boring -0-0%

Educational - 10 - 66.67%

Motivational – 6 – 40%

Interesting - 8 - 53.33%

Relaxing – 11 - 73.33%

Relevant to me – 0%

Inspiring -4 - 26.67%

Social – 6 – 40%

Confidence building – 3 – 20%

Some comments in answer to the question "Which poem or story had the most impact on you?":

"I've liked all the stories (particularly) "The Dolls House". (Oakfield)

"The Bet". About being in mental solitary confinement for 30 years. It made me feel there was light at the end of the tunnel. (Torfaen Mind)

 $\hbox{``The Girl with the Pearl Earring''}\ .\ Made me very aware of the social classes in society.\ (Abersychan)$ 

"The Rice Paper Diaries". Upset at the brutality of war and what it meant to innocent people. (Abersychan)

"The Enchanted April". Very interesting as it transported me to Italy. I could almost smell the flowers in the garden. (Abersychan)

I can not say just one. They all have in some way. (Book Cwtch)

All opened pathways to poetry and comedy unknown to me. (Book Cwtch)

<sup>&</sup>quot;Breakfast at Tesco's". Curious. (Torfaen Mind)

Comments in response to "Please tell us what these sessions mean to you"

#### **Book Cwtch:**

The sessions "seem to have a very positive effect and are very informative and relaxing. We look forward to our weekly visits."

The sessions "have a positive cognitive effect on my depression. Our session is presented by an informed professional who participates to make the minutes fly."

## Age Connects Torfaen - Oakfield Hub:

"I'm enjoying the reading group. It's very good and interesting"

"I enjoy all the sessions"

The sessions "mean a great deal as they make the past come to life"

The sessions "make me smile"

#### **Torfaen Mind:**

The sessions "relax my mind, stopping me having suicidal thoughts and broaden my outlook on life"

"I read books and stories I wouldn't normally read"

"I learn lots of new words and books"

### Age Connects Torfaen - Abersychan Hub:

What these sessions mean to me "friendship and a warm and welcoming atmosphere"

"All of our group are friendly and we get on well together and look forward to seeing each other and discussing our books etc. We all love Emma reading to us and she is a delightful person and has a lovely personality"

"I have developed a renewed interest in literature. I used to read trashy magazines which I bought for the competitions"

"I look forward to having the company of people who enjoy hearing and discussing literature read by Emma, who has a talent for communicating".