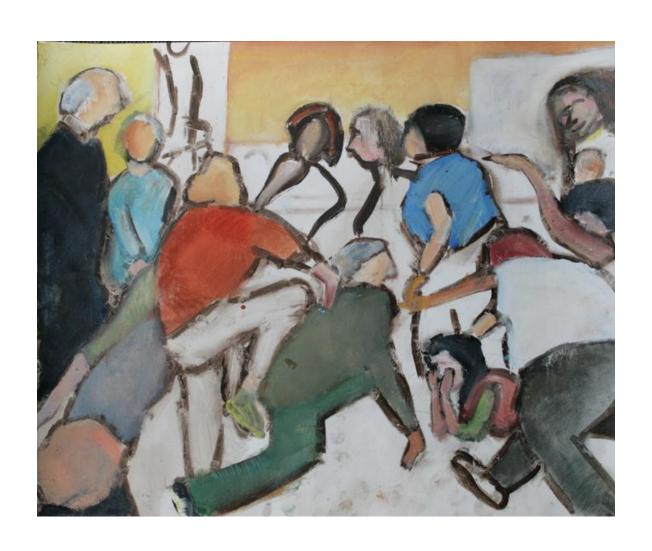
Creativity Dementia and Storytelling – the wider context



Background

- Equal Arts 25 years experience of delivering projects with older people
- We aim to combat the isolation of older people by developing and delivering creative opportunities
- Currently working with 24 groups across the region and partnership work with Tyne & Wear Care Alliance, Housing 21, Gateshead Housing Company, Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums and individual residential care homes. We run an Activities Co-ordinators' Network and an Arts & Dementia Network with 500 members.

Knitted Lives creating the new from old stories



Brief history of reminiscence movement

 Life Review pioneered by Robert Butler (1963)

Why Survive – Being Old in America (1975)

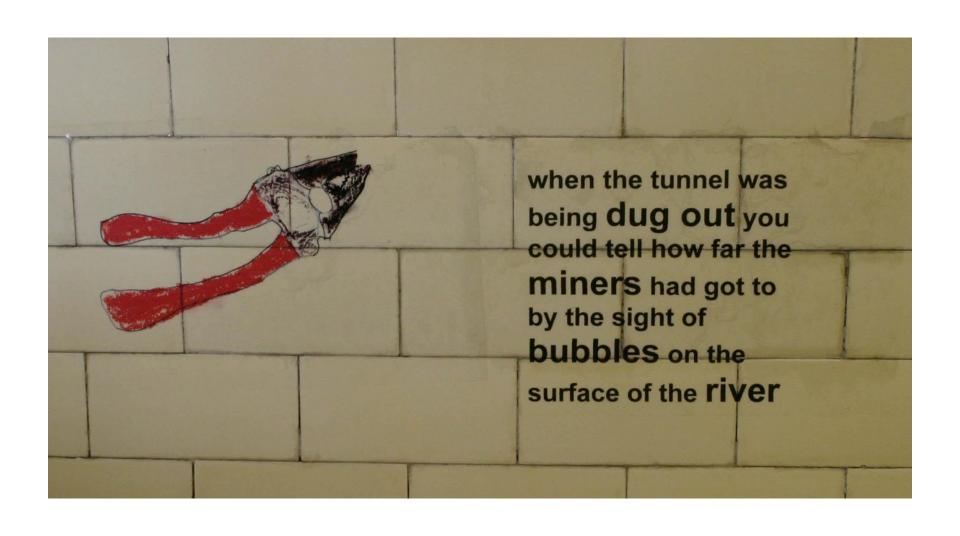
Looking back to review your life in order to get ready for death – not developed for people with dementia

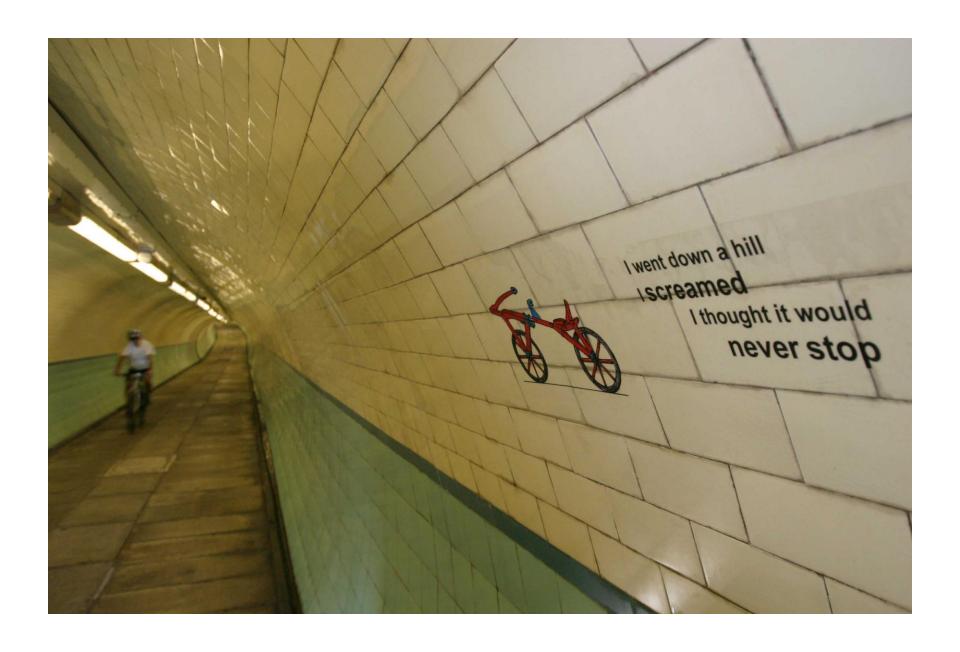
Roots of reminiscence theatre/storytelling

- Age Exchange established in 1983 using verbatim theatre – emphasis on quality outcomes
- International Reminiscence Network in 1993
- Has had a major influence on emphasising the importance of "lifestory"









Reminiscence v Imagination

- Life Story work is now widespread – and the House of Memories project is based on the reminiscence model
- Ideas about working from a more creative/imaginative/multi -sensory place particularly with people with dementia





TimeSlips



TimeSlips

- Creative storytelling method
- Devised by Anne Basting and developed at the Center on Age and Community at the University of Winsconsin
- Use imagination to create stories, triggered by a photograph
- Everything gets written down and repeated to the group







Other examples of storytelling

Spare Tyre's Once Upon a Time

"the here, the now and the future, recognising people's creative abilities without resorting to prejudice, pity or notions of reminiscence about the good old days" Arti Prashar

www.equalarts.org.uk



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