

8 December 2011

Siemens delivers Christmas spirit for people in the community

On Tuesday 13 December, volunteers from Siemens Energy Service in Newcastle will be undertaking a volunteering event with a festive edge. In association with Age UK, John Lewis, Greggs and Business-in-the Community, Siemens has organised an event for the elderly members of Black Hall Mill Community Centre in Gateshead. Volunteers will help transform their dining area into a festive grotto and help to cook and serve a three-course festive feast for all the guests.

Siemens Energy Service has worked in partnership with Business-in-the Community on many projects over the years, and when the original organisers had to pull out just two weeks ago, the Siemens team instantly took up the challenge and set about organising the day.

“At this time of year, Siemens always likes to do something special for members of the local community,” says Rachel Blench, who is part of the Corporate Responsibility (CR) Team at Siemens Energy Service, “and this year we took the opportunity to get involved with Age UK to help make Christmas’ a little happier for these particular people in the community.”

Everyone in the CR team at Newcastle has put a lot of effort into the big day, especially Chris Shill, Siemens’ lean co-ordinator, Generator Services, who has

been working extremely hard in his spare time creating a replica fire place to be the centre piece for this fantastic day.

With people from all parts of Siemens' business coming together to take part, a wide range of skills has been captured in the team from cooking to carpentry, allowing for this event to really encapsulate the Christmas spirit.

Along with Siemens' hard work for the day, John Lewis, Newcastle, has donated a large TV to the community centre for the members to enjoy festive DVDs during the day and Greggs, Newcastle, has also donated mince pies for all guests.

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

About Siemens in the UK

Siemens was established in the United Kingdom 169 years ago and now employs 12,972 people in the UK. Last year's revenues were £4.4 billion*. As a leading global engineering and technology services company, Siemens provides innovative solutions to help tackle the world's major challenges, across the key sectors of energy, industry, infrastructure & cities and healthcare. Siemens has offices and factories throughout the UK, with its headquarters in Frimley, Surrey. The company's global headquarters is in Munich, Germany. For more information, visit www.siemens.co.uk

Data includes intercompany revenue. Data may not be comparable with revenue reported in annual or interim reports.

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About Age UK/Concern Gateshead

Set up in 1972, Age UK Gateshead is an independent autonomous Charity and a member of the national Age England Association. (We changed our name from Age Concern Gateshead to Age UK Gateshead in May 2011 to become a local brand partner of the national charity Age UK which was formed after the merger of Age Concern England and Help the Aged.) We are a registered Charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee, operating across the Metropolitan Borough of Gateshead,

and are governed by a Management Committee who are Trustees of the Charity. We currently have 20 paid staff and 170 volunteers

We are constantly raising funds in order to run our services. All donations are greatly appreciated and much needed.

To find out how you can help please see our Related links section below.

Our centres provide meals and refreshments, talks, activities such as crafts, games and bingo, gentle exercise, outings in the summer and, most importantly, social companionship. We also provide transport to and from the centres.

All info can be found at : <http://www.ageuk.org.uk/gateshead/Our-services/Day-centres/>