



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Silver surfers tell unique stories**

Silver surfers at Melin Homes' Roderick Hill Court have conquered their fear of the unknown and used an IT course to make their short stories come to life.

Residents at the sheltered scheme received computer tuition from The Scarman Trust to enable them to take full advantage of their communal PC.

They were shown the basics of using a mouse, creating and saving files, as well as how to scan treasured old photographs. When they started the short course some had never used a computer before and after two weeks the budding computer wizards had produced a short film, using old photographs, and letters to illustrate their own unique stories, which they showcased at a final workshop.

Graham Bush, of Roderick Hill enjoyed getting to grips with the technology. He said: "This story telling workshop has helped us to get used to the computer and has really helped bring back memories. It has also been really wonderful to hear other people's stories."

All the residents' stories were shown at the end of the workshop and told of the history of Tredegar including the Liberal Party movement in the area, the time Alexander Cordell visited Mr Bush's florists shop and the benefits of living in a sheltered scheme.

Steve Fossey from The Scarmen Trust said: "It gives people a voice to express their views and send their message out. Listening to each other's stories has given us a wealth of information."

Ends

Photo Caption; Roderick Hill resident Jane Tillings puts together her story.  
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### **Notes to editors**

Melin Homes is a not for profit landlord providing quality homes and services across Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport, Powys and Torfaen. For further information please visit [www.melinhomes.co.uk](http://www.melinhomes.co.uk)

Melin has ten sheltered schemes throughout our area with a scheme manager providing unobtrusive support for residents aged 55 and over.

The Scarman Trust is a national charity that works at a local level to empower people and communities by creating opportunities for positive change.