



August 2011

Newsletter No. 41

# Brain Waves



## A monthly newsletter from Innovations in Dementia CIC

The aim of these newsletters is to keep people with dementia and their allies informed about the work of Innovations in Dementia Community Interest Company.

### Circles of support for people with dementia

Late last month we held the first advisory group meeting for this exciting new project.

Find out more on page 2



### In this newsletter:

Circles of support for people with dementia	p2
Are you changing the world through the involvement of people with dementia?	p3
Design Council challenge	p4

## Circles of support for people with dementia

The first advisory group for this project was held in Salisbury on 27 July 2011.

The advisory group is made up of Rachael and Nada from Innovations in Dementia and staff from the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi), along with representatives from organisations who work in the four areas where the project will run: Devon, Dorset, Portsmouth and West London.

But the most important people on the advisory group are people with dementia.

The group talked about lots of things, including:

- ❑ Things that are important to us in our lives.
- ❑ What Circles of Support are and projects that people at the NDTi had been involved in before.
- ❑ How the advisory group will work.
- ❑ What things help people with dementia to live a good life.
- ❑ Who helps people with dementia to live a good life?
- ❑ Things that people with dementia would like to do, or wishes they have.
- ❑ The next steps for the project in all four areas.



Circles of Support for People with Dementia



June, Adriani and Jennie from West London at the Salisbury Circles of Support meeting

We will keep you informed about the progress of this project in future newsletters.

## Are you changing the world through the involvement of people with dementia?

Innovations in Dementia is part of a new project run by the Mental Health Foundation called DEEP (Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project).

We want to collect information about all the inspiring and exciting work across the UK where people with dementia are actively involved in influencing services and policies.

Examples could be:

- doing interviews with the media
- giving talks about dementia
- being a member of an advisory group
- helping to run a support group for people living with dementia.

### How can you take part?

There are three questionnaires:

- A quick questionnaire to tell us about your group, service or project
- A longer questionnaire that asks for more detail, and
- A questionnaire for people with dementia who do this sort of work outside a formal group or project.

You can find the questionnaires on the Mental Health Foundation website, go to: <http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/deep>

### Involving people with dementia in DEEP

People with dementia are involved in the project through a wide ranging project reference group network.

Thank you to all the reference group network members, including Innovations in Dementia ThinkTank members, the Forget Me Not group in Swindon and the EDUCATE group in Stockport for helping us to create the questionnaires.

### Contact us

If you or your group would like to be involved in the project, or you or your group need help completing the questionnaires, please contact Nada.

Email [nada@myid.org.uk](mailto:nada@myid.org.uk) Telephone: 07549 921901



## Design Council Challenge – Living well with dementia

The Design Council and the Department of Health are running a competition to rethink life with dementia. They are challenging designers and inventors to help people with dementia and their carers live easier, better planned and more enjoyable lives.

We hope that the challenge will encourage designers to include people with dementia in the development of products and services aimed at them.

Find out more at the Design Council's website:

[www.designcouncil.org.uk/dementia](http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/dementia)



**Innovations  
in Dementia**

Innovations in Dementia is run by three directors - Rachael, Steve and Nada. We are a Community Interest Company. This means that any profit we make is put back into the organisation.

We do not offer services for people with dementia. Instead we work with other organisations to make sure that people with dementia can continue to take part in their communities and have active lives.

Please share your ideas, experiences and positive stories with us.

### Contact us

Email: [ideas@innovationsindementia.org.uk](mailto:ideas@innovationsindementia.org.uk). Telephone: 01392 420076

Innovations in Dementia CIC, PO Box 616, Exeter, EX1 9JB

Website: [www.myid.org.uk](http://www.myid.org.uk)

If you wish to receive (or stop receiving) copies of this newsletter email [newsletter@innovationsindementia.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@innovationsindementia.org.uk)

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