



June 2011

Newsletter No. 39

# Brain Waves



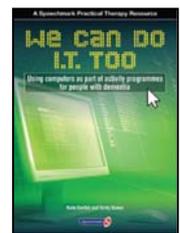
## A monthly newsletter from Innovations in Dementia CIC

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.

### We can to IT too

A new practical guide for care staff who want to help people with dementia to get the most out of IT

Find out more on page 3

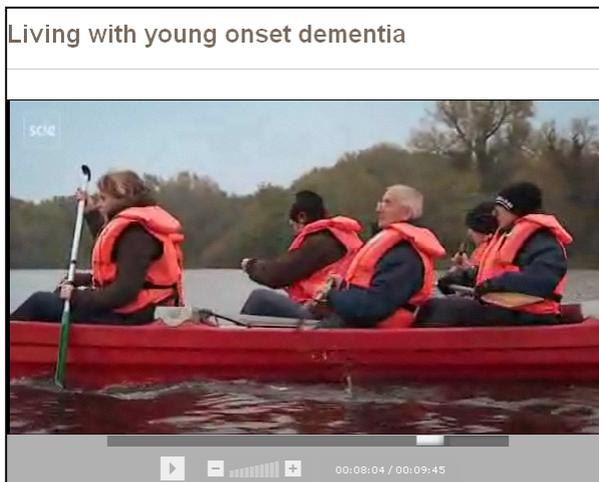


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## The power of video

At Innovations in Dementia we think video is an excellent way for people with dementia to tell their stories.



Our friends Brian and June in Gloucestershire and the Forget Me Not group in Swindon have been very active in spreading the word about dementia.

They have featured in Social Care TV films about participation in dementia care planning and living with young onset dementia.

To see these videos and others about dementia go to the Social Care TV website: [www.scie.org.uk/socialcaretv](http://www.scie.org.uk/socialcaretv)

Our friends at Dementia Adventure have also worked well with video. They have video footage from their latest Thinking Different About Dementia conference.

One of our ThinkTank members, June was a key speaker at the conference, you can watch her video on the Innovations in Dementia website

[www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/videos.htm](http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/videos.htm)

Find out more at the Dementia Adventure website - [www.dementiaadventure.co.uk](http://www.dementiaadventure.co.uk)



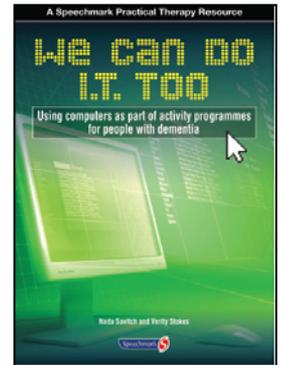
You can see some of the films that we have produced with people with dementia by visiting our website [www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/videos.htm](http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/videos.htm)

## We can do IT too

Friends of Innovations in Dementia will know about the work that we do around computers and people with dementia.

One of the first projects we did was a joint project with Housing21 that introduced computers and the internet as part of the activities programmes in two of their day centres.

As part of that project, Nada presented some workshops around the different ways that people with dementia can interact with computers. She met Verity Stokes, who is a speech and language therapist. They realised they had a shared passion for helping people with dementia to get the most out of IT. They have put together all their experiences to create a practical book called 'We can do IT too'.



This practical guide for care staff and volunteers covers

- Recording people's lives – digital life story books; diary
- Making things – calendars; photo albums; reminders
- Helping with conversations – word finding; topics
- Communicating with friends (email; Skype, social networking/discussion forums)
- Helping with planning – personal planning; care plans; using services.

You can order your copy from Speechmark publishing. Go to their website at: [www.speechmark.net](http://www.speechmark.net)

## Call to Action on antipsychotic drugs

**DAA** Dementia Action Alliance

On the 9 June more than 50 of the UK's most prominent health and social care organisations called for an end to the inappropriate use of antipsychotics for people with dementia.

The Dementia Action Alliance (DAA), whose members include Alzheimer's Society, Age UK, Department of Health and four of the Royal Colleges, issued 'The Right Prescription: a call to action on the use of antipsychotic drugs for people with dementia'.

It calls for all people with dementia currently taking antipsychotic drugs to have their prescription reviewed by 31 March 2012.

For more information on the National Dementia Declaration visit:

[http://www.dementiaaction.org.uk/info/3/national\\_dementia\\_declaration](http://www.dementiaaction.org.uk/info/3/national_dementia_declaration)

## ITV Jubilee People's Millions vote on Monday 27 June

Are you based in the South West? We've been asked by Age UK Devon to spread the word.

Age UK Devon's project - Heading along Memory Lane - is one of six in the West Country which has won through to the ITV Jubilee People's Millions.

However, they are competing against the other projects to win the funding - and it's all down to the number of telephone votes they receive on Monday 27 June. Voting lines are open for this one day only and the voting number won't be announced until the morning of the vote. Calls cost just 11p from a BT landline (although more from other networks and mobile phones) - and you can vote up to 10 times from one number.

Visit [www.bit.ly/Along-Memory-Lane](http://www.bit.ly/Along-Memory-Lane) on Monday 27 June to find out the number you need to call. Alternatively, you can watch ITV's The West Country Tonight on Monday 27 June (6-6.30pm), which will feature a two-minute film about the project.

The Heading along Memory Lane project will offer people with dementia and their carers a programme of reminiscence trips around East Devon on a customised 1958 vintage bus - using sights, sounds and tastes of yesteryear to bring back happy memories and a shared experience to remember.



**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

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