



June 2015

Newsletter No. 87

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.

Services for women and dementia

Do you have any examples of services specifically for women with dementia or women carers?

Find out more on page 2.



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Services for women affected by dementia

This month, women from DEEP groups in Scotland and York got together with Emily and Nada to talk about women (see www.dementiawomen.org.uk).

It was a wonderful vibrant meeting with a lot of laughter.

The conclusions from this meeting will be written up for the DEEP website (www.dementiavoices.org.uk)

We all agreed that:

- Women-only groups could be very useful for many women with dementia.
- Women with dementia themselves can play a big part in supporting other women with dementia.
- Women's voices should be heard and women should be encouraged to get involved.



One of the issues raised by the women from DEEP groups was the growing number of services available exclusively for men, and we wondered if there were any corresponding services or activities for women affected by dementia.

SCIE Dementia Gateway and good practice around women

We have been working closely with Pamela Holmes who manages the Dementia Gateway at SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence).

See www.scie.org.uk/dementia

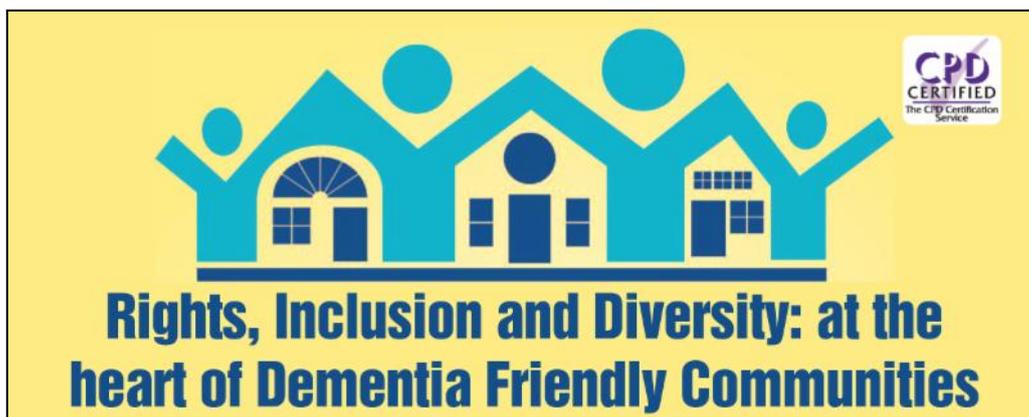
Pamela and Nada gave a talk at the recent Alzheimer's Show in London where there was much interest in the subject.

SCIE are committed to reflecting the facts about women and dementia in their resources for care workers. SCIE are also interested in spreading good practice in dementia care.

Do you have any examples of services or activities that are being provided specifically for women with dementia or women carers?

If so, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Nada

Email: nada@myid.org.uk



Rights, inclusion and diversity: at the heart of dementia friendly communities

Hawker Publications in collaboration with Alzheimer's Society and Joseph Rowntree Foundation are holding a conference which addresses rights, inclusion and diversity in terms of dementia friendly communities.

We were very grateful to the Redditch and Bromsgrove Friends Together Group who helped us to conduct an audit of the conference venue. They pointed out many things that could be done to make sure that the conference is easier to use for everyone, including people with dementia.

This is not the first time the group have advised on accessibility - and more and more groups are beginning to use their experience to support local services and facilities to become more accessible.

We have updated our guide to doing an access audit - which can be found on the Innovations in Dementia website:

www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/resources.htm

The conference programme is full of topics which we find very interesting. Steve will be presenting new guidance for local authorities on dementia friendly communities, the Dementia Diaries project will be there, Toby Williamson from Mental Health Foundation will be talking about rights, and Katy Riddick from Alzheimer's Research UK will be talking about women and dementia.

The conference will be held on 7th July 2015 at the Midlands Arts Centre in Birmingham.

There are still a few places available – please book online at

<http://www.careinfo.org/dfc/>

People with dementia help decide grant applications

Last month EFID - the European Foundations Initiative on Dementia - awarded a series of grants to projects around Europe focused on dementia-friendly communities.

EFID, for the second time, wanted to make sure that people with dementia got to have a say. Steve met with the Forget me Not group in Swindon, who then discussed the applications together. The group were also asked to rate the applications against each other, taking into account the cost of each proposal.

Steve then fed back the words and decisions of the group to EFID. The winners have yet to be announced, but we can report that the decision of the judges was almost identical to that of the Forget me Not Group.



**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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