



September 2009

Newsletter No. 19

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.



“Our House” - a new project about involving people with dementia who live in care homes

In the day to day life of a care home it is rare for residents with dementia to be involved in decision-making. We want to change that.

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Our Community Interest report 2009

Innovations in Dementia is a registered community interest company. This means that we carry out our work for the community's interest, not in the interest of the directors.

When **we** talk about 'community' we mean people with dementia.

Any profit that Innovations in Dementia makes is put back into the running of the organisation.

Once a year we have to tell the Community Interest Regulator about the work we have been doing. Below are some of the things that we told the regulator about our work from April 2008-March 2009:

Innovations in Dementia works with people with dementia to develop and test innovative ways of living positively with dementia.

- We linked up with 9 organisations, including
 - an adult placement scheme,
 - a disability living organisation,
 - a government inclusion organisation, and
 - a large care home provider.
- We trained 120 Metropolitan police officers in dementia communication skills
- We carried out consultation work with people with dementia around the development of the National Dementia Strategy
- We spoke at 5 conferences about our work and supported people with dementia to present their work.

We also have to tell the regulator about how we involve people with dementia in our work. This is what we said:

- We have linked with 9 services for people with dementia, including 3 care homes for consultation purposes
- We have developed a "ThinkTank" of people with dementia, individuals who help to steer the direction of the organisation
- People with dementia have worked with us on lots of project including:
 - the development of our Start Making Sense project - accessible information for people with dementia
 - the design of our stationery and this newsletter, and
 - a publicity campaign questioning the negative way in which dementia is usually portrayed.

“Our House” - a new project about involving people with dementia in care home settings



Innovations in Dementia is looking for funding to start a new project.

Approximately one third of people with dementia live in a care home. In the day to day life of a care home it is rare for residents with dementia to be involved in decisions that shape the life of the care home.

We want to work with a few care homes to find ways that people with dementia can be involved in decision making.

Care home residents will be supported to say what they want to be involved in and how they want to be involved. Some things that people with dementia living in care homes have said they might like to be involved in include:

- planning meals for the care home
- what to spend ‘activity budgets’ on
- designing gardens, bringing the outside world into the care home
- promoting the home to future residents.

We will let you know if we are successful with getting funding for this project.

Want to know more?

Get in touch with Rachael

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**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. Telephone: 01392 420076

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