



May 2011

Newsletter No. 38

# 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.

## New 'Circles of support' project

We are starting a new project which will look at how people with dementia can get the local support they need.

Find out more on page 2



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## New 'Circles of support' project

When people develop dementia they often find their personal networks of support get smaller. Families and friends may be reluctant to help, frightened by the condition or unable to see how they could contribute.

As a result many people with dementia miss out on opportunities for support and advice and can become isolated, depressed and vulnerable to other health issues. People with dementia and their families tend to manage alone.



Circles of support is an established model of enabling older and disabled people to lead the lives they want to lead. This project is about seeing how it will work with people with dementia.

The person with dementia will be in the driving seat of key decisions about their support. Circles of support build upon people's natural networks in their local communities including family members, neighbours, friends and volunteers, as well as paid staff. The aim is to provide shared support to help people carry on living in their local communities.

This project will work with local groups in four different areas to adapt and test the idea of circles of support for people living with dementia. Circles will be developed for 40 people living with dementia over three years. 'Circles' will improve awareness, understanding and confidence in enabling people to live well with dementia.

The project is funded by the Department of Health's Innovation, Excellence and Service Development Fund and will be run by the National Development Team for Inclusion.



National Development Team for inclusion

You can find out more about NDTi through the web  
Go to [www.ndti.org.uk](http://www.ndti.org.uk)

## Testing multimedia technology with people with dementia in the UK

Mylife is a new technology service under development for people with dementia.



# Mylife



Co-funded by the  
European Commission

Mylife uses internet-based services and applications but simplifies how you use them.

The Mylife system presents these technologies through an easy-to-use touch screen interface.

The system will include:

- a personal calendar
- photo albums
- music.



The Mylife service has been developed in Norway by a small technology company called Karde AS.

We are part of a European project along with Housing21 and Trent Dementia Services Development Centre. There are also other partners in Norway and Germany.

We will be working with people with dementia and their carers to test the system to make sure that it works well for people with dementia in the UK.

### Find out more

This project is just starting. We will tell you how we get on through this newsletter.

If you want to know more about the project or the Mylife service contact Nada  
Email [nada@myid.org.uk](mailto:nada@myid.org.uk).



**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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