



September 2011

Newsletter No. 42

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.

Dementia Without Walls

We are part of a project about making York a better place to live with dementia.

Find out more on page 2

*Dementia
Without Walls*

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Dementia Without Walls

The Dementia Without Walls project is about finding out what might make the City of York a better place to live in for someone with dementia.



The project is part of the Dementia and Society strand of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Empowerment Programme, along with the Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project (DEEP), which was featured in the August 2011 issue of this newsletter.

Janet Crampton and Ruth Eley of AESOP Consortium and their associate Janet Dean will carry out the Dementia Without Walls project.

Innovations in Dementia will be working alongside AESOP Consortium. We will be working with people with dementia in York to bring their experiences, views and aspirations for the future into the heart of the project.

We will be carrying out in-depth interviews with people about their experiences of living with dementia in York. We will also be supporting people with dementia to contribute to the final report and event for the project.

A key part of the Dementia Without Walls project will be to make 'seeing is believing' visits to see different places outside York where new things are being tried. We will be supporting people with dementia to make the visits as useful as possible.

Do you know anyone with dementia or any projects in York?

We are especially interested in making contact with people who are often not included in projects like this. For example, people from black and minority ethnic groups or lesbian and gay communities. We also want to talk to people with more advanced dementia.

Please contact Nada

Email: nada@myid.org.uk Telephone: 07549 921901

Local news from our allies

Innovations in Dementia works closely with different groups across the country.



Alzheimer's Society in Hounslow needs your vote online

The Alzheimer's Society in Hounslow has a unique opportunity to transform a garden at Osterley Park. They plan to create a functional garden for people living with the experience of dementia and for the local community, including a local primary school for intergenerational work. They have applied to NatWest Community Force, an initiative that supports people, projects and charities making a difference locally.

To support this project all you need to do is to go to the Community Force website - <http://communityforce.natwest.com/project/4973>, make the project a favourite, register and VOTE!



Write It Down campaign in Gloucestershire

June and Brian Hennell, a husband and wife team living well with Brian's dementia, are backing a new campaign in Gloucestershire called 'Write It Down'.

Too often people who are worried about their memories or that of someone close have difficulty describing their concerns to their GPs. As a result GPs may often have too little to go on to form opinions. Over a period of time it is easy to become distressed trying to sort actual happenings from what 'might have been'.

This campaign encourages people to keep notes of the date, time, facts and outcomes of any issues that are causing worry. Brian and June and many people they have talked to have found that these notes have proved invaluable when explaining what's happening in their lives and getting an early diagnosis.

The Write It Down campaign is being launched by those involved with memory loss supported by local MP Neil Carmichael on Thursday 13 October 2011.

Focus on technology

As you know Innovations in Dementia is always interested in new developments that might help people with dementia to live well. We have no experience of these products, but they sound interesting.

- Carers Watch – is a wristwatch that tells the time, but also incorporates the capabilities of a mobile phone, a panic alert and a tracking system. For more information visit their website at <http://www.2find-me.co.uk/>
- MyHomeHelper – is a new computer system developed from personal experience to assist with daily routines for individuals living with memory loss. The developer is looking for families to participate in a pilot to test the system. For more information visit their website at <http://www.myhomehelper.co.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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