



August 2014

Newsletter No. 77

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.

Making a conference more dementia-friendly

Some of the things that we did to help make the dementia-friendly communities conference in Leeds accessible for people with dementia.

Read more on page 3.



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Make a point about dementia

The Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project (DEEP) and the Carers' Call to Action are making a short film of views from people with dementia and carers.

This film will be shown at the UK Dementia Congress on 11th November 2014.

We would like people with dementia and carers to send in their point about dementia.

Please consider the impact of dementia on the individual and their family –

What is the point you want to make about dementia?

- Please send us your point in 140 characters or fewer (including spaces)

You can make your point in lots of different ways:

- a film clip, photograph, painting, drawing, text message, Skype, Face time, a tweet, voice recording, or whatever other creative form you can come up with!

Need help?

If you would like to take part or contribute but need support to do so please contact us.

How to contribute:

Please send your point to rachael@innovationsindementia.org.uk

We need your name, contact details and consent that you are happy for us to use your contribution in the film with all submissions.

Making a conference more dementia-friendly

In June a conference about dementia-friendly communities was held at the West Yorkshire Playhouse.



We were asked by the sponsors JRF and the organisers the Journal of Dementia Care to help make sure that the conference itself was dementia-friendly.

Here are some of the things that we did to help make it accessible for people with dementia:

- Provided financial support for seven people with dementia and their supporters to attend.
- Provided support to make bookings.
- Worked with the EDUCATE group to see what we could do to make the venue as easy to use as possible.
- Provided additional signage to make sure the venue was easy to navigate.
- Provided a “VIP” area for people with dementia which was quiet and had nice seats.
- Provided volunteers to provide 1-1 support if it was needed.
- Provided an “easy-read” version of the conference information pack.
- Asked speakers to use plain English.

In addition to this, when Steve did his presentation, he asked anyone who had questions or comments to make them there and then (rather than “hold that thought”).

We were really pleased that together with the people we were supporting - people with dementia made up more than 10% of the delegates.

As far as we know - that is the highest proportion of people with dementia to ever attend a conference about dementia. Let's keep it up!

If you would like help to make an event more suitable for people with dementia to attend please contact Steve

Email: steve@myid.org.uk

Update of our work with AGE UK

In July Steve started working with another 30 local Age UKs to help make their mainstream services more accessible to people with dementia.

This means that by the end of the year he will have worked with 60 local Age UKs since 2012.

We know that specialised services for people with dementia are important, but we also know that there is a lot we can do to make general services easier too.

People with dementia have told us that they want to stay connected to their communities and to continue to enjoy the things they always did. Age UK has lots of services that can help with this - and this is why we are so pleased to be working with them.



**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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