



February 2010

Newsletter No. 23

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.

Engaging with people with dementia

At Innovations in Dementia we try to involve people with dementia in everything that we do.

Some people choose to get actively involved as a member of our ThinkTank (see page 2), but we also work with existing groups of people with dementia in support groups, day care centres and care homes (find out more on page 3)



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ThinkTank looks at ways to record our activities

ThinkTank is the name we give to the group of people with dementia who help us with our work.

On 5 February 2010 some of the ThinkTank team got together at the Rix Centre at the University of East London to investigate a new way of recording our meetings and activities.

In the past, we have written notes about our meetings. But written notes can be difficult to understand and easy to lose.



We decided that using photographs and video alongside text might be a better way for us all to remember what we have said and done at our ThinkTank meetings. We looked at a new kind of private website that could help us to keep all the video, text and photographs together.

We enjoyed the day:

- We looked at different types of camera - and decided which were the easiest to use
- We took pictures and short video films of each other
- We stored the pictures and video onto the private ThinkTank website
- We created a web page for each of the ThinkTank team.



In the future, we will take photos at our meetings and store them on the website. We can print out different sections of the website to give to people who don't use the web.

The website software we used is called In-folio. It has been developed at the Rix Centre at the University of East London. The Rix Centre is a charity that develops technology for people with all sorts of 'intellectual disabilities'. They have done lots of work with young people with learning disabilities, but are also interested in working with people with dementia. You can find out more about the Rix centre at www.rixcentre.org.

Engaging with a wide range of people with dementia – come and join us?

At Innovations in Dementia we try to involve people with dementia in everything that we do. Some people choose to get actively involved - they become a member of our ThinkTank or work with us on our innovative projects.

We also have good links with people with dementia in support groups, day care centres, and care homes. In this way, we hope that we can represent the views and wishes of a wide range of people with dementia - not only people who enjoy speaking up or attending meetings.

We are able to come out and meet people in their services, often working with people with dementia in a group.

Importantly, we try to value the contributions that people with dementia make to the work of Innovations in Dementia. For example, we bought a greenhouse as a 'thank you' for a service we regularly partner with in the South West.



If you run or use a dementia service and would like to become a 'consultation partner' with Innovations in Dementia, please contact Rachael
Email rachael@innovationsindementia.org.uk

Your involvement can be as big or as small as you want.



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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If you wish to receive (or stop receiving) copies of this newsletter email newsletter@innovationsindementia.org.uk

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