



January 2014

Newsletter No. 70

Brain Waves

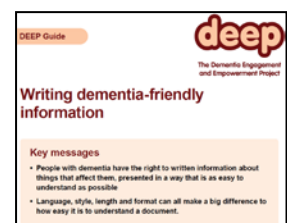


A monthly newsletter from Innovations in Dementia CIC

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.

DEEP guides are part of the growing story of a collective voice for people with dementia

At the end of November last year, Keith Oliver launched the Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project (DEEP) guides at the Dementia Action Alliance annual event. For more information see page 3.



In this newsletter:

- People with dementia at the heart of the research into living well p2
- DEEP guides are part of the growing story of a collective voice for people with dementia p3

People with dementia at the heart of the research into living well

Researchers at Bangor University have been awarded £4 million to lead a five-year study of 1,500 people with dementia and their family carers throughout the UK.

The project is called 'Improving the Experience of Dementia and Enhancing Active life: Living well with dementia' – it will be called the IDEAL project for short.

Researchers will investigate how social and psychological factors affect the way in which people adapt to the effects of dementia and the challenges it presents. The research will also look at how this changes over time as dementia progresses.

The aim is to better identify at what stage individuals, communities, health and social care practitioners, care providers and policy-makers can intervene to improve the likelihood of living well with dementia.

The project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and the National Institute for Health Research.

The research hopes to answer questions such as:

- How can people with dementia be supported to live well?
- What affects people's ability to live well with dementia?
- When should support be offered to help people live well?

The study will be carried out in collaboration with Cardiff University, Brunel University, the London School of Economics, King's College London, Sussex University, the Research Institute for the Care of Older People (RICE), the Alzheimer's Society and Innovations in Dementia CIC.

We will be working closely with the Alzheimer's Society to support an inclusive advisory network of people living with dementia and carers. We hope that this will ensure that the opinions of people with dementia are at the heart of the research.

DEEP guides are part of the growing story of a collective voice for people with dementia

At the end of November last year, Keith Oliver launched the Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project (DEEP) guides at the Dementia Action Alliance annual event.

At the event, Keith spoke about how a year before, eight people with dementia and two clinical

psychologists met in a Canterbury community centre to discuss how they could collectively work to improve local attitudes to dementia, and increase effective provision for people with dementia by the NHS in Kent.

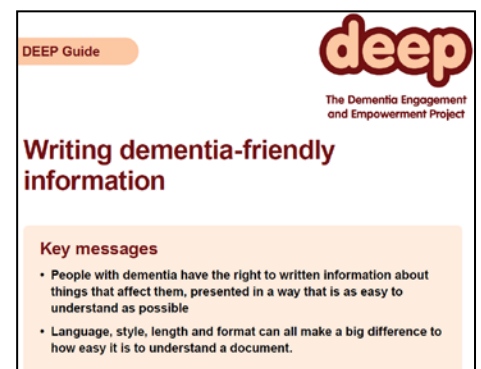
Keith described how the group's influence has extended beyond the Kent border, and how the group is now a major part of DEEP. Keith described some of the projects that the group and DEEP have been part of, and how members of the group have helped to develop the content of the DEEP guides.

About the DEEP guides

The DEEP guides have been produced through the project and represent some of the learning and experiences of the people with dementia who are part of DEEP.

The guides that are available at the moment include:

- Involving people with dementia at conferences and events
- Tips for consulting people with dementia about written documents
- Involving people with dementia in recruitment and selection
- Choosing a dementia-friendly meeting space
- Collecting the views of people with dementia
- Creating websites
- Guidance for film-makers
- Tips for employers
- Using sound recording
- Writing dementia-friendly information.



For more information visit the DEEP website – www.dementivoices.org.uk

If you have any ideas for additional titles, please contact us.



**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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