



September 2016

Newsletter No. 102

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.

Reading Friends

The Reading Agency are starting an exciting new UK-wide project called Reading Friends

Find out more on page 2



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Reading Friends

We are very happy to say that our friends at the Reading Agency are starting an exciting new UK-wide project called Reading Friends.

Reading Friends will use reading to empower, engage and connect isolated older people, including people with dementia and their carers thanks to a £2.1 million grant from the Big Lottery Fund.

We have been supporting people with dementia to shape the project.

We think that one of the most exciting aspects of this project is the way people are valued for who they are and their interest in reading, rather than being given a label such as having dementia or being a carer.



Find out more about the Reading Agency at <https://readingagency.org.uk/>

Learning paper:

Inclusion of people with dementia in the design of services

Steve and Rachael have been working with Genio in Ireland to produce a learning paper around designing services that people with dementia actually want.

To download the learning paper, go to the Genio website:

<http://www.genio.ie/news/2016-09-21-“nothing-about-us-without-us”-designing-services-that-people-with-dementia-actually>

Good practice learning points for life story work

We supported people with dementia to play a pivotal role in a pioneering study led by researchers at the University of York's Social Policy Research Unit into the use of life story work with people with dementia.

The full report has now been published. The study identified nine key features of good practice:

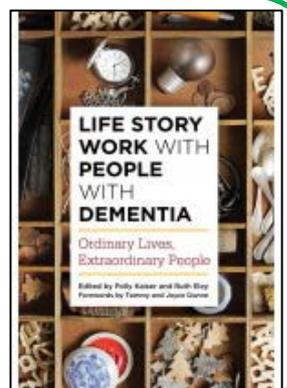
1. Whether someone wants to take part in life story work is an individual thing.
2. A person's life story is never finished.
3. Life story work can be emotional and may raise sensitive issues.
4. A person with dementia may have very different views from others about what their life story is for.
5. Staff should consider making and sharing their own life stories.
6. Beginning the process early will enable people with dementia to take a more active role.
7. Outcomes for better care will only come about if care staff have time to use the information.
8. Short summaries might be useful for busy staff, but cannot replace a full life story.
9. The *process* of collecting life story information is important, but it is also important to *produce* something that can be used and enjoyed by others.

To read the full report, go to: <http://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hsdr/volume-4/issue-23#abstract>

Life Story Work with People with Dementia: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary People

Steve and Nada (along with Kate Gridley who ran the University of York project) have contributed to a new book published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers and edited by Polly Kaiser and Ruth Eley

Find out more at <http://www.jkp.com/>



See you at Dementia Congress

We hope to meet as many friends and allies as we can at Dementia Congress this November in Brighton.



DEEP will be working with TIDE to present during the opening plenary session. We are also be:

-  Running an involvement workshop “What does living with dementia mean? Learning from people with dementia and carers through the IDEAL study” hosted by members of the ALWAYS project advisory group of people with dementia and carers.
-  Supporting Keith Oliver to present about a dementia friendly film club project.
-  Supporting people with dementia to talk about life story work.
-  Contributing to a workshop on rights and dementia.

To find out more go to <http://www.careinfo.org/ukdc-2016/>



Innovations in Dementia

Innovations in Dementia is run by four directors – Damian, 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

Innovations in Dementia CIC, PO Box 616, Exeter, EX1 9JB

Website: www.myid.org.uk

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