

DEMENTIA CONCERN NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018

ISSUE 19

ORGANISATIONAL UPDATE

DIARY OF DEMENTIA CONCERN 2018 EVENTS

Dementia Awareness Week

21st - 28th May 2018

Pampering and Information Day

24th May 10am-3pm

William Hobbayne Centre

St Dunstan's Road, Hanwell W7 2HB

Pop in to be pampered with a range of complimentary therapies and get information on dementia and all our services.

A free buffet lunch will be provided.

Elm Lodge Open Day

19th May 11am-3pm

Pop in to find out more about the many activities on offer for people living with dementia at our Weekend Day Centre.

A free buffet lunch will be provided.

Dementia Café 2018

Wednesday 13 June 2018

Wednesday 12 September 2018

Liz Cantell Room, Ealing Town Hall

7.00 pm to 9.00 pm

Recruiting new trustees

Dementia Concern is looking to diversify its Board of Trustees to reflect the local community. We are particularly interested to hear from members of the Asian, Polish and Somali communities. **We are also specifically looking for a treasurer.** People with a business, IT or Adult Social Care background are also very welcome. If you are interested, please contact either Lu Brown or Silvia Schehrer.

Staff Changes Update

We are pleased to announce that a new Executive Director has been recruited and is due to start in July 2018. Silvia Schehrer, Interim Director, will carry out a comprehensive hand-over when he starts so he can take the Strategic Plan forward.

Over the past few weeks, two of our colleagues have retired from Dementia Concern. Christine Walters, Call & Care Service Manager, gave us 14 years of service while Gordon Figgitt, Hospital Advocate, gave 11 years. We would like to THANK THEM both for doing such sterling work over the years and wish them happy and fulfilling lives of leisure.

Interim Service Manager, Cathy Carpenter, and Dementia Link Worker, Salvatore Sardo, joined us in October and February respectively. A new Call & Care Service Manager is starting at the end of April 2018. We welcome them all.

Dementia Café is the Talk of the Town



On Wednesday 11th April, over 50 people enjoyed a great evening out at the Dementia Café. There was a wonderful atmosphere as the evening progressed. Guests were dancing, singing, smiling and really enjoying the entertainment. A delicious buffet was served including samosas. Yum, yum!

John Buxton from Dementia Concern told us "On the return journey

home all the guests on my bus said how much they had enjoyed the evening. I was also told how important it was for carers and loved ones to share an evening of fun away from home with others in the community."



To book your place for the June Dementia Café, please phone the office.

VOICE OF DEMENTIA

Have Your Say on Dementia Concern's Future Development

As you know, we have been asking people living with dementia and their carers what they think about the services Dementia Concern offer. We held a special information evening in January and have asked service users and staff to complete surveys for us. We still need more surveys and feedback about our services to help us plan for the future and to help us raise vital funds to continue offering services in future years.

The survey asks you about future priorities and strategic development for Dementia Concern. It will help us plan our services to meet the needs of people living with dementia and their carers. We really would like to know what you think and how we help to support you through your journey with dementia. Understanding your views about what the organisation does and should do helps us plan and explain what we do to funders such as Ealing Council and Ealing Clinical Commissioning Group.

We can send you a copy of the survey if you wish to complete one for us. Please phone the office and ask for the survey to be sent to you. Alternatively, you may like to complete it on-line by using the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MNZ83R8>

Claim money back from Power of Attorney fees

You can get part of your application fee back if you applied to register a Power of Attorney in England or Wales from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2017. This applies to Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) and Enduring Powers of Attorney (EPA). You must claim your refund by 31 January 2021. Find out more and claim online via: <https://www.gov.uk/power-of-attorney-refund>

or contact the **Refunds Helpline** on Email: poarefunds@justice.gsi.gov.uk
Telephone: 0300 456 0300 (choose option 6) Or Textphone: 0115 934 2778



On Tuesday 27th March 2018, Dementia Concern's service users attended a **free performance at the Watermans Theatre of the award winning show 'Losing It'**, thanks to hosts Age UK London and *2theatre*. Attendees were also treated to refreshments after the show.

The celebrated international company *2theatre* (trained with Marcel Marceau and members of Cirque du Soleil) and comedy director Cal McCrystal, created the hilariously sharp play, which explored the inevitability of time, solitude and the joys of being odd!

One Dementia Concern guest said, "We went to 'Losing it'. We enjoyed it. Thank you for the tickets." Mrs E.R. told us, "I thought the play was quite all right, lots of jokes and everybody was laughing. The actors explained what was going on and I felt safe to laugh at everything." Carer Mrs D.G. praised it as, "Highly entertaining and an excellent performance, which incorporated several genres - mime, music, dance and singing - which depicted the life and times of an elderly couple reminiscing through their dementia. Relevant music got my family singing and swaying in the aisles!"

The views expressed in this newsletter are personal and not necessarily those of Dementia Concern. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please let the office know.

Consultation on charging for services

Owing to changes in the way Ealing Council plan to fund voluntary organisations from 2019, Dementia Concern is preparing service users and staff for a new way forward. During February and March, we have been talking to service users and staff about how Dementia Concern can keep services going.

The charity has no option but to start charging a daily contribution for its Day Care services to cover all its costs. Expenditure, options and prices were discussed and charges at the Day Centre and Thursday service will start in May 2018.

Service users also shared why it was important that services are sustained beyond 2019. Some of the benefits of the Weekend Centres and Thursday Group are below:

'I know my mum is safe and cared for if she is here. I don't have to worry about her. It allows me to do things for myself.'

'[It] gives the person with dementia something to look forward to.'

'The mix of all the different elements is key: physical activity, games, hot nutritious meals.'

'It's a very holistic service and looks at the whole person.'

'I'm certain that I could not cope without Day Care and Call and Care.'

'I can see how happy my mum is to come here.'

Following the consultation and taking into account the views of people living with dementia and their carers, the Board of Trustees decided to introduce a contribution of £20 per day for the Day Services. Letters have been sent to everyone affected and we ask all to respond by 30th April.

Twiddle Mitts Champion



Long-time member, Sylvia Burgen, recently popped into the office to drop off two bags of Twiddle Mitts for people living with dementia. We are delighted to say that Sylvia has now knitted 113 Mitts for Dementia Concern and for two hospitals in the borough.

The mitts have been very well received and they brighten up anyone's life with their multi-colours and Twiddling attachments! A Big THANK YOU to Sylvia for her lovely knitted contributions.

Sensory Palaces

June to September 2018

Hampton Court Palace and Kew Palace are offering free well-being sessions for people living with dementia and their carers. These two-hour sessions include activities such as arts and crafts, music, dance or drama to stimulate the senses.

Contact Victor at the office to find out more.

Star in your own film

My Life Films is a dementia charity which makes free films about the lives of people with dementia. The personalised films improve their quality of life and quality of care. Every film package made is given to the person and their family free of charge. My Life Films will make a biography film of 30 minute and a five minute film introduction to your life. They are funded by donations, grants and community fundraising. Learn more about the organisation by visiting their website.

My Life
FILMS

Dementia Concern is working in partnership with My Life Films in 2018-19 to get as many people in Ealing living with dementia to benefit from this great free opportunity. Please call 020 8948 7560 or email: Poppy Sharples: poppy@mylifefilms.org or Jo Foster: jo@mylifefilms.org or **you can get involved by completing a Star Application Form** on their website: www.mylifefilms.org/

**We have received donations in memory of the following people
from their families and friends**



Donations in Memory

Doris Browne David Gosden
Maud Hall John Colin Jones
Peggy Marsh Joseph Rollings
Jean Shelley Patrick Walwyk
Mrs J Watson

Our Need For Your Donations

We continue to need your support.

Although we have funding from a variety of sources, we rely on your donations to support our work with people with dementia living alone, our Carers' Information Evenings and Dementia Cafes and many other services.

If you would like to make a donation, please make a cheque out to Dementia Concern and send it to the office, at the address below, with a covering letter so that we can acknowledge your support.

We are very grateful for all your help.

**Ealing Half-Marathon -
Sunday 30th September 2018**

We hope that a number of people will support Dementia Concern by running the Ealing Half-marathon and raising money for the charity.

The run will begin and end in Lammas Park but covers parts of Ealing, West Ealing and Hanwell.

Participants benefit from chip timing, bottled water, quality medals and great local support with an estimated 30,000 spectators and 700 volunteers helping you go complete the run.

If you would like to run the local streets and raise vital funds, please contact Isabel at the office on 020 8568 4448. We need your support.

Dementia Concern is an independent charity which has been helping people with dementia and their carers in the London Borough of Ealing since 1982.

We provide assessment, advice, information, client representation, support and monitoring, home respite care, day centre care, dementia cafés and carers' information evenings .

You can **support our work** in the following ways:

- ◆ By becoming a member for £10 per year
- ◆ By making a donation
- ◆ By remembering us in your Will



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Supporting our Organisation:



Ealing
Clinical Commissioning Group

