

Dementia Action Alliance



Member Activity

Ask your local councillor for better coordination of health and social care

Carers Trust have launched a campaign to raise awareness and increase recognition of older carers who are over the age of 65. Older carers spend a massive amount of time, travelling to and juggling appointments, with and for the person they care for. Let's help make older carers' lives a little less stressful. [Take Action](#), ask your local councillors what is happening in your area to support better coordination of care. Carers Trust hope you will speak up for older carers so they experience more awareness and better support in your area. Ask your family and friends to [take the action](#) too.

Read about the [Carers Trust](#)

Help develop a NICE quality standard on oral health promotion in care homes and hospitals

NICE are currently recruiting patients and people who use services, as well as their carers and advocates, to join the committee which will be developing a NICE quality standard on oral health promotion in care homes and hospitals. This NICE quality standard may be of interest to your members and to other contacts you may have. You may also have people within your organisation who would be interested in the role. Here is the [recruitment advert](#), with details of what membership involves and how to apply. The NICE website also has details about [how this quality standard will be developed](#). Recruitment is open

until **5pm on Tuesday 13 September 2016**. NICE really value the contribution that people who use health and social care services, their carers and advocates make to the work of NICE, and would be very grateful if you could pass on details of this opportunity to anyone you think might be interested in taking part.

Action: Read about [NICE](#).

Fix Dementia Care

Have you got experience of homecare services for someone you know living with dementia? Alzheimer's Society is aware that people with dementia often receive homecare that doesn't meet the support needs of the individual or the carer, provided by homecare workers who have received little or no dementia training. This is not how people with dementia and their families should be treated. The Society would like to see more homecare workers with a greater understanding of dementia and what can be done to provide specific support to the individual and their carers throughout the dementia journey. To help build a picture of dementia care provision within homes across the country the Society would greatly value responses from people with dementia and family carers to [the survey](#).

Read about [Alzheimer's Society](#)

Carers of People with Dementia Webinar

Yorkshire and the Humber Clinical Network in partnership with TIDE and Life Story Network presented a [Carers of People with Dementia webinar](#) on 28th July. This was the first in a series of webinars

covering topics relating to carers of people with dementia and this 45 minute webinar covered:

- The importance of focusing on carers
- A carers perspective
- The diversity of needs across different carers groups.

The slides are available to download here:

- [Nicola Phillis, Quality Improvement Lead, Yorkshire and the Humber Clinical Network](#)
- [Jean Tottie, Chair and Director of Life Story Network and TIDE](#)

Thank you to Ray Carver for providing a very honest, powerful and moving reflection of her own caring experiences. The webinar is available to view on the Y&H Clinical Networks [website](#).

Action: Read about [tide](#)

Experience of prisoners with dementia

Department of Health, Mental Health Foundation and Alzheimer's Society have been mentioned in a recent [bulletin](#) on prisoners. Those aged over 60 are the fastest-growing segment of the prison population, increasing 125% between 2004 and 2014. Those aged over 50 are the second-fastest-growing segment, increasing by 104% in the same timeframe, while the overall prison population increased by just 15%. The ageing of the prison population shows no signs of abating, leading to an increase in deaths from natural causes in prisons and increasing social care needs of elderly and infirm prisoners. This has been recognised in the Care Act 2014, parts of which came into force in April 2015. The Act makes local authorities responsible for assessing and meeting the eligible social care needs of adult prisoners, although prisons will need to make referrals first. The aim is to bring the delivery of social care in prisons in line with the care of those in the community.

Read the full [Learning lessons bulletin](#)

Author within our membership!

We are proud to say that one of our National members is also a published author so we felt the need to share this! Pamela Holmes from SCIE provides a synopsis of her book: *The Huntingfield Paintress* is based on the life of Mildred Holland who, after eight years travelling on the Continent with her vicar husband finds life in the tiny Suffolk village where they settle, stifling and dull. What options exist for a clever and creative woman in the 1850s? A love affair fires Mildred's imagination and she embarks on an artistic journey. Enter St Mary's church today, slip £1 in the meter and there is an explosion of colour and imagery above your head. For six years, Mildred stood or lay on her back on scaffolding to paint a medieval ceiling, a fresco of saints, apostles and inscriptions in extravagant colour and gold leaf. Winged, crowned angels leap from the roof beam ends. But why did Mildred do it? A strong woman who flouts social convention in order to survive. It imagines the earthy elemental world of Victorian England as well as village life, love, death and deceit. The book's been endorsed by AN Wilson, Esther Freud and Deborah Moggach.

To find out more [contact Pamela Holmes](#)

Recruitment: Dementia Action Alliance Board Member (not for profit representative)

The DAA's current not for profit representative is going to take on the role of Clinical representative. As a result we are now recruiting someone from the not for profit sector to sit on our Board.

The Board meet quarterly in London and act as a steering group for the work of the DAA and Secretariat. You will provide guidance and assist with building new relationships.

Voluntary position.

[View](#) the current DAA Board Members.

Closing date: 30th September 2016.

1. Tell us about the National Care Forum

The National Care Forum supports organisations providing care and support services throughout the UK. NCF promotes the benefits of the not-for-profit model of care services provision. NCF members are not-for-profit organisations, providing quality care and support services. All our activities are to assist our members in keeping up to date with developments in the care sector and to promote improvements in the quality of services.



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2. What does your role as Policy and Communications Director involve?

It is a diverse role. NCF have a small effective and efficient team of which I am a part. Each day is different. NCF is a member based organisation so all my activity is aimed at supporting them, be it directly or indirectly. I help make the links between policy and practice. It is important for me to have both a strategic and operational perspective. I oversee 7 NCF Forums which connect over 300 senior NCF members in a range of strategic/operational roles. This keeps me grounded and enables me to represent members nationally across a variety of topics/issues. I am able to draw on my experience of having worked in the sector.

3. What are some of the challenges that the NCF faces?

NCF members are not exempt from the challenges of the sector as a whole, however these can also provide opportunity for innovation and new ways of working. Here is a flavour...
Workforce: recruitment and retention of the right people with the right values and behaviours.
National Living Wage: NCF support this, however the challenges of paying this over successive

years, retaining differential for different roles and responsibilities is challenging within the existing funding framework.

Quality versus price: NCF members are committed to providing quality services- over many years now public funding has diminished and yet people using services assessed needs have increased. Funding has not kept pace with these increasing assessed needs. In addition people living with dementia still fall between whether their assessed needs are health or social care.

4. As someone who has been involved in the DAA what role do you see us playing in supporting people with dementia and their carers?

DAA has the opportunity to provide a collective voice for people with dementia and their carers. Its strength is in the diversity of people and organisations committed to the Alliance. This collective voice has the potential to influence key decision makers and assist in making a difference for people with dementia now and into the future. I believe that the Alliance has to be more than a support organisation. Other organisations already fulfil that role.

5. Can you tell us about how your career to date has led you to this role at the NCF?

I have always been passionate about people and their potential. I believe that people using services; their families and the staff who work with them should have choice, voice and control. I believe in the power of relationships. Having volunteered as a teenager with older people; participated in prison visiting and talking to people with mental health concerns it seemed natural to choose a profession which involved caring for others. I am a nurse by profession both RGN RMN. I worked in the NHS for 10 years and then chose to work with Older People in Adult Social Care (ASC) - to date 26 years in ASC. I have worked in a variety of roles and organisations in operational and strategic roles. For 21 of the past 26 years I have also contributed to the national policy agenda. I had a forward thinking CEO who provided mentorship and opportunity; who believed that you

should look outside the organisation and not just focus internally. I have also worked for a Housing Association. I have been with NCF for 7.5 years. Working for NCF allows me to put into practice the skills I have acquired over many years. My passion for people has never gone away.

6. What would you ask of the DAA?

That it didn't try to be all things to all people. That it focused its resources and energies to the areas which are not covered by other organisations and that utilise the strength of the Alliance to speak out on key issues that if acted upon will make a real difference to people living with dementia, their families and staff working with them.

7. Tell us something interesting about yourself.

I love hippos and have a wonderful collection of them, including some amazing photographs.

Blog of the month

If you have a blog that you think may be of interest to our members please feel free to upload to our website or [send it through](#) to us.

Veronica Hawking, Dementia United/Alzheimer's Society, who provides a recap of the DAA Devolution Event earlier this year



Since last August I have been working, on behalf of Alzheimer's Society, with the team at [Haelo](#) on the development of Dementia United, the Greater Manchester wide dementia [devolution](#)

[transformation programme](#). At times over the last year, as I make the tram journey to SRFT, it has felt like Salford Royal and the Haelo offices have become my second home! So it was excellent to welcome people from around the country who are passionate about improving the lives of those affected by dementia to the hospital in June, for the quarterly national [Dementia Action Alliance](#) meeting. **Read [the full blog](#).**

PM's Challenge on Dementia 2020

The DAA are shining a spotlight on the Prime Minister's Challenge 2020 in every newsletter as we want to help Department of Health implement this important piece of work. Janice Braddock, Policy Officer in CQC's Adult Social Care Policy Team writes about what they are doing.

As the independent regulator of health and adult social care in England, CQC's purpose is to make sure health and social care services provide people with safe, effective, compassionate, high-quality care and we encourage care services to improve. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to delivering the Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia 2020.

CQC's new [strategy](#) sets out how we will build on the strong foundations of our regulatory model with a more targeted, responsive and collaborative approach. We will continue to register, monitor, inspect and rate health and adult social care services. We will strengthen our assessment of how well providers work with others to share information and coordinate care, and assess how well providers deliver care for specific populations groups.

People who use services are at the heart of everything that we do. Our new strategy is clear that we will continue to work with the public to focus on what matters to people, to listen and act on people's views and experiences of care, and to protect people's rights, especially those in the most vulnerable of circumstances.

Through our Experts by Experience programme, we have recruited people in the early stages of living with dementia and family carers of people living with dementia to participate in our inspections and other activities. We also promote our announced inspections to local voluntary and community groups, including dementia groups to get feedback about services.

CQC continues to build and strengthen partnerships with national organisations and engage with local community groups to increase our access to the experiences of people living with dementia. Through CQC's ['Tell us about your care'](#) programme we have

partnerships with a number of national charities that run helpline services and have extensive reach to older people and their carers. We also work with many other national, regional and local voluntary and community groups to increase awareness of CQC amongst all population groups, including people living with dementia and family carers. As well as encouraging people to share their experiences of care, this helps to empower people with knowledge of the standards of care they have a right to expect and our inspection reports that can support choice.

We have also developed partnerships with organisations that have extensive trusted reach to family carers and to older people. For the past two years CQC has worked with Mumsnet and Gransnet, reaching hundreds of thousands of family carers who may care for someone living with dementia or be in the early stages of dementia. We have also undertaken a project with Neighbourhood Watch to disseminate information about CQC. We will continue to explore ways of hearing from people living with dementia, including encouraging contributions from local dementia groups, volunteers and carers. And we will continue to actively support dementia awareness raising through our social media and media statements.

It is essential that people with dementia and their carers are supported by staff that have the appropriate level of dementia awareness and training. As a minimum, CQC has clearly stated we expect providers to be meeting the standards set out in the Care Certificate as the basis for their induction of relevant new staff.

CQC are committed to ensuring our own staff are aware and sufficiently knowledgeable about dementia. Dementia awareness sessions are provided for new staff, forming part of the induction process for new inspectors. CQC will continue to use appropriate professional expertise across inspectorates, for example, our National Professional Advisor on Older People, and the National Professional Advisor on Deprivation of

Liberty Safeguards/Mental Capacity Act, both advise on aspects of care for people living with dementia.

We will continue to publish thematic reports on topics of importance to people living with dementia. Recent reports include [A different ending: Addressing inequalities in end of life care](#), and [Building bridges, breaking barriers](#).

CQC will continue to develop CQC Insight, to improve, wherever possible, the quality and quantity of data we can gather about people living with dementia who use registered services. This will also help to inform regulatory activities.

About the DAA

The Secretariat is based at Devon House, 58 St Katharine's Way, London, E1W 1LB and can be contacted at dementiaactionalliance@alzheimers.org.uk

To visit the DAA's website, please go to www.dementiaaction.org.uk

Follow us on twitter @dementia_action

Action update of the month:

Beth Britton

This quarter I have been a panellist for the Carers Trust 'Care Act for Carers - One Year On' Commission, looking at how the Care Act has worked for family carers since implementation. This has important implications for families affected by dementia.

I continue to work with MacIntyre's Dementia Project as a consultant - this role includes working with, and supporting, families affected by dementia.

Why not take a look at her [Facebook page](#).

DAA at a glance

August 2016

Total membership = 4595

Total actions = 16773

Total Local Dementia Action Alliances = 258

Secretariat Update

Quarterly Event: Dementia and Rights

Following March's event on devolution, the next quarterly event is going to be on the rights of people affected by dementia. Everyone has human rights and this does not stop when a person receives a diagnosis of dementia. The health and social care sector can and should play an important role in ensuring that these rights are understood and met. Through this event we will explore the different rights that people affected by dementia should be afforded and how you can implement these in your organisation. Not only will we explore key legislation, we will also hear real-life stories during this interactive and engaging day.

Lord Kamlesh Patel of Bradford, Emeritus Prof Peter Mittler, Prof Murna Downs, Dr Peter Bowie, Dr Sarah Butchard and Sam Cox are all confirmed. Read about and register for the quarterly event on dementia and rights in Bradford [here](#).

Annual report

It's that time of year again....we need your submissions for the DAA Annual Report! For those of you that are new to this, we would like you to fill in the template that was recently emailed to you and send it back. This is your chance to publicise the fantastic work that you have been doing and this Annual Report will be sent to all members, the APPG on Dementia, leading figures in the health and social care world and will be in the public domain on the DAA website. We also distribute it at every possibility, including all of our events. We know that you are all doing such amazing things to support the lives of people affected by dementia but don't always get the opportunity to tell people! To see all of our previous Annual Reports, [take a look on our website](#). Please email it to the [Secretariat](#).

Board member (not for profit representative)

The DAA's current not for profit representative is going to take on the role of Clinical representative. As a result we are now recruiting someone from the not for profit sector to volunteer to sit on our [Board](#). The Board meet quarterly in London and act as a steering group for the work of the DAA and Secretariat. If you want to apply for this role, which includes providing guidance and assistance with building new relationships, please [contact the Secretariat](#). Closing date: 30th September 2016.

Webinars

Following on from the success of [our first webinar last week](#) - kindly delivered by The ExtraCare Charitable Trust - we have decided to run a complete webinar series. We need your ideas on topics you would like to feature. Please send these through and also let us know if you would like to host a webinar. They are a great way of sharing knowledge and best practice around key Issues and also of promoting the great work you are doing.

Members

We warmly welcome our newest National members:

- [Arc Seven](#)
- [Key Training Academy Ltd](#)
- [MacIntyre Charity](#)
- [The UK Live-In Care Association:](#)



"Dementia Action Alliance's commitment to raising awareness for people with dementia is absolutely inspiring. As an association promoting excellence in the care industry, we believed it was necessary to become a member to support and encourage DAA's aim of helping people with dementia live well", *Asif Yusuf Director of The UK Live-In Care Association*