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- Honiton Memory Café

Welcome to the autumn 2019 edition of the Devon Memory Café Consortium (DMCC) newsletter.

May I firstly say a big 'thank you' to all the Memory Cafés that have contributed to this edition, it is great to read your interesting and educational input.

Most will know that we are holding our annual convention on Thursday 28th November 2019; we do hope that you will be able to attend. An agenda will be circulated and you will be given a choice of menu for lunch should you be a vegetarian etc. Once again we have a good cross section of speakers and look forward to the opportunity of 'networking' with you all.

We also plan to update you with all the exciting developments that are taking place.

In this newsletter edition you will find an interesting contribution from one of our Trustees, June Wildman. June explains a little about the complex developments taking place within Devon, how these are impacting upon the vital role Memory Cafés now play and on their perceived place in the community. The DMCC is representing you at all levels in this process to ensure that we have the best interests of Devon's memory cafés at its heart.

Kind regards and best wishes to all.

Jim Delves

Chairman DMCC.



CONVENTION – 28TH NOVEMBER 2019

To all members.

The date for our next Convention on Thursday 28th November 2019 – we hope you will put the date in your diary and be able to join us once again at Westbank Healthy Living and Community Care Centre, Exminster.

The Agenda this year is intended to show a little light on the very complex changes that are taking place in our NHS and County Council services. They are beginning to change all over the country in line with legislation and guidance from NHS England towards full integration.

This process is going to take time and progress is different throughout the country. Here in Devon, we have been moving towards integration for a few years now and the changes are beginning to show. Commissioning of services are beginning to be carried out jointly between NHS and DCC which sometimes means a difference of how services are carried out.

Every County Council in the land has, by law, to have a Health and Wellbeing Board which oversees all these changes and has to set out a plan over five years. Devon has almost come to the end of the current plan and the new one is almost complete after much consultation with all concerned. This plan is called the Sustainability and Transformation Plan and the new one runs from 2020-25. You will be able to read this on the DCC website www.devon.gov.uk.

The Plan not only covers NHS and DCC services but overall any voluntary organisation involved in Health and Wellbeing.

Why go into all this detail? Well, because Memory Cafes are part of this Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). We will help form an integrated service in our localities for those living with dementia, once the systems are fully in place. Find out a little more at the Convention – and watch this space.....

Our Convention will be on Eventbrite shortly, so please book as soon as possible.

June Wildman

DMCC Trustee and Carer Ambassador Devon County Council



MEMORY CAFÉ MATTERS PROJECT



PROJECT UPDATE

Our Memory Café Matters project is taking shape with many of our Memory Cafés volunteering to become involved with the filming to develop a package of short training videos dedicated to the specific needs of those who are involved in running Memory Café. These new videos will be in a bite-size online format that will be free to all Members and can be used at a time and place and suit you,

We have built the project around the central theme of our Quality Assurance Mark that a number have already achieved and several more are working towards - with support from their local CVS.

We have identified several key areas such as dementia awareness, volunteering and memory café activities. We are developing a set of videos of between 4-7 minutes that will support and complement the overall Memory Matters Project.

Filming for the videos will take place mainly in October in Memory Cafés of various sizes in different locations across the county and we hope to be able to present some extracts at our Convention in November.



DEMENTIA AWARENESS TRAINING

We held a Dementia Awareness training course on the 19th September 2019 at the Kenn Centre as part of the Memory Café Matters project. Steve Milton (Innovations in Dementia) was the presenter at the event and the feedback was very positive. There were discussions around memory problems and identity and one quote that he gave was 'Once you have met one person with Dementia, you have met one person with Dementia'. We used this training event to record footage that will be used for the free on-line training courses we are going to produce for the benefit of all our Memory Cafés.





Devon Memory Cafe Consortium Quality Assurance Mark

We still have funding available to anyone who would like to take part. To find out more about this or to register your interest either contact: June Wildman (Trustee) at info@dmcc.org.uk or, Katie Chaplin at Teignbridge CVS at: office@teigncv.org.uk Katie Chaplin will process your application and you will then be referred to your local branch of CVS who will be able to offer you free help and advice on completing the process.



DMCC WEBSITE UPGRADE

We are currently working on upgrading our website as we need to make changes to make room for all the Memory Café Matters new resources that will become available to you later in the year.



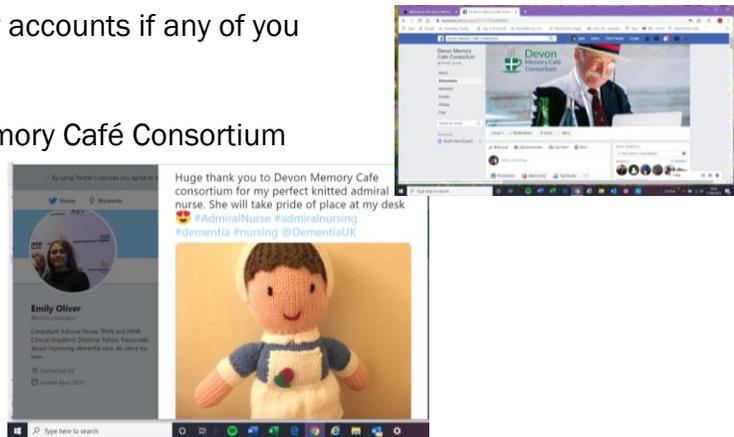
DMCC NEW FACEBOOK AND TWITTER ACCOUNTS

We have launched our own Facebook and Twitter accounts if any of you would like to join them

To find us on Facebook – just look for Devon Memory Café Consortium

Or follow us on Twitter @devonmemorycc

to find out what's going on



Update on Model Railway Open Day - Sunday 18th August,

Jim and his wife Dionne visited the model railway open day at "Heale Station" in Ivybridge. They raised £1,000 and have kindly donated £500 of this to Devon Memory Café Consortium and wrote a note to Jim saying “on behalf of Maria and myself it was a pleasure meeting you and we are delighted we could be a little help to your wonderful work. Take care and best wishes to you and your wife and the whole team. Craig and Maria”



Dementia Accessibility checklist

We were told by the guest speaker at the Dementia Awareness training session that his company (Innovations in Dementia) have developed two checklist on accessibility and are happy to share these.

- Is this OUTSIDE public space dementia-inclusive?
- Is this INSIDE public space dementia-inclusive?

If you would like a copy please email: info@dmcc.org.uk



MEMORY CAFÉ NEWS STORY – FROM BARNSTAPLE MEMORY CAFÉ

BARNSTAPLE MEMORY CAFÉ SUMMER OUTING

Please see photographs of the day out to RHS Rosemoor Gardens for Barnstaple Memory Café and the Barnstaple Quiet Memory Café who joined forces in July 2019 and had a brilliant day..

Members and volunteers explored the gardens, sampled the delicious lunches or their picnics and finished off the day making wonderful works of art using tissue paper and coloured card.

It was a fabulous day.

Anne McKiernan, Coordinator



MEMORY CAFÉ NEWS - FROM HONITON MEMORY CAFE

We have Summer highlights from Min Rennolds, Co-ordinator.at Honiton Memory Café

Volunteer Away Day

These are just some of our lovely volunteers enjoying an " away day" at our Vice Chairman's house last month. We shared ideas on what we do and how we can improve our Memory Café. A delicious lunch together in lovely peaceful surroundings before a fun afternoon of "Mindful Pizza making " with Francine. Everyone taking home their pizzas for supper.



Honiton Memory Café outing to Royal Oak Fruit Farm

Thirty-five of us enjoyed our visit to The Royal Oak Fruit Farm at Stockland for one of their award-winning cream teas again this year. Vintage china, home grown flowers on the tables and jams made with their own fruit help to always make this a highlight of our summer.

