



**The Dementia Engagement
and Empowerment Project**

***DEEP (dementia engagement and
empowerment project)***
*helping to connect involvement groups
of people with dementia*

March 2016

Every now and again, we get requests from researchers and product developers wanting to recruit people with dementia to take part in their projects. Sometimes they approach us at the project planning stage, so we can ask them to build in costs and support for groups that want to help them. However, as DEEP grows more successful and well known, we are starting to get more requests from organisations that we don't know - at the moment, we are inclined to pass all requests on to the network via this Update or by email, but we don't like doing this if we are unsure of the organisation and cannot influence how they work.

Please let us know what you think? How should these decisions be made?

In this month's Update:

network support:

- DEEP Co-ordinator Update **p2**

network news:

- Lancashire Dementia Voices: **p2**
raising dementia awareness in younger people
- SURF website launch **p3**
- DEEP BME Project summary **p3**

have your say...

- Back to work assessment – what's your view? **p3**
- PCA Support Group: Blue Badge awareness **p3**

network support

DEEP Northern Co-ordinator Update

The shortlist has been drawn up for the Scotland, North of England and Northern Ireland DEEP Co-ordinator and we will update you further next month.

A message from Rachel Niblock, our new Southern Co-ordinator

"I'm so excited to be starting work on 6 April 2016 as DEEP Co-ordinator for Wales and South of England (south seems to start from about the Chester area across to the south of Yorkshire, so it's quite a big patch). I've got my 'first day at school bag' all packed up, I've updated my passport, stocked up on miniature travel accessories (alcohol not included), new note pad, pencil case, etc!

I'll be working mainly on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays - but this will be flexible depending on what is going on where. My aim is to make contact with as many of you as possible in my first few weeks - but I would very much welcome any emails or calls from you to say hello. I'm also on twitter @RachelNiblock so please do make contact with me there too. Happy days."

Rachel Niblock T: 07720 538851 E: niblock@myid.org.uk

network news

Lancashire Dementia Voices – raising dementia awareness in younger people

Following their prospective new project for an outreach education service later this year and together with Lancaster University, a number of Lancashire Dementia Voices group members recently delivered dementia awareness to first year medical students at Cumbria University. This education service aims to reach high school students/colleges and universities in Lancashire to raise dementia awareness amongst younger people.

To keep up to date with Lancashire Dementia Voices click the link below to visit their website:
<http://lancshiredementivoices.org/>

SURF website launch

SURF Liverpool's website is live - why not visit www.surfdementia.org or click on the logo to learn more about what they are doing.



DEEP BME Project – summary report from Memorybilia

Memorybilia have shared information on their DEEP BME project - Engaging people with dementia from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups in Memorybilia - a service user involvement network for people with dementia in West Kent and Medway. Click the link to download the report summary in PDF: [BME Involvement Project-summary](#)

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Back to work assessment – what's your view?

Chris Ryan from Forget me Nots recently wrote to David Cameron about the issues surrounding the work capability assessment and particularly how this affects younger people with dementia – he would welcome your thoughts on this and equally your support in pushing for a better understanding of the impact of dementia on working age people.

If you would like to contact Chris regarding the work capability assessment, please email Nada and she will forward any correspondence: nada@myid.org.uk

PCA – Blue Badge awareness

One of our newest groups, The PCA Support Group in Berkshire, is looking for narratives from anyone who has encountered difficulties in obtaining Blue Badges to support their aim of greater recognition and acceptance that PCA (posterior cortical atrophy) warrants access to disability parking areas.

Nada will forward any correspondence from you to the PCA Support Group: nada@myid.org.uk

new groups

Please welcome the following new groups to the DEEP network:

- PCA Support Group, Berkshire
- User and Carer Involvement (UCI), Dumfries

keep in touch

Let us know about your work – it is great to share it through the DEEP Update.

Here are the contact details for Steve, Nada and Rachel:

<p>Steve Milton E: steve@myid.org.uk T: 07549 944795</p>	 <p>Nada Savitch E: nada@myid.org.uk T: 07549 921901</p> 
<p>Rachel Niblock Southern Co-ordinator E: niblock@myid.org.uk T: 07720 538851</p>	