



# dementia perspective



News from the Dementia Services Development Centre

Winter 2009

## A boost for dementia services in Northern Ireland

Dementia services within Northern Ireland received a significant boost on 23 September when Minister for Health Michael McGimpsey MLA officially opened the DSDC's new Northern Ireland office. Speaking at the opening Mr McGimpsey said: "Today represents a very positive step forward in the continued development of our dementia services here in Northern Ireland. The move to these new premises will enable the centre to extend and improve its services for people with dementia and their carers."

The Northern Ireland office has received grant aid of £1.2m over three years from the Department of Health and The Atlantic Philanthropies which will support it until the end of March 2012. The new offices

incorporate training and education facilities, a technology demonstration area and a number of features which illustrate elements of best practice in dementia-friendly design.

In his address, Colm Cunningham, Director of Operations, told guests that as a result of the grant aid from the Government and The Atlantic Philanthropies, practitioners in Northern Ireland would have the resources to improve services both locally and internationally. He said: "One example of progress is that the Northern Ireland students are linked across four continents through the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Increasingly, practitioners in Northern Ireland are positioned to take their place in the global forum of dementia care, joining international



Maria McManus, Dr Ken Logue, Michael McGimpsey MLA and Colm Cunningham

discourse and actively contributing to the future, as well as learning from others. They are making a real difference to improving the quality of care on the front line of services."

## New team members

We are pleased to welcome two new staff to the DSDC's Northern Ireland office. Anna Egner joined us at the start of October in the position of Administrative Assistant/Project Coordinator, and Heather Sleator is our new Training Consultant. Heather is on secondment from the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) where she has been working as an inspector. She has previously worked in health and social care as both a nurse and a social worker.

Anna and Heather join Maria McManus (Associate Director) and Colm Cunningham (Director of Operations), pictured right



Anna Egner



Heather Sleator



## Discounted design consultancies available

Five discounted design consultancy packages are being offered to HPSS trusts\* in Northern Ireland. The design consultancy service enables organisations to benefit from the DSDC's considerable expertise in designing safe and appropriate environments for people with dementia. This offer is only available for consultations completed by March 2010, so contact maria.mcmanus@stir.ac.uk for further information and to discuss your specific needs.

*\*limited to one per trust*

# Northern Ireland services scoop Dementia UK Awards

Northern Ireland was well represented at the recent Dementia UK Awards, held as part of the DSDC's third international conference in York. Seventeen teams or individuals were nominated, and to our delight two prestigious awards were brought home.

The Best Innovation in Practice award was won by the Foyle Branch of the Alzheimer's Society and PSNI 'G' District for training police officers in dementia awareness. Following a successful pilot project, plans are now underway to roll out dementia training across the PSNI.

Dementia Design Innovation of the Year was won by Mary Margaret McGuigan of Northern Trust for the creation of a dementia garden at Tardree House, Holywell Hospital. Outside space is so essential to the well-being of people with dementia so this award is especially appropriate.



Deirdre Lewis (centre) accepting the Dementia Design Innovation of the Year award on behalf of Mary Margaret McGuigan, pictured with Professor June Andrews and David Ward (DWA Architects)

Sergeant Ian Hunt, Michael McIvor, Dr Maura Briscoe, Constable Charlie Oldcroft, Professor June Andrews, Constable Kenny Hamilton, Maria McManus



## DEMMENTIA UK AWARD NOMINEES REPRESENTING NORTHERN IRELAND


Category	Nominee(s)	Organisation	Location
<b>Best innovation in practice</b>	Philip Bartley and Deirdre Lewis	Northern Trust, Whiteabbey Hospital	Newtownabbey
<b>Dementia design innovation of the year</b>	Pamela Topping		Crumlin
	Arthur Canning	Trinity Housing Ltd	Belfast
	Mary Margaret McGuigan	Tardree House, Holywell Hospital	Antrim
<b>Dementia nurse of the year</b>	Sinead Polland	Strangford Court Care Home	Downpatrick
<b>Outstanding contribution to the field of dementia</b>	Northern Ireland Dementia Forum	Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital	Omagh
	Naomi Carey and Janet Montgomery	Massereene Manor Private Nursing Home	Antrim
	Northern Ireland Dementia Forum, c/o Joe Travers	Tyrone Fermanagh Hospital	Omagh
<b>Team of the year</b>	Cedarhurst Lodge Care Home	Cedar Hurst Lodge	Belfast
	Alzheimer's Society Outreach Service	Alzheimer's Society	Belfast
	The Day Centre Team	Millbrook Court Day Centre	Bangor
	Silverdale Care Home	Silverdale Care Home	Castleberg
	Alzheimer's Society Helpline Advisers	Alzheimer's Society	Belfast
	Fold Housing, Millbrook Court Day Centre		Bangor
	Foyle Alzheimer's and PSNI 'G' District		Londonderry
<b>Unsung hero</b>	Rose Marie Andrews	Victoria Park Care Home	Belfast
	Donna Mawhinney	Bangor Care Home	Bangor

## Book now for the Belfast design school!

Bookings are now being taken for the DSDC's popular design school, which will take place in Belfast from 3–5 March 2010. It will explore a range of issues including effective commissioning, project management, designing external and internal environments, and lighting.

The design school provides invaluable information for commissioners of service, architects, planners, care home managers and anyone interested in designing high quality environments for dementia.




**Cost: £825** (three-day event). To book a place email [anna.egner@stir.ac.uk](mailto:anna.egner@stir.ac.uk), phone 028 9581 0510 or visit [www.dementiashop.stir.ac.uk](http://www.dementiashop.stir.ac.uk)



UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

DESIGN SCHOOL  
3–5 MARCH 2010

DEMENTIA SERVICES DEVELOPMENT CENTRE  
NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE

## Farewell Oonagh!

Oonagh Thompson has now left the DSDC but will remain connected to the world of dementia care as she is pursuing a PhD in the subject of brain training at Queen's University.



## We're recruiting

We are currently recruiting a research fellow and will publish details of the appointment as soon as possible. Keep an eye on our website for more information: [www.dementiacentreni.org](http://www.dementiacentreni.org)

## Undergraduate and postgraduate modules

Register by 1 December 2009 for courses beginning in January/February 2010

Undergraduate	Postgraduate
<p><b>A person-centred approach to dementia care</b></p> <p>1 &amp; 2 February 2010, £640</p>	<p><b>The experience of carers of people with dementia</b>, week commencing 8 February 2010, £790</p> <p>This course examines the characteristics of carers of people with dementia, the challenges they face and the role of informal carers in the provision of care for people with dementia.</p>
<p><b>Early interventions and support for people with dementia</b></p> <p>4 &amp; 5 February 2010, £640</p> <p>These structured courses provide a thorough background in dementia before going on to explore specific aspects of the condition in more detail. They begin with a two-day introductory session, then continue using distance learning. You will receive a course workbook and handbook, along with tutor support via email and phone.</p>	<p><b>Neglected issues – younger people, learning disabilities and alcohol</b>, week commencing 8 February 2010, £790</p> <p>This course focuses on previously neglected issues including younger people with dementia, people with learning disability and dementia and alcohol-related dementia. These are now gaining recognition within the debate on policy and practice for people with dementia.</p>
	<p><b>Certificate in dementia studies, 28/29 Jan 2010</b></p> <p>This module introduces students to four key theoretical approaches to understanding dementia: biomedical, psychological, gerontological and sociological, providing an important grounding in the theoretical aspects of dementia studies. <b>Cost: £815 per module</b></p>

Join us to celebrate our 21<sup>st</sup> birthday at our 4<sup>th</sup> international conference, London 2010

# Coming of Age

## Dementia in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

19-21 October 2010, ExCel London

**Call for papers now open! Closing date for submissions 10.03.10.**

**Visit [www.dementia.stir.ac.uk](http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk) for more details**

**2010** Celebrating  
**2010** 21 years of the  
Dementia Services  
Development Centre



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The Dementia Services  
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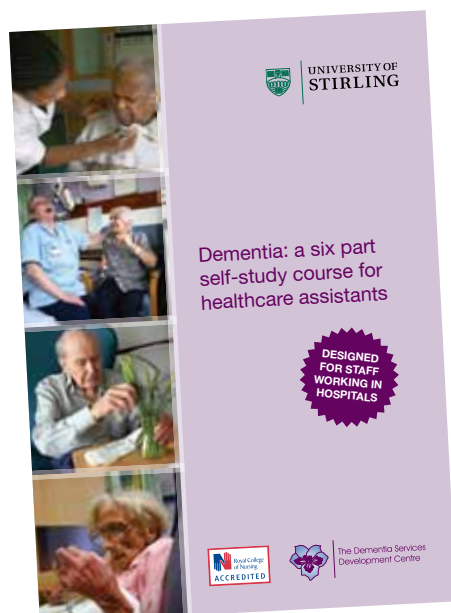
### Accredited training for healthcare assistants

In January 2010 the DSDC's Northern Ireland office will be running a two-day course enabling facilitators to deliver its self-study course for healthcare assistants. Accredited by the Royal College of Nursing, *Dementia: a six part self-study*

*course for healthcare assistants*, has been developed in conjunction with HCAs to make sure it is truly relevant to their needs. The two-day course will train staff from hospitals to become facilitators, who can then deliver the course to their colleagues. Facilitators receive a comprehensive resource pack with notes, reading lists and exercises, which complements a set of six workbooks for participants.

The course is designed to complement HCAs' existing practice, and combines self-study with group discussions and support from their facilitator. It takes six months to complete. So far hundreds of HCAs from across the UK have completed the course, and feedback has been very positive.

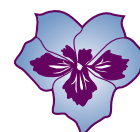
Some grant aid is available for facilitators who attend the next course in Northern Ireland on 25 and 26 January. Please contact us for more details.



Visit us online at  
[www.dementiacentreni.org](http://www.dementiacentreni.org)

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