

Enquiry – working with Dementia Friends

This is a round-up of responses to an enquiry in November 2014.

East Riding of Yorkshire

- I am in the process of arranging for Dementia Friends training for as many of our staff as I can. The training is being arranged with our local Alzheimer's Society with whom we have very strong links and work with on an ongoing basis.
- The library staff who attend the Dementia Friends training will then cascade the training to other staff members and we will also use the online Dementia Friends training.
- It's my eventual aim for all front line library staff to become Dementia Friends.

Further info from: Beverley.palmer@eastriding.gov.uk

Kirklees

- We encourage and support our staff to become Dementia Friends
- ... and have held a session in one of our libraries for the community, hoping to become a dementia friendly community.
- We have just submitted a bid for funding for Dementia Reading Friends and we will work with the voluntary and community sector.

Further info from: Dianne.hird@kirklees.gov.uk

Middlesbrough

- At Middlesbrough, all our Library staff and volunteers have been trained up as dementia friends.
- We also hold open sessions with dementia friends champions for the public to attend and become 'dementia friends' themselves.
- We also host a dementia café once a month at the Central Library, for people living with dementia and their carers. This is run in partnership with the local Alzheimer's Society.

Further info from: diane_fleet@middlesbrough.gov.uk

National Museums Liverpool

- National Museums Liverpool trained 200 staff as Dementia Friends in Feb 2014 with the help of a Dementia Champion based at Countess of Chester Hospital. You can read more about it here:
<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/about/mediacentre/2014/nml-dementia-friends.aspx>

Further info from: Dawn.Carroll@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Norfolk

- As part of our dementia friendly libraries strategy, Norfolk is training all its staff to be dementia friends

Further info from: janet.holden@norfolk.gov.uk

North East Lincolnshire

- We are not currently working with Dementia Friends but are hoping to become a Dementia Friendly Library Service and are working with the Dementia Action Alliance.

Further info from: Jennie.Mooney@nelincs.gov.uk

Portsmouth

- In July, I completed the training session to become a Dementia Friends Champion, and have now set up 7 information sessions in the Portsmouth Library Branches, running throughout the autumn, to try to recruit Dementia Friends for Portsmouth. I did all this on behalf of Portsmouth Library Service, to spread awareness to both the community and the library staff.

Further info from: donna.tebbs@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Stockport

- We have had the pull up banners in our libraries to promote the initiative, and some colleagues are signed up as Dementia Friends.

Further info from: maria.nother@stockport.gov.uk

Stockton

- I work for Stockton Libraries and Heritage Service and have recently become a Dementia Friends Champion.
- We have been very involved with our dementia services for about four years now and as a result I am part of the 'Dementia Friendly Stockton Project' working party and as such will be helping to deliver Dementia Friends sessions to our local businesses.
- We also have a volunteer deliver Dementia Friends sessions in our libraries during Dementia Awareness Week.
- We have also been delivering dementia awareness sessions to schools using story time as a focus for the last four years (the model was developed collaboratively with our dementia services and professionals). In partnership with Dementia Friendly Stockton, I am about to embark on a whole school project which will include delivering Dementia Friends sessions to the staff. I have my first appointment with a Head Teacher on Friday to put my proposal to her. If she supports this project and thinks there is real value in it I will start to approach the schools I have worked with over the last four years. If

successful the potential is to reach every child of primary school age in the borough. This will obviously take a few years to achieve and it remains to be seen how supportive schools will be, but I have high hopes. Julia Jarman has written a wonderful story book especially for raising awareness with young children. I have the proof copy and it is perfect for the work I am doing. Publication is currently due in August but will hopefully be brought forward. It would be fantastic if you could help me spread the word nearer the time. [I'll pass on any info when the book is published. JV]

Further info from: karen.morris@stockton.gov.uk

West Sussex

- We have held Dementia Friends sessions for library staff and members of the public as part of the Dementia Awareness days that we hold in some libraries. These sessions have been run by a Dementia Friends Champion from the West Sussex Alzheimer's Society
- We are working with the West Sussex Alzheimer's Society and the County Council Learning and Development team to gradually train all our library staff to become Dementia Friends.

Further info from: Jackie.manners@westsussex.gov.uk

Wiltshire

- In Wiltshire we're offering libraries as venues for Dementia Champions to hold sessions for the public.
- Public health colleagues have commissioned the Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Support to deliver Dementia Friends sessions to all staff across the council over the next 3 years. Approx. 15% of library staff have already attended a session with more sessions being organised for early next year.

Further info from: Rebecca.bolton@wiltshire.gov.uk