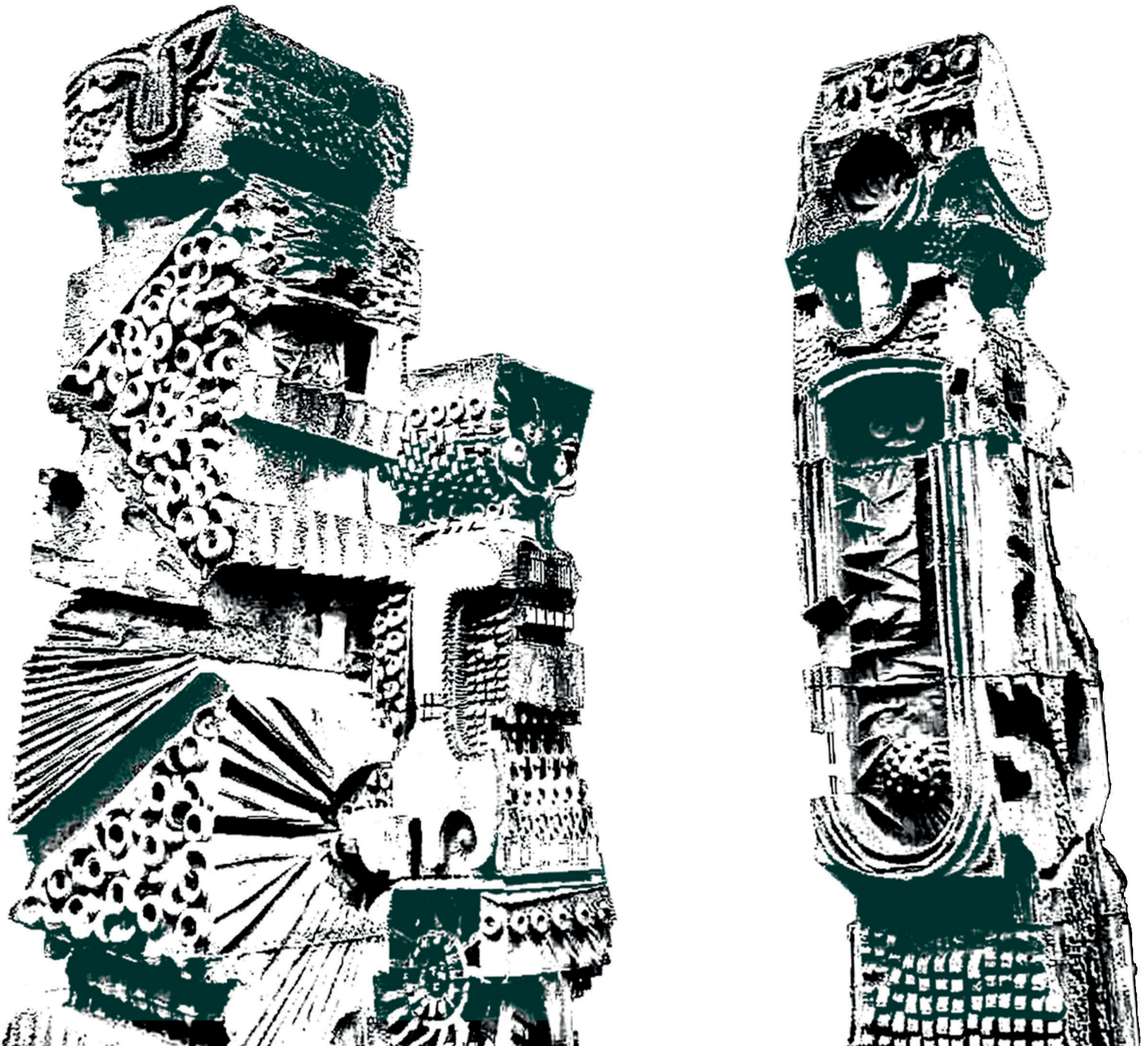


NEWSLETTER/

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

ISSUE 8



Welcome from Director

Welcome to our refreshed style newsletter! We will now have an annual e-newsletter but, if you need a printed copy, let us know and we will help.

It has been quite a year for everyone with lockdown restrictions, and to keep us all safe, many of our activities have been curtailed. This has also been the case for us at the Dementia Hub when we had to cancel our in-person groups in line with National guidance. We have continued to meet virtually on a weekly basis and now that the vaccination programme has been so successfully rolled out and government guidance is enabling more of the freedoms we all took for granted, we are now in the planning stage for opening our doors again and welcoming people living with dementia and care partners back to the Hub. It is our intention that we will begin this in a phased way from June/July and have a new programme of groups and activities in place by September 2021.

In March we were fortunate to have Dr Andy Northcott present (virtually due to covid) at the school research seminar series on his recent book - 'Wandering the Wards: An Ethnography of Hospital Care and its Consequences for People Living with Dementia'. This thought provoking presentation was enjoyed by many and was recorded so students in the school could also access it.

Our research has also been impacted by covid restrictions, with some planned work paused. However, we began a new study funded by the College of Radiographers in October (in our research spotlight below) and also completed a three year study, Empowered Conversations, funded by the National Lottery and a five year programme of work funded by the Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust. We would like to thank the funders for supporting this work and also the researchers who worked with us on these studies. We said farewell (virtually) to Dr Lydia Morris and will soon say farewell to Dr Sarah Kate Smith. We have been fortunate to have had excellent researchers and colleagues as part of our research team and we wish them well in their new roles.

We give a warm welcome to our two new Community Engagement Officers joining our team, Siobhan Kelly and Mali Pocsai (see introduction below) and wish our very best to Sophie Bushell who worked with us for over 3 years as our Community Engagement Officer and who has now moved on to begin new studies. We hope that when the rules allow we shall have a get together at the Hub to say an in person 'thank you' to all who have worked with us and who have moved on to pastures new during lockdown and also to welcome our new colleagues.

We were very sad when one of our Dementia Associates, Maria, passed away in April. Our thoughts are with her husband, Mario, who has been such a driver behind our beautiful garden and the Good Life Club. The love between Mario and Maria was such a pleasure for everyone who knew them to see and we will miss Maria and her smile very much.

We look forward to seeing people in person again soon and if you have not yet attended any of our groups do get in touch with us so you can come along and 'test' us out when we are able to run groups again.

Professor Anthea Innes
Coles-Medlock Director,
Salford Institute for Dementia and Ageing



Anthea Innes

WELCOME TO OUR NEW COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICERS/



MALI POCSAI/

Mali Pocsai has joined us in the Hub as one of the Community Engagement Officers. With a degree in Gerontology, lived experience of being a caregiver and an employment history inclusive of developing purpose-built housing for memory loss; she is delighted to join the team. Her principal areas of interest include connecting people, removing barriers to inclusion, and looking at the benefits of housing design on ageing well. .

SIOBHAN KELLY/

Siobhan is in the second year of her Sociology PhD programme at the University of Salford. Her research investigates the lived experience of older charity shop volunteers in the North West of England to better understand active ageing within the community. Siobhan has a keen interest in ageing and wellbeing in later life and has previously been employed in the voluntary sector. She is particularly passionate about social inclusion, community connectedness and empowerment. She worked with the Salford Institute for Dementia and Ageing as a Research Assistant in 2019 and is thrilled to be starting a new role at the Hub.



Much of what the Institute does is aimed at improving the lives of people with dementia and their caregivers. Co-production and co-creation underpin our activities and we are lucky to have the input of a range of stakeholders to guide our work. Our new Community Engagement Officers will be developing a new programme of groups in consultation with our Dementia Associates Panel, a group of people with direct experience of living with, or supporting someone who is living with, dementia.

During the pandemic we moved our groups to virtual meetings, WhatsApp groups and phone calls to maintain contact with one another. We also undertook a research study where we were able to then set out our plan for returning to in-person working as soon as guidelines permit in ways that our members feel comfortable to do so.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT/

The Views and Experiences of Diagnostic and Therapy Radiography Practitioners When Caring for Persons Living with Dementia in the Department by Prof Anthea Innes, Dr Rob Higgins and Dr Adam Spacey



Dr Rob Higgins, Professor Anthea Innes and Dr Adam Spacey are working together on a new project. In October 2020 we began a research study funded by a College of Radiographers Industry Partnership Scheme (CoRIPS) Research Grant to explore the views and experiences of radiography practitioners (diagnostic and radiotherapy) when caring for persons living with dementia in the department. Despite clinical practice guidance and recognition of the importance of persons with dementia and their carers when undergoing imaging or radiotherapy by the Society of Radiographers, there is little that has explored the radiographer experience or how to support radiographers to provide the best care with persons with dementia and their carers when attending the imaging or radiotherapy department.

This research project also involves close collaboration with the Society of Radiographers to help to further develop their current national radiography practice guidelines and training programmes. This is intended to better support radiography practitioners to improve the quality of patient care they provide to persons living with dementia when attending imaging and radiotherapy services.



The study is nationwide, and we are currently in the process of recruiting participants to take part in online focus group research to explore radiography practitioner views and experiences when caring for patients in the imaging or radiotherapy department. These focus groups will also identify what radiography practitioners feel are effective care strategies used in clinical practice based on their own personal lived experiences. Key findings and themes identified from this focus group research will then be discussed in the next phase of this research which will involve interviews with the core stakeholder group responsible for developing the guidance for the Society of Radiographers to explore these themes and whether current guidance needs to be revised in light of this lived experience information.



We will be sharing our findings in a future newsletter.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT/

EMPOWERED CONVERSATIONS /

We have worked closely with a local organisation, Empowered Conversations for the last 5 years. Emma Smith has written a short piece for this newsletter:

Empowered Conversations provide communication training courses, bespoke one to one online support and, as a result of the Covid Pandemic, an online programme of webinars, engagement sessions and groups to support care partners in their role supporting people living with dementia.

www.empowered-conversations.co.uk

Over the last 5 years we have worked in partnership with Salford University and the Salford Institute for Dementia and Ageing in many ways. Two significant projects include working on a Knowledge Transfer Partnership and a Big Lottery Funded study which resulted in a 3 year research programme led by Dr Lydia Morris and Professor Anthea Innes to evaluate the delivery of communication training for care partners. More recently the Empowered Conversations team worked with Dr John Chatwin to evaluate the service using Conversational Analysis.

The Salford Institute for Dementia and Ageing was a natural partner for Empowered Conversations due to their extensive experience of researching and evaluating dementia services. We have worked on numerous publications, presentations and projects over the years and look forward to identifying new work that can improve the opportunities for people living with dementia and their care partners.

Emma Smith, Project Manager, Empowered Conversations, Age UK Salford.



READ MORE ABOUT OUR WORK/

Our 5 year programme of work funded by the Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust is beginning to be published. Three papers have been accepted this year to date: one reporting on the music making café with the Halle Orchestra; one reporting on our music participation café with Music in Hospitals & not in Care, and our Good Life Club:

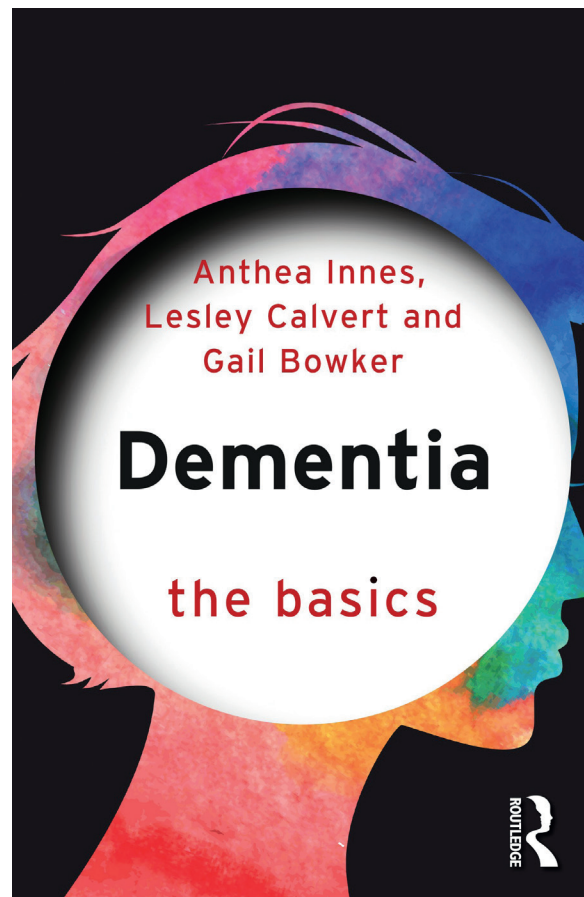
- / Smith, S, Innes, A and Bushell S (2021) "Music Making in the community with people living with dementia and care partners – 'I'm leaving feeling on top of the world!'", Health and Social Care in the Community
- / Smith, S, Innes, A and Bushell S (2021) Exploring the impact of live music performances on the self-reported wellbeing of community dwelling people living with dementia and their care partners. Wellbeing, Space and Society
- / Morris, L., Innes, A., Smith, S. Wilson, J., Bushell, S. and Wyatt, M.(2021) "A qualitative evaluation of the impact of a Good Life Club on people living with dementia and care partners" Dementia: the international journal of social research and practice. DOI: 10.1177/1471301221998897

Another paper from our research work with Historic Royal Palaces was also recently published:

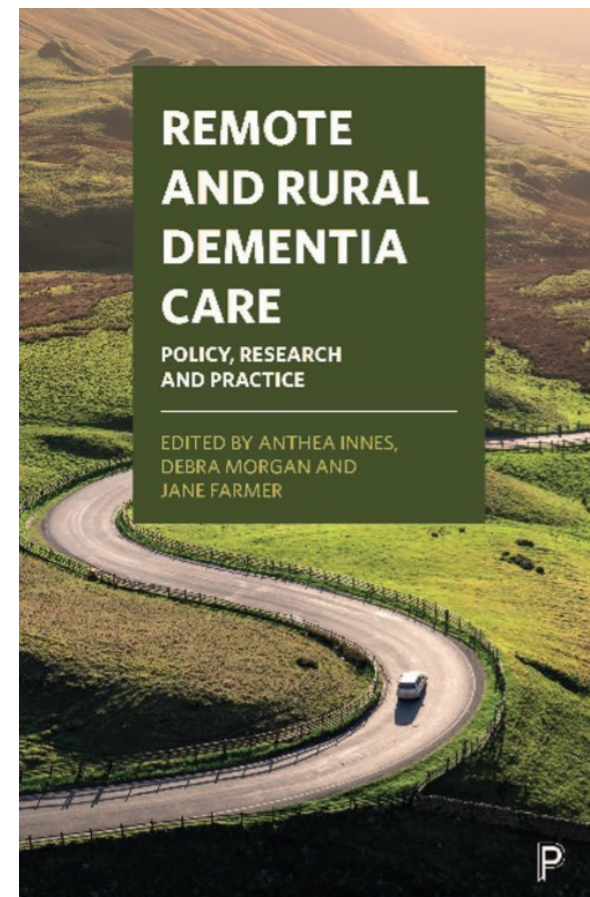
- / Innes A, Scholar H, Haragalova K and Sharma M (2021) ""You come because it's an interesting place": The impact of attending a heritage programme on the wellbeing of people living with dementia and their care partners." Dementia: the international journal of social research and practice. doi:10.1177/1471301220985380

RECENT PUBLICATIONS/

ENTERPRISE AND EDUCATION/



A book co-authored by Anthea Innes, Lesley Calvert and Gail Bowker was published in the summer of 2020 and is an output that demonstrates the close working between academic staff, people living with dementia and care partners at the institute.



Another book that was published in 2020 was Anthea's work with co-editors from Canada, Debra Morgan, and Australia, Jane Farmer. This book has already received positive reviews, particularly for including chapters written by people living with dementia who live in remote and rural Ireland and Scotland. This book received a virtual launch by Innes and Farmer in Australia in June 2020 and was also discussed as part of Anthea's international keynote at the annual Rural Dementia Summit, again virtual, hosted by Debra Morgan in Saskatoon, Canada in November 2020.

Dr Sarah Kate Smith changed roles in October 2020 and became our Education and Enterprise specialist and she has been working hard to develop these elements of the work at the institute. The aim of the enterprise element of the initiative is to seek and develop new partnerships with Primary, Secondary and Third Sector organisations as well as maintaining our existing partnerships and ways of working together across Greater Manchester and beyond. We welcome opportunities for Tender activities and will create compelling bid responses focussing on the topics of Dementia, Ageing and Frailty. Our expertise and experienced staff enable us to respond to tender opportunities in a swift, professional and competitive manner. Equally, we have the expertise and knowledge to conduct Consultancy work on Dementia, Ageing and Frailty and we are currently looking forward to some new and exciting opportunities with the Northern Care Alliance (NCA) Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

The aim of the education element of the initiative is to grow our offering in dementia and ageing teaching activities across the School and the University as a whole. At the Institute for Dementia and Ageing we offer bespoke education to organisations with staff providing support to people living with dementia. Our collective expertise and experience allow us to offer education across a range of ageing related areas. We have delivered education and training to staff who work in hospitals, care homes and in the community. Our secret to excellent and timely dementia and ageing education is the involvement of our Dementia Associates Panel. We are currently developing lectures alongside the Dementia Associates panel that can be recorded enabling the student's access to new learning, particularly important when face-to-face teaching is not available as has been the case during covid times. These lectures take the form of 'a conversation with ...' and cover various topics involving the lived experience of dementia and care partners. We are also developing 'real time' conversations with our Dementia Associates teaching alongside the lecturer in an online seminar, enabling students' access to 'in the moment' question and answer sessions.

We have been very busy writing up our recently completed work during the last 6 months and will share further publications and outputs in our next newsletter.



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