



## 17-18 November 2025

### The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

*Programme details are subject to revision so please check regularly on our website.  
All sessions will be chaired by expert practitioners, some with experts by experience as co-chairs\**

**Monday 17 November - Registration from 8.00am**

#### **10.00-11.30 PLENARY SESSION 1 OPENING PLENARY SESSION**

Welcome and introduction from Dementia Community and our Headline Sponsor, **Sensio**

##### **Opening panel: Technology in dementia care – what works for you?**

Introduction and chair: Arlene Astell, Professor of Cyberpsychology, Northumbria University.

##### **Panel 1: What works for you?**

People with lived experience of dementia from the following groups: Innovations in Dementia, Bradford University experts by experience, tide (together in dementia every day), Dementia Carers Count

##### **Panel 2: What's next in tech?** Panel to include:

Sensio (representative to be confirmed)

Peter Middleton. living with dementia

Daniel Casson, Joint Coordinator, the Oxford Project, The Responsible Use of Generative Ai in social care

Dr Ivana Babicova, Birmingham City University (tbc)

Representative of the Alzheimer's Society Innovation Collective.

*11.30-12.00 Refreshments*

#### **12.00-13.10 Parallel sessions 1**

##### **Parallel 1.1 Advanced dementia, communication and care**

*Chair: Sam Dondi-Smith*

##### **Adaptive Interaction – Reaching individuals living with advanced dementia**

Maggie Ellis, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, University of St Andrews

**Flexibility is key: A comparison of four care home journeys to implementing an evidence-based intervention (Namaste Care).** Isabelle Latham, Hallmark Care Homes

**Measuring 'magic' – evaluating Namaste Care sessions:** Nicola Kendall, Equal Arts

**'Searching' in dementia care - a feelings based approach.** Sam Dondi-Smith, Consultant

Occupational Therapist, Senior Partner at the National Dementia Care Accreditation Scheme, and David Sheard, Professor of Emotional Intelligence in Care, York St John University.

### **Parallel 1.2 Technology in dementia care** *Chair: Arlene Astell*

The presentations below will be given and discussed in this session and in session 3.2

*(Precise timings to be confirmed.)*

**Technology Empowered Dementia Independence (TEDI) Network Plus: Launching the System**

**Change Big Conversation.** Arlene Astell, Professor of Cyberpsychology, Northumbria University

**Is there such a thing as virtual dementia nursing? – The experience of nursing people living with dementia remotely with MinderCare.** Jan Amade-Cassimo, Dementia Clinical Nurse Specialist,

MinderCare, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

**“Liv”: Co-creating a dementia-positive AI.** Steve Milton, Innovations in Dementia CIC

**Integrating socially assistive robotics to support wellbeing in people living with dementia**

Carlos A. Cifuentes, Associate Professor in Human-Robot Interaction, Bristol Robotics Laboratory, University of the West of England

**A feasibility randomised controlled trial of a digital programme to prevent falls and improve wellbeing in people living with dementia in the community.** Jaheeda Gangannagaripalli,

NIHR-ARC DEM-COMM Fellow, University of Manchester

**People living with dementia leading home technology tours.** Arlene Astell.

### **Parallel 1.3 Dementia care in acute hospitals**

**Developing a toolkit to improve acute hospital appointments for people living with dementia**

Dr Rachael Kelley, Dr Nicky Taylor (and Lived Experience Contributors), Leeds Beckett University.

**Live and Jive: Bringing live and personalised music to older people in acute hospitals in NHS**

**Tayside.** Dr Suzanne Gray, Dementia Nurse Consultant, NHS Tayside and Eilaine White Clinical

Academic Nurse Consultant for Older People, NHS Tayside.

**Living with Dementia Theatre Passport,** Kellie Leatherbarrow, Deputy team leader Operating

Department Practitioner (ODP), Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS FT.

**Royal Victoria Hospital Meeting Centre: Psychosocial Community Support in a Hospital Setting.**

Graham Galloway, CEO, Meeting Centres Scotland.

### **Parallel 1.4 Involvement and co-production with minority ethnic communities**

**InvolveD: Involving South Asian, Black African and African Caribbean People in Designing Better**

**Dementia Support.** Dr Karan Jutla, Associate Professor (Reader) in Dementia Care and Inclusion,

University of Wolverhampton, Dr Michael Clark, London School of Economics and Political Science

and Emily Winnall, University of Wolverhampton.

**The Sahara service for South Asian families in Greater Manchester.** Sania Rehman, Local Services

Manager for Team Sahara, South Asian Project Greater Manchester, with experts by experience.

**To what extent does the Care Quality Commission capture person-centred care delivery in**

**dementia care homes.** Jennifer Lim, Reader in Health Inequalities and Behavioural Science and

Mahnaz Khalafehnalsaz, researcher, University of Wolverhampton.

*13.10-14.00 Lunch and exhibition viewing Including networking and lunchtime sessions*

### **13.25-13.50 Lunchtime sessions (in separate rooms, 30min each)**

**1. Evaluating a Culturally Appropriate Toolkit for African and Caribbean People Living with Dementia and their Care Partners.** Jennifer MacRitchie, University of Sheffield and Carl Case, Culturally Appropriate Resources

**2. An open conversation – Two men in a pub.** Film and discussion. Suzy Webster, Lived Experience Coordinator, Dementia UK with Andrew Swindells, expert by experience.

## **14.00-15.00 PLENARY SESSION 2**

### **GREATER MANCHESTER SHOWCASE (15 mins)**

Featuring organisations who involve and work with experts by experience (people living with dementia and family carers): Dementia United (part of NHS Greater Manchester ICB), DCERG (Dementia Carers Expert Reference Group) and Team Sahara, the Greater Manchester South Asian Project.

### **14.15 Keynote address**

#### **Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester**

##### **Redefining public service: Supporting people to live well with dementia in Greater Manchester**

This keynote will showcase and celebrate Greater Manchester's pioneering approach in providing great everyday support and services for people living with dementia, their families and carers. It will also explore Greater Manchester's whole system approach through the lenses of prevention, diversity and inclusion, and research and innovation, offering a vision for the future of public services both across the city-region and nationally.

## **15.10-16.20 Parallel sessions 2**

### **Parallel 2.1 Presentation: Diagnosis and beyond**

**Jeremy Isaacs**, NHS England's National Clinical Director for Dementia and Older People's Mental Health, and a consultant neurologist at St George's Hospital and Kingston Hospital, London.

Followed by panel discussion, to include:

Giles Wilmore, Manchester Camerata

Victoria Lyons, Head of Digital Service Delivery, Dementia UK

George Rook, living with dementia.

### **Parallel 2.2 Care homes, quality of life and community connections**

**Brewing Connections: The Hoppiness Project's impact on agency, reminiscence, and community in dementia care.** Guy Manchester Gardening Facilitator, Alive Activities and St Monica Trust.

**'Hallmark in Bloom' garden competition – How it's helping to drive person-centred engagement with the garden.** Georgina Miller, Hallmark Care Homes and Debbie Carroll, Step Change Design.

**Bringing the dining room to the room: Personalised mealtime moments for isolated residents.**

Ryan Lim, Care Assistant, Brunelcare.

**Honey Bluebell Book Club: Building connection through reading in residential care.**

Nelia Soares, Care Assistant, Brunelcare.

### **Parallel 2.3 Young onset dementia**

**30min workshop: Supporting people with young onset dementia and family members to retain/rebuild identity after diagnosis.** Jan Oyebo Professor of Dementia Care, University of Bradford, Louise Ritchie, Professor in Dementia Research University of West Scotland and Patricia Masterson Algar, Bangor University.

**Followed by two 12min presentations:**

**Advance Care Planning for those living with Young Onset Dementia.** Sophie Dodsworth

Admiral Nurse for Young Onset Dementia, Dementia UK

**Childhood dementia – a forgotten community.** Chris Knifton, Associate Professor in Neurocognitive and Neurodevelopmental Studies, De Montfort University.

### **Parallel 2.4**

#### **Alzheimer's Society partner session: Innovation and technology in dementia care**

Experts will discuss the top five reasons why dementia is an exciting space for innovators and entrepreneurs. Presenters will give details of existing and upcoming innovations.

*16.20-16.50 Refreshments and exhibition viewing*

### **16.50-18.00 Parallel sessions 3**

#### **Parallel 3.1 Staff development in care settings**

**Training, support and the dynamics of everyday practice in a residential care home.**

Penny Johns, Dementia Practitioner, Jewish Care

**Dementia Education – development of Dementia Ambassadors to support delivery of education across large care home group.** Laura Steward, Head of Dementia, MMCG

**Developing, delivering and embedding Enriched Model of Dementia Care training using Quality Improvement on a Dementia Inpatient Unit.** Shelley Crossland, Clinical Professional Lead  
Occupational Therapist Leicester Partnership NHS Trust

**Enhancing person-centred dementia care across Gwent through Dementia Care Mapping**  
Sophie Foote Dementia Care Mapping Lead, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

#### **Parallel 3.2 Technology in dementia care**

**TECHNOLOGY SESSION 2** (see Parallel 1.2 above)

#### **Parallel 3.3 Support in the community**

**Living well with dementia for couples and families**

Dr Natasha Woodstoke, Dementia Research Fellow and Clinical Psychologist,  
University of the West of England, and Richard Cheston, Professor of Dementia Research  
University of the West of England.

**Integrating Dementia Coordinators in ED and SDEC: Preventing admission and reducing length of stay.** Katie Antill CEO, Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services, Dartford Gravesham and Swanley.

**Dementia in rural and coastal communities.** Dr Emily Dodd, Senior Research Fellow, University of the West of England, Bristol

**It needs a village...** Nigel Rose and Emma Gilbey, Chorlton and Whalley Range Dementia Action Group.

#### **Parallel 3.4 Lived experience and co-production**

Chair: Joanna Brown. Co-chair: George Rook

**Presentations and panel discussion including:**

**1. Advancing inclusive research approaches in involving underserved groups in dementia research: Co-creating the EMPOWER Dementia Network.** Andy Bradshaw EMPOWER Dementia Network+, King's College London

**2. Dementia Research: how you can have a voice**

Mohammed Akhlak Rauf and Sal Browning, NIHR Policy Research Unit in Dementia and Neurodegeneration at Queen Mary University of London (DeNPRU-QM).

Followed by panel discussion including service providers and experts by experience including Sarah Kirkland, and Louise Lynch, Dementia United, Greater Manchester.

### **18.00 Refreshments**

## Tuesday 18 November

**Early bird (concurrent) sessions 8.45-9.45**

**EB 1** 8.45-9.45 Mini-presentations

**EB 2** 8.45-9.45 Workshop in two parts - Singing and play

**Singing together: the advantages to emotional wellbeing and self respect**

Nia Davies Williams, Freelance Musician and Musician in Residence, Pendine Park Care Organisation.

**Meaningful play in dementia care: a workshop.** Chloe Bradwell, Research Fellow and Mike Wragg, Senior Lecturer Childhood Development & Playwork, Leeds Beckett University

**EB 3** 8.45-9.45

**Early support in the community –three presentations**

**Creative Befriending: Expression, Connection and Wellbeing through Collaborative Arts Projects**

Sofi Mogensen, Creative Befrienders Project Manager, Resonate Arts

**No one else's words: Holding space for unfiltered memory and first-person truth in dementia care,**

Emily Bird, Remembering Yesterday Caring Today

**GREAT Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy in practice: a case study,** Emma Marshall, Peartree

Community Services Neurological Rehabilitation

**EB 4** 8.45-9.45

**"If Not Now, When?" Film and discussion on living with young onset dementia**

Dr Jacqueline Hussey, Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist, Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust and

Deputy Chair of Charity Younger People With Dementia CIO, and Charlie Draper, Joint Director of

Clinical & Operational Services, Younger People With Dementia CIO.

**MAIN HALL PLENARY SESSION 10.00-11.00 am**

**THE TOM KITWOOD MEMORIAL ADDRESS**

**The Art of Care: How the study of care aesthetics reveals a new direction for person-centred practices in dementia care**

John Keady, Professor of Mental Health Nursing and Older People, University of Manchester

James Thompson, Professor of Applied Theatre, University of Manchester

Jenny Harris, freelance drama practitioner

11.00-11.30 Refreshments and exhibition viewing

**11.30-12.45 Parallel sessions 4**

**Parallel 4.1** Manchester Camerata

**The UK's First Centre of Excellence for Music & Dementia, hosted by Manchester Camerata**

An opportunity to experience first-hand one of Manchester Camerata's award-winning Music in Mind music therapy-based sessions, designed by professional music therapists and developed in partnership with Manchester University. Giles Wilmore and colleagues, Manchester Camerata.

**Parallel 4.2** Responding to stress and distress

**Non-pharmacological prescribing in care homes – the impact on reducing distress and increasing wellbeing,** Amy Pepper, Dementia Care Manager, HC-One.

**Evidence-based communication skills to help avoid or reduce distressed behaviour in people living with dementia,** Dr Rebecca O'Brien, Senior Research Fellow and Clinical Specialist Speech and

Language Therapist, University of Nottingham/ Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

**Reducing antidepressant use in people living with a dementia,** Stuart Wright, Dementia Care Lead, and Emma Cowling, Registered Nurse. Brunelcare.

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**Embedding a behaviour analyst-in-residence to reduce distressed behaviour in dementia care on hospital wards.** Luke Pickering-Jones, Dementia Improvement Manager, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

### **Parallel 4.3 Carers and families**

**Reaching underserved communities: A partnership between ADSS and the Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara.** Karen Heath, Dementia Wellbeing Manager, Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services, Kent.

**That feels alien to me, to be honest': using Applied Thematic Analysis to co-produce a culturally adapted psychosocial intervention with Sikh carers of people living with dementia**

Lydia Morris, Senior Clinical Lecturer, University of Manchester

**Empowering Greater Manchester families to live as well as they can with dementia.**

Fiona Robinson, Age UK Salford and Trafford

**Family Interventions in Dementia Mental health Environments (FIND ME): Carer experiences of mental health wards for people living with dementia.** Professor Emma Wolverson and Dr Rosie Dunn. University of West London.

### **Parallel 4.4 Alzheimer's Society**

Co-production and involvement of experts by experience: explaining the Alzheimer's Society's principles for this work, and how they and their partners work with people with lived experience.

*12.45-13.45 Lunch and exhibition viewing. Including networking and lunchtime sessions*

#### **13.05-13.35: Lunchtime sessions (in separate rooms, 30min each)**

- 1. Dementia in UK Prisons.** Lorna Hart-Thomson, Development Lead, Meeting Centres Scotland and Emma Smith, Project Manager, Age UK Salford and Trafford
- 2. Exploring healthcare staff perspectives of why African Caribbean people may be presenting later to dementia services.** Armita Farsinejad, trainee clinical psychologist and David Truswell, Healthcare & Dementia Consultancy Director

#### **13.45-15.00 Parallel sessions 5**

### **MAIN HALL Parallel 5.1 Challenges and successes in social care and dementia care today**

**Social care: challenges and opportunities ahead**

Vic Rayner, CEO National Care Forum

**The Care Quality Commission and dementia care**

Stefan Kallee, Deputy Director of Adult Social Care

### **Parallel 5.2 Connections – a two-part/integrated workshop**

**What matters to me? How development of a personal sensory biography has helped meet needs.**

Susannah Thwaites and Emma Biglands, Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust.

**The world in one shining moment.** Dr Sarah Fox, NIHR ARC Dementia Research Fellow, University of Manchester.

15.00-15.30 Refreshments and exhibition viewing

## **15.30-16.40 Parallel sessions 6**

### **Parallel 6.1 Young onset dementia**

**Social care for people living with young-onset dementia: developing resources for improvement**

Dr Catherine Quinn, Associate Professor, Centre for Applied Dementia Studies, University of Bradford

**A blueprint for Young Onset Dementia Services: Partnership working between Dementia Forward and Leeds Beckett.** Sarah Jane Smith. Professor of Dementia Research, Leeds Beckett University and Jill Quinn, CEO Dementia Forward.

**The Oxleas Young Onset Dementia Project – Understanding lived experiences and building inclusive support.** Dr Monica Crugel, Consultant in Older Adults Psychiatry Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust

**A specialist nurse intervention to support children and young people of a parent with Young Onset Dementia.** Hannah Gardner Consultant Admiral Nurse for Children and Young People, Dementia UK

### **Parallel 6.2 Quality of life in advanced dementia**

**An overview of the Dementia UK Consultant Admiral Nurse service supporting families affected by frailty and dementia.** Kerry Lyons, Consultant Admiral Nurse for Frailty and Physical Health, Dementia UK

**Prescribing non-pharmacological interventions in care homes – a practical approach.**

Ellie Lakey and Megan Holden, Care Home Liaison Team, Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust

**Assistant Psychologists: Addressing dementia care gaps and ‘Finding the Why’ through the SDCC Framework.** Maria McGinlay, Assistant Psychologist, HC-One

**Towards holistic dementia care: Introducing the Well-being in Dementia Inventory (WiDI)**

Dr Allan Perry, Consultant Neuropsychologist & Director of Clinical Service, PJ Care.

### **Parallel 6.3 Lived experience and co-production**

Panel and discussion session

**The Afromonauts’ Tale – Creativity, co-production and living creatively with dementia**

David Truswell, CEO Designate, Culture Dementia UK and Ronald Amanze, Expert By Experience, Dementia in Dub

**A narrative review exploring the role of co-production in dementia practice and research**

Ellie Robinson-Carter, Founding Artistic Director of The Photobook Project/ Programme Director MSc Dementia, University of Hull, Laiba Ahmad, Research Associate, University of West London and Martin Robertson, living with dementia.

With a panel including experts by experience.

## **16.40 Close**

*\*All sessions will be chaired by expert practitioners, some with experts by experience as co-chairs, including:*

*Rachel Thompson, Dementia UK; Karen Harrison Denning, Dementia UK; Shirley Evans, University of Worcester; Karan Jutla, University of Wolverhampton; Sally Knocker, Meaningful Care Matters; Graham Stokes, HC-One; Ian James, CNTW NHS Trust; Emma Smith, Age UK Salford and Trafford; Arlene Astell, University of Northumbria; Chris Knifton, De Montfort University; Jan Oyeboode, University of Bradford; Suzanne Mumford, Jude Sweeting, David Truswell, Kate White, Directors, Dementia Community; Ruth Eley, tide; Hilary Woodhead, NAPA; Reinhard Guss, Oxleas NHS FT; Isabelle Latham, Hallmark Care Homes. Experts by experience including: Peter Middleton, George Rook, Joy Watson, Ron Coleman, Stephen Kennedy and family carers tbc.*