



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

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

Panel 1: What works for you now, and what - if you had a magic wand - could you imagine would be helpful?

People with lived experience of dementia from the following groups and organisations: Alzheimer's Society, Innovations in Dementia, Bradford University experts by experience, tide (together in dementia every day), Dementia Carers Count. Including: Christine Maddocks, Eleanor Connelly, Natalie Cryer, Lynne Hagan, John O'Doherty, Ruth Eley.

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

Sensio (representative to be confirmed)

Peter Middleton. living with dementia

Victoria Lyons, Head of Digital Service Delivery, Dementia UK

Dr Ivana Babicova, Birmingham City University

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.)

People living with dementia leading home technology tours. Arlene Astell, Professor of Cyberpsychology, Northumbria University

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

Technology Empowered Dementia Independence (TEDI) Network Plus: Launching the System Change Big Conversation. Arlene Astell

A feasibility randomised controlled trial of a digital programme to prevent falls and improve well-being in people living with dementia in the community. Jaheeda Gangannagaripalli, NIHR-ARC DEM-COMM Fellow, University of Manchester.

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 Young onset dementia

Chair: Reinhard Guss, Oxleas NHS FT

30min workshop: Supporting people with young onset dementia and family members to retain/rebuild identity after diagnosis. Jan Oyeboode Professor of Dementia Care, University of Bradford, Louise Ritchie, Professor in Dementia Research, University of West Scotland. Patricia Masterson Algar, Bangor University and Philip Angrave, expert by experience, Young Dementia Network.

Followed by two 12min presentations:

Advance Care Planning for those living with Young Onset Dementia. Sophie Dodsworth Admiral Nurse for Young Onset Dementia and Fran Mada, Consultant 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.

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)

Chair: Sarah Kirkland, Dementia United (part of NHS Greater Manchester ICB)

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), Ruth Turner and Ann Booth, DCERG (Dementia Carers Expert Reference Group). Sania Rehman, Team Sahara, the Greater Manchester South Asian Project, with experts by experience.

14.15 Keynote address *Chair: Sarah Kirkland*

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

Chair: Rachel Thompson, Dementia UK

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.

Frances Lawrence, Dementia Carers Count

Parallel 2.2 Care homes, quality of life and community connections

Chair: Sally Knocker, Meaningful Care Matters

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 Institute for Health and Care Improvement (IHCI) York St John University

Academic Partner session: Emotional Navigation in Dementia Care :

the fear factor in self and organisations? A comparison of models in theory and practice

Navigational skills in the context of emotional intelligence refer to the ability to understand and manage one's own emotions as well as the emotions of others. We know that people living with a dementia experience a greater emphasis on feelings. Yet over the last 30 years in person-centred dementia care the emphasis on this has been variable. Dementia design, meaningful occupation, responses to 'behaviours' appear to have dominated so much thinking and practice. Varied models from universities are now emerging re person-led and relational care. Referencing

Michael Verde from Memory Bridge who states a fear of emotions has become a significant barrier to person-centred care, Professor David Sheard, introduced in this symposium by Professor Garry Tew, Director of IHCI at York St John University, will present his analysis of the past and current landscape in dementia care and why he believes emotional intelligence in care is the missing foundational piece.

Parallel 2.4 Alzheimer's Society partner session:

Five Dementia Innovations that will transform the world

Dementia devastates lives; innovation transforms them. Join us to hear from innovators who are developing products that will improve the lives of people with dementia at potentially a global scale: from hydration to finances; from diagnostics to end-of-life care. Each innovator will deliver a three-minute pitch and then answer your questions (including 'Where can I buy it?').

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, Rachel McMurray, Clinical Specialist SLT and Kelvin Mayes Assistant Practitioner OT, Leicester Partnership NHS Trust.

Enhancing person-centred dementia care across Gwent through Dementia Care Mapping

Simon Chalmers and Katherine Rigg, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

Parallel 3.2 Technology in dementia care

TECHNOLOGY SESSION 2 (see Parallel 1.2 above) *Chair: Arlene Astell*

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.

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.

Accelerating the digital transformation of care. Panel discussion to include speakers from this session and 1.2 above, plus representatives of Sensio and Ally Cares.

Parallel 3.3 Support in the community

Chair: Graham Galloway. Co-chair: Joy Watson

Living well with dementia for couples and families

Dr Natasha Woodstoke, Clinical Psychologist & Research Fellow and Dr Karin Buschenfeld, Clinical Psychologist & Clinical Research Associate, 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. Mike Wragg, Senior Lecturer Childhood Development & Playwork, and Nicky Everett, Senior Lecturer, 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

Chair: Suzanne Mumford

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 Carers and families

Chair: Ruth Eley

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

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

Fiona Robinson, Amanda Barrell and Emma Smith, Age UK Salford and Trafford.

'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

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 4.3 Institute for Health and Care Improvement (IHCI) York St John University

Academic Partner session: Emotional Intelligence in Care - poignant findings from emotions at work in lived experience, research, care homes and accreditation: York St John perspectives

Emotional Intelligence in Care prioritises recognition of people's mutual vulnerability, the need for equal relationships and the provision of well-being strategies to support emotional labour. This is evidenced when a care service demonstrates this in its core mission, culture, leadership and practice. Join us to hear from panel members, Jo Beardsworth, 'I didn't sign up for this', Vanessa Baxter, Service Manager and Researcher IHCI, York St John University, Racheal Carroll Learning and Development lead - EQ Care Group, Sam Dondi Smith Fellow IHCI, York St John University/Senior Partner NaDCAS, led by Professor David Sheard. They will summarise from their different direct experience whether enough emphasis is being given in the care sector to emotional intelligence and how this should be the driving force of future developments in dementia care.

Parallel 4.4 Alzheimer's Society partner session: Creating a set of Involvement Principles: listening to what matters to people with lived experience

This interactive workshop will be led by people living with dementia and family carers supported by Alzheimer's Society. It will introduce a set of co-produced Involvement Principles, designed to support meaningful collaboration with people with lived experience. Through examples, group discussion and activities, participants will explore how these principles apply to their own involvement and work. Open to professionals and people with lived experience, the session encourages shared learning and reflection. Speakers: Jonathan Kaye, Madeleine Aziz-Brook, Martina Davis and Jane Buckels - all Dementia Voice partners.

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

Chair: Jude Sweeting

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 with Lynda Harrison, expert by experience.

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.

Parallel 5.3 Involvement and co-production with minority ethnic communities

Chair: Karan Jutlla

Involved: Involving South Asian, Black African and African Caribbean People in Designing Better Dementia Support. Dr Karan Jutlla, Associate Professor (Reader) in Dementia Care and Inclusion, University of Wolverhampton 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 Khalafehnlsaz, researcher, University of Wolverhampton.

15.00-15.30 Refreshments and exhibition viewing

15.30-16.40 Parallel sessions 6

Parallel 6.1 Young onset dementia

Chair: Chris Knifton

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.

Continued next page

The Oxleas Young Onset Dementia Project – Understanding lived experiences and building inclusive support. Dr Monica Crugel, Consultant in Older Adults Psychiatry and Kelly Mills, Young Onset Dementia Nurse, 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

Chair: Isabelle Latham

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. *Chair: David Truswell*

The Afronauts’ 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.

Parallel 6.4 Responding to stress and distress

Chair: Rachel Thompson, Dementia UK

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.

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

16.40 Close