

■ Project updates & viewpoints

Community links and activity, but still a task-based culture 12

Jenny West and Asa Johnson left their jobs helping care homes enhance care in the UK to spend time working in a home in Peru. Now they have returned, they share some of their observations and thoughts on the experience

Engage Leeds: a new model for housing-related support 14

Engage Leeds is a new model of housing-related support and features specialist roles in working with people with dementia to help them maintain their independence. Michele Morton and Nichola Rigden explain how it works.

Perceptions may damage our health 16

Funding cuts have forced day centres into decline, but they have also fallen victim to age discrimination and “dementia-ism,” argues Jackie Tuppen. She says the solution lies in challenging false perceptions, and describes the alternative model of Cogs Clubs, which provide a structured day of stimulation and learning

Healthcare guidelines on caring for transgender people with dementia 18

Ian Davies-Abbott and colleagues explain how an “appreciative inquiry” led to transgender guidelines for staff in a North Wales health board and potentially health providers more widely

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Being a disruptor in dementia care 20

Disruptors are innovators but not all innovators are disruptors. In what he describes as a relatively conservative care home sector, David Sheard argues that there is a need for more disruptive innovation because disruption is the “new normal”

Dance and movement brings connection 24

People in the advanced stages of dementia living in care homes are too easily overlooked when it comes to activities. Louise Money and Samantha Bolam describe how dance and movement can be a way to connect with them

Invisible ink: exploring emotions through fiction 28

Invisible Ink is a novel about the unbearable guilt of its main character as his mother enters the early stages of dementia. Pippa Kelly, the author, reveals how it drew on her own sense of guilt and the maelstrom of emotions she felt when her mother died

SPECAL: first evaluation of a course for carers 30

SPECAL is a controversial but influential approach to dementia care, although evidence for its effectiveness is limited. Niall McCrae and Jessica Penhallow say that findings from their feasibility study are a tentative demonstration of the method's potential

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