



# Forget-Me-Not

Selsey's Dementia-Friendly Community Project

## SDAA Newsletter

November 2021

This newsletter forms the notes of a Selsey Dementia Action Alliance Meeting held remotely via Zoom on 23rd November 2021. To find out more about any of the items, contact: [sdaa@selseycommunityforum.uk](mailto:sdaa@selseycommunityforum.uk)

- ✿ Mike welcomed everyone, inviting people to share updates and gave a history of the SDAA and its purpose to build a dementia friendly community, working in partnerships to offer services and individual support. He sent greetings from secretary Linda in Madeira. Astrid has agreed to take notes.
- ✿ Heather S is a reminiscence worker who is also supporting carers with engagement.
- ✿ Karen H, community support manager for the Care Shop and forum, said things have been very busy with a Zumba group now attracting 14-20 people every Thursday. Other wellbeing events will be added in the new year, including pain control and breathing. A weekly pm support for carers group went very well. Kerry Palmer from the medical practice explained her role in supporting carers and what she can do.  
  
Karen reported that they have supported 3 families into care and one who had been asked to leave. They continue to support with Attendance Allowance and council tax reduction form filling.  
  
They will be making lunch for up to 100 people to be served on Christmas Day to 100 people at the church at East Beach or delivered to people's homes. They need drivers and names soon please of people wishing to have a meal.
- ✿ Ronelle, befriending manager of the forum, said they make 'good morning calls' to 19 people as well as providing a range of groups movies, teas and crafts as well as music.
- ✿ Mike commented on the wonderful partnerships supporting people in the area, which includes a local business delivering hot meals to people, a local pub delivering its pub roast at the end of service and local resident Mary Tyler providing 8/9 meals for local people.
- ✿ Richard from Selsey Evangelical Church, spoke of the Sunday tea provided which will be held as part of the monthly church tea rotation on 5 December along with dementia-friendly songs of praise.
- ✿ Denise talked about Sussex Grange and challenges in recruiting to the care home and home carer services. Carina said she is looking forward to representing the Grange in future as she is taking over from Denise.

✿ Mary Oliver from the Old Malthouse said they are getting ready for Christmas – the Medmerry School is going to come and sing songs through the window and the Academy has invited them to its panto rehearsal

She said a lot of people are coming for respite which is a critical time and would be preferred if people are able to try respite at a non-critical time. They hold regular events, sparkle day this week and other themed events to cheer people

✿ Jane R from Carers Support West Sussex spoke of her involvement with the forum from its inception as part of the charity's support for DAAs across the county and is very keen to link in with the forum and shop for all carers. She is keen not to overlap services but to make people aware of our offer eg our Carer Equipment Service, counselling and wellbeing fund (<https://www.carerssupport.org.uk/>) . She has just recruited a new locality worker who will be focussing on the area. Astrid from CSWS added that we are now resuming face to face carer support groups with our partners at Sage House from December.

✿ Jane E reported that dementia assessments referrals are up to date though there are still delays in scan results.

✿ Louisa, community development lead from Sage House, said they have a large client base in the Witterings and are working to establish something to support people there. She talked of the various activities and events available at Sage House.

✿ Mike N praised the partnership work with Sage House, Alzheimer's Society and CSWS

✿ Mike B from the town council spoke of the anger at the decision to close Marjorie Cobby House and has been shocked at the deafening silence to their appeals on this. Mike N suggested they speak with Karen H and Karen P on the issue and also remarked that closure would create work on existing resources.

There is no meeting in December. Next meeting is on 25 January 2022 at 5pm via Zoom.