

**Most Inspiring**  
**Dementia Friendly Community**  
**Award**

Finalists x 4

Tonbridge DFC	Pg 2
Tenterden DFC	Pg 3
Sevenoaks DFC	Pg 5
Hythe DF	Pg 7
Score Sheet	Pg 9

## **Most Inspiring Dementia Friendly Community Award**

**Nomination:** Tonbridge Dementia Friendly Community

### **Reason for Nomination:**

Since its inception in April 2015, Tonbridge DFC have made some amazing inroads into raising awareness of dementia in many parts of the community. Engagement with local residents has been via multiple dementia friends awareness sessions resulting in more than 400 new dementia friends.

Engagement with businesses has been via business engagement events, the third of which is due to be held on September 8th. This business engagement has been supported by the local town team, chamber of commerce, FSB and retailers groups and sponsors of E vents from the business community. Engagement with local churches has been supported and assisted by the Tonbridge Churches Together group and Anna Chaplains from the Rochester diocese. This sector was supported by a full days training for dementia friendly services. Engagement with sports clubs and groups has been assisted and supported by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and has included a new circle dance group and dementia friendly golf and indoor bowling.

In 2 years we have had the virtual dementia tour in town twice, built and maintained a sensory garden, knotted more than 100 twiddle mitts, encouraged businesses to WTDF and organised 2 very successful dementia awareness weeks.

2 Photographs submitted



## **Most Inspiring Dementia Friendly Community Award**

**Nomination:**        Tenterden Dementia Friendly Community

### **Reason for Nomination:**

Tenterden Dementia Friendly community was initiated by local people inspired by work in other areas of England, such as the purple angel scheme used in Devon.

A group of passionate like-minded people were pulled together by the Rev'd Lindsay Hammond and by local farmer Hugh Richards to start the ball rolling to encourage Tenterden to become a dementia friendly location.

Support was soon found from the Alzheimer's society, Kent Dementia Action Alliance, local Ivy Court surgery, Tenterden day centre, and many more....including local businesses and schools.

The initial actions were around a series of well received and attended talks which were given at St Mildred's Church. Dr David Dodd's spoke of the impact of dementia on the local community and offered an insightful perspective on what a person with dementia might experience. Dr Anna Andrew, an Ashford based mental health care consultant, talked of the diagnosis and forms of the disease. Rebecca Sanderson, the Admiral Nurse for the area, spoke of help available to carers; and Liz Taylor, of the Alzheimer's society, provided a Kent map of 'points of help'.

In addition to the general awareness raising a couple of local dementia friends champions such as Caroline Speed from local solicitors Whitehead Monckton have been targeting local businesses and organisations to promote the Dementia Friends awareness sessions for staff, allowing local businesses to display a logo showing their intentions of being dementia friendly.

Going from strength to strength Tenterden next embarked on their own dementia café which is run by volunteers at the Tenterden Town Station Refreshment Room. Initially due to run twice a month on a Friday, this soon became every Friday. This provides an opportunity for carers of those with dementia to get out regularly and meet others in similar

Tenterden have also been successful in raising money and funds locally allowing the group to bring the virtual dementia tour to Tenterden, this has allowed a number of local people to have a few minutes experiencing what it may be like to live with dementia.

The group are all very dedicated and passionate people pulling together to work towards making Tenterden truly Dementia Friendly.

Photographs submitted.



**Just The  
Ticket  
Memory Café**

**Every Friday  
10.30am - 12.30pm**

**Tenterden Station  
Refreshment Room**



Tenterden  
Dementia  
Friendly  
Community

## **Most Inspiring Dementia Friendly Community Award**

**Nomination:**        Sevenoaks Dementia Friendly Community

### **Reason for Nomination:**

Sevenoaks Area: Dementia Friendly Community Forum is a multi-agency and local person forum working together to make the Sevenoaks area more dementia friendly.

It's a small but almost perfectly formed collection of people representing residents businesses and the local council.

Focusing on promoting the DFC Forum, strengthening local Partnerships and raising awareness of local services and Projects

The forum are providing awareness events, Dementia Friends Sessions, advice in regards effective Communication and environments, and now more recently providing funding to smaller groups.

Over the past few years, working alongside the local Sevenoaks council they have been proactive in providing FREE legal and general advice sessions such as 'Let's talk about dementia' and 'Coping with dementia as a family'.

They have also worked with the wider West Kent DAA and the KCC DFC team to provide public events such as 'venture into dementia' which encouraged people to try a number of taster sessions of activities available for those with dementia.

This year during dementia awareness week the group organised 'Run, walk, push for dementia' a 3, 5 and 10k run, walk or buggy push which took place in Knole Park Sevenoaks All money raised (£4500) from the event went to the Sevenoaks DFC and will be used to sponsor local dementia services and groups. Groups can bid for funding through the Sevenoaks DFC which is now a constitutionalised community group

The first of the projects funded by this money is the new 'Forget me not' café based at Knole House. Which will be the third 'forget me not café in the Sevenoaks district, joining Edenbridge and Westerham, which were seed funded from the DFC innovation pot, in providing local volunteer led services by local people and for local people. All of these are overseen and supervised by the chairs of the Sevenoaks DFC forum Elaine Ferris from the Good Care group and Symone Salwyn for Home instead senior care.

Knole house have been supporters of the Sevenoaks DFC for some time now, ensuring that staff members and volunteers have received dementia friends training. Sevenoaks DFC have also worked with Knole house this year in providing Dementia wellbeing days which were designed to allow people with dementia and their carers to attend and have an interactive day involving costumes, artefacts and discussion.

All in all the Sevenoaks DFC forum are a dedicated, passionate bunch of people who are open to a challenge and are constantly looking forward at what more, or what else can be done to improve the lives of those residents living with dementia



## **Community and Partnership Project Award**

**Nomination:**        Hythe Dementia Forum  
                             Lead – Dudley Shipton

### **Reason for Nomination:**

The Hythe Dementia Awareness Forum was founded on 20th August 2015 led by town Councillors Dudley Shipton, Ann Mayne and Shirley Moberly. These three individuals have worked tirelessly, selflessly and with total commitment, often at personal cost both financially and emotionally, to raise greater awareness of the difficulties faced by people living with dementia and also by their carers. By the personal approach of face-to-face conversations they have helped countless individuals along the way by signposting them to the relevant agencies or simply by lending a friendly and understanding ear.

During the last twelve months they have held monthly Forum meetings which are now attended by an average of 15-20 local people, ranging from people with dementia to representatives of local influential organisations and businesses. In May they held a very successful Dementia Awareness Day suitable for the entire family and this was followed the next week by a dementia friends session, with more to follow.

The forum is currently arranging an awareness evening due to be held in September, especially for local businesses and already there is much promised support. Their wish is to convert as many businesses as possible on Hythe High Street into recognised dementia friendly concerns. Ann has walked the length of the High Street on both sides to promote the event, visiting every single shop and business.

Their success has arisen from their very personal approach and dedication to improve peoples' lives. In fact, I believe they live, sleep and eat dementia awareness!

5 Photographs submitted.



# Most Inspiring Dementia Friendly Community Award

## Score Sheet: Please score each nomination 1-10

The more you like it 😊 The Higher you score it

1 ☹️	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 😊
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Finalist	Your score
Tonbridge DFC	
Tenterden DFC	
Sevenoaks DFC	
Hythe DF	

**Please Also fill in the below and return to:**

Laura Summers | Project Officer – Community Support | Strategic Commissioning | Social Care, Health and Wellbeing | Kent County Council | Third Floor, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

Or you can call Laura and leave her a message on 07825 712701 and she will call you back (Tues-Thurs)

Or email her at [Laura.Summers2@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Summers2@kent.gov.uk)

Your Name		Your Postal Town	
Do you have a dementia Diagnosis?	Yes / No	Are you a family carer?	Yes / No