



PRESS RELEASE

31st July 2018

Funding boost for development of Dunblane dementia initiative

Families living with dementia in Dunblane will benefit from a programme of local community activities thanks to a funding award of £20,000. The grant has been awarded to the Dunblane Development Trust from the Life Changes Trust.

The money will be used by the Dunblane Development Trust, working with a range of other organisations and businesses as part of Dementia Friendly Dunblane, to develop the services and activities that have already been established by the Dementia Friendly Dunblane initiative, and develop new ones based on what people with dementia say would be most meaningful to them.

This will include the continued expansion of dementia friendly activities such as inter-generational engagement with local schools, music memory activities with charity Playlist for Life, encouraging local businesses to become dementia friendly and developing Dunblane as a dementia friendly community.

The project will also support and develop the Braeport Memory Cafe, working hand in hand with local volunteers and local businesses to reach even more families affected by dementia. The café will be developed in consultation with people with dementia and their carers, so that the programme of events reflects their wishes and interests, including special and seasonal events.

Dunblane Development Trust will also work with residents of the local residential home to provide opportunities for residents with dementia to join in community activities, such as meeting friends at the memory cafe, attending lunch club at the Dunblane Centre, taking part in outdoor activities or attending church.

Another phase of the project will focus on creating dementia friendly sports facilities such as tennis, golf and bowling clubs, and community groups such as Church Guilds and the Dunblane Centre Senior Citizens Club.

Anna Buchanan, Director of the Life Changes Trust dementia programme said “This project is aiming to be truly community based and community led. The Dunblane Development Trust are encouraging everyone in the local area to get involved in making the community one which is not only safe for people with dementia, but inclusive, empowering and stimulating. The aim of this funding is to bring awareness about dementia across Dunblane and give people with dementia and carers opportunities that help them thrive rather than just survive.”

The funding award is one of five development awards made by the Life Changes Trust for dementia friendly communities across Scotland, with a funding total of £150,000. The funding will help improve the physical and mental well-being of people living with dementia – and their families - by supporting projects that increase their participation in stimulating and social activities. The organisations receiving funding are:

- Dunblane Development Trust
- Glasgow Life
- V&A Dundee
- Golf In Society
- An Talla Solais (Ullapool)

Barbara Allan, Chairperson of Dunblane Development Trust said, “We are very excited to receive this grant which will allow us to continue our work with the range of local organisations who have already committed to being part of Dementia Friendly Dunblane.

“This will allow us to reach more people living with dementia and their families and make a real difference to their lives.”

Anna Buchanan added, “Having the opportunity to participate and feel part of the local community has already proved invaluable for thousands of people with dementia across Scotland, restoring a sense of self and belonging. We look forward to watching this project as it develops.”

The Life Changes Trust was set up with a Big Lottery Fund endowment of £50 million to improve the lives of two key groups in Scotland: people affected by dementia and care experienced young people.

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For further information and for press enquiries contact:

Deborah Cowan, Communications Manager: 0141 212 9606

Deborah.cowan@lifechangestrust.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Our work with people with dementia has shown that the phrase “Dementia sufferers”, or using the word suffering to describe dementia has a strongly negative view from people with the condition. We would request that you avoid using the phrase in headlines or in any article you publish to combat the negative way that people with dementia feel the condition is described.

The Life Changes Trust was established by the Big Lottery in April 2013 with a ten year endowment of £50 million to support transformational improvements in the quality of life, well-being, empowerment and inclusion of people affected by dementia and young people with experience of being in care.

In Scotland:

- It is estimated that around 90,000 people have dementia.
- The number of people with dementia in Scotland is increasing, because the population is getting older. Based on current dementia prevalence rates, the number of people with dementia in Scotland is projected to double by 2038.
- Dementia costs the country more than cancer, heart disease and stroke put together.

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