

Micro-grant Feedback
Report

**Doncaster Dementia
Forum – Engagement with
wider community and
diverse groups**

DonMentia

Healthwatch Doncaster

Engage, inform, influence

1 Introduction

1.1 Details of activity

The Doncaster Dementia Forum (DDF) continues to meet monthly and facilitate a number of various events across Doncaster. Activities include peer support, information sharing and knowledge exchange from experts and professionals through speaker invitations. (See website for specific details – www.donmentia.org)

The micro grant supported DonMentia to purchase merchandise and fund printing that informs the community through events of the support that is available for people affected by dementia. Merchandise included a gazebo, bunting, badges, stickers and flyers/information leaflets.

1.2 Date(s) sessions took place

The DDF meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month.

There have been a number of other events supported by DonMentia in 2019 since the micro grant award.

1.3 Acknowledgements

DonMentia is supported by three Trustees, one being the Founder of the Charity.

There have been a number of speakers at the DDF including Canon David Stevens and Consultant Psychiatrist Dr. John Bottomley.

DonMentia also receives active support from Doncaster Rotary Club and in particular Geoff Tagg.

2 What was the purpose of the activity/session?

2.1 Purpose

To raise the awareness of dementia as a disease, the service and activities available and putting those who are affected by dementia in touch with statutory bodies, people and services who can help.

2.2 What did you do?

The DDF meets monthly and events take place on average of two per month with at least one being local. DonMentia launched a Grant Scheme at the Healthwatch Microgrant Celebration Event on 19th September 2019. This Grant scheme was two-fold and involved the offer of a personal grant for up to £500 and a Community Grant for up to £5000.

DonMentia has supported three personal Grants and three Community grants.

If you could describe your project in three words, what would they be?

- | | | |
|----------------|----|----------------|
| 1. Dementia | Or | Social support |
| 2. Focused | | Understanding |
| 3. Empowerment | | Friendship |

2.3 Results of the activity/session(s)

Our website captures feedback from our events and from the people we have helped and supported. We continue to receive donations and bequests to the Charity, which are then used to support those affected by dementia.

Feedback from people who took part

Feedback has been excellent from the DDF events and from those receiving personal and community grants.

Feedback from staff/volunteers who took part

Volunteers remain committed and enjoy supporting the Charity and its work and events

We continually learn from our activities and from the feedback we receive. For example: people affected by dementia would rarely attend an event after 4pm for a variety of reasons but many are common to all such as transport, caring issues and safety.

2.4 Conclusion

DonMentia has learned it is a partner in the dementia world of Doncaster and that it is better to work together than in isolation,

In the short term more people affected by dementia have been supported and three new groups have commenced (or are about to commence) delivering projects that will benefit a variety of people affected by dementia.

The medium to long term impact is that DonMentia as a brand for “doing good” is strengthened and thus will receive more donations and bequests.

The key message from DonMentia is that partnerships and collaboration can produce a sustainable impact.

See website for pictures from project