Welcome to the Spring edition of the Havering Dementia Action Alliance and Havering Council newsletter, which we hope will provide you with the information you need about dementia.

**Havering Dementia Action Alliance – Change of coordinator**

Keely Chalker left the Coordinators post for the Havering Dementia Action Alliance on the 31\(^{st}\) March 2015 to take up a new position with the Alzheimer’s Society. We hope that Keely enjoys her new appointment and wish to say a big “Thank you” for all the work she did to make Havering such a vibrant Dementia Action Alliance in its first year.

Jenny Gray will be holding the Coordinator role until further notice. Please contact Jenny on Jenny.Gray@havering.gov.uk or phone 01708 432318 if you have any queries about your Havering DAA membership.

**March Workshop**

Havering Action Alliance met at Romford Town Hall on March 17\(^{th}\) 2015 for a workshop facilitated by Dorsey Precht from the Clinical Commissioning
Support Unit. Dorsey led us on a series of journeys which were undertaken by Annabel, a lady with dementia.

We followed Annabel’s journey through Havering as she went shopping, went to the Theatre, went out for a meal, and went to the Park. The result was a dynamic action plan for the Havering DAA.

If you can help with any part of the plan, please contact the person named on the plan, or Jenny Gray.

Message from Alzheimer’s HQ

Thank you for the great work you have led in creating dementia-friendly communities in your area.

I wanted to give you an update on the Dementia-Friendly Communities Recognition Process you have been part of over the past year.

The recognition process has been a valuable way of capturing all of the work being done across the country and the different approaches being adopted by different areas. With a new Community Engagement function recently formed at Alzheimer’s Society, work is underway to more closely align the activities of Dementia Friendly Communities, Local Dementia Action Alliances and Dementia Friends. As part of this work we will be looking to improve and develop the next stage of the dementia-friendly communities’ recognition
process. This is leading on from our work with the British Standards Institution (BSI) and expert steering group to develop a Code of Practice (PAS 1865) for people wanting to create dementia-friendly communities - which are designed to support your dementia friendly community development. This will be published in early summer.

In conjunction with this, we will be holding a formal consultation period over the summer to gather your insight into what developments need to be incorporated into the current recognition process and how best it can support your work locally moving forward.

For communities currently registered on the recognition process and using the 2014-15 symbol – this symbol will still be valid to continue using. We have also produced a 2015-16 symbol which is available for you to request, subject to fulfilling the reporting requirements.

Further communication will be sent out to you regarding the work to improve the recognition process and the consultation period. We will keep you updated at each stage along the process.

If you have any queries in the meantime or would like to request the 2015-16 logo for use, please contact the Dementia Friendly Communities Team at dementiafriendlycommunities@alzheimers.org.uk.

Kind Regards,

Nikki

Nikki Crowther, Head of Community Engagement, Alzheimer’s Society

Accessing your Dementia Friendly stickers and counter signs
Members who were able to attend the March 17th Workshop were able to pick up their shop front stickers and counter signs to display them. If you would like one sent to you – please contact Jenny Gray and they will be sent to you in the post.

Renewing your Action Alliance Plan
If your Dementia Alliance Action Plan is reaching its anniversary, you will be contacted to remind you to update the plan on line. You do not have to wait for the year to be up – any part of the plan now implemented can be updated at any time. If you are unsure of your username and password, please contact Jenny Gray and she will advise you of them.
National Dementia Awareness Week

There are lots of activities happening in Dementia Awareness Week 18th – 23rd May. One such event is the Over 50’s Walled Garden project. Tapestry are also holding a month of events with concentration on the week. See the attached links for events.

Dementia Friends Newsletter

#DoSomethingNew for Dementia Awareness Week 2015

Dementia Awareness Week 2015 (DAW2015) is taking place from 17-23 May in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and our aim is to get across to as many people as possible that life doesn’t end when dementia begins.

During the week, we’ll be showcasing the many ways in which we help people living with dementia to hold onto their lives and the things they love for longer, and to try new things and have new experiences too.

So, to help spread this message, during DAW2015, we're asking you to ‘do something new’. You could:
• Volunteer as a Dementia Friends Champion
• Find a new sport or exercise to try out for the first time
• Write a letter to your MP and get dementia on their agenda
• Get a totally new hairstyle (or colour!)
• Become a Dementia Friend (if you are not already)

Whatever you choose, by doing something new, you can make a difference to the lives of people living with dementia.

Tell us your DAW2015 plans
Exciting website changes

Last week we made some improvements to our website including a re-designed home page, a rolling news section and a streamlined registration process – we hope you like it! This is just the start of a number of improvements we will be making.

Visit the website

Getting your organisation involved

The website now has an organisation area. So you can register your organisation with Dementia Friends and get access to resources and information aimed at helping your staff and volunteers understand dementia and how it may affect a person.

Register now

A brand new guide for employers

Launched this week, Alzheimer's Society has produced an informative guide for employers to help them gain an understanding of dementia, how it impacts organisations and the practical steps they can take to support employees, clients and customers.

Read the guide

Volunteer as a Dementia Friends Champion

Dementia Friends Champions are trained volunteers who encourage others to learn a little bit about dementia. Champions run Information Sessions in their community and inspire others to help those living with dementia live well.

See the full list of Champions training sessions on our website.
As The Care Act came into effect on Wednesday 1 April, Alzheimer’s Society warned that without sustainable funding it is at risk of becoming a wasted opportunity. Read the full comment here. Want to find out more about the Care Act?

You can get 2-for-1 tickets to The Alzheimer’s Show in London on 5-6 June by using code AS241. Full price tickets are £10 online/£16 on the door. The Alzheimer's Show will feature expert speakers, practical talks, activities and the best products and services to help in the care of those with dementia.

Launching in Dementia Awareness Week, Alzheimer's Society will be running its first ever major advertising campaign. The cast and crew working on the TV advert all attended a Dementia Friends Information Session as part of their preparation. Look out for more information on this inspiring campaign in the next few weeks.
Action of the month

We wanted to share this inspiring story sent to us by Mark Shone, Community Safety Manager at Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service. Mark became a Dementia Friend at work, what he didn’t expect was to draw on that learning outside of work...

Read Mark’s story

Pan-London Newsletter

The Pan-London Dementia Action Alliance official newsletter for April 2015 is now available for download.

Download the newsletter [here](#).

HSA Health events

During Dementia Awareness Week (18–24 May 2015) we are releasing a series of podcasts in which a panel of experts will discuss key dementia care issues.

You can discuss the themes and topics highlighted in each podcast via live daily twitter chats.

Podcast recordings will be available from 9am every day with the live twitter chat following between 12.30pm and 1.30pm.

Click on the links below to ask a question or have a link to the podcast delivered to your inbox.

- Dementia Awareness  - Monday 18th May [Register here](#)
- Advanced Care Planning  - Tuesday 19th May [Register here](#)
- Dementia Friendly Hospitals - Wednesday 20th May [Register here](#)
Working with Care Homes - Thursday 21st May Register here
Life after Diagnosis - Friday 22nd May Register here
Visits our website to find out more!

New Members of the Havering DAA
Emerson Park NPT (Safer Schools) – Metropolitan Police
Jewish Care
Rainham Hall – National Trust
Romford Town Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Dates for next Havering Dementia Action Alliance meetings
We have booked Training Room 2 at Romford Town Hall for the rest of the Dementia Action Alliance meetings in 2015. All meetings will be held from 10am – 12 noon

The dates are:-
Friday 26th June 2015
Friday 25th September 2015
Thursday 17th December 2015

Follow the council on Twitter @lbofhavering