



PRESS RELEASE

6 August 2015

## **LINE-UP OF LEADING GLOBAL DEMENTIA EXPERTS ANNOUNCED FOR UK'S FIRST CROSS SECTOR INTERNATIONAL DEMENTIA CONFERENCE**

**Further presentations from specialist architects, nurses and occupational therapists as well as dementia experts from housing, local authorities and care homes**

[www.internationaldementiaconference.co.uk](http://www.internationaldementiaconference.co.uk)

Taking place 3 – 4 November 2015 at Vox Birmingham, the UK's first cross sector International Dementia Conference will bring together leading figures from around the world and from a variety of different industry backgrounds to learn and share ideas on the best solutions to tackle this global issue.

These professional experts will be joined by specialist architects and planners, nurses and occupational therapists as well as specialists in dementia from sectors including housing, local authorities and care homes. 60 concurrent session presentations will address topics ranging from assistive technology, case finding, meaningful activity and end of life care through to design, environment, staff education, attitudes, language and support and many more valuable areas for discussion and debate.

The International Dementia Conference has been established by **Stirling University's Dementia Services Development Centre** as an interactive educational platform to drive understanding. Running alongside the dedicated Care & Dementia Show ([www.careshow.co.uk](http://www.careshow.co.uk)), it will also offer practical support. Organisers are specifically inviting decision makers from housing providers and associations; architects, designers and town planners; local authorities; social workers; GPs, CCGs and NHS professionals including occupational therapists, doctors and nurses.

Professor June Andrews, Director, Dementia Services Development Centre, University of Stirling and a leader in developing this exclusive conference comments:  
*"This is a conference for everyone who want to know how to better serve and care for those affected by dementia. Best practice ideas will be shared and trends revealed that will help many sectors prepare to confront this increasingly important subject."*

The conference will be addressed by Dame Joan Bakewell as well as plenary speakers from France, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain, Hong Kong, the USA and the UK. They will include:

- **Professor Timothy Kwok, Director of Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing, Chinese University of Hong Kong**, focusing on improving hospital care through prevention strategies and psycho-social interventions for dementia. The prevention strategies under investigation include vitamin B, nutritional supplement, TaiChi and cognitive training.
- **Professor Manuel Carrasco, Aita-Menni Hospital, Psychiatric Research Institute, Spain** who has over 20 years of experience caring for people with dementia and their families and has published extensively in this field. He will share his success in research and practice on what works best for relatives.
- **Professor Alistair Burns, National Clinical Director for Dementia, NHS England and Professor of Old Age Psychiatry, University of Manchester**
- **Professor Tara Cortes, New York University College of Nursing** who will share success in online training and offer an exclusive preview into the forthcoming US National Alzheimer's Strategy.
- **Dr Sridhar Vaitheswaran MD, MRCPsych, Consultant Psychiatrist, Schizophrenia Research Foundation (India)** who will share best practice on his teleconferencing experience for the benefit of those affected by dementia in rural communities.
- **Shirley Law, Head of Learning & Development, Dementia Services Development Centre** who will highlight the dedicated DSDC training course which has now been introduced to 7000 health professionals in Hong Kong, the Netherlands, the UK, Malta, Germany, Eire and, shortly, Australia.
- **Professor June Andrews, Director, Dementia Services Development Centre, Scotland** who advises health departments and service providers around the world on improving services for people with dementia and their carers. In the last year, she has counselled on every continent.

The International Dementia Conference runs alongside and in partnership with the Care & Dementia Show offering all conference delegates the opportunity to meet inspirational providers of products and services for those working in dementia care today. A prestigious awards ceremony will take place on the evening of 3 November.

The conference programme will also feature a series of individual talks, panel discussions and practical case studies highlighting the recent trends related to Financing Old Age; Living with Dementia; Research and Design; Care at Home; Best Practice in Care Homes; Families, Faith and Communities; Inspection and Regulation; Training and Regulation; Law and Ethics; and Art and Culture.

For further information regarding attending the International Dementia Conference, please visit [www.internationaldementiaconference.co.uk](http://www.internationaldementiaconference.co.uk).

## ENDS

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## Notes to editors

### **Care & Dementia Show** ([www.careshow.co.uk](http://www.careshow.co.uk))

Care & Dementia Show is the biggest trade event in the UK for the care and dementia sector and takes place at the NEC, Birmingham on 3-4 November 2015. The show features dedicated suppliers, best practice ideas and technology showcases as well as providing education, products and services for those owning or running any organisation involved in the care of older people and/or affected by dementia. These include proprietors, directors and managers of care homes, nursing homes, domiciliary care agencies, sheltered accommodation, learning disability homes, local authorities, specialist care units, private hospitals and construction companies.

### **International Dementia Conference** ([www.internationaldementiaconference.co.uk](http://www.internationaldementiaconference.co.uk))

Running at The Vox, Birmingham 3-4 November 2015, the International Dementia Conference will bring together leading figures from around the globe and from a variety of different industry backgrounds to learn and share ideas on the best ways to tackle dementia as a global issue. Created for everyone involved in supporting people with dementia and their carers, both in the UK and internationally, the conference runs concurrently with Care & Dementia Show 2015, the largest health and social care exhibition in the UK.

### **Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC), Stirling** ([www.dementia.stir.ac.uk](http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk))

Dementia Services Development Centre is an international centre of knowledge and expertise dedicated to improving the lives of people with Dementia, drawing on research and practice from across the world, to provide a comprehensive, up-to-date resource on all aspects of Dementia. Based at the University of Stirling, DSDC works with individuals and organizations to improve the design of care environments, to make communities Dementia-friendly, to influence policy and to improve services for people with Dementia. 2015 - the DSDC's 25th anniversary year - is marked by the Dementia Festival of Ideas which will explore the meaning of Dementia to us all, looking at the subject from as many different angles as possible and as creatively it deserves.



