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Welcome your latest update from the **South Gloucestershire Dementia Action Alliance (SGDAA)**. We're excited to share our new developments in Kingswood, and Anna Molter, Senior Associate at Barcan+Kirby LLP's story of becoming a Dementia Friendly Business.

Dementia awareness week 2017

This was a very busy week with many conversations:

Monday - I gave a Dementia Friends Information Session to a wonderful group of Brownies in Thornbury and their leaders.

Tuesday - we were promoting Dementia Awareness in Kings Chase Shopping Centre and had a great conversation with one of the security guards who thought he should have more information to support people living with dementia.

Thursday - I gave a talk to German and French visitors to Patchway about the SGDAA aims. They were impressed and would love something like this in Germany.

Friday - I was again in Thornbury, but this time it was to support the training of volunteers who will be running a new memory café due to open this summer, The Haven Memory Café. There were 19 volunteers, so in addition to the Dementia Friends Session, they also learnt about equality and an overview of dementia followed by safeguarding.



Our Story of becoming a Dementia Friendly Business: Anna Molter—Senior Associate | Barcan+Kirby LLP

After attending a Dementia Friendly workshop in July last year, I was so inspired by the efforts of others and the dementia friendly initiative, I thought my firm had to become involved.

I decided to become a Dementia Friend and then a Dementia Friends Champion so that I could deliver information sessions to all of our staff. I introduced this initiative to the Partners of my firm and they completely embraced it and becoming a Dementia Friend is now part of our induction programme for all new staff.

My firm has offices across Bristol and South Gloucestershire and it was important for us to show our commitment to the initiative by joining both Dementia Action Alliances to commit to an action. Our firm is working towards being dementia friendly. We have looked at our office space and reception areas to make them as dementia friendly as possible. We have introduced different signage to assist people living with dementia when attending our offices. We have also changed our literature to make it more dementia friendly.

By showing a commitment to the initiative by joining the dementia action alliances, we are showing our clients and those in our communities that we are committed to being dementia friendly and ensuring that a warm welcome is given to all clients who attend our offices. As our staff are dementia friends – this indicates to our clients that we understand what it is like to have dementia and that we will do all we can to ensure that those living with dementia will feel that they can continue to be part of our community regardless of any diagnosis. We will be there every step of the way with them.

Barcan+Kirby



Toilet stickers

We have some new stickers to give to members of our alliance. You might wonder why we're excited about toilet stickers? Some people with dementia struggle with accessing public toilets. Once in the cubicle it can be difficult to leave so we have signs helping people to identify items in the toilets. These will be given to all members of the alliance who make contact with us. They were designed with the assistance of the South Gloucestershire council.

Do let us know if you need some of these signs, they can be the difference for a person with dementia of being anxious to use public toilets and so not going out, or being able to visit places knowing they can be independent in the toilets. Dementia friendly!!



New Memory Café for Kingswood due to open in September 2017

The Retreat Memory Café will be opening at St Stephen's Church, Soundwell on 11 September 2017, to serve the Kingswood/Soundwell area.

We are currently looking for volunteers for this café, and have set a volunteer induction date of 25th July.

REQUEST: We have been very fortunate to be given donations to support the initial setting up of the Café, however we are now looking for partners to sponsor the café on a monthly basis. The funding we have received will cover the rental but we're hoping to serve tea/coffee/cakes etc and to possibly have some craft activities.

It would be really great if you could consider making the Retreat Memory Café your local charity.



**Are you friendly, helpful, a great baker?
Do you make a cracking cup of tea or coffee?**

We are looking for friendly volunteers to help run a new Memory Café in the Kingswood & Soundwell area. Whether you would like to meet and greet, talk to the café members, bake delicious cakes, or stay more behind the scenes and help make drinks, set up the room, or do the paperwork, we would love to hear from you!

We are looking to recruit a team who will be instrumental in the establishment of the café, which will open on Monday September 11th 2017. Full training will be delivered in July, so we are ideally looking for applications to be made by the end of June.

For further information, or to request a volunteer application pack, please call Winsome or Kirstie on 01454 868570 or email: dementia@southernbrooks.org.uk

South Gloucestershire
Dementia Action Alliance
A friendlier community for all



Strong Communities Powered by People
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www.southernbrooks.org.uk



Dementia Ambassadors

We're still asking all our current members to get in touch and tell us your dementia friendly actions, we want to celebrate it by putting your stories on the Facebook page – We also would find it really great to have a known contact person at each organisation. So get in touch and give us your dementia ambassadors name.

The Dementia Business Network Update

We told you we were running a network meeting in partnership with Brace, and 22 people attended from 14 organisations.

We had a very informative update from Prof Lisney of Brace about current research in Dementia and then the delegates heard from the SGDA and Barcan+ Kirby about their experience of being a dementia friendly business.

The feedback was very positive, we're hoping to do another one later on this year. We hope you all seriously consider coming next time



What Actions can you take to become Dementia Friendly?

♦ Attend a Dementia Friends information session

Kingswood Leisure Centre, member of the SGDA, are again supporting us by offering a room rent-free to run Dementia Information sessions in the Kingswood area.

We will be running daytime session from 3-4pm on Tuesdays, starting in June.

The dates are: 20th June

22nd August

17th October

5th December

6th February 2018



We run monthly Dementia Friendly sessions in Kingswood and Patchway, and by request across the whole of South Gloucestershire. Get in touch for more info!

♦ Get your FREE information booklet on making your organisation Dementia Friendly

We have produced a summary booklet that give some very simple ideas on making your organisations dementia friendly, from appropriate signs to lighting and speaking with customers. We are very happy to give these to all our members to help you take simple steps to make your businesses more dementia friendly! Get in touch if you would like a copy.

♦ Be our featured Dementia Friendly Business!

Send a few paragraphs, a picture and your company logo by email to dementia@southernbrooks.org.uk, and you could be featured in our Autumn / Winter newsletter.

♦ Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @SouthGlosDAA and share your stories with us:

We would love you to share your Dementia Friendly actions, and so create a ground swell of awareness actions that will encourage other businesses and organisations to join this social action.