

# Dementia Alliance International: *Finding our voice*

John Sandblom



*Support and Advocacy: Of, by and for people with dementia*

# No Medical Advice

Please note: The content of this presentation and our website represents our opinions (however well-informed they may or may not be) and should NOT to be considered medical advice. Medical advice should only be obtained during conversations with your own medical doctor.

**There is no conflict of interest.**



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*Support and Advocacy: Of, by and for people with dementia*

*Many people with  
dementia  
had a dream...*



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# Our Vision

“A world where a person with dementia continues to be fully valued.”



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# Reaching the world: over 130 members in over 6 countries



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Through strong advocacy, we have collaborated with ADI, and are now the **peak body globally for people with dementia**



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We speak up for full  
inclusion and a place at  
every international  
dementia table...

***No longer about us  
without us.***



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By not including us, the stigma, discrimination, prejudice, myths of dementia and isolation are being exacerbated, by the organisations, researchers & service providers purporting to improve our lives or advocate for us.



# What we do

- Website, weekly blog, newsletters
- Weekly online support groups
- Advocacy and speaking roles
- Master Classes
- Monthly Webinars: A Meeting of the Minds



# Supported by technology

- Zoom platform for online
  - Board meetings
  - Events
  - Educational webinars
  - Master Classes
  - Weekly support groups

Collaboration is the  
key to our  
continuing success



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# A global voice

- Advocated for a person with dementia to become a member of the World Dementia Council
- A member was invited to present at the World Health Organisations first Ministerial Conference on Dementia in March



# Living well with dementia...

## It is possible

- The attitudes of, and support from researchers and health care professionals need to change on this
- The language of dementia needs to change; see Alzheimer's Australia updated language guidelines -

<https://fightdementia.org.au/sites/default/files/language%20guidelines.pdf>



**"People will forget what you said;  
people will forget what you did...  
But people will never forget how  
you made them feel."**



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“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world – indeed it is the only thing that ever does.”

*Margaret Meade*



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# Membership

- Membership of Dementia Alliance International is exclusive to people with dementia; click on the **GREEN** icon on our website
- Family carers, professional service providers, researchers and health care professionals are welcome to join our newsletter mailing list, and support us through donations, click on the **BLUE** or **BLACK** icons

[www.infodai.org/membership/](http://www.infodai.org/membership/)

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[www.facebook.com/DementiaAllianceInternational](http://www.facebook.com/DementiaAllianceInternational)

[info@dementiaallianceinternational.org](mailto:info@dementiaallianceinternational.org)



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# Don't miss out...

Sign up to receive our weekly blogs when they are published...

Click on the **BLUE** button on the left hand side of the website.



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# Thank you



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