Agnes Houston MBE              Dementia Advocate
DEMENTIA IS AN ORGANIC DISEASE OF THE BRAIN

CLASSIFIED AS A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION
With PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS And SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS
This is where I first heard from a person with dementia of Hyperacusis and Neurological Vision Impairment in 2011.
Glasgow 2014
35 persons with dementia
Attended funded by Life Changes Trust
Discussed Sensory Challenges

Slovenia 2015
Dementia and Sensory Booklet
Presented Poster voted best in category
Dementia Can Be More Than Memory

- Seeing / Spatial awareness
- Hearing/Hyperacoccus
- Touch/Taste/Smell
- Hallucinations/Misperception
- Balance/Spatial Awareness
- Sensory Overload
The 4 A’s

• **Awareness** –
  • Talking and sharing lived experience, informing others with dementia, their carers and the wider community

• **Accepting** –
  • This is my experience of Dementia (and this can be different or similar to others)

• **Adapting** –
  • What helps and just getting on with life

• **Avoiding** –
  • If nothing else works
Feedback –
Was asked permission for booklet to be translated into other languages

Already been taken to GPs and Opticians to explain symptoms

People with Dementia recognising their own experiences within the booklet
Just six of the people interviewed out of 24 persons with dementia for this sensory project

Delighted to see the end result
Neurological Vision Impairment

Eyes are healthy it’s a Brain/Dementia Issue

Partially Sighted Register in early 2016
Hyperacusis

In April 2016 My Ear Nose and Throat Consultant said

“Hyperacusis was caused by my dementia and this was a well known fact”
You can follow my journey in 2016 on my Blog
dementiacanbemorethanmemory.wordpress.com/

“Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, never.”
Winston Churchill

Travel to learn -
Return to inspire
Ross Campbell from Falkirk

Who said

“There have been a lot of people videoed for this booklet – we can’t all be wrong?

So look at it and take something out of it.
THANKS TO

24 people with dementia who gave us their time and personal experience. They are named at the back of the booklet.

Family and friends who listened to us talk about sensory challenges for a full year.

All the people with dementia and their carers who supported us via Facebook and e-mail.

(you know who you are)
The Legacy of this Dementia and Sensory Challenges Project


The DVD can be viewed on You Tube under the Life Changes Trust Channel

Title - Dementia and Sensory Challenges