To the 33rd edition of the Gloucestershire Dementia Training & Education Newsletter for:

**Dementia Link Workers/**

**Community Dementia Links/ Dementia Leads &**

**Dementia Awareness Trainers**

**DECEMBER 2018**

***Dementia Link Worker & Dementia Lead Programmes 2019***

Next Course: 6th February to 24th April 2019

***Deadline for Applications: Friday 14th December***

Dates for 2 further courses in 2019 will follow.

For further information about putting in an application either for the DLW or Lead Award please contact: Amanda Rawlins on [a.rawlins@nhs.net](mailto:a.rawlins@nhs.net) or check out the website: [**http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/dementiatraining**](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/dementiatraining)

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***‘Dementia Care, let’s get it right’***

**Lauren Mackay**

**Dementia Education Lead**

Since the age of 16, when I worked as a kitchen assistant in a local care home, I knew that my passion was getting care and support right for people with dementia! I wasn’t very popular with the cook as I spent most of my time with all of the residents, getting to know them and making sure they were happy and comfortable. I then worked as a health care assistant and qualified as an Occupational Therapist. One of my first roles after qualifying was to provide training and ongoing support to care home staff supporting people with dementia. This is something I have continued to do and extended this to hospital staff, health care professionals and family members. It gives me great satisfaction to be able to improve the quality of life for people with dementia through the guidance and support that I can give to the people doing the incredible and challenging job of supporting them. I am very excited for my new role in the Dementia Education Team and for meeting you all.



**News about GDPR Guidance**

The advent of the new GDPR legislation in May this year has triggered a great deal of debate over the sharing of personal information and in particular the use of a life history profile being displayed in the bedrooms of a residential care setting. It could be argued that there is a risk of someone with no legitimate interest, viewing that information, which conflicts with the principles of data confidentiality.

What we need to ask ourselves is do we have a valid reason for openly displaying this information - in this case, for the provision of best practice, person-centred care. Have we made the person and/or their family aware and gained their consent (even though we would most likely not rely on consent as our lawful basis for processing the data). Where the person is unable to consent due to lack of capacity in this area have we considered what is in the person’s best interest? Have we risk assessed - could the information have a negative impact if others see it? and fundamentally, do the benefits to quality of care outweigh any potential risk of harm. If we assess that the benefits outweigh the risk, then we can be confident that we have carried out our duty.

The only real caveat is where the profile contains ‘special category data’ such as ethnic origin, political views, health or sexual orientation; where this type of data could create a more significant risk of unlawful discrimination. We must apply good sense in what information is appropriate to share, and consider the balance between confidentiality and what is in the best interests of the individual in order to give truly person-centred care. As long as we document our assessments we should not be fearful of GDPR.

We have always had a duty to keep data secure and share appropriately, however we should also be guided by the Caldicott Principle that “the duty to share personal information can be as important as the duty to protect patient confidentiality”. **Marina Martinez – Dementia Lead**

**Registered Manager  
Charnwood House Nursing Home Ltd**

**Wording endorsed at DTES Meeting on 16th November 2018**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* Cheltenham Stretchy Forum – 17th December – Flyer circulated
* Cheltenham Forum – 16th January – flyer to follow

**Please note this newsletter is**

**TWO pages**

**This is One of Two.**

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