

Welcome to our August Newsletter!

We hope you have been able to have some time off to enjoy the lovely weather we've been having (in between the rain showers!). We have some interesting news for you this month so without further ado, let's get started!

### **Dementia Café Award Nomination in Tipperary!**

We wish to give a massive congratulations to the team of the Tipperary Town Dementia Café for being nominated in the 2023 Knockanrawley Community and Volunteer Awards! The Café was nominated in the category of Community Engagement and Innovation, and although they didn't win they had a fantastic afternoon at the ceremony. Well done to ASI Dementia Advisor Gemma O'Donnell and all of the volunteers.

### **Lift Up Their Hearts: Visiting Older People**

Sr. Mary Threadgold RSC created the Sonas Programme in 1990, and this incredible woman has now released a new booklet: Lift Up Their Heart.

Sr. Mary describes it in her own words: "This is a practical booklet which I wrote for the benefit of those committed to visiting older people on a regular basis, either in nursing homes or their own homes, whether they are family, friends or volunteers. The main part of the booklet is focused on companionship and befriending in the general population while the final section is relevant to those with an interest in spirituality and religious practice. The booklet acts as a guide and resource to the visitor to help make visits more meaningful, enjoyable and uplifting for all concerned, including those who are living with dementia or approaching the end of life."

You can purchase her book for just €6.95 at the link below:

<https://engagingdementia.ie/product/lift-up-their-hearts-visiting-older-people/>

### **P-CAD Bundle Now Available**

Our very own tutor, Suzanna Dooley PhD, along with Tammy Hopper, PhD and Margaret Walshe, M.Sc. PhD have developed a comprehensive Profiling Communication Ability in Dementia (P-CAD) toolkit. Designed for Speech & Language Therapists, Speech Pathologists and Cognitive Communication Specialists in all health care settings to assess and manage communication disorders associated with dementia. It is intended that P-CAD will inform care pathways on communication and be of benefit to the interdisciplinary team in supporting decision-making.

View this product and it's benefits here: <https://engagingdementia.ie/product/p-cad-profiling-communication-ability-in-dementia/>

### **International Dementia Conference Development Survey**

We want to sincerely thank all of you who took the time to complete our survey last month. We gained some fantastic insight from your answers and comments and we will be presenting the results to our board later in August. Your opinions will directly shape the future of the conference and so we are incredibly appreciative and are excited to use this information to develop a fantastic event for 2024!

### **Validation Method Training Coming this Autumn!**

Vicky de Klerk and Nancy Brown will be bringing their new Internet Supported Validation Worker Course to Ireland this coming August. This comprehensive 40-week course will give you confidence in all care situations. You will be secure in knowing you are directly contributing to a better quality of life for those you care for.

Visit: <https://vvalidation.org/product/internet-supported-worker-course-dublin/>

**We also have some great courses coming up in September:**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sept - Understanding and Answering Responsive Behaviours**

Our sell-out course on responsive behaviours is running on the 4<sup>th</sup> of Sept.

This course gives an understanding of the Non-Cognitive Symptoms of Dementia (NCSD), and how non-pharmacological approaches can support the development of meaningful interpersonal relationships between carer and client.

Find out more at the link below:

<https://engagingdementia.ie/product/understanding-and-answering-responsive-behaviours-4th-sept/>

**8<sup>th</sup> Sept - Sonas Programme Training in Dublin**

**And**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sept – Sonas Programme Training in Galway / Cork**

Our research-backed Sonas Practitioner Training will be starting in Dublin, Galway and Cork this September. Gain your Sonas Practitioner's Licence in time for 2024 and deliver this evidence based programme in your care setting!

You can find more information at: <https://engagingdementia.ie/training/>