

DEMENTIA AWARENESS IN GREATER POLLOK




The
VILLAGE
STORYTELLING
CENTRE


Rosehill
Housing
Association Limited

About the Project

What we did:

Between January and April 2026, The Village Storytelling Centre in collaboration with Rosehill Housing Association delivered a creative community research project to understand what the community knows about dementia, what support is available at the moment and what else is needed.

About the Project

Objectives were to:

- Understand the current awareness and impact of dementia in the community of Greater Pollok.
- Identify who is already delivering dementia work or supporting people with dementia and their carers in the community (organisations, individuals, projects).
- Identify the type of activities people with dementia and their unpaid carers need for the future.
- Develop a Community Dementia Resource as part of a Dementia Friendly Community.
- Identify next steps to support people with dementia and their carers within the community.

About the Project

Outputs:

The project team organised the following activities:

- 15 meetings with and visits to community health, care, housing and culture organisations; police and fire station; and specialists in dementia including Age Scotland and Alzheimer Scotland.
- 9 interviews with carers, people working in care and community link workers.
- 2 Story Cafes: one in Meadowburn Care Home for people with dementia and another at Rosehill Housing Association for carers.
- 2 training sessions for the community about 'Dementia Awareness' and 'Running Dementia Friendly Activities'.
- Prepared the 'Dementia Awareness in Greater Pollok' online resource.
- The Village Storytelling Centre became part of the Dementia Friendly Community Network organised by Age Scotland.

About the Project

Approach:

Using Applied Storytelling techniques in interviews and Story Cafes, we gathered people's thoughts, personal stories, experiences, hopes and visions for the future.

As a starting point, we told the traditional folktale, "Stone Soup" which we adapted to fit with our Dementia Awareness themes. We then asked people questions related to the story and how they could connect it with their own experience. We then supported participants to reflect using the following methods: for those participating in interviews, we followed a questionnaire prepared beforehand and for Story Cafe participants we used story-led approaches such as movement, singing, poetry writing and reminiscence activities.

Lack of representation from people with a dementia diagnosis must be noted throughout the resource. Due to a lack of existing relationships and time restrictions we were unable to do more than surface level engagement with people who live with dementia. However, with relationships now established we are confident that their needs and wants are centred as we and other partners establish regular long-term activities.

About the Project

Questions for reflection after listening to the “Stone Soup” story:

What was the image from the story that stood out for you?

Is there any message you can take away from the story?

How can the story be related to the dementia awareness project in Greater Pollok?

“It's quite thought-provoking. I think the image that probably stands out for me in my head is how he (traveller) got them (village people) all in the square together. I mean with a pot of water and a stone. And it turned into a lovely pot of soup and everybody talking. And when he (traveller) was talking, it provoked somebody else's memory”.

**Pauline, Senior Social Care Worker,
Meadowburn Care Home**

Credits for the Research and Online Resource

The Village Storytelling Centre team:

Daiva Ivanauskaitė-Brown, Community Storyteller
Trinidad Cabezón Droguett, Community Storyteller
Romi Sarfaty, Creative Administration Assistant

Rosehill Housing Association team:

Sharon Quinn, Housing Services Manager

The illustrations were partially enhanced using AI & Photoshop tools.

What is Dementia?

**Dementia in Greater Pollok: Statistics
and Observations**

**Dementia Friendly Community and
Future**

**Dementia Safety and Accessibility:
Advice**

**For Carers / Caring for Someone with
Dementia**

List of Dementia Services