

A Dementia Friendly Resort - My Vision

Torbay is made up of three towns, Paignton, Brixham and Torquay (where we live) so making Torbay, Dementia friendly is a lot bigger than what some people will imagine. I was asked at the last meeting if I had a vision of what this will be like, because, as you know, I myself have a diagnosis of this awful disease and it is so unpredictable nobody knows what the future holds or how soon I may start to go into decline, also how quickly this may happen. So this is my vision.

I would like to see, within three to four years, at least 60% of shops, banks, Hotels, B+B's Supermarkets, Theatre, Cinema's, Leisure industry ECT displaying a "Dementia Friendly Badge " on their doors and Entrances very similar to the "Investors In People" we see on most businesses doors. The wonderful thing about this idea is the simplicity of it. We don't have to make it hard; we don't have to get tied up in Bureaucracy, because we already have the training information in place!! We have leaflets on every type of Dementia there is, freely available from Big Dementia Charities.

All I am asking is if every business in Torbay will agree to sign up to this and let us do the hard work for them. We will provide the information, we will provide the badge and we can also supply the "Including People with Dementia What Works Cards" which they can either buy for a very small fee of £3.00 or even download free from the internet!!

South West Dementia Partnership: <http://bit.ly/vcI8pC>

If the training officers or Health and safety reps include this information in their induction training and also include it in the yearly review they do with the staff involved then there is no reason why this can't be done!

The most important thing to remember is the awareness raising and the education part of this is invaluable. It has so many knock on effects and positive

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Thoughts by Norrm's Mcnamara

ones at that! Once trained, hopefully people will no longer think there is only one type of dementia (Alzheimer's) The Myth of this Disease will be forever dispersed as people will realise it's a Disease of the brain and that it's not contagious, just as cancer or heart problems are not. The Awful stigma that is attached to it will also diminish as people begin to understand it's something that can be talked about and discussed openly, until it becomes just another medical topic and not something that is whispered about.

This is my vision for Torbay my friends,

WHATS YOURS, FOR YOUR TOWN OR CITY?

If anybody would like to e mail me about how to start something like this, please e mail me at my new website, just Google

Dementia aware Alliance

Thank you, Norrms xxxxxxxxxxxx

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