Involving people living with dementia in research: collaboration and facilitation

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Neighbourhoods and Dementia people, spaces and places



- The first Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia (2012)
- Initial challenge set out 14 key commitments around three key areas
 - Driving improvements in health and care
 - Creating dementia friendly communities that understand how to help
 - Better research
- The Neighbourhoods study [2014-2019] is funded under key commitment 12 of the first Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia, a commitment of funding for social science research.
- Chief Investigator Professor John Keady



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Work Programmes

- WP 1 Member Involvement
- WP 2 Generating neighbourhood profiles of cognitive ageing and service use
- WP 3 Development of a dementia core outcome set
- WP 4 Neighbourhoods: Our People, Our Places
- WP 5 Evaluating dementia training in NHS hospitals
- WP 6 Living life and doing things together
- WP 7 Deaf with Dementia Life-Stories
- WP 8 Health and well-being

www.neighbourhoodsanddementia.org

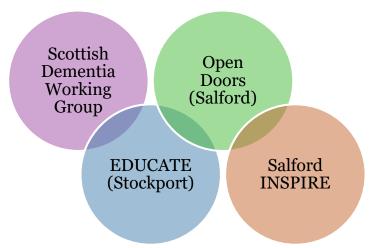


Work Programme 1

• Led by Dr Caroline Swarbrick



• 'Member Involvement' is a partnership between groups of people living with dementia, academic researchers and service providers.



Involving people living with dementia in research: a participatory study

Literature Review

 A narrative review identified that although participatory research is beginning to be utilised within the field of dementia care, the voice of people with dementia is often lost or not recognised.

Co-researcher

- 'Co-' incorporates collaboration, cooperation and community in a move away from the term 'user' or 'participant' (Swarbrick et al., 2016)
- 'Nothing about us, without us'



Involving people living with dementia in research: a participatory study

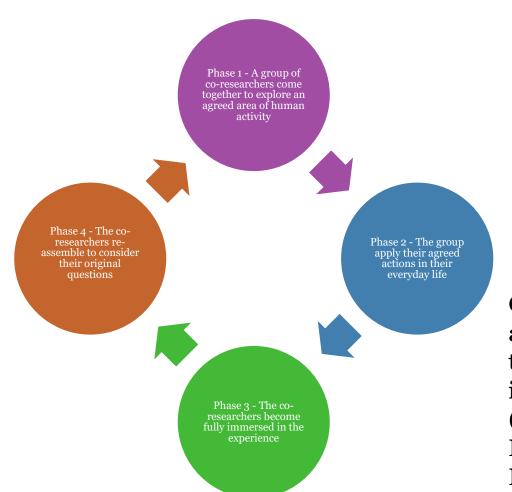
- Aim: To form, develop and conduct a co-operative inquiry with people living with dementia
- Objectives:
 - To explore the creation of a co-operative inquiry with a group of people living with dementia and how this is subsequently facilitated
 - To develop an action output that had meaning and resonance for the formed group
 - To examine the facilitators and barriers in working collaboratively with people living with dementia in research
 - To evaluate the position of researcher reflexivity during the different stages of the co-operative inquiry.



Co-operative Inquiry

- What is co-operative inquiry?
 Research 'with' rather than 'on' people
 - Co-operative inquiry is an approach to participatory research and human inquiry that involves cycles of action and reflection through clearly defined phases and is defined as a 'a way of working with other people who have similar concerns and interests to yourself' (Heron and Reason, 2006, pp. 144).

Co-operative Inquiry



Cycles of action and reflection in the co-operative inquiry process (Adapted from Heron and Reason (2006)

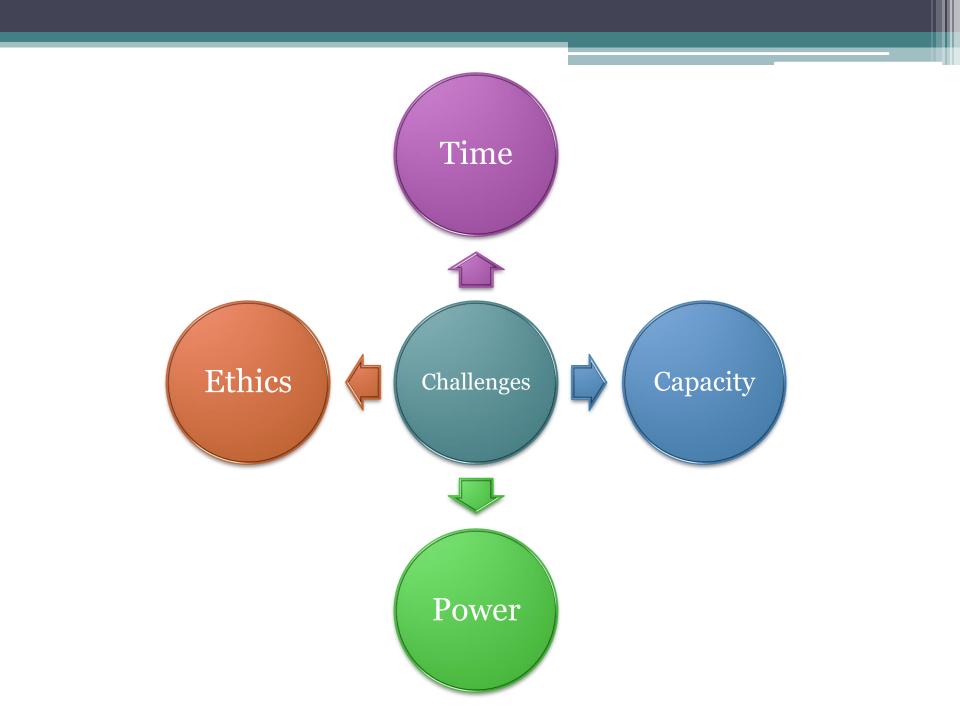
The Co-operative Inquiry

- Recruited from the Open Doors Project in Salford
- Six members including people living with dementia and care partners
- Developed a play script around stigma and included the group's own negative AND positive experiences of living with dementia





http://www.mistermunro.co.uk/





Summary & Recommendations

- Research 'with' rather than 'on' people
 Focus on what is important to the group
- Start early!
- Establish relationships
- Ensure support is available
- Embrace the creativity



Thank you



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