17 May 2016

Press release issued on behalf of Suffolk County Council and NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk and NHS West Suffolk clinical commissioning groups

Supporting Dementia Awareness Week

During Dementia Awareness Week 2016 (15 – 22 May), Suffolk County Council and NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk and NHS West Suffolk clinical commissioning groups are promoting a number of events across the county to show that life doesn’t end with the diagnosis of dementia.

The events will be taking place at care homes and Sue Ryder Synergy cafes and involve residents living with dementia, including old time dancing, mid-20th-century themed tea parties and Royal reminiscences.

There will also be information sessions to highlight the advice and support available to those touched by dementia, including families, carers and friends, and a Dementia Awareness Day at Grove Medical Centre in Felixstowe on Friday 20 May.

People are also being encouraged to attend Dementia Friends training sessions, which enable you to learn more about the condition and then consider staying in touch with someone you know who lives with dementia or volunteer for a local dementia organisation.

Ben Harvey, care home clinical support manager with NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group says: “Dementia Awareness Week is an invaluable opportunity to raise awareness of the condition, which affects an estimated 12,000 older people in Suffolk.

“Memory loss and the potential diagnosis of dementia causes people a great deal of concern. While there is no cure for dementia, with the right support and treatment options it is possible for people living with the condition to enjoy a good quality of life.

“These events will also help family members and carers know that there is help and support available out there for them as well as motivate people to get involved through Dementia Friends.”

Councillor Tony Goldson, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet Member for Health said: “Dementia Awareness Week is about raising awareness of dementia and how we can enable people to live well with the condition, while supporting their friends, family and colleagues who care for them. I’m inviting my councillor colleagues and county council staff to a Dementia Friends session to support this aim.”
Dementia Awareness Week is organised by The Alzheimer's Society, find out more [HERE](#).

More information on Dementia Awareness Day at the Grove Medical Centre in Felixstowe [HERE](#).

Issued by The Communications Team on 01473 770014

NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group – [www.ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](http://www.ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)

NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group – [www.westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](http://www.westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)