

Taking the dread out of dementia..... film premiere

"Having dementia doesn't mean the end of your life, for me I think it's been a completely new beginning" said Anthony Facey-Macleod. This was one of the many courageous talks which can now be seen in the film produced by LINK in Cornwall to celebrate the recent success of their 'Dementia Information Day'.

On 16 November 2010, LINK in Cornwall, welcomed 160 people to their event held at the Eden Project and supported by NHS Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The short film documents the day and provides information on the support for dementia that is available in Cornwall. You can see the film on LINK in Cornwall's website www.linkincornwall.org.uk then click on 'watch our video' or contact the LINK office to request a copy of the dvd.

Anthony opened the day with his courageous and inspiring story, sharing his personal journey of learning to live with dementia, hoping it would show "that dementia is not something to be scared about". The seminar also included talks by 14 others who spoke about the roles they play in delivering services and gave an excellent overview of dementia care in Cornwall. In the afternoon, the doors opened to the public for an Information Fair giving further advice on help and support available.

Cindy Reeve, a LINK in Cornwall volunteer, chaired the seminar and said,

"A lot of great dementia care services exist in Cornwall and the event today has informed people what support is out there to help take the dread out of dementia".

Attendees found the variety and quality of information very valuable. They said it was "a great opportunity to find out the full extent of dementia support agencies" and that it was "good hearing from speakers and from the audience about situations similar to myself."

If you would like to learn more about what support is out there then the film includes a summary of contact details for organisations and agencies with an overview of what help is available and how to get it.

If you would like to find out more on the work of LINK in Cornwall, which is hosted by Cornwall Rural Community Council (CRCC), please contact LINK on 01872 243533, visit www.linkincornwall.org.uk or email linkincornwall@cornwallrcc.org.uk

