

Scottish Dementia Research Consortium (SDRC) Conference

Scottish Dementia Working Group (SDWG) and the National Dementia Carers Action Network (NDCAN) members were pleased to be able to attend and participate in the 2023 Scottish Dementia Research Consortium (SDRC) conference. The two-day annual event took place at the end of April and celebrated the achievements of the Consortium and their research community.



SDWG & NDCAN members

Research and brain health are key priorities for both the SDWG and NDCAN, so members enjoyed hearing from world-leading researchers as well as early career researchers from all disciplines. In addition to the main Conference sessions, there were many opportunities to meet and network with others involved in dementia research, and to view poster exhibitions and information stands, including our Active Voice stand which promoted the work of the SDWG, NDCAN and Alzheimer Scotland.

The contribution to research made by the SDWG and NDCAN was recognised by a number of presenters at the conference, and NDCAN members Elaine Deehan and Winnie Henry delivered presentations at the event. Elaine spoke about the Group's research collaboration with the Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy & Practice around 'Researching as a family carer', whilst Winnie spoke about her involvement in Partners in Research.

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In addition, the first recipient of the Alzheimer Scotland Student Research Programme Award was announced. This MRes studentship award was decided by a lived experience panel including members of the SDWG and NDCAN – Tony Worthington, Kenny Moffat, Joanna Boddy and Elaine Deehan. The award was made to the UWS Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy & Practice, who will undertake research into the potential for a trauma-informed diagnosis pathway for people with a younger onset dementia.



Elaine Deehan

It was a full and fascinating two days with presentations covering everything from Diagnosis to Fundamental Science; Informatics and Technology; and from Living with Dementia to Prevention. There was also the opportunity for input and discussion at a series of breakout sessions, including one on the importance of involving people with lived experience.



Winnie Henry