

Filming Day – ‘Career Guidance and Dementia Research’

Scottish Dementia Working Group (SDWG) members were at the University of the West of Scotland (Paisley Campus) recently recording an awareness raising film. The film focused on working after a diagnosis and offering advice to employers to support people living with dementia to do so.

The film is part of long-standing ‘Career Guidance and Dementia Research Project’ that SDWG members have been involved in with our partners at Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice. The project seeks to develop and test an intervention to support people who are diagnosed with dementia with employment and employment-related decisions (e.g., retiring, finding alternative work/volunteering roles).



SDWG members, Rynagh, Kenny and Stuart being filmed

During the filming, members spoke about their personal experiences of being in employment when first diagnosed and gave guidance to those experiencing symptoms of dementia in the workplace.

Two group members spoke about having to stop working due to lack of support and understanding.

“With the right support I have no doubt I could have continued to do my job and could still be doing it today.”



Conversely, another member expressed that she has good support from her employer and with minor adjustments, is still able to continue working and make a valuable contribution to her organisation.

“I enjoy my work, it’s part of me, and thankfully my employer has been supportive in enabling me to continue after being given a diagnosis.”

When complete, it is envisaged the film will be able to give people living with dementia the confidence to stay in employment, and at the same time, will raise awareness to employers that in many cases, people are still able to continue working after a diagnosis.

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Life has changed but it’s certainly not over

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