

## The Edie Adams Prize for Excellence in Dementia Information and Support Literature – A collaboration between Active Voice and the University of St Andrews

Every year as part of the senior honours 'Psychosocial Impact of Dementia' module at the University of St Andrews students produce evidence-based handbooks as part of their main assessment. The handbooks contain information targeted at those living with a diagnosis of dementia, family members and professional caregivers. As part of this collaboration members of SDWG and NDCAN judged the top four handbooks and provided feedback relating to the layout, topic, information, accessibility and members views on recommendations of the handbook. This work aligns with the priorities of both groups including SDWG priorities of Dementia Support and Tackling Stigma and NDCAN priorities of: Carer Support and Influence & Inform Carers Policy & Practice.



Pictured: Kate Matheson,  
winner of the Edie Adam's  
prize

Dr Maggie Ellis, School of Psychology & Neuroscience, University of St Andrews has worked in collaboration with Alzheimer Scotland for several years and the groups have supported this work. Alzheimer Scotland provide a monetary prize to the University to put towards the winning students prize which represents the collaboration. The winner of this year's prize was Kate Matheson and the handbook – 'Navigating Sexual Intimacy and Dementia'. Kate said:

*"I was extremely honoured to win this year's handbook prize – Dr Ellis' module really opened my eyes to the struggles faced by those with dementia and their caregivers and I was actually inspired by the module to begin volunteering with Alzheimer Scotland! (choosing to write about sexual intimacy was something I was initially very nervous about, but I did so as it is such an important topic that few people have explored."*

## Some feedback from the handbook reviewers



### How useful did you find the information?

"Initially uncomfortable due to the nature of the content but useful none-the-less."



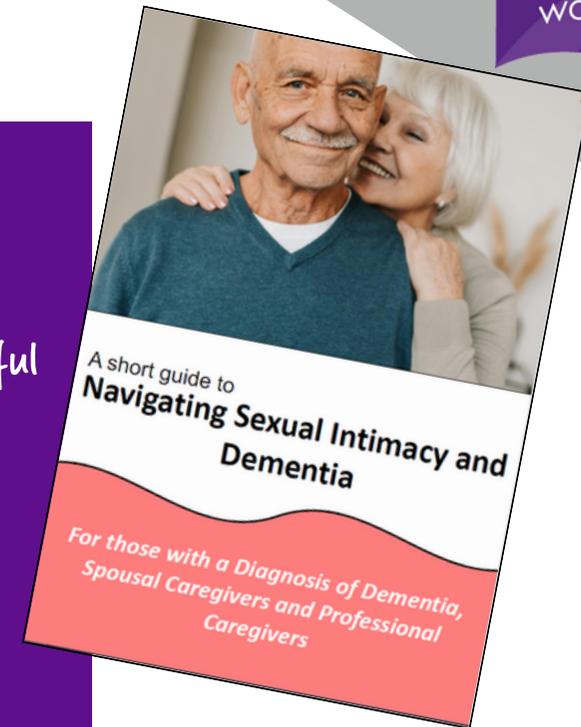
### Is the information presented appropriate?

"Yes, very much so. Tackling a subject some may find taboo."



### Would you recommend this handbook?

"It would be good to have this available in local resource centres and for people just diagnosed with dementia."



Pictured: Dr Maggie Ellis (senior lecturer), Micaela Kromhout (top student in the module) and Wendy Rankin-Smith (Active Voice Lead).



"Thank you to SDWG and NDCAN members for your involvement in this year's Edie Adams Handbook prize. Our winner this year was Kate Matheson, a very deserving winner who tackled a very difficult topic in a sensitive way." - Dr Maggie Ellis