

# *“Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today”*

*putting creative reminiscence at the heart  
of relationships in positive dementia care for the future*

The inspiring international project  
“Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today” (RYCT)  
celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> year of delivering Reminiscence in Dementia Care  
at a Conference in Greenwich, London  
on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017

This tried and tested project has demonstrated across 16 countries a unique and creative way to bring together, as equals, people with dementia and their carers to share memories and celebrate long-term relationships.

Come and find out how you can be part of this exciting international movement that has enriched the lives of many people with dementia through engagement in creative reminiscence.

This conference, hosted by the University of Greenwich and the European Reminiscence Network, will include presentations from guest speakers from many countries, workshops, performances, exhibitions, and reflections from participating families and the project’s graduate apprentices.



***The conference is FREE but booking is essential***

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/remembering-yesterday-caring-today-20th-anniversary-conference-tickets-36099503587>

For general enquiries contact [pam@pamschweitzer.com](mailto:pam@pamschweitzer.com)



## “Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today”

16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Hosted by the European Reminiscence Network with the University of Greenwich

### This conference aims to:

- Reflect on the work of the European Reminiscence Network to date
- Re-position reminiscence from an optional activity to a central platform in person-centred and relationship-centred dementia care
- See creative reminiscence in the broader context of the arts and dementia
- Plan for a positive future in which families can live well with dementia.

### Who should attend the conference?

- Voluntary organizations
- Arts organisations and freelance arts workers
- Health and social care staff
- Care commissioners and service providers
- Cultural organisations
- Students and researchers
- Anyone interested in positive dementia care and living well with dementia

### What is on offer?

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – 10.00 to 18.00**

*University of Greenwich, Queen Anne Court, Room 063, Maritime Campus, SE10*

Talks and presentations by guest speakers from around the world followed by the launch of an exhibition of Memory Boxes from EU countries and ‘taster’ performances inspired by these boxes created by University of Greenwich students

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – 10.00 to 17.00**

*University of Greenwich at The Old Baths, Bathway, Woolwich, London SE18 6QX*

Talks and workshops led by European Reminiscence Network partners and full performances of reminiscence theatre by students of the University plus planning the future



## Background to “Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today” (RYCT):

This project was created in 1997 by the European Reminiscence Network to support people with dementia and their family carers. Over the years, it has brought together participants from 16 countries including Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the UK, to explore creative and inclusive approaches to reminiscence work. Our Network has recently expanded to include Canada and Japan. Visiting speakers from these and the above countries will speak and showcase their work at the conference.



explore their past and present lives through involvement in drama, music, visual arts and dance. Leaders and volunteers create a warm and relaxed atmosphere that enables people with dementia to participate fully, allowing their personalities and talents to shine through.

Over 20 years, RYCT has involved over 5,000 people, including project leaders, trainers, apprentices, trainees, volunteers, families living with dementia, researchers and funders. It has brought together a rich mix of disciplines from the worlds of reminiscence, dementia care, education, the expressive and visual arts, oral

history, psychology, mental health and social care. It has set up a training and apprenticeship scheme now running in several EU countries to ensure that the project can grow and develop. The project has recently been awarded ‘success story’ status by the European Commission, a rare and special accolade.

We have tested the RYCT approach in many different settings, and developed the work in light of experience. Our handbook has been translated into several languages, with new translations pending in both Slovak and Japanese.

Now, against the backdrop of cuts to health and social care budgets and the uncertainties created by Brexit, we must consider the future. Can a project like this be self-sufficient? How can we ensure that this work continues and prospers?

