



# Sandwell Community Dementia Service **NEWS**



## SCDS - WHO ARE WE?

SCDS NEWS is the newsletter of Sandwell Community Dementia Service. We provide free advice, information and support for people worried about their memory and for those with a dementia diagnosis in Sandwell. The service is a partnership with eight local voluntary sector organisations. We work together to provide support all the way along the dementia pathway, provide training, and awareness raising sessions, as well as, helping to facilitate Dementia Friendly Communities in Sandwell.

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SCDS provide support all the way along the dementia pathway for people with dementia, carers and family members.

**Call us on 01902 826 655**  
**Web: [murrayhall.co.uk/SCDS](http://murrayhall.co.uk/SCDS)**

**Have a story or an idea for the newsletter? We'd love to hear it!**



## AWARDS - SCDS NOMINATED!



SCDS were nominated for the Best Dementia Team at the National Dementia Care Awards earlier this year which is a remarkable achievement for everyone involved. Everyone in the partnership has worked hard since the relaunch of the service in November 2022. This recognition highlights the real benefits that the service can offer to people affected by dementia.



## GURDWARA AWARENESS SESSION

SCDS supported an awareness session in November at the Smethwick Gurdwara with the Admiral Nurse Team. The team set up an awareness stand that allowed people to ask questions of the team on the day. We are working hard to raise more awareness sessions across Sandwell in 2024, continuing to highlight what support is available for everyone! One attendee stated "someone cares and has made time to be here".



## UPCOMING EVENTS - 2024

Interested in joining these events?  
Please contact Alex Fleming at SCDS  
for further information:  
[alex.fleming@murrayhall.co.uk](mailto:alex.fleming@murrayhall.co.uk)

### **Awareness Raising about Sandwell Community Dementia Service with GP's**

12 December 2023 - 12pm

### **Understanding Dementia Better with SCDS (For PWD and Carers)**

Online Event - 11th January 2024 and  
15th February 2024

### **Dementia Awareness Sessions with St Michael's CofE High School**

End of January - Dates TBC

### **Dementia Friends Sessions with Reach and Reconnect and Hatley Cross Big Local**

February - Dates TBC

### **Dementia Friends Sessions with Sandwell Consortium CIC**

February - Dates TBC

### **Dementia Friends Sessions with Holly Lodge High School**

February - Dates TBC

### **Dementia Friends Sessions with Sandwell Public Health Team**

March - Dates TBC

 **WE SUPPORT!**

 **WE OFFER PRACTICAL ADVICE**

 **WE HELP PLAN  
FOR THE FUTURE!**

 **WE LISTEN!**

 **WE RAISE AWARENESS!**

 **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

# VIRTUAL DEMENTIA BUS DAY



**SCDS supported the delivery of the Virtual Dementia Bus Experience and Market Stall Event in July for cabinet and key decision makers in Sandwell.**

The Dementia Bus enables people to experience for themselves the physical and mental challenges those with dementia face, using the experience to provide better person-centred care. This was the second visit to Sandwell made by the training provider and it continues to receive amazing feedback for the impact it creates.

As a result of this event, we are delighted to have started engaging with local schools and community groups to raise awareness of dementia and running dementia friends sessions. Many thanks goes to Councillor Hackett.



## FRIENDS FOR LIFE

In November 2023 we engaged with staff and students from St Michael's CofE High School College of Science to help students become Dementia Friends. Together we have created 66 Dementia Friends, raised awareness and helped engage people in important conversations around dementia. We have more events lined up in the new year across Sandwell!



We can offer dementia awareness training to organisations and services in Sandwell.



This enables organisations and services to understand the condition and how it impacts their customers and clients.

Training will be provided for local communities and businesses in support of delivering "Dementia Friendly Communities".

If you are interested in our service supporting your staff, team, school, surgery or office with training and support in raising awareness of dementia in our communities, please contact Alex Fleming for further information and details of how SCDS are able to assist your organisation in becoming dementia friendly:

[alex.fleming@murrayhall.co.uk](mailto:alex.fleming@murrayhall.co.uk)



## HOW DO I MAKE A REFERRAL?

To make a referral, you can contact the Single Point of Access by telephone or email. New referrals are triaged by our Dementia Navigators working with our Dementia Advisors to provide different levels of support.

**Telephone Us:**

**01902 826 655**

**Email Us:**

**[bcicb.dementiasupport@nhs.net](mailto:bcicb.dementiasupport@nhs.net)**

# MAKING A REFERRAL TO SCDS



## Who can access the service?

Sandwell Community Dementia Service is free to access for people living in Sandwell, or who are registered with a Sandwell GP practice and are:

- At any stage of memory loss and/or other cognitive symptoms.
- Diagnosed with dementia.
- A carer/family member of someone living with dementia.

Referring people to SCDS promises a range of benefits for both caregivers and people affected by dementia. Our service offers comprehensive support, offering tailored interventions that help ensure people live well with dementia. With a multidisciplinary team of support workers, including Dementia Navigators and Advisors, we ensure a holistic approach to address the complex needs of individuals living with dementia and their carers.

By engaging with our service, SCDS professionals can seamlessly integrate their clients into a supportive community, fostering a continuum of care that significantly contributes to improved client outcomes and overall wellbeing.