

# REMEMBERING YESTERDAY, CARING TODAY (RYCT) REMINISCENCE IN DEMENTIA CARE

A ONE-DAY SYMPOSIUM ON THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014

hosted by the European Reminiscence Network and  
The University of Greenwich Drama Programme

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS, WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCE



*'Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today' can bring back warmth to a stressed relationship, transforming it into a calmer, closer one, and brings the essence of the person with dementia to the fore once more. Sue Heiser, Volunteer, Camden RYCT*

## **What the Symposium offers:**

- *Workshops and exhibitions:* partners from 12 European countries present their arts-based reminiscence projects
- *Plenary speakers:* make links to parallel developments and to the overarching theme of living well with dementia and maintaining relationships.
- *Showcase:* presenting the new RYCT training and apprenticeship scheme offering accreditation in facilitating RYCT programmes.
- *Launch:* The new Reminiscence Theatre Archive website
- *Presentation:* The University of Greenwich's community work in reminiscence theatre
- *Live performance:* Reminiscence-related professional theatre

## **Who should attend the Symposium?**

Voluntary organizations  
Arts organisations  
Freelance arts workers  
Health and social care workers  
Care commissioners  
Service providers in the NHS and local authorities  
Cultural organisations  
University students and researchers.

## **Background:**

Since 1997, the European Reminiscence Network has been running the popular project 'Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today' (RYCT) in 16 countries. RYCT brings together families living with dementia and creative artists and health and social care practitioners who have trained in reminiscence work.

In weekly groups, they explore their past and present lives through drama, music and visual arts, improving communication and celebrating people's stories. Leaders and volunteers create a warm and supportive atmosphere to enable people with dementia to participate fully and allow their personalities and talents to shine.

For participants, the project offers the possibility of creative artistic engagement, new friendships, mutual support, a strengthening of often stressed relationships with close relatives and positive approaches to living with dementia.

RYCT group leaders come from different backgrounds - community arts workers, creative artists, people working in health and social care and research workers. Volunteers play an important role, and have included people from the community, students and, more recently, apprentice group-leaders. Some projects have taken place in care homes, but the majority of our participants are living at home.

*This symposium has limited places, so early booking is recommended. Please return booking form to Marta Moreno [mmlopezdeuralde@gmail.com](mailto:mmlopezdeuralde@gmail.com)*

**Venue Details: University of Greenwich Drama Building  
The Old Baths, Bathway, Woolwich, London SE18 6QX**

Nearest station and DLR stations: Woolwich Arsenal  
Buses stopping nearby (Woolwich Town Hall stop): 53, 54 and many others

## Symposium Programme

09.00 **Registration**

10.00 **Opening Plenary:**

**Harry Cayton OBE** – Chief Executive, Professional Standards Agency  
- How arts unlock our memories

**Kate Organ** - Arts Advisor to Baring Foundation - The value of creative arts in dementia care

**Sally Knocker** – Dementia Care Matters - Remembering Yesterday: making sense of today in the care home context

**Pam Schweitzer MBE** – Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today: the story of an idea

11.15 **Coffee**

11.45 **Morning workshops** - please choose from one the following:

A) The experiences and needs of participants with dementia and how the RYCT project attempts to meet these needs

B) The use of drama-based activities in RYCT groups

C) The use of visual arts-based and 'doing' activities in RYCT groups

D) The impact of RYCT on staff and residents in the care home context

12.45 **Lunch** : a light lunch at the Town Hall (2 minutes walk from Symposium venue) by kind invitation of the Mayor of Royal Greenwich

14.00 **Performances**

- Wioleta Pietrasik presents her short monologue: 'My Grandmother'
- Jon Taverner, Eastern Angles presents their new reminiscence show

15.00 **Afternoon workshops** – Please choose from one of the following:

E) The needs and experiences of family carers in RYCT projects: recruitment, referring organisations and follow-on/reunion groups.

F) The use of music and dance-based activities in RYCT groups

G) Working towards an 'artistic end-product' in RYCT groups

H) Training for RYCT and on-going evaluation

16.00 **Tea and exhibition viewing**

16.30 **Presentations by families** who have participated in the London RYCT projects and voluntary and statutory agencies who have referred them

17.00 **Presentation of the Training and Apprenticeship Scheme** for Remembering Yesterday Caring Today projects by Pam Schweitzer and Errollyn Bruce - with EU partners and apprentices from UK

17.30 **Reflections** on the day by Professor Faith Gibson and panel discussion

18.00 **Drinks reception** and launch of the Reminiscence Theatre Archive Website with presentations by Pam Schweitzer and Dr Heather Lilley and live performance by Greenwich University students

19:00 **End of symposium**, followed by celebration supper at The Dial Arch Gastro-Pub, Royal Arsenal Riverside, Woolwich (please reserve places via the attached booking form)

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With the support of the  
Lifelong Learning Programme  
of the European Union



The European Reminiscence Network



*the*  
UNIVERSITY  
*of*  
GREENWICH

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REMINISCENCE IN DEMENTIA  
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THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014**

*Booking Form*

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[mmlopezdeuralde@gmail.com](mailto:mmlopezdeuralde@gmail.com)  
Or post to Marta Moreno, 15 Camden Row, Blackheath, London SE3 0QA

Symposium Cost per delegate £100  
Early Bird rate (before 4<sup>th</sup> April) £80  
Evening meal at the Dial Arch, Woolwich Riverfront Gastro-Pub (additional £20 to be booked and paid for with Symposium payment)

Please note that highly favourable rates for delegates have been arranged at the Clarendon Hotel, Blackheath, London SE3. Quote reservation ref. 219204.

Cheques should be made payable to European Reminiscence Network c/o 15 Camden Row, Blackheath, London SE3 0QA  
or BACS payments to the following:  
Bank: HSBC  
Branch: 85 LEWISHAM HIGH STREET, LONDON SE13 6BE  
Swift code: 40-04-15  
Account name: European Reminiscence Network  
Account number: 01654756  
IBAN number: GB43MIDL40041501654756

Cancellations:  
Before May 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 25% refund

All queries to Marta Moreno at [mmlopezdeuralde@gmail.com](mailto:mmlopezdeuralde@gmail.com)  
Or Pam Schweitzer at [pam@pamschweitzer.com](mailto:pam@pamschweitzer.com)

*Order form*

Name/Names:  
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Number of places: .....

Organisation:  
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Address:  
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Email:.....

Telephone .....

Mobile .....

Billing address (if different from above):  
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Evening meal (£20) YES/NO

TOTAL PAID  
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Special dietary or other requirements  
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Morning Workshop:  
First Choice .....  
Second Choice .....

Afternoon workshop:  
First Choice .....  
Second Choice .....

Please tell us something about your own interest in reminiscence in dementia care:  
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Please contact us if you wish to display your work in poster form at the Symposium

How did you hear about the Symposium?  
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