

DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY CHURCHES

Our affirmation to people affected by dementia

We will be with you in the days when dementia may be no more than a cloud on a day of otherwise bright sunshine.

We will be with you if the temperature drops and storms begin to gather.

We will listen to you;

we will seek your views.

We will keep what you want us to keep and change what you need us to change.

If you wish us to speak on your behalf we will do so boldly and gladly.

We will make sure that all members of our churches understand about dementia.

We will make you welcome at the services and at everything else.

If the time comes when you cannot come to us we will come to you.

Quite simply, we will never let go.

We will make the church a beacon to the community, proclaiming that dementia is everybody's business and that anyone can do something to make a difference.

We will seek to root out ignorance and stigma and insensitive behaviour wherever it may be found.

We will honour family carers for what they do and will respect them as individuals.

We will encourage those who provide care in whatever setting.

We will support research and thus hasten the time when a cure is found and dementia is defeated.

David Richardson

Dementia Coordinator, Churches Together in Cumbria

From a sermon in Carlisle Cathedral
in Dementia Awareness Week 2016