# DEMENTIA: THE BIGGEST HEALTH CHALLENGE OF THE 21ST CENTURY

## **BY PROFESSOR DAWN BROOKER**

Taking place at Halesowen College on Thursday 23 January 2020 Arrivals from 4.15pm for 4.30pm start Close by 5.45pm

#### **ABOUT THE PUBLIC LECTURE**

In this lecture, Professor Brooker will reflect on the impact that her department has made nationally and internationally and the direction of travel over the next ten years.

Dementia Care has come a long way in the last 10 years and the Association of Dementia Studies at the University of Worcester has been part of the positive changes.

From a standing start in 2009, we now employ a team of two professors, twenty researchers and educators, a growing cohort of doctoral students, six honorary posts, and a steady stream of international visiting scholars. We are a multiprofessional group, bringing together expertise from many disciplines together with the experience of those living with dementia, their families and those working in care practice.

We try to ensure that all our work is richly textured, reflecting the complexity of care and support in dementia.

Over the years we have been involved in some marvellous projects to promote skilled care across whole organisations, timely diagnosis, community support including Meeting Centres, supporting people with advanced dementia and complex needs, innovation in creative arts, nature and sport, and making all places and spaces dementia friendly.

### **ABOUT THE SPEAKER**

Professor Brooker is the Director of the Association for Dementia Studies at University of Worcester. Established in 2009, she leads a team dedicated to dementia care research. She is internationally recognised for scholarship in the practice development of personcentred dementia care.

Originally qualified as a clinical psychologist, she enjoys working at the interface between the experience of those living with dementia, care practice and research to ensure authentic knowledge exchange.

In 2019, she was named one of UK Universities Top 100 Lifesavers in recognition of her contribution to the health and wellbeing of the nation and she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement award for Dementia Care at the National UK Dementia Care Awards.

Her team led the work on Meeting Centres which won the University of Worcester the Outstanding Contribution to the Local Community at the prestigious Times Higher Education awards in 2019.

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