

Dr Claire Garabedian



Research Associate - Association for Dementia Studies

Institute of Health & Society

Contact Details

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Dr Claire Garabedian, a professional cellist and certified music practitioner, holds the uniquely titled post; 'Associate Researcher in Creative Arts and Dementia'. She is currently evaluating several creative arts and dementia projects (see below). Claire is part of the supervisory team for ['TAnDem' \(The Arts and Dementia\) the Nottingham-Worcester Universities Doctoral Training Centre](#). She is in high demand as a guest lecturer and presenter regarding the use of creative arts with people living with dementia/hearing the end of life and their caregivers throughout the UK as well as internationally, and is frequently invited to speak on related current events on BBC

radio.

Qualifications

PhD (2015), *'I'd Rather Have Music: the effects of live and recorded music for people with dementia who are nearing the end of life, and their carers*. University of Stirling; School of Applied Social Science.

MSc Postgraduate diploma in Enhanced Palliative Care (2009), University of Stirling.

Certified Music Practitioner, Music for Healing and Transition (MHTP), Inc. (2005), Seattle, USA.

MM in historical performance – cello (1997), Longy School of Music, Boston, USA.

BM in performance – cello (1986), New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, USA.

Research, Teaching and Knowledge Transfer

Research:

Dr Garabedian brings a unique combination of experience as a performer, practitioner, and researcher to her post. Primarily a researcher, she is currently involved with the following projects:

- 1 Namaste Care Intervention UK: Delivering Excellent Care Every Day for People Living with Advanced Dementia. Alzheimer's Society Implementation Research grant. 2016-19 [Namaste Care UK Implementation Research](#)
- 1 ['Making of Me' \(MoM\) Mentoring Programme in Care Homes across three Creative Arts forms](#). Baring Foundation. 2015-2018.
- 1 [Creative Ageing Programmes](#). The Courtyard Theatre, Hereford. 2016-2017.
- 1 [Green dementia care in Extra Care and Residential Care settings](#) – opportunities, barriers and good practice. Abbeyfield Society. 2016-2017.

Completed Projects at Worcester include:

- 1 [My Musical Memories Reminiscence Programme \(MMMRP\)](#). Alzheimer's Society, West Midlands. 2014-2015.
- 1 ["The therapeutic application of sound frequencies to the body/mind of a person with the intention of bringing them into a state of harmony and health" \(The College of Sound Healing\)](#). The College of Sound Healing and Stanfield Care Home. 2015-2016.

Teaching:

Dr Claire Garabedian is a guest lecturer and is also on the TAnDem supervisory team. She contributes on a variety of courses within ADS.

She is co-supervisor for:

- Cousins, E. An International Taxonomy of Arts Interventions for People Living with Dementia. University of Nottingham (TAnDem), Advisor, 2015- 2018.
- [Swift, R.](#) Assessing the potential for personalised playlists in dementia care to assist in quality of life and communication. University of Worcester, Co-Supervisor, 2016-2019.
- Dowson, B. The Contribution of Music Therapy to Choral Singing in Dementia Care. University of Nottingham (TAnDem), Advisor, 2016-2019.

Knowledge Transfer:

Claire is passionate about disseminating information regarding the benefits of introducing creative arts practices within dementia care. To this end, she has been invited to contribute to numerous radio broadcasts, videos, plenary addresses, and internet sites, as well as actively engaging with individual enquiries.

Recent projects include:

- 1 BBC Radio 4 – [Saturday Live](#) programme – 13 August 2016 (beginning approximately 40.12 into clip).
- 1 [Music and Dementia Expert Roundup](#) - CPI Training and consulting in behavior management & dementia care.
- 1 ['Ageing Bites'](#): British Society of Gerontology. September 2015.

Dr Garabedian also delivers many conference presentations and workshops nationally and internationally. Recent public lectures and workshops include:

- 1 Lecture. Music and dementia: Institute of Health and Aging, Birmingham. June 2016 (invited).
- 1 Plenary speaker and two workshops. Music for Healing and Transition (MHTP), Inc. biannual conference. California, USA. July 2016 (invited).
- 1 Lecture – Ethics, Creative Arts and Dementia. Worcester county. April 2016 (invited).
- 1 Plenary Panel. Creative Dementia Arts Network. Oxford. April 2016 (invited).
- 1 Lecture. 'The shared activity of listening to individualised music: fostering a sonic refuge for people living with dementia and their carers'. University of St Andrews. April 2016 (invited).
- 1 Lecture and cello playing. Early Onset Dementia Worcestershire. November 2015 and July 2016 (invited).
- 1 Lectures for ADS foundation degree course. Creative Arts and Dementia 2016-2017.
- 1 Lectures for ADS Admiral nurse course. Creative Arts and Dementia 2016-2017.
- 1 Presentations for British Society of Gerontology. 2010-2017.
- 1 Presentation - First International Research Conference on the Arts and Dementia. London. 2017.
- 1 [Presentation - Hay Festival 2017](#) - Using the Creative Arts to Help People with Dementia to Live Well

Professional Bodies

- 1 British Society of Gerontology (BSG)
- 1 Early Researchers Association – British Society of Gerontology (ERA)
- 1 Interdem Academy

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