THE DEMENTIA BANNERS
The dementia banners

I am the lead artist for a medical research project IDEAL (improving dementia experience and active living) led by the university of Exeter and I have been working with a number of dementia groups around the country

Together we have created a number of artistic outputs that can be used to raise the public awareness of some of the problems faced by people with dementia and we are currently producing a series of banners that highlight a few of these issues.

The banners are based on the design of traditional trade union/campaign banners and we have researched existing banners in the various group’s local museums or archives.

We have just completed our first banner “The right to a grand day” which is for the Yorkshire DEEP dementia group who have been campaigning for better services from public transport for people with dementia.

The banner was unfurled at York station and attracted considerable media attention.
Yorkshire Deep banner.

The right to a grand day out.

Unfurled York station 23rd May 2018 as part of National Dementia Action Week.
Reverse of the banner

Words by Ian M

Train
old/congested

Embellishments
Roads/taff
Confusing

Bike
Cyclist in heavy traffic

Bus
Packed

Congested
Train

Car in traffic

Bright Colours

Negative side(reverse) of the banner
Embellishments left and right of road & rail.
The pattern is confusing going round in circles and ending in dead ends, to represent the problems faced when using many of our current public transport networks.
Images for the four corner circles, negative (realistic) representations of current means of transport.
YORKSHIRE DEEP
DEMENTIA ENGAGEMENT & EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

THE RIGHT TO
A GRAND DAY OUT
Positive side (front) of the banner
Embellishments left and right of road & rail direct and easy to navigate.
Images for the four corner circles, positive representations for a grand day out.
Image for centre panel from an old British Rail poster advertising the benefits of rail travel. Some of these old British rail advertising poster are really wonderful representations of a grand day out, there is also the added bonus of a subversive message re the benefits of a nationalised rail network.
ESTA 2018

YORKSHIRE DEEP

THE RIGHT TO

A GRAND DAY OUT
THE UNFURLING

Let us celebrate the gradual opening
Of a banner taking its place in the world;
A long unravelling and a fine unwinding,
Like a flower unwrapping itself from itself,
A parcel of thinking softly untying
Or an origami of ideas hugely unfolding
As, caught by the breeze, image and language
Spread their twin messages into the air.

Ian McMillan
GIVE US THE RIGHT TO A GRAND DAY OUT

Give us the right to a grand day out,
Give us a seat on a nice clean train;
Give us a view of the shining sea
As the sun breaks through the Yorkshire rain.

Give us a trip we can all go on
Give us a day that’ll make us grin;
Give us a toilet close to hand
Not a mile down the train by a smelly bin.

Give us some signs that are crystal clear
Give us a guard who knows their stuff
Give us a trip we can file away
When the world seems harsh and life gets rough.

Yes, give us the right to a grand day out,
Give us a seat on a nice clean train;
Give us a view of the shining sea
As the sun breaks through the Yorkshire rain

Ian McMillan
Look North (Yorkshire)
Evening News: 23/05/2018
Groups involved in this project are

1. Oldham  “The ragamuffins”
2. Bradford  “Face it together”
3. York  “Minds & voices”
4. Scarborough  “Deep vibes”
5. Exeter  “Budding friends”
6. Canterbury  “The forget me nots”

Other groups from DEEP the UK network of Dementia voices will be recruited.

Artists involved in this project are

Ian Beesley  conceptual artist and photographer
Martyn Hall  designer
Tony Husband  cartoonist
Lydia Keene  illustrator
Ian McMillan  poet

Project supported by

The University of Exeter, Innovations in Dementia, Economic & Social Research Council, Improving dementia care ESRC:NIHR and Deep the UK network of dementia voices
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