

We would like to give our support to Awen in their bid for ACW funding.

We have been lucky to work closely with Andre on many occasions with several projects.

We have taken part in the digital story telling training for our staff, which showed us how to record a person recalling their life and experiences.

There was also the opportunity to work on the VR project during the pandemic. Our residents were able to be transported abroad to sunnier climates and beautiful gardens, interact with wild animals etc. They benefited hugely from this and for some stimulated memories and started conversations. The staff were also able to use this technology which was welcome during the pandemic for a little stress relief. They were also able to take videos of a resident's social group and also film her garden at home to show her on the VR system.

During preparation for celebrations for one of our residents who was 105, Andre was able to contact the local junior school who came over to sing happy birthday to her, which they did in three different languages, Welsh, English and Dutch, Dol was thrilled and the children were extremely proud of themselves, Andre also somehow organised a message from the prime minister to wish her happy birthday as well as contacting a Dutch lady who came over to speak to Dol in her own language and share some Dutch delicacies with her. He also managed to contact a local paper which ended in her having several interviews, she was thrilled with this and made to feel like a celebrity.

There was also a piece of work carried out which recorded people's experiences during the pandemic, this was with residents, staff and people in the larger community, this culminated in a music video which was partly shot in the grounds of the home, which was exciting for everyone.

Andre was also able to help with a dementia garden project we were developing and link us with a gentleman who could advise on planting, and source plants and well as find us some volunteers who would help.

To have someone who will connect us with the wider community and bring us all together is great and brings new life into the home, as well as keeping us up to speed with new technologies.

We are grateful for everything they have done for us and look forward to working with them again in the future.

Penny

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