### Invited Speakers 2011/2012

**Thursdays 4:00pm**

**Venue Frank and Katherine May Lecture Theatre, Henry Wellcome Building**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Invited Speaker</th>
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| 22 March   | **Professor Dawn Brooker**  
 *Director of the Association for Dementia Studies, University of Worcester* | Person-centered approaches to dementia care in care homes and hospitals: Old hats and new brooms | Dr Robertson Noelle     |

**Abstract:** One of the main aims of psycho-social interventions is to decrease distress at the level of the individual service user. Much of the distress seen in dementia which manifests as agitation, aggression and depression is the result of poor quality person-centred care particularly in care homes and acute hospital wards. The term person-centred care is much used but often appears little more than lip-service that does not impact on the lived experience of people with living with dementia. Within this talk the definition of person-centred care is revisited using the VIPS framework that *Values* people, provides *Individualised* care processes, considers care from the *Perspective* of the person living with dementia and that provides the supportive *Social-psychological* milieu to compensate for the disability of cognitive loss (Brooker, 2007).

These ideas are not new but they appear difficult to sustain in care home practice (Hoe et al, 2006; Alzheimer’s Society, 2007). Tom Kitwood, whose writing shaped these ideas into a coherent theory made this prediction when writing a year before his death:

> “It is conceivable that most of the advances that have been made in recent years might be obliterated, and that the state of affairs in 2010 might be as bad as it was in 1970, except that it would be varnished by eloquent mission statements, and masked by fine buildings and glossy brochures” (Kitwood, 1997, p133). The way in which we conceptualise BPSD and therapeutic interventions can also form a barrier to the implementation of person-centred care practice. In this talk I examine the concepts of these two relatively old hats PCC and BPSD and consider their relationship with each other.

