

**Photos to illustrate some of the achievements of beneficiaries
during year 2 of the ASOSS project**



4 group members whose aphasia particularly affects their ability to read have set up a regular weekly Book Club. They have visited and taken advice from the Library service Health and Wellbeing team , to enable them to borrow adult appropriate 'easy read' graded books.



7 people with aphasia , supported by relatives and Dyscover volunteers, performed at Choiroke, a community choirs concert at Dorking halls.



iPads are a valuable and well used resource in our conversation groups at Dyscover. Here a volunteer helps a group member to contribute to a conversation by finding pictures , or using communication apps when spoken language isn't enough.



Aphasia has a huge impact on relatives and Family Support is an important part of our service at Dyscover.

'Conversation Partners' is structured 6 week course for couples , which helps them gain a better understanding of aphasia and to learn strategies to improve the enjoyment and success of conversation



Fran O'Brien, artist, is one of the specialist facilitators who we have employed with ASOSS funds, allowing us to offer a wide range of specialist activities to our members. This year Fran, together with Wendy French, poet, lead a joint project "I'm Still Me" which used art and poetry to explore the changes in people's sense of self and experience of aphasia.



The project culminated in an exhibition at our New Malden base. Here member Brian explains his artwork to the Deputy Mayor



Another exhibition – this time using photographs taken as part of a documentary photography project in which members told a story on a theme of their choice. Topics ranged from ‘Bridges’ to ‘my insomnia’.

Staging an exhibition requires organization and planning –we encourage members to volunteer to carry out certain roles – here David and Mark decide how to put up the photos.



As members grow in confidence , many want to extend their community involvement and volunteering outside Dyscover.

David is one such person , who was rewarded for his volunteering in the DICE information service by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council.

We are delighted by the achievements of our members in the second year of our Lottery funded project , and look forward to developing the opportunities we can offer members as we move into year 3.

Rosemary Townsend , Manager of Professional Services 27.8.14