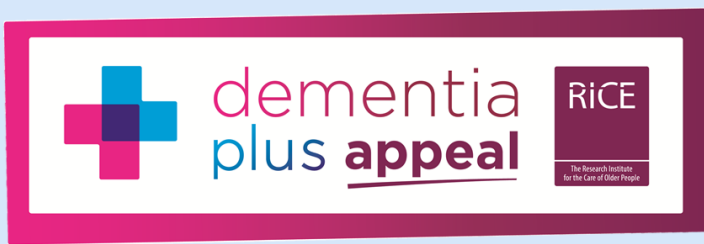


# Dementia Awareness Week 14th to 20th May 2017



## Marianne Roots

### RICE's Memory Clinic and Research Nurse

#### What is your role at RICE?

*I work in the RICE Memory Clinic with patients from the local area who are concerned about their memory. Patients can either refer themselves or they can be referred by their GPs. I carry out assessments to find out why they might be worried and if there is a resulting memory problem that we can help with. Another part of my role is to have follow-up visits with patients to monitor their medication and ensure they are not experiencing any negative side effects.*

*We also carry out research so I help with some of the clinical drug trials. These trials involve studies into medication which has not been licensed yet and to research if this medication can help people with their memory problems.*

#### When somebody is referred to RICE, what can they expect from their first visit?

*They normally see me, one of the other nurses or a psychologist. The first visit is an information gathering exercise where we will have a good chat and if they have brought a family member or friend with them we will have a chat with them too.*

*First We explain the memory assessment process and we will find out information such as any changes that have happened and a medical history*



*including their general health. Then we often conduct memory tests to establish whether there is an area of their memory that may not be performing as well as other parts.*

#### What is the most rewarding aspect of your role?

*It is nice to meet the patients and get to know them. The research patients come for so long, they might be coming regularly for a year so you really get to know them and their families.*

#### What does Dementia Awareness Week mean to you?

*Well, I guess there is a lot of misunderstandings around dementia and perhaps a lot of confusion, so it is important to get the message out there and for more people to be aware which may help people with dementia in the community. It also means that people might pick up on signs sooner if they are developing a problem and then they can access help quicker which can only be a good thing.*

**To find out more please contact us at:  
[info@rice.org.uk](mailto:info@rice.org.uk) or 01225 476 420**