

### The Challenge

Quite often we find that our patients are dis-engaged and not always present in the room at that time and they need stimulating and have the opportunity to engage in meaningful activity.



### The Solution

As Matron, I was familiar with the wards around Warwick and therefore I wanted to set out to see what results were being achieved in using the technology.

Although we haven't been using the system very long, it's made a huge impact in a short time. It's been invaluable!

One patient was a 67 yr. old gentleman who had been at the hospital for some weeks. He has dementia and he is aware of his

diagnosis occasionally. Staff have reported that that although this patient's behaviour was not particularly challenging, they were concerned about his isolation and how they could stimulate him during his stay.

So far, nothing seemed to be working for him, they could not get him enthused or express any desire to become involved in any type of activity.



### The Solution Continued

I mentioned to the patient about this new fantastic system that we have purchased and I asked could I show it to him, with some reluctance, he agreed. I brought the unit over on the portable trolley and opened up the old fashioned graphic of the record player, ready to play some music. His reaction was immediate. "Wow". "I haven't seen a record player like that in decades! He hit the play button and immediately his expressions and mannerisms were transformed. He became jovial and was smiling. He says he enjoys music so much that he remembers every No.1 Hit from 1963-1969. I thought I would encourage this engagement and challenged him and asked for the No.1 on April 15th 1968 (My Birthday). To my surprise, he knew it, without hesitation. He was capable of operating the machine himself. This was not just baby-sitting him, he was genuinely enjoying it and it was evident that he was being stimulated. We then went on to discover more applications the system had to offer.

The Information Technology Tool gets families involved, they want to become involved, they bring photographs in, to help build life story books and collages, it is a great reminiscence tool and creates triggers for conversation.

For those that continue with us for longer than 6 weeks, there is such a varied selection of applications and great opportunities to build life story books.

**“Having different activities on hand at the touch of the button is fantastic. No rummaging around for different activities, it all there, it's instant!”**