

The **Activity Training Programme** being delivered to DCC c/staff and other private/voluntary homes care staff throughout Derbyshire is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Centres in six areas are being used at: Swadlingcote, Bakewell, Kirk Hallam, Ripley, Chesterfield & Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Approximately **85 care staff** regularly attend the training sessions from over **25 DCC** homes/day centres and over **20 private & voluntary run** Derbyshire care homes.

While arts/craft activity ideas are popular, the programme has been considerably widened to encompass other creative disciplines, for example, Hand Massage and Chairbased Exercise (both separate certificated courses.) Also, emphasis is on Dementia consideration throughout all the training, plus, how activities can be enhanced through the use of I.T. Cognitive Stimulative Therapy and Chinese Painting have also been introduced this year.

Specialist national trainers have also been commissioned to deliver: Guidelines to Art – John Hope-Hawkins; Gardening from Thrive Charity – Damien Newman; Drama & Poetry – John Killick; Dementia Adventure – Neil Mapes. Many national trainers have commented on the fact that this training is unique to Derbyshire.

- Notable **OUTCOMES** to date are:
- Many homes are now recording and evidencing sessions
- Many preparing and planning monthly schedules ( some 3 monthly)
- care staff from different homes working together on projects
- staff now able to use equipment available to them ie wii
- intergenerational projects and links with local schools
- links with community groups- contacts with adult education,
- network of support
- increased job satisfaction & self esteem for care staff.