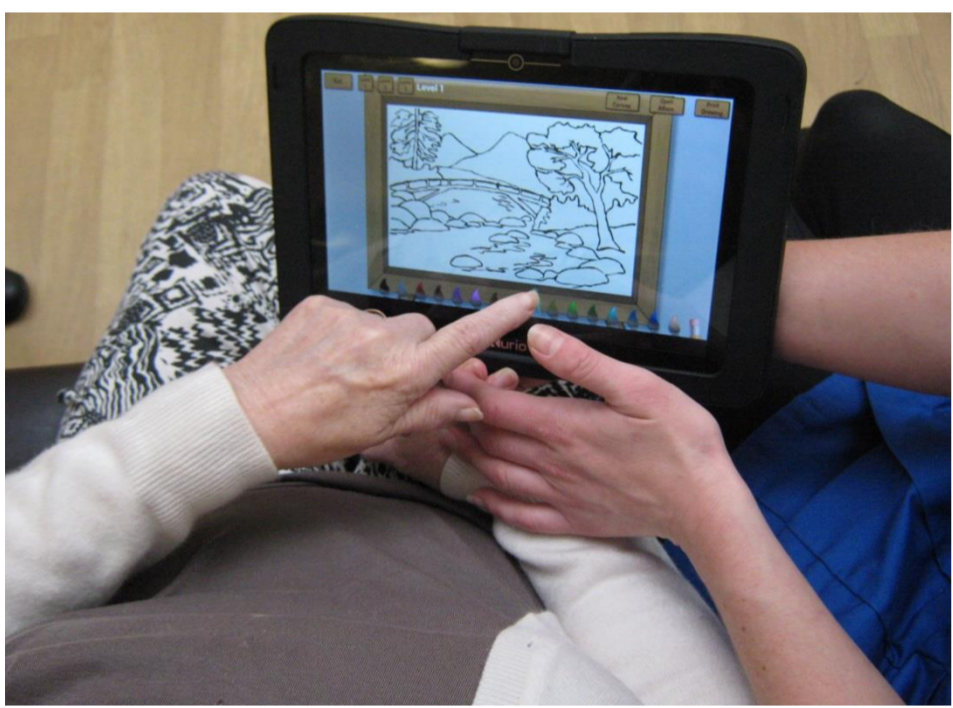
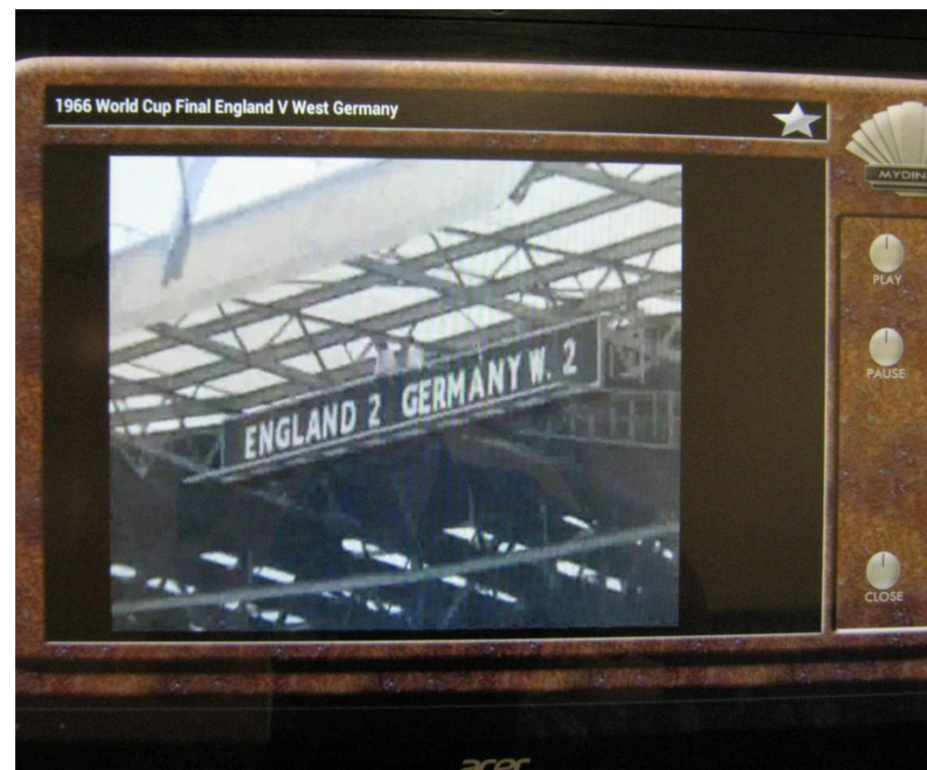


Digital Technology

Marsden Ward explore the benefits of bringing activity and engagement into the 21st century with digital technology



The Challenge:

Patients on Marsden Ward have significant complex needs that can lead to behaviours that challenge. These behaviours are due to symptoms of dementia, it can cause distress to the patient, carers and others involved in their care. Everyone has an inbuilt need to participate in activity having dementia is no different. On Marsden Ward activities are used as distraction, reassurance and sensory support through occupation. We need activities to be structured and planned, however we also need activities that can be available to offer support immediately preventing anxieties escalating.

The Solution:

Marsden Ward will explore advances in digital technology to support engagement and activity. The ward will introduce a digital reminiscence package via a desktop computer secured to a portable table and portable digital pads. The desktop and digital pads will offer- digital reminiscence, music, sport, film, poetry, individual life history profiles and much more. The digital technology will provide a valuable tool to support safety and clinical effectiveness for the patients on Marsden Ward. It will also offer a unique experience for patients, carers and staff.

The Result:

A digital resource at hand that offers distraction, reassurance or simply an activity. It allows patients to engage in a familiar activity using their preferences. It supports patients, carers and staff to build a digital picture of life histories. The patients have responded positively engaging with the technology. Staff use the digital pads in 1-1 sessions and build up individual patients play lists. Carers have found it cathartic to build up a digital picture of their loved ones life. Sharing and talking about happy days and memories that makes up the individual. It has facilitated an opportunity to create a partnership between the patient, carer and staff.

'Its great to have such a vast amount of activities and distraction tools in one place ready to use'

'I did not think that the digital pads and that type of technology would work with our patient group. We now have two digital pads!'

'Uploading these photos and building this life collage has really helped me. It has allowed me to share memories of my wife before dementia'

