

Two Good Men, John Quinn and Kerin Glenn

Fellowships with the Elder Leadership Academy

Title: Masculinity and Dementia

Fellow: John Quinn and Kerin Glennen

Date: 2020 – current

Context

John and Kerin were both school principals (in different states) when they were diagnosed with dementia. Their teaching careers ended suddenly and without choice and their worlds fell apart. What they were taught about how to be a man changed. They needed to reframe the way they viewed themselves as men; and they did.

When John and Kerin met years after diagnosis they made a strong connection and decided they wanted to share their insights on masculinity and living with dementia with other men, families and service providers.

Aims and objectives

To promote the wellbeing of men living with dementia by:

- sharing insights into the impacts of living with dementia on masculine identity and expression
- assisting men living with dementia to reframe the way they view themselves as men
- providing information to families of men diagnosed with dementia
- educating service providers about strategies to support men diagnosed with dementia

Activities

1. Filmed an interview between John and Kerin talking about masculinity and dementia
2. Condensed key messages into a 7 min clip called Two Good Men ([link here](#)) to encourage other men to respond to COVID lockdown in flexible ways
3. Shared Two Good Men through the Kindness Pandemic Facebook group ([link here](#))
4. Established a webpage to promote the Two Good Men message and key messages about living with dementia ([link here](#))
5. Currently reviewing next steps

Outputs

- Two Good Men film – 3000+ views and 188 shares in first week

Outcomes

- Tbc

Partnerships and acknowledgements

- Thankyou to Drummond Street Services for supporting the 7 min clip

Links:

- <https://www.thekindnesspandemic.org/twogoodmen.html>