

Fun Facts about David Sheard, 2019 Pioneering a New Culture of Aging Keynote Speaker

- * David is from Yorkshire which in the UK is known as ‘Gods Own Country’ and for its unique strong Yorkshire accent. A taster to come of this in Kentucky is “Nah then ere’s a guide to chattin reight Yorkshire.” Recently on a Canadian TV program they decided to subtitle what he was saying!
- * A few favorite sayings from Yorkshire are, “You can tell who is from Yorkshire but you can’t tell them much!,” “Ear all, see all, say nowt. Eat all, sup all, pay nowt. And if ever thou does owt fer nowt — allus do it fer thissen.” David promises that the conference won’t need a translator.
- * With a long family history of heart disease David lives by his creed of ‘All we have is Now.’ Consequently he has renovated 13 houses, has a collection of 4000 Victorian tiles, is a bit of a manic ‘Mr Bean’ character, takes out all electrical equipment around him and speaks with an urgency in his voice — so watch this space if the conference electrics work
- * David is not sure at all about being an expert in dementia care given on one of his first home assessment visits he took a man living with dementia who was in the hospital back to the man’s own home for a trial visit to see if he could function at home. Only after they had tried to use everything in the kitchen and the man clearly wasn’t working anything out well did David discover there was, down the hallway, a family watching TV and they were in the wrong house!
- * David is known for his strange eating preferences — his partner Peter reckons out of 400 restaurants in any city there is usually only two that David can eat in. David has created a clone in his grandson Harry, aged 5, who also has identical eating habits so David is seriously wondering what he will be able to eat in Kentucky (Hey, fellow Pioneers, and especially Kentuckian’s — that sounds like a challenge!)
- * Bring tissues with you. In the UK David is notorious at conferences and workshops for making everyone cry when he speaks. He has been described as the man who is “inside out.”

* David believes dementia care holds up a mirror to all of us in life about the truth, being genuine, authentic and congruent. He states living a life being true to who we really are is not for the faint hearted. It involves standing firm, being uncompromising about self, and accepting that in a world less and less about being real, that this will be threatening to masked detached professionals. You are invited to come to Kentucky and take off your mask alongside David.