

Scenario 2: Early stages of dementia

ANDREW HAS BECOME VERY FORGETFUL AND HIS BEHAVIOUR HAS CHANGED. HIS WIFE, MAVIS, KNOWS THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM BUT DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT. THEY ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE THE HOUSE

MAVIS: Oh Andrew, look at your cardigan, you've got it on inside out.

ANDREW: What's wrong?

MAVIS: Come here, let me help you. (SHE HELPS TURN IT THE RIGHT WAY ROUND)

ANDREW: I wasn't paying attention.

MAVIS: Come on we're going to be late.

ANDREW: I'll just get my coat. (LEAVES)

MAVIS: I'm looking forward to seeing Susan & David.

(ANDREW ENTERS WEARING THE WRONG COAT & IS STILL IN HIS SLIPPERS)

ANDREW: I'm ready

MAVIS: You've still got your slippers on

ANDREW: Ah.

MAVIS: And that's not your coat.

ANDREW: Isn't it?

MAVIS: No, it's Philip's.

ANDREW: Philip?

MAVIS: Our son? Look, give David a call and tell him we're going to be late, I'll go get your coat & shoes.

(GIVES HIM THE MOBILE. HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, HE SHAKES IT.

MAVIS COMES BACK)

MAVIS: What are you doing?

ANDREW: It's not working. I don't know what to do with it.

MAVIS: Andrew, what's going on. You don't seem to be yourself, what's wrong?

ANDREW: (SNAPS) There's nothing wrong with me, it's just not working that's all.

KNOCK ON THE DOOR

SARAH: Hi Mavis, do you have a minute?

MAVIS: We're just going out actually.

SARAH: Ok. I just wanted to give you this.

MAVIS: £50, what's that for?

SARAH: It's Andrew's. He bought a newspaper this morning and told me to keep the change.

MAVIS: Oh.

SARAH: He was ever so polite, the perfect gentleman, but it didn't seem right, you know.

(SILENCE)

SARAH: I'm sorry, maybe I shouldn't have come. It's just, I thought you should know.

MAVIS: Thank you for telling me.

SARAH: I'm sorry.

MAVIS: It's ok, thank you.

SARAH LEAVES, MAVIS GOES BACK INTO THE ROOM WITH ANDREW

ANDREW: Who was it?

MAVIS: Just Sarah next door

ANDREW: What did she want.

MAVIS: She.....just a chat, she just wanted a chat.

(TO AUDIENCE)

I didn't know what to say to her. I didn't know what to say to Andrew. I know something's wrong. What should I do?

FORUM WITH AUDIENCE

© Belinda Lazenby 2015

© Belinda Lazenby 2015