Memory Boxes – Safe Handling

We understand that you know your clients and service users best, and will adapt the handling of our objects to suit the needs and the levels of memory loss of the individuals you work with.

However, we offer some suggestions below which may help you to get the most from our handling boxes while keeping your users safe.

Large sharp or heavy objects – garden tools and heavy objects such as the teapot or rolling pin could be dropped or even used aggressively, so allow users to touch, feel the weight and experience the object while you keep a firm hold on it yourself.

Perfume, Brut deodorant etc. – spray a little perfume, aftershave or deodorant onto a hankie so that the user can experience the evocative scent while not risking spraying in the eyes (NB. The original Brut is in a sealed box, but the deodorant has the same classic scent).

Coins and small objects such as jewellery – coins often evoke memories really well, but could be put in the mouth or swallowed – please pay close individual attention to users while handling coins and other small objects.

Sharp needles and pins on the back of brooches – as above, pay very close attention to users looking at the jewellery, and keep needles inside the pack.

Music – LPs, singles and 78s will all play on the Dansette record player, and are greatly appreciated by people with memory loss, who often remember the old songs and enjoy singing along. Please be aware, however, that if using in the manner of a public performance, you will need a Music License.