

This is an email from the Young Dementia Network sharing Network related news and information.



## Introducing Donna, our new National Development Manager

We are delighted to announce that Donna Chadwick has joined YoungDementia UK as our new National Development Manager.

Donna will coordinate the work of and develop the Young Dementia Network, its steering group and encourage improved young onset dementia support in the UK.

Donna joins YoungDementia UK from the Alzheimer's Society where she worked as a dementia support manager in Derbyshire.

Donna says of her new role, 'I am excited to join YoungDementia UK and be a part of such a specialist team who put people with young onset dementia at the heart of everything that they do. I will certainly embrace this exciting opportunity.'

Donna is looking forward to connecting with you. You can contact her via email - [donnachadwick@youngdementiauk.org](mailto:donnachadwick@youngdementiauk.org)

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## Young Dementia Network membership update

Following our Dementia Awareness Week promotion and lots of new sign ups at the Alzheimer's Society annual conference and

## GP guide - feedback surveys closing soon!

If you've not yet given us feedback on our **pilot guide for GPs**, the surveys for GPs and non-GPs are still open but will be closing at the end of July.

Alzheimer's Show, the Young Dementia Network now has **800 members**.

Help us reach 1000 by encouraging your friends, family and work colleagues to sign up too. Click [here](#) to sign up.

The guide is intended to help GPs recognise the signs and symptoms of young onset dementia and so speed up the referral process. You can download the guide and complete the online surveys [here](#).



### FREE life film opportunity

**My Life Films** makes free, personal films about the lives of people who are living with dementia. They have funding to work across London, Brighton and Hove, with a focus on South West London.

They are very keen to work with people living with young onset. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your favourite memories and capture them forever.

Find out more by clicking [here](#) or **email Jo Foster** or call her on 020 8948 7560,

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### Share your experience of PIP & Back to Work Assessments

The Forget Me Nots in East Kent want to take a stance on how the Government is treating people with dementia in regards to the Personal Independence Payments and Back to Work Assessments.

They say that the current assessments are 'unfit for purpose' and 'highly distressing' for the individuals undergoing them.

They are looking for support / stories from other people with dementia who feel the same way. If you would like to share your story with the Forget Me Nots please contact Rachael Litherland of DEEP [rachael@myid.org.uk](mailto:rachael@myid.org.uk) or click [here](#) to read more about their campaign.



**The UK Network of  
Dementia Voices**

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## Peter's speaking out about young onset

Young Dementia Network member Peter was recently interviewed by Angela Rippon at the Alzheimer's Show in London. You can watch a short clip of Peter speaking about his reaction to his diagnosis at the age of 50 [here](#).

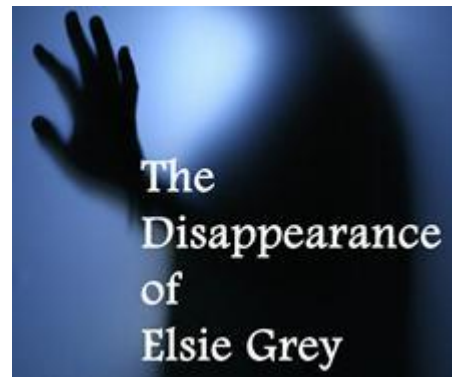
Peter so enjoyed speaking at the Alzheimer's Show, he has joined Twitter and plans to record a weekly video diary. You can watch his first video [here](#), or follow him on Twitter

[@PeterBe1130](#)

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## Influence a young onset play script

**The Disappearance of Elsie Grey** is a one-woman play where the central character, Elsie, is in her 60s and has dementia. Written to increase awareness of how to support people living with dementia, the play is being performed at the Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham on Saturday 15 July. Click [here](#) for info and tickets.



Writer Su Hallcroft says, 'The play is currently being developed, so there is an opportunity to make the show as relevant as it can be. I know it's such a big subject, but would like to do my part to change how people respond to people living with dementia.'

'I would really like it to actually be informative and useful, so would love your response to it. If you meet as a group, would you like me to come and perform to you?'

You can get in touch with Su by email [info@hazeltwig.org.uk](mailto:info@hazeltwig.org.uk)

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# Every **Step** Challenge

Make your **step** count this September!

**Find out more**

[www.youngdementiauk.org/  
every-step-challenge](http://www.youngdementiauk.org/every-step-challenge)



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