

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



# Young Dementia Network

## Dementia Awareness Week 2017

Join the  Young Dementia Network

[www.youngdementiauk.org/young-dementia-network](http://www.youngdementiauk.org/young-dementia-network)

**Help us to connect, educate and inform**

**Welcome to the Young Dementia Network Newsletter. 14-21 May is Dementia Awareness Week and our aim is to surpass 1000 Network members.**

If you're already a member - thank you for joining us. Help us to reach our target by encouraging your family, friends and colleagues to join the Network, or if you've not joined yet, please do.

It doesn't cost a penny, all you have to do is click the join button to become part of a community that believes that everyone affected should be well informed, feel connected to others and enabled to live life to the full.

[Join here](#)

As Wayne, who is living with young onset says, **'Together we'll make a powerful team.'**

**Why we created this guide**

- Between 42,000 and 95,000 people are living with young onset dementia in the UK.
- In 2010 it took twice as long for younger people to be diagnosed as 4-60 year olds people, meaning access to treatment and support.
- Many people are misdiagnosed with depression, anxiety, stress, mental health, personality or personality disorder.

Being up to the critical stages of these diagnoses is not always easy, and it often is based on what you tell us. It's often hard to know what to do next, and it's often hard to know what to do next.

We welcome your feedback on using this tool.

Please contact us if you have any feedback or suggestions.

[www.youngonsetdementia.org](http://www.youngonsetdementia.org)

## Your feedback will improve our pilot guide for GPs

The Young Dementia Network has collaborated to create a pilot diagnostic aid designed to support GPs in understanding young onset and rarer forms of dementia.

Over 50 people so far have given us feedback, largely very positive, which will be used to create the final version of the guide to be published later in 2017. If you're a GP or have been affected by young onset dementia, we'd value your feedback.

Find out more [here](#).

Want to know more about services for younger people with dementia in your area?

**JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL NETWORKING EVENT**

**Saturday 20 May, 1.30pm - 4.30pm**  
Community Engagement Centre,  
Ford St, Walsall, WS2 9EW

**FREE**

- Guest speakers
- Advice on practical help and support
- Discussion between family carers
- Plus much more

Further information:  
 Gloucestershire Council on 01753 699999  
 Gloucestershire Council on 01753 699999  
 Gloucestershire Council on 01753 699999

## Thinking of hosting your own young onset event?

The Gloucestershire Young Onset Dementia Network recently held an informal young onset dementia discussion evening event.

Laura from Carers Gloucestershire told us, 'Many support organisations turned up and we had a group of approximately 20 people attending comprising of carers and those who have had a diagnosis of young onset dementia. The youngest attendee was just 12 years old whose dad had a diagnosis in his late forties. He is being supported by Gloucestershire Young Carers. There were many issues raised but I had good feedback that those who came felt it worthwhile.

## Young onset networking event in Walsall - 20 May

A **working age dementia networking event** is taking place on Saturday 20 May, 1:30-4:30pm in **Walsall** aimed at people living with young onset dementia across all four boroughs in the West Midlands including

'The organisations who attended have just met again and we are working together to attempt to try and improve things in the county. One big issue that came up was confusion of services and lack of information (and duplication of services in some cases) in Gloucestershire. We hope to address this and other issues.'

If you have had a diagnosis of young onset dementia or support someone who does, are in Gloucestershire and would like to be kept informed of future meetings-please email [icollins@carersgloucestershire](mailto:icollins@carersgloucestershire).

Walsall, Sandwell, Dudley and Wolverhampton.

If you are planning a similar event, please let us know via [email](#) so we can share the details online.

There will be speakers, activities, stands and the opportunity to ask questions. For more information click [here](#).



## Be part of a young onset dementia open mic session

The Young Dementia Network will be on stand D10 at the Alzheimer's Show at Olympia on 9-10 June. We'll be attending an open mic session on Friday 9 June at 12.00-12.40pm in the Talks & Topics Theatre and we'd love you to join us.

The session, titled '*A conversation about what enables well-being for people living with young onset dementia*' will be a open discussion with Rachel Niblock (DEEP Coordinator) for people who have been diagnosed with dementia under the age of 65. It will provide an opportunity to share experiences about living as well as possible with dementia. A limited number of free entry tickets are available for people wishing to take part. Please [contact us](#) for more information.



## Sarah's story

Sarah and husband Andy have received support from YoungDementia UK



Find support across the UK

**quite literally from the moment Andy received his diagnosis.**

Being able to connect with others and having access to high quality support has helped Sarah and Andy in many ways. The Young Dementia Network seeks to make sure that everyone has a similar level of support immediately on diagnosis.

You can read Sarah's story [here](#).

If like Sarah and Andy, you've had difficulty finding age appropriate activities in your area for a person living with young onset dementia, check out our website listing of young onset dementia support services across the UK. Click [here](#).

And if you know of a service we haven't listed, please [email us](#).



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