

Newsletter



www.ypwd.info



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Younger People with Dementia

Featured this Spring...

Visits to Windsor Castle

From April into May, our Berkshire West group enjoyed six weeks exploring royal history, art and culture.



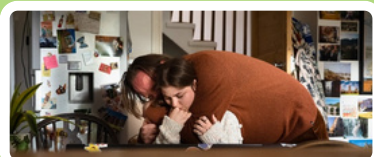
Full article on page 16



Supported by
the Royal
Collection Trust

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From royal
state rooms to
walking around
the castle
grounds, our
attendees and
team had
the best time!



Dementia Doesn't Care

The launch of our new
short film, Little Rock.



NEW Community Group

Bringing a drop-in to
Reading for all to attend.



Reading Half Marathon

Our amazing supporters
raise £1,745.00 for YPWD!

*Thank you to all of our amazing
supporters and fundraisers!*



FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Hello and Welcome!

We're so pleased to share the second edition of our 2026 charity newsletter.

The last few months have been a busy and exciting time for our team, with the launch of our Dementia Doesn't Care campaign alongside our short film Little Rock, a brand new community drop-in in Reading, Dementia Action Week activities and the continued delivery of our support services for families living with young onset dementia.

This edition celebrates the people, partnerships and moments that make our community so special. Thank you for supporting Younger People with Dementia, we couldn't do what we do without you.

With best wishes,
The YPWD Team ♥



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Staff Updates



Award Nominations



Our New Film Release



Surrey Heath



East Berkshire



Berkshire West



Our Support Services



Dementia Action Week



Our Fundraisers

At a Glance this Spring...



180 activities delivered



12,000 raised with your support

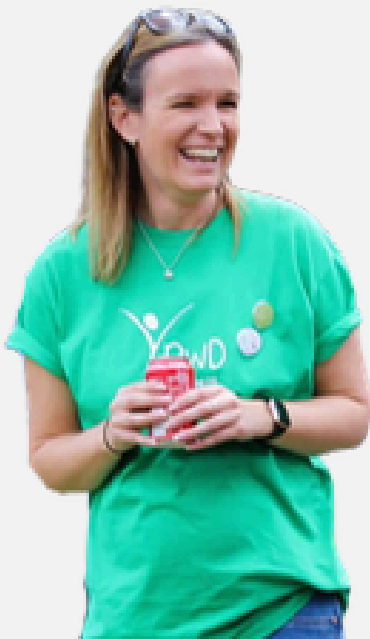
Staff Updates

Celebrating Milestones and more

We're delighted to recognise two members of our team, Debbie and Jenny, who celebrated ten years of service with Younger People with Dementia this quarter. Their care and contributions have made a meaningful difference to the people and families we support.



Congratulations on completing your Masters Degree, Charlie!



We wanted to say a huge well done to Charlie, our Joint Director, who has successfully completed her Master's Degree in Dementia Studies at Hull University. Alongside her role at YPWD and raising her young daughter, Charlie achieved an outstanding 84% in her dissertation, with an overall course average of 78.5%.

This fantastic achievement reflects two years of commitment, determination, early mornings, late nights and hard work. Charlie says the course has strengthened both her knowledge and practice and she is looking forward to applying everything she has learned in her work at YPWD.

We are so pleased to welcome Amelie to the charity as our newest Support Worker! Having recently graduated from university, Amelie was looking for a meaningful role to step into. Since April, she has been settling into her new position. Amelie shared, "I like how welcoming everyone is, attendees as well as staff members. I am excited to gain new skills and meet new people!"



New faces, brand new insights for the charity



In March, we welcomed our new Admiral Nurse, Tracey Adey! She will be supporting people across Surrey Heath, North East Hampshire and Farnham.

With over 20 years of experience in dementia assessment and care, Tracey brings a wealth of knowledge to the role.

"I previously worked as a Young Onset Dementia Admiral Nurse, setting up and developing the service in East Berkshire. My aim is to provide education, alongside practical and emotional support, to those living with the challenges of young onset dementia."

Tracey will be working closely with the YPWD team, as well as local Mental Health teams, Memory Clinics and Social Care teams, to ensure those caring for someone with young onset dementia receive the help they need. This bespoke service helps prevent crisis situations and can reduce the need for residential care admissions.

Rachelle Barnett joined our trustee board in May as an experienced third sector fundraising and marketing communications specialist. She has led fundraising and communications teams at local charities including the multiple births charity Twins Trust, the learning disability charity Halow Project, and Woking & Sam Beare Hospices.



She has also delivered national PR for The Royal British Legion and the Poppy Appeal. Most recently Rachelle was Head of Philanthropy & Alumnae Relations in the independent school sector.

Rachelle said: "I am a keen advocate of charities like Younger People With Dementia, that are supported by the community that they serve. Having experienced the impact of Alzheimer's within my own family, I want to ensure that people with an early dementia diagnosis – and their families – have the right support to live enjoyable and fulfilling lives in the way that suits them best. I am proud to have the opportunity to contribute to the work of the YPWD team, and to positive outcomes for the people it serves."

Award Nominations

Dementia Community Care Award Finalist

- Young Onset Dementia Award Nomination

We were delighted to be shortlisted as a finalist for the Young Onset Dementia Award at the Dementia Community Care Awards. Our Joint Directors of Clinical and Operational Services, Caroline and Charlie, attended the awards ceremony at Coombe Abbey. It was an inspiring programme celebrating the people, projects and partnerships that make a real difference in the lives of those living with dementia. Thank you for our nomination, we're so proud of our team for the support they provide day-to-day for families living with young onset dementia.



Dementia Care Awards Finalist

- Community Outreach Award Nomination



A special shout out to Amy, Charlie, Hayley, Jess, Karen and Niamh for their outstanding contributions to launching our Community Outreach initiatives.

Another award we have been nominated for is the **Community Outreach Award** at the Dementia Care Awards. Since 2023, our work has expanded from the Health Inequalities Project into a full-time programme, with a staff member focused on improving access to care for minoritized groups across Berkshire, Surrey Heath, North-East Hampshire and Farnham. At our charity, we believe everyone deserves equal access to support and care. Yet many communities face barriers that prevent them from getting a timely dementia diagnosis or the resources they need.

The awards ceremony will take place on 24th June at the Hilton London Bankside, where the winner will be announced. We want to wish all of the other amazing organisations the best of luck!

Dementia Care Awards Finalist

- The Outstanding Contribution to Dementia Award

Also being shortlisted as a finalist at the Dementia Community Care Awards is our Deputy Chair of Trustees, Dr Jacqui Hussey. This is an **outstanding contribution award** that recognises significant contributions to dementia care. The award recognises a **real-world difference made by an individual that has revolutionised dementia care**, and we feel that this is incredibly well deserved. Being nominated for this award is a fantastic recognition of Jacqui's dedication and commitment as a Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist at the Wokingham Memory Clinic, and as a founding member of YPWD.



Volunteer Recognition

Wishing Stuart the best of luck on his new endeavours, and a huge thank you



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Stuart as he steps down from his volunteering role with the charity. Throughout his time with us, Stuart has made an incredible contribution. From his **outstanding personal fundraising efforts** to his support at events and workshops, his dedication and enthusiasm have been greatly appreciated.

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, and we are incredibly grateful for all that Stuart has contributed during his time with us.

We wish Stuart every **success and happiness** for the future and hope he knows just how much his support has meant to everyone at the charity.

Dementia doesn't care. But you can.

▶ Watch Little Rock

♥ Make a donation

Our brand-new short film, Little Rock, tells the story of Lana, a teenager learning to live with her dad's decline. It's a story about music, memory, and the painful beauty of love that endures, even when recognition begins to fade.

Woven through the film is a truth at the heart of our campaign: dementia doesn't care.

It doesn't care how young you are. It doesn't care how many plans you had. It doesn't care how much your family still needs you. Lana's story reflects the reality faced by thousands of children across the UK, children who are growing up too soon.

Evie's Story

John was diagnosed with young onset dementia at the age of 56. He and Janet share three children, with Evie being their youngest. She was just 14 when her dad received the diagnosis, an age where children shouldn't have to face so many questions about illness, loss and the future.



"Before dad was diagnosed with young onset dementia, I was a daddy's girl. I didn't realise how much our relationship was going to change. One day I became angry when he started behaving like he wasn't my dad anymore. He could no longer drive, and we couldn't have the same conversations. I started thinking about the future; what is going to happen? Is he still going to be there for big family moments?"

This is more than a film, it's a tool for change...

We are one of the only organisations in the UK providing tailored support specifically for younger people living with dementia and their families.

Alongside our services for people living with young onset dementia, our specialist team provide children's groups, young adult carer groups for 18-35 years olds, connecting carer support groups and quarterly social events, ensuring there is support in place for the entire family.

With your help, we can:



Raise national awareness of young onset dementia



Educate schools & professionals about children affected



Reach families who feel isolated and alone

Your monthly donation helps ensure that when dementia doesn't care, we do.

Nearly 50% of our funding comes from charitable donations, fundraising and grants. Dementia doesn't care whether funding is there to support families in need, but you can.

When you give, you're not just funding a service. You're helping ensure that nobody faces young onset dementia alone.



 **Donate now & watch the film**

Surrey and Borders

Our charity delivers activity-based workshops throughout the working week for people living with young onset dementia. Just a few of the areas we cover are Surrey Heath, North East Hampshire and Farnham.

Find out what we've been up to in Surrey and borders from March to June...

Pickleball Workshops

Since February 2025, our pickleball sessions at Lightwater Leisure Centre have become one of our most popular activities for everyone in Surrey, NE Hants, and Farnham. We usually rotate sports to offer variety, but after briefly switching to badminton, members quickly asked for pickleball to return!

Pickleball's appeal seems to lie in its simplicity, sociability, and accessibility. The smaller court and slower pace make it easier to follow than tennis, while still providing plenty of movement, laughter, and friendly teamwork. Sessions focus on **fitness, confidence and fun** rather than competition, although a healthy respect for the rules always keeps us on our toes!

What is Pickleball?

Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and table tennis. It is played on a small court with a low net, using solid paddles and a lightweight plastic ball with holes. You can play singles (1 vs. 1) or doubles (2 vs. 2). The sport has grown rapidly in recent years and is now one of the fastest-growing recreational sports in the United States and many other countries.



Discover, Explore, Conserve, Share

Throughout April and May, our group has been working with Hart District Council at Edenbrook Country Park in Fleet as part of the **John Muir Award**. Named after John Muir, the Scottish-born naturalist and conservation pioneer often described as the “father of national parks”, the award encourages people to discover, explore, conserve and share their experiences of wild places.

Edenbrook Country Park provides over 80 acres of open green space, with lakes, wildflower areas, woodland and accessible walking routes. It is a haven for local wildlife, including dragonflies, butterflies, birds and reptiles, making it an ideal place to connect with nature.

Through practical conservation activities, we have been helping to care for this special environment while learning more about the natural world around us. Working outdoors offers many benefits: **fresh air, gentle physical activity, opportunities to learn new skills and the chance to spend time together with a shared purpose**. Being involved in community projects also helps people feel connected, valued and able to make a positive difference.

Our time at Edenbrook has shown how rewarding it can be to get involved in local green spaces. Whether it's improving habitats, maintaining paths or simply taking time to notice the wildlife around us, every contribution helps to protect these places for future generations to enjoy.



Photo Highlights

Surrey Heath and Borders

From engaging activities to relaxed chats over a cuppa, our workshops in and around the Surrey Heath area are a place to learn, laugh and support each other.



*Great activities,
even better
company*



Operating in Surrey Heath, North East Hampshire and Farnham, our services in East Berkshire have been running since 2020.

Photo Highlights

East Berkshire Workshops

From pond dipping to farm visits, fitness sessions and dance, our workshops in East Berkshire are all about being together and keeping things moving!


*Together we
thrive*



Operating in Bracknell, Windsor, Ascot, Maidenhead and Slough, our services in East Berkshire have been running since 2016.

East Berkshire

Our East Berkshire team cover Bracknell, Windsor, Ascot, Maidenhead and Slough, delivering workshops throughout the working week to those living with young onset dementia.



At the beginning of March, our fantastic volunteers, Sue and Stuart, were out in the community representing our charity at the Involve Volunteer Fair in Bracknell.

From kayaking and singing to arts and crafts, our volunteers help create joyful experiences and empower younger people living with dementia.

Interested in joining our volunteer team?
Find out more at www.ypwd.info/volunteer

Walking Football Workshops, Supported by Slough FC

Over the last two months, working with Berkshire and Buckinghamshire Football Association, Slough Town Football Club have generously provided a coach **free of charge** to run weekly walking football sessions in Windsor, and the squad has been thriving. **From sharp drills to new skills and full-on mini-matches**, everyone has been getting stuck in.

Wearing our bright bibs, we've been putting some surprisingly fancy footwork on display. The energy has been brilliant, especially during our light-hearted Battle of the Teams featuring Slough FC, Chelsea FC and Tottenham FC.

The sessions have brought **great fun, fitness and friendship** and we're excited to keep the momentum going. A huge thank you to Adrian from Slough Town Football Club, and to Richard and Dan from Berks-Bucks FA for helping get the sessions off the ground.



Bhangra Dancing

During our recent workshops, we were delighted to welcome Jasmine, who introduced us to the vibrant world of Bhangra dancing. While we were initially reluctant to swap our favourite 80s dance moves for something completely different, we quickly embraced the challenge. Dressed up and full of enthusiasm, we learned new moves and even mastered a routine to the song 'Lamberghini'.



Bhangra is an energetic dance style originating from the Punjab region of India. Known for its upbeat music and expressive movements, it brings people together, encourages laughter and creates a sense of joy.

Tracy, Trudy, Deb and Val threw themselves into every session, and whenever the music started, they instantly remembered the famous Lamborghini move! A huge thank you to Jasmine for helping us try something new, make lasting memories and have fun along the way.

Ten Years at Waltham Place Farm

As we look ahead to our summer workshops and celebrate almost ten years of partnership, we'd like to share a little about the wonderful place that is Waltham Place. Set within 220 acres of beautiful countryside, Waltham Place is an organic and biodynamic farm and garden where nature is at the heart of everything. Its gardens, woodlands, lake, fields and farm are managed as one living landscape, creating a thriving environment for both wildlife and people.

Through its work with schools, outreach programmes and our Younger People with Dementia workshops, Waltham Place helps people connect with nature and discover the benefits of sustainable, chemical-free farming and gardening. Visitors can also enjoy walks, events, seasonal activities, a farm shop stocked with estate produce and The Barn café serving dishes inspired by the farm.

Visit walthamplace.com to find out more.



Berkshire West

In this area, we cover Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham, delivering workshops throughout the working week to those living with young onset dementia.

Keep reading for some of the highlights from the last few months...

Indoor Winter Olympics Workshops

Over six weeks from March to April, our group brought the spirit of the Winter Olympics to life; no ice required! Inspired by the excitement of the Games, we created our own "Indoor Winter Olympics" putting a creative twist on classic events.

Participants glided across polished wooden floors using cloths in place of skates, showing impressive balance and plenty of laughter along the way. Our version of curling saw domestic brooms in action as teams carefully swept their frisbees toward the target.

The biathlon combined focus and fun, with competitors taking aim using Nerf guns after completing their "course." We even explored the artistry of figure skating, with imaginative routines and plenty of flair.



Wellbeing and Massage

We were delighted to welcome attendees to our Wellbeing and Massage sessions from March to April, where we explored the benefits of a variety of plants and natural ingredients. Together, we sampled herbal teas and cakes, as well as using fragranced oils while learning simple massage techniques to support relaxation and wellbeing. During the sessions, we discovered how everyday plants can positively support our health:

- 🍋 Lemon may support the immune system, aid digestion and help improve iron absorption.
- 🌿 Cinnamon is known for its anti-inflammatory properties and may help regulate blood sugar levels.
- 🍵 Ginger can aid digestion, reduce nausea and support heart health.
- 🌱 Mint may help with headaches, stomach discomfort, colds and relaxation.

"We can live without every other science but we cannot live without plants. They are our food, our lungs, our strengths, our relaxation, our pleasure, our future and our hope."

— Gail Joanne White

Windsor Castle Visits

From April into May, our Berkshire West group enjoyed six weekly visits to Windsor Castle, kindly supported by the Royal Collection Trust.

Welcomed by the wardens each week over a hot drink, participants explored the Castle's fascinating history, including the historic state rooms, royal collections and displays celebrating figures such as Admiral Nelson and Sir Winston Churchill. The group enjoyed seeing the Queen's Audience Chamber, portraits by Van Dyke, stunning painted ceilings and gifts presented to the late Queen from across the Commonwealth, including a beautiful chess set from President Mandela. The visits were a wonderful opportunity to learn more about British history and the Royal Family, while spending time together in a truly memorable setting.

Made by our talented Fiona



Young Onset Dementia Education Course

At the end of February, our team were proud to deliver our young onset dementia education course in West Berkshire. Over two days, people living with young onset dementia and their carers came together for access to information and support.

Young onset dementia affects people under 65, bringing unique challenges around work, family life and future planning. This course provides practical guidance, expert insight and a safe space to share experiences for those who have newly received a diagnosis.

Participants said it best...



"I have had the best day in a very long time, I haven't laughed so much in ages. I'd forgotten how nice it can be to spend time with other people."



"Today I realised that I'm not the only person living with (young onset) dementia. Everyone here lives close."



"It was comforting to realise that we are not alone and there is plenty of help and support in place for us."

Sessions included understanding dementia, managing behaviours, communication strategies, healthy living, legal planning, creative workshops, reminiscence and the power of music through Playlist for Life. Thank you to our speakers, partners and attendees for making it such a supportive and empowering event.



Carer Quote

"Lots of useful information on current obstacles and what to expect. Speakers were all felt very knowledgeable and the environment was supportive and comfortable. Definitely difficult topics, but overall very useful."

Photo Highlights

Berkshire West Workshops

Our Berkshire West workshops are full of smiles, friendships and creativity. A big thank you to everybody who make these sessions such a fun and inclusive place to be.



*Creating
memories
together*



Operating across Wokingham, Reading and West Berkshire, our services in Berkshire West have been running since the charity began in 2012.

Community Outreach

The launch of a FREE new community group: Sing & Dance for Wellness

Celebrate Reading's diversity through joyful music! Lift your mood, connect with others, and support your brain health in our free monthly singing group. No musical experience is needed and free refreshments are included.

Everyone is welcome, and no sign up required, just drop in!



First Wednesday each month,
10:30am–12:30pm



Reading Biscuit Factory,
1 Queens Walk, Reading RG1 7QF

**FREE to
attend**



Celebrating one year of Lyrics & Laughter

Launched in February 2025 at Britwell Community Hub, Lyrics & Laughter was created to boost health and wellbeing through music, while raising awareness of young onset dementia across all communities. One year on, the community group has grown into a vibrant, inclusive group of nearly 30 people from diverse backgrounds who love to sing, dance and celebrate life together.

For a special celebratory session, members picked their favourite songs from the past year, including Angels, Dancing Queen and Under the Boardwalk.

Lyrics & Laughter truly represents amazing community spirit, and is a clear reminder of how music can bring people together.

All Together Now

An Afternoon Tea for the families we support



At the beginning of April, we held our first social event of the year, bringing together the people we support and their families for an afternoon of laughter and fun.

The day began with a walk in the sunshine around Great Hollands Pavilion, where everyone enjoyed the spring air, gentle conversation and time together outdoors. Afterwards, the group gathered for a delicious afternoon tea, complete with sandwiches, cakes and plenty of tea.

The fun continued with afternoon tea-themed bingo, a lively Easter quiz and a round of 'Guess the Tea', where participants sniffed, sipped and shared some hilarious guesses along the way.

"The energy was really great and you all worked so hard to make it a fun afternoon. We loved the games & quizzes - this was definitely the best social yet!"



Social events like these provide valuable opportunities for families to relax, connect and create positive memories together.

We're already looking forward to our next social in July!



The Children's Group

Our Children's Group began in 2015 with one family and a simple but powerful question: where is the support for the children?

When a young father was diagnosed with young onset dementia, his family received support through Admiral Nursing and the YPWD service. But while services existed for adults and partners, there was almost nothing for their two young daughters. This gap became the starting point for everything that followed. With the family's consent, they were introduced to another family in a similar situation. What began as a small step toward peer support revealed something vital: **when families come together, they realise they are not alone.** Children were able to play, connect and express themselves. Parents found understanding, shared experience and mutual support.

"Together Stronger has transformed my children's lives."

The aim of the Children's Group, named 'Together Stronger,' is to bring young people under the age of 18 together in a **safe, relaxed space to meet others who understand.** This group is aimed at children who have or support a family member with young onset dementia. Our sessions combine creative arts, conversation and (of course) pizza!

This group is supported by staff members from YPWD, Dementia UK's Admiral Nurse service, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and the Museum of English Rural Life. These sessions are **free to attend** and run monthly from March to October, alongside additional festive sessions.



“Dementia closed a massive door of experiences, opportunities and happiness for us. But Together Stronger opened an even bigger door for us, being our beacon of hope.”

– Group Participant, aged 15

Our May half term session

This month, Together Stronger returned to the Museum of English Rural Life for another fun-filled session focused on creativity, connection and self-expression.

The children began by making handmade shakers in the herb garden, with every instrument uniquely designed to reflect their individuality.

Using their creations, the group then took part in singing exercises before enjoying everyone’s favourite part of the session – pizza together! To finish, they created storyboards about their experiences in the group using clay, coloured pens and writing. Their reflections provided some heartwarming feedback for the team, with many sharing positive words about how the sessions make them feel.



Children living with a parent with young onset dementia are often overlooked in traditional support systems. **Early, targeted support can make a lasting difference to their emotional wellbeing and resilience.** Caring for a parent can feel isolating & overwhelming, but you're not alone.

To join our group, we must be supporting your parent or family member. Our support services currently run in Berkshire, Surrey Heath, North East Hampshire and Farnham.

If you would like to register your interest for our group, please get in touch at  hayley.noades@ypwd.info.

Dementia Action Week

Raising dementia awareness from 18–24 May



Our young onset dementia choir based in Surrey Heath kicked off Dementia Action Week in style!

The Sunshine Choir was formed in 2021, and they were delighted to be invited to perform at the **Places Leisure Dementia Action Week** event in Camberley. Singing two original songs alongside a selection of favourite classics from their choir sessions, they captured the attention of everyone visiting the leisure centre while helping to raise awareness of young onset dementia.



£380 raised at Sainsbury's Fleet store by our amazing volunteers

We wanted to say a huge thank you to Helen, Stuart, David and Mike for representing the charity at Sainsbury's Fleet, raising just under £400!

Dementia Action Week is all about the power of community, and we're so grateful to everyone who stopped to chat, learn more about the charity and donate towards our support services. Your kindness helps us to continue supporting people affected by dementia every day.



Proud to be making communities more dementia friendly



Our team represent Younger People with Dementia at Age UK Berkshire's Dementia Day at Bisham Abbey

Amy, Karen and Niamh were stall holders at this very special event which welcomed people living with dementia and other healthcare organisations. They were pleased to collaborate with others, signpost individuals and family members to the most appropriate services and showcase our charity's activity book for people living with young onset dementia.



Are you looking for something to do at home with your loved one who has a dementia diagnosis?

With word searches, spot the difference activities, dot-to-dot, colouring pages, mazes and even an easy to follow recipe, you'll find there's something for all ages and abilities. Support the important work of YPWD by buying your copy today.



Amy, Fiona and Niamh host a stall at Age UK Berkshire's Dementia Action Week event at the Broadstreet Mall.



Our young onset dementia choir based in Berkshire perform at the All Saints Church in Wokingham!

Harmony Choir have been singing together since the charity was founded. They were excited to kick off the Dementia Activities & Networking Event for Dementia Action Week. This free event was all about offering support for local families, with activities to get involved with such as bocchia! A big thank you to Age UK Berkshire for hosting such a great event.



Making Memories

Through our Making Memories Scheme, our charity enable people living with young onset dementia to create special, lasting memories with their loved ones. A winner's name is picked out by our team from a hat every quarter and our first winner of 2026 was Phill! We helped Phill and his wife Deb to book an amazing day out in London.

Phill's Story: Back to the Future

For Phill's experience, he wanted to watch a show at the theatre with his wife Deb, and really make a day of it. We booked their train tickets from Windsor to London, where they watched Back to the Future at the The Adelphi Theatre. After an amazing show, they enjoyed a romantic dinner together at the Ivy. Deb shared with us:

"Thank you for organising such a wonderful day out for us, the show was great. At one point the car 'flies' over the audience and turns 360 degrees, we're still not sure how they did that!"



This experience was made possible by the incredible generosity of Strategic Solutions Financial Services, who kindly donated £1,000 to help two families create lasting memories like this one. Our charity relies on donations like these, so support like this means everything. We cannot thank you enough.



In June 2023, our charity launched the Making Memories Scheme, designed to give those living with young onset dementia the chance to create **happy and lasting memories** with their loved ones. So far, experiences have included:



A father-son trip to watch the Six Nations



Afternoon tea at The Ritz on Valentine's Day



An adventure in Spain along the Caminito del Rey

We cannot thank the Rotary Club Of Pangbourne enough for their generous £500 donation, which will help fund a Memory Making Wish.

Want to help support our Making Memories Scheme?

Our Making Memories scheme was initially seed funded by Bearwood Lakes Golf Club and we couldn't be more grateful for their support. Now, we need your support to keep this scheme going.



Make a donation and ensure more wishes get to come true!

You've got to be in it, to win it!

Are you currently being supported by us and want to enter the draw?

We would love to hear from you!

Please get in touch at  marketing@ypwd.info.

Our amazing fundraisers

From March to June, our incredible supporters have been raising funds for the people we support living with young onset dementia.

Thank you, Gary!

We wanted to say a huge congratulations and thank you to Gary, who took on the Rome Marathon in March, raising over £550 for Younger People with Dementia. Running in support of his fiancé's father, who received a helping hand from our charity, Gary shared...



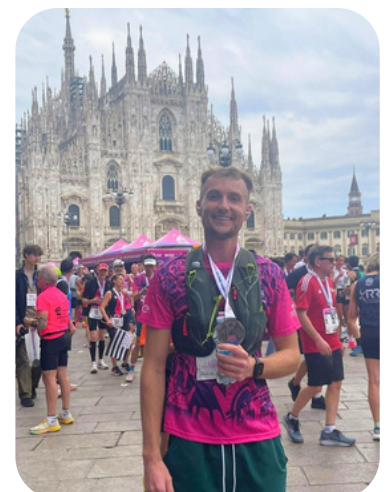
"I have seen first-hand the heart-breaking effect this illness has had on him, his family and his friends. I have also seen the happiness and joy given to Rob and his family through the fun and social activities YPWD provide, bringing enjoyment back into his new, confused and uncertain world. We would like to give something back to YPWD to thank them for the element of certainty they put back into people's lives, and help support future families in a similar situation."

Taking fundraising international...

A big thank you to Harry for raising an incredible £1,459.70 in support of our charity by completing the Milan Marathon. Not only that, he smashed his personal best marathon time, finishing in an amazing 3 hours and 34 minutes!

Over the past few years, Harry has shown unwavering support for YPWD, raising a phenomenal £3,665.01 in total.

We're so grateful for his dedication and effort.



Reading Half Success!

£1,745.00 raised for YPWD

We wanted to say a massive well done and thank you to Lucy, Sam, Suzie, Jen, George, Becky & Laura for raising £1,745.00 for our charity whilst taking part in the Reading Half Marathon this April!

You're all amazing and the money you have raised will make a huge difference to the families we support, thank you.



Running the London Landmarks Half for mum

Another huge congratulations is in order for Kerry, who raised an incredible £1,605 for Younger People with Dementia by taking part in the London Landmarks Half Marathon.

Since Kerry's mum, Tracy, was diagnosed with young onset dementia in her 50s, the family have accessed our activity-based workshops, social events and young adult carer support group. Kerry shared:

"After receiving such wonderful support, we will continue to challenge ourselves and raise money for this amazing charity. Raising awareness is SO important."

Having previously completed the Yorkshire Three Peaks, this was Kerry's second fundraising challenge in support of YPWD. We are incredibly grateful for her ongoing support and advocacy for families affected by young onset dementia.

Charity of Choice Partners

Surrey Heights Specialist Dementia Care Centre

Since being chosen as Surrey Heights Dementia Care Centre's Charity of Choice, their amazing team, led by their Client Relationship Manager Charlotte Wareham, have hit the ground running!

*Launching in
the best way...*

An extra special networking brunch

To launch our partnership, Surrey Heights hosted an amazing networking brunch, where professionals and members of the local community come together to connect, share ideas and strengthen support for people living with young onset dementia.



Our Marketing Lead, Amy, also delivered an insightful talk about our charity and the vital support available for families living with young onset dementia. A huge thank you to the Brownscombe Care Residency chef for an amazing spread of treats, and to the two-week-old ducklings who made a surprise (and very popular!) appearance.

On Saturday 9 May, team members banded together to take on the Guildford 5K Inflatable Challenge. Alongside fundraising for a great cause, it gave the team an opportunity to bond, and what could be more fun than bouncing around on an inflatable obstacle course? **An amazing £2,115 was raised by the group**, which will go towards our support services for families living with young onset dementia.

We cannot thank Surrey Heights enough for their support.



Thank you to Osborne Clarke, Reading Office

We wanted to say a huge thank you to Osborne Clarke, who have been supporting the charity since September 2025. Their recent donation of £2,000 would be able to fund 16 carer groups, 11 workshops or 66 hours of an Admiral Nurses time to support families affected by young onset dementia.



Did you know that the Hall & Woodhouse Crowthorne run pub quizzes, with half of the proceeds going to our charity?

Since our partnership began last year, the pub has raised over £3,000 for families living with young onset dementia, and we cannot thank their dedicated team enough.

These quizzes had been running fortnightly, but due to high demand, quiz nights will be running every Tuesday evening from July. Head on down from 7:30pm for an amazing evening of fun, and get involved with Daren's "golden balls" round.

 Fosters Lane, Crowthorne, RG45 6UF



Book your table at crowthorne@hall-woodhouse.co.uk

Want to partner with YPWD?

By choosing us as your charity of the year, your business will play a part in helping people with young onset dementia and their families to live fuller lives. Get in touch at  marketing@ypwd.info.

Support Groups

Young onset dementia affects the whole family. Our support groups provide opportunities to connect, share experiences and build friendships with others who understand.

Our specialised team support local families through the delivery of Children's Groups, Young Adult Carer Groups and Connecting Carers Groups. If your family are currently being supported by YPWD, we would encourage you to make use of the support groups wherever possible.

Connecting Carers Groups

Connecting Carers is our main support group for family carers, providing a relaxed space to share experiences, receive support and access helpful advice. Sessions are led by our Area Managers and often feature guest speakers who provide information on relevant services and topics.

At the same time, people living with young onset dementia can take part in a separate activity group led by our support workers, with activities tailored to their interests. This ensures that both carers and their loved ones can benefit from dedicated support.



East Berkshire

Karen Ive

 karen.ive@ypwd.info



Surrey Borders

Jenny Vertigan

jenny.vertigan@ypwd.info



Berkshire West

Jessica Vernon

jessica.vernon@ypwd.info

Young Adult Carer Groups

This group is aimed at young adults between the ages of 18 and 35 who support a parent or family member living with young onset dementia. Join us for relaxed evenings to unwind, connect and have fun with others who truly understand.

For more information:

Jessica Vernon ✉ jessica.vernon@ypwd.info



Childrens Groups - Together Stronger

Join our group for young people under the age of 18. Our sessions combine creative arts, conversation and (of course) pizza! Supported by the Museum of English Rural Life, Admiral Nursing and YPWD, these sessions offer a safe, relaxed environment to make new friends, have fun and be around those who can relate to your experiences.



Facilitating the sessions:

Hayley Noades ✉ hayley.noades@ypwd.info

All of our support groups are **FREE** to attend and we would love to welcome you. Connect with others going through a similar experience, make new bonds and have some fun along the way.

Thank you for reading!

As another busy and rewarding season comes to a close, we'd like to thank everyone who makes our work possible.

To the people living with young onset dementia and their families, thank you for being part of our community and for sharing your experiences with us.

To our volunteers, supporters, fundraisers and partners, thank you for your continued generosity, enthusiasm and belief in what we do.

Together, we are creating opportunities for connection, friendship and support, helping people affected by young onset dementia to live well and make meaningful memories.

We look forward to sharing more stories, achievements and adventures with you in our next newsletter.

With best wishes,
The YPWD Team ♡

From monkeys and meerkats to hands-on conservation activities, we had an amazing six weeks at Beale Wildlife Park and learned so much about protecting wildlife.

