

Later Life Newsletter

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Now reaching over 100,000
individuals and organisations

No 45 – June 2013

Report marks progress in first year of Dementia Challenge

The Dementia Challenge champion groups have produced a report on their progress since the challenge was launched in March 2012. The report describes achievements in the 3 main areas of the challenge: driving improvements in health and care, creating dementia friendly communities and better research. It also identifies shared themes across the work of the 3 champion groups, reflects on what they have learnt so far, and sets out how they will work together to sustain and accelerate progress. [read more](#)

Majority of people living alone with dementia feel lonely, Alzheimer's Society reports nearly two thirds of more than 250,000 people with dementia who live on their own are lonely, according to Alzheimer's Society's new report Dementia 2013. This compares to just 24 per cent of over 55 year olds. [Dementia 2013: The hidden voice of loneliness](#), is the second annual report exploring how well [people with dementia](#) are living. It found that over half of the general public (54 per cent) believe that people with dementia have a bad quality of life.

Launch of Healthy Workplaces Toolkit:

Business and expert organisations on age and health have, via the Age Action Alliance's Healthy Workplaces group provided employers with practical solutions for managing a healthy productive ageing workforce. For the first time this new [Employer Resource](#) and associated Healthy & Productive Workers [Leaflet](#) brings together some of the best, simplest tools to provide employers with practical solutions for managing a healthy productive ageing workforce.

Understanding the Oldest Old:

Age UK has launched a report looking at how we can better understand and support the oldest old in our society. [Improving later life: understanding the oldest old](#) highlights the need for a culture shift to encourage people to stop thinking of our ageing society as a costly problem and instead reform policy to allow the oldest old to regain autonomy and independence so that they are able to live and die well.

New help available to transform support services for carers and people living with dementia

Practical tools to improve the quality of support services for carers and people living with dementia were launched in May to mark the first anniversary of the ***Making it Real*** campaign, which aims to transform care and support based on what real people, carers and families say they need and want. Making it Real organisations mark their progress and publicly share their priorities and plans for action on the [think local act personal website](#)

National Care Home Day – 21st June
aims to create lasting links between care

home residents and their local communities. Thousands of care homes will be putting on a show, designed to bring people together and build some connections. Why not pay a visit to your local care home on June 21st? - just [click here](#) to find a home near you.

An intergenerational approach is only way to prepare for an ageing population

When most people think 'ageing' they think older people, but in order to explore the implications of an ageing society a cross-generational approach is much more helpful – read the [blog](#) from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Dying well at home – new SCIE Guide

brings together the latest evidence for what needs to be in place to ensure that people and their carers receive quality care, at the end of life. [read the press release and access the guide](#)

And finally ... when cartoons did have an impact ...

When ORC International were asked to do some employee research for the Kansas City Power & Light Company recently, they discovered they'd been asked to carry out research with the same firm 66 years ago. ORC took the opportunity to see how the way research is conducted has changed, including illustrating findings with cartoons. [Link to article.](#)

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Simon.wilkinson1@dwp.gsi.gov.uk