

ASI Research Update End of Year Roundup



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Dear Colleague,

Welcome to our final newsletter of 2021! It has been quite a busy year for us all. We want to highlight some of the work we've been doing over the last 12 months.

If you have any suggestions or would like to reach out to us, please contact research@alzheimer.ie.

We would also like to extend our warmest wishes to those who are celebrating Christmas, Chanukah or Kwanzaa a happy one and those who might celebrate in other ways a joyous one.



Thanks for helping us to support people living with dementia, their family carers and supporters in 2021.

Painting by Marguerite Keating, Member of our Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG)



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Research Roundup

Spring / Summer Highlights

- **Report Publication: A Year of Caring and Coping with Dementia During Covid-19.** This work was conducted by the Research & Policy team with support from The ASI Operations team. This report was a large body of work undertaken that sought to understand the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the lives of people with dementia and their carers one year on. The report brings to light the enormous challenges faced by the family carers of people living with dementia – and the urgent need for access to support services. It found family carers to be at breaking point – with their mental and physical wellbeing seriously affected. A link to this report can be found [here](#).

Click [here](#) to read the Caring & Coping Report



- **TeamUp for Dementia Research** was officially launched in July 2021 in collaboration with Dementia Research Network Ireland. TeamUp For Dementia Research is a service where people living with dementia and their families can register their interest in participating in dementia research. It connects them with researchers who are conducting studies in the area of dementia.

For more information on TeamUp for Dementia Research click [here](#)

Autumn / Winter Highlights

- **Staff changes:** September saw the expansion of the Research & Policy Team, being led by Dr. Laura O'Philbin as Interim Research & Policy Manager. Cíara O'Reilly joined as Research Projects Officer and Dr. Diane O'Doherty joined as Research Officer.
- **Younger Onset Dementia Project:** The ASI awarded a tender to a research team led by Drs Siobhán Fox and Caroline Kilty in UCC to develop guidelines on how dementia service providers and community groups can support people you younger onset dementia (YOD) living in their communities. This work will be completed in 2022.
- **ASI Research Strategy:** November saw ASI seek stakeholder input as we began development of our new Research Strategy 2022-2024. While work continues in finalising this document, we would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete our survey.

Engaging Dementia 2021

Engaging[™]
Dementia

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The 13th Engaging Dementia Conference "Opportunity Out Of Adversity" took place online from the 4th -6th October.

A number of The ASI's teams were in attendance and presented at this research conference. Members of the Irish Dementia Working

Click [here](#) to watch an overview of the 13th Annual International Dementia Conference

Alzheimer Europe 2021

31st Alzheimer Europe Conference



The 31st Alzheimer Europe Conference, "Resilience in dementia: Moving beyond the COVID-19 pandemic", was held from 29 November to 1 December 2021. Over 600 participants from 38 countries attended the online event.

Members of the Research & Policy, Advocacy team and members of the Irish Dementia Working Group, alongside our CE Mr Pat McLoughlin attended this year's Alzheimer Europe conference. The Forget Me Knots also stole the closing ceremony with their rendition of 'Till We Meet Again'.

And finally...

We would like to wish all our extended research collaborators and partners a very Happy New Year!

We hope to continue to engage and work together in 2022!

