



THE **Alzheimer**  
SOCIETY OF IRELAND

## ASI Research Newsletter: Spring 2024

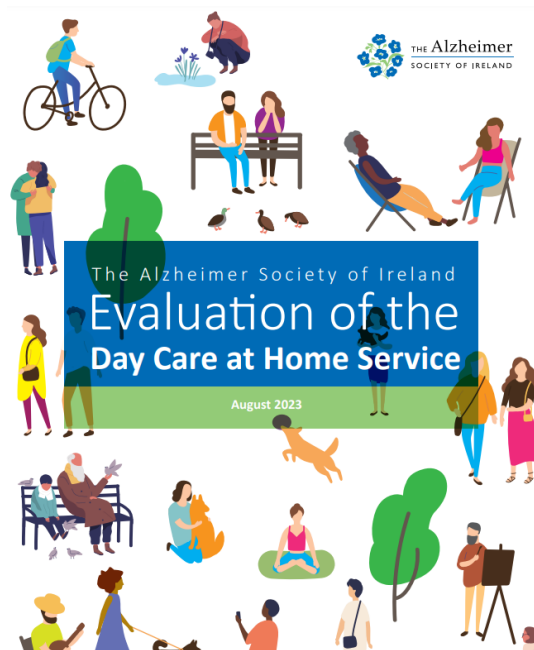
Dear Colleague,

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter of 2024!

The Research & Policy team has been working hard this year so far with participating in the HRB/ HRCI Joint Funding Scheme and attending various events.

Check out what else we have been up to below and some upcoming events.

### Launch of the Evaluation Report of The ASI's Day Care at Home Service



In late January, The Alzheimer Society of Ireland launched the evaluation report of our Day Care at Home service, which highlights life-enhancing benefits for people living with dementia and their families.

This piece of work was commissioned by ASI and undertaken by Dr Emma O'Shea, Ms Mary Flaherty, Ms Laura Somers and Professor Suzanne Timmons from the Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation at University College Cork. This work was kindly funded by The HSE's National Dementia Services.

Minister Mary Butler, Minister for Older People and Mental Health launched the evaluation report with our staff, teams and colleagues in late January. Read the report and Plain Language Summary on our website.

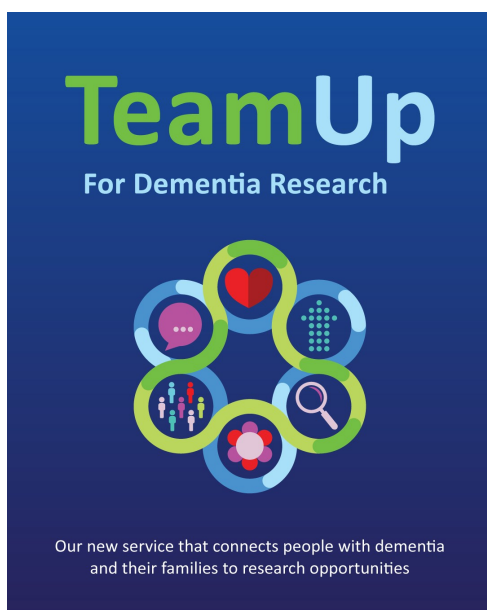
## Research Request—A Study to Improve Research in Nursing Homes



JP Connelly is a dementia researcher from Trinity College Dublin who is running a survey to find out how to conduct better research with nursing home residents with dementia in Ireland.

This survey will investigate why recruitment to research in nursing homes is challenging and the areas of research that those working in nursing homes think should be prioritised. By collecting this information, it will help researchers to design better research aimed at improving care practices for residents with dementia and their quality of life. The survey is aimed at anyone who works in a nursing home and family members of residents with dementia. Scan the QR code to complete.

## TeamUp for Dementia Research

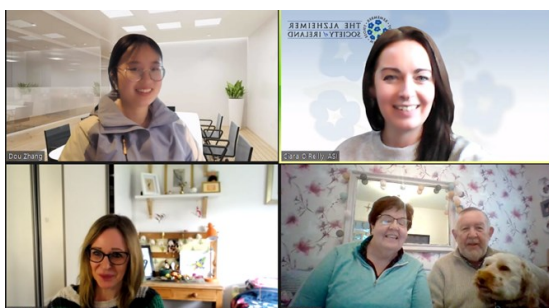


The TeamUp for Dementia Research service has been busy in 2024! We have had eight projects go out to relevant TUDR members, and there has been a lot of interest so far.

Given the high demand for the TUDR service, we would ask researchers who may want to utilise our service that you review your recruitment plans as a matter of priority and get in touch with us as soon as you can. This will allow us the opportunity to chat with you and discuss your recruitment and project needs.

If you are working clinically, in a Memory Resource Technology Room or a Nursing Home and would like some TeamUp leaflets, please contact [teamup@alzheimer.ie](mailto:teamup@alzheimer.ie) with your needs.

## PPI Spotlight: Dou Zhang at The University of Galway



Dou Zhang from the University of Galway is a PhD student undertaking work entitled "Animal-assisted interventions for people living with dementia in the community".

As part of her research, Dou has engaged with members of The ASI's Dementia Research Advisory Team, Gerry and Nuala Paley as Person Public Involvement (PPI) contributors. PPI is research that is carried out with or by members of the public. The relevancy of the research is ensured by keeping the lived experience central to the research process.



We are delighted to see the positive relationships built by Dou and her supervisory team with Gerry and Nuala, which is a crucial underpinning of good PPI. As an outcome of this project, Dou has invited Gerry and Nuala to be co-authors on an upcoming publication, showing best practice in meaningful collaboration and active co-creation.

We applaud all involved for their work and commitment to demonstrating best practices for engagement in PPI! The ASI and PPI Ignite Galway are delighted to see this active co-collaboration.

## Upcoming Events

### Engaging Dementia Conference: May 2024

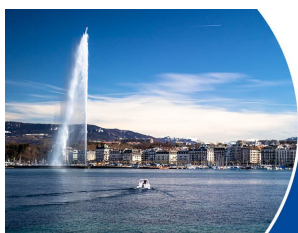
The 16th Engaging Dementia Conference two day, in-person event is taking place on the 8th & 9th May 2024, in Annebrook House Hotel, Mullingar. There will be a number of speakers, and a panel discussion with people living with dementia on key topics.

Presentations will include:

- Rethinking dementia from the perspective of brain health – Prof Brian Lawlor
- Alzheimer patients Interaction through Digital and Arts – The AIDA Project and the Office of Public Works
- Challenge and Resilience: Dementia in Peru – Prof Kate Irving
- House of Memories, National Museums Liverpool – Lizzie Salter
- Achieving equity in dementia care for people with intellectual disabilities – Prof Mary McCarron & Mei Lin Yap
- And many more!

Check out the Engaging Dementia Website for more information.

### Alzheimer Europe Conference: October 2024



Abstract submission and early  
bird registration open!



34<sup>th</sup> Alzheimer Europe Conference  
New horizons – Innovating for dementia  
Geneva, Switzerland  
8-10 October 2024 #34AEC

To submit an abstract or apply for a bursary, check out the Alzheimer Europe website.