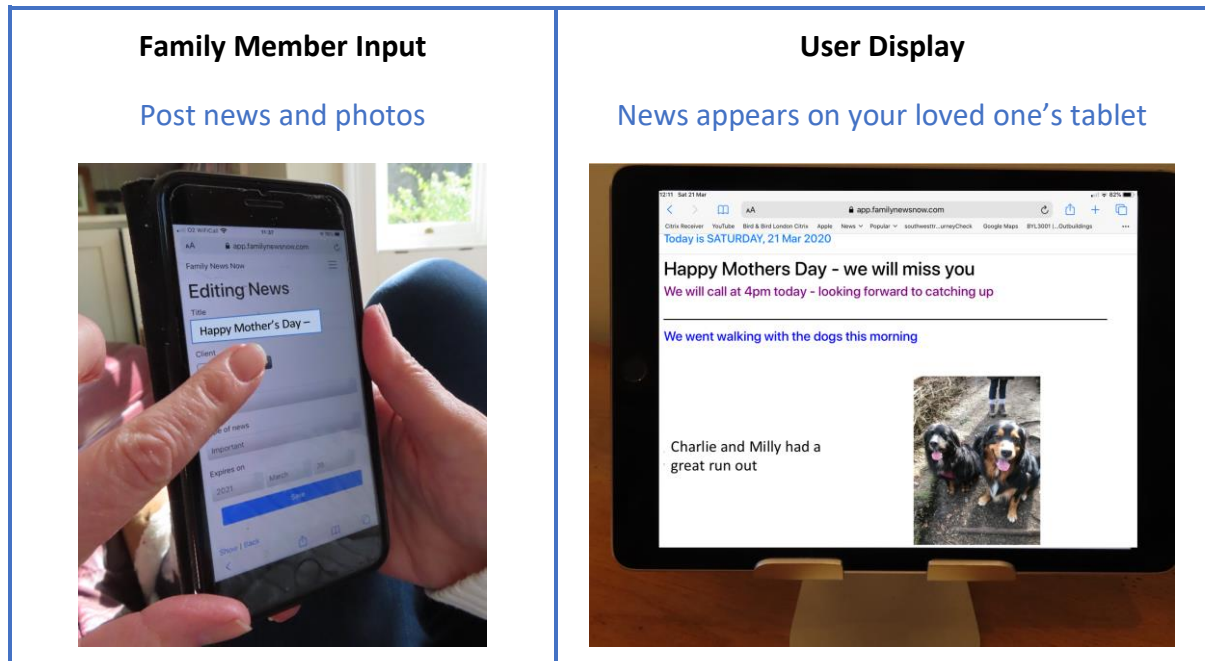


# FamilyNewsNow

## Keeping Your Family Connected

FamilyNewsNow is a simple internet-based display to help loved ones who may feel isolated from family and friends

Send your news and photos to your loved one and help reduce loneliness, anxiety or depression. Provide daily news and reminders to keep your family connected.



FamilyNewsNow is a simple way to provide practical and family-oriented information to a loved one through a tailored news feed.

Post news, reminders and photos from your computer, phone or tablet. You can also give access to family, friends and the wider support network, enabling them all to update the display. The news and photos appear automatically on your loved one's display. You can update and change it at any time and from any location. The display is not interactive and does not require your loved one to do anything.

FamilyNewsNow is particularly helpful for people who:

- have some impairment, for example, memory loss, limited movement, or hearing loss;
- struggle with modern technology;
- are isolated physically, or geographically, from friends and family;
- would like to receive regular updates of news focussed around family interests.

## Contact

For more information, contact [info@familynewsnow.com](mailto:info@familynewsnow.com).

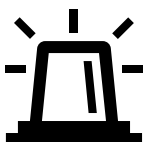
To sign up, visit: <http://app.familynewsnow.com/>

## Features

FamilyNewsNow automatically presents information on your loved one's tablet - no interaction from them needed!



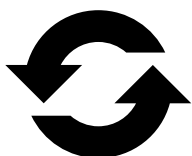
Date and Time: Automatically updated, preventing confusion.



Urgent Messages: reminders or alerts for the day, includes expiry dates ensuring message no longer displays after the event  
Eg. The nurse is coming at 10am



Family News: Update on activities and whereabouts of family members  
Eg. Tom is in Australia with his girlfriend



Reminders: Repeating messages for recurring reminders  
Eg. Drink plenty of water!



Photos: To share favourite memories or help your loved one recognise people (put a face to a name)

The display works on any tablet or screen device. Once up and running, it requires no interaction from the end-user. Reminders to update the display can also be set up to remind the account holder to update the interface after a certain period of time has lapsed.

Full access to the service includes:

- Access to online interface to update the FamilyNewsNow display from any device
- Information pack on set-up and usage of the service, including setting up your tablet
- Regular updates on service availability
- Membership of FamilyNewsNow discussion forum

## Case Study – Interview with FNN founder Mike Shorthose

FamilyNewsNow was created by Mike to help him and his wife, Sally, support Sally's Mum who had moved to a care home, had mild dementia and significant physical limitations following a series of strokes.

At first, the main idea was to develop something simple to help Sally's Mum recall the day, date and time and a way of sharing family experiences in real time.

The solution – an application for a tablet which displays regular updates from the family on their whereabouts, news and photos.

Mike says: "At first it was helpful to keep Sally's Mum in touch with a busy family who were not always able to see her on a daily basis."

As she became more forgetful, she started to become anxious, asking where her family were. Sally says: "We would always answer her questions, and try to reassure her, but we realised it would be useful to have an informative aid to reinforce the information we told her for when we weren't around."

"It became a very effective tool for her, and for us to know that there was something to help relieve her anxiety," she says. "It helped her remember things, and in the last stages of her life, it became useful for the care staff to read it and understand what was going on in the family, and who was coming to visit on any particular day. It also provided subject matter for carers to have conversations with her"

The tablet application is now being rolled out to a number of families with a variety of circumstances. Going forwards, Mike has more ideas to develop the app into a useful tool for those people who can feel isolated, particularly those with memory challenges. He says, "This is an exciting opportunity to use my own family's experience to help the wider community, and we can't wait to see what the future will bring."

Watch this space!