# A new kind of training for professionals in health and social care



# FORGET MEN'S THE ALZHEIMER'S

Written & Performed by Rob Gee
Directed by Tara Gatherer

WHODUNNIT

"A comedy, meditation on human dignity and, at its heart, a love story... remarkable."

**Orlando Sentinel** 







# **A Unique Murder Mystery**

Forget Me Not - The Alzheimer's Whodunnit is the multi-award winning solo show from comic, poet and mental health nurse Rob Gee. Rob plays fifteen characters who deliver a series of clues, tropes, plot twists and red herrings. The show is now part of a training package for staff in health and social care.



After seeing Forget Me Not, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) recruited Rob to deliver training based on the themes of compassion and raising concerns. The half-day training consists of a performance of the show, breakout sessions and structured discussion. Participants include qualified and unqualified nursing staff, occupational therapists, medical and nursing students, managerial staff, junior doctors and psychiatrists. LPT have run a session every four months for nearly three years.

100% reported the training to be 'helpful' or 'very helpful'. 97% rated it as 'very good' or 'excellent'.
93% would recommend their training to a colleague. 94% would recommended the show to a friend.
92% stated 'very successful' in highlighting the concept of seeing the person not their illness.
84% said they were 'much more' or 'slightly more' confident at dealing with conflict at work following the training.
83% stated they were 'much more' or 'slightly more' confident about raising concerns after participating in the training.

"Rob has been a visible leader of the FTSU agenda. He has used his extensive clinical knowledge, together with his unique creative talent to develop an innovative training session in order to facilitate open discussions in relation to improving patient safety, raising concerns and workplace bullying. His experience as a practitioner and his use of humour gives great value to the session. Rob effectively uses this to support staff when discussing the barriers to speaking up and the ongoing development of an open and honest culture within the Trust." Pauline Lewitt, Freedom to Speak Up Guardian, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

"A spectacular performance including speaking up, bullying culture, poor clinical care and detective work. Rob played all fifteen characters and then led a training session which generated really honest conversations about the barriers to speaking up."

### Henrietta Hughes, National Freedom to Speak Up Guardian

"Thank you for such an informative training session, Rob. I think all staff in LPT should come to your training and have the opportunity to discuss how raising concerns can impact them and what they can do when they have concerns. It was particularly reassuring to know that you had first-hand experience as a nurse in coming across such situations."

### Gemma Ablewhite, Listening into Action and Health & Wellbeing Lead, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

"Thank you for a wonderful presentation... the delegates' feedback was really positive for your sessions and felt it really relevant and practical to the process of speaking up as well as the reality of the process."

### Ade Dosunmu, Freedom to Speak up Guardian, East London NHS Foundation Trust

"An enjoyable and very funny performance, but also a poignant thought provoking workshop on Freedom to Speak Up.

The evaluations were excellent."

Dianne Smith, Matron for Professional Standards in Dementia, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust

## Participant Feedback:

"Best training ever. Well done for keeping my attention which has been difficult in previous training."

"So well put together and something I feel everyone should experience... it also helped me feel less isolated."

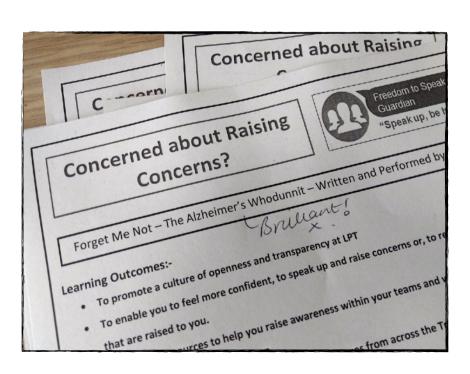
"Very, very good, insightful, funny, educational."

"The best study day I've ever been on!"

"This is one of the best training sessions I've attended for the trust."

"Would recommend to anyone... so useful and an element of fun!"

"Brilliant, unique. The best training I've done in years!"



# Forget Me Not - The Plot

Jim's wife, a patient on a dementia ward, has died from what appears to be natural causes. Jim is a retired police detective and he smells a rat. He's determined to solve one last murder. The problem is he also has dementia. It's a case worthy of the greatest detective mind. But his will have to do.

Rob based the show on his experiences on a "challenging behaviour" ward for people with dementia: "I was a student nurse there in the 1990s and I eventually left under a cloud after reporting what I saw. Much has improved since then, but vulnerable people will always be at risk. I also wanted to write a rattlingly good murder mystery and I didn't think these two things were mutually exclusive."

# Forget Me Not - Media Reviews

"Smart, witty and razor-sharp... funny and heartbreaking as hell." CBC, Canada \*\*\*

"A subversive detour into the dark side of institutional care... a disturbing masterpiece." **Gig City, Alberta** 

"Hilarious and heartbreaking... a brilliant plot." Victoria Times ★★★★★

"Silly, entertaining and eye-opening, this is terrific theatre." Vancouver Sun

"A wonderful example of great writing and acting dovetailing to create an all too believable world." Theatre in London  $\star\star\star\star\star$ 

"At least ten colourful characters, three different side plots, hilarious comedy and thought-provoking drama... remarkable." **Edmonton Sun, Alberta** 

To see a short trailer for Forget Me Not on YouTube click **here**.

### **Rob Gee - Writer and Performer**

Rob worked for twelve years as a registered nurse in mental health settings around the UK and Australia. As a writer and performer, he's won over twenty awards for his solo shows and shared stages with Sue Townsend, Jo Brand, Frankie Boyle, Alan Carr and Sarah Millican. He returned to nursing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

