

## Wilson family: 2.30minute segment transcript

**Claire:** My mother's name is Dawn Wilson and she is 57 years old. She's been missing since December 18 2008 just before Christmas, yeah, she went missing.

**Emma:** We hope that she's somewhere safe obviously and being looked after by somebody. Some scenarios are better than others. We just try to focus on the positive ones at the moment to get by.

**Claire:** Mum's been suffering from depression for a few years now. Just the week before she disappeared though her depression got worse, quite bad. The day that was seeking help at a clinic down in Geelong, she ran out and left there and um no one has seen her since then.

### **[Older people with dementia or memory loss are at risk of going missing]**

**Claire:** Sometimes we feel mum has lost part of her memory because it is hard to believe she would stay away for this long.

**Emma:** Just not knowing where someone is and if they're ok... it puts a lot of strain on you everyday.

**Claire:** I just take each day as it comes. I can't look too far ahead. I fight it really hard if someone asks me to do something with them on the weekend. I think what if something's going to happen. I sort of find I'm always putting myself on hold sort of thing.

I'm obviously always thinking about her.

It's something I suppose you never think would happen. You never expect someone you love so close to you to want to go missing.

**Emma:** It's nice to have something that someone's made for you when you're missing them isn't it. Yeah, you look to those sorts of things for comfort, which I like to sort of keep close by as well.

**Claire:** I started writing in a diary for mum. My aim yeah is to tell mum about, um, to share the diary with her one day. It also helps me get to sleep at night. I'm writing in there like I'm talking to her.

**Emma:** Yeah it's often you are feeling quite lost really. You can't keep focussed on things sometimes. It's not easy.

**Claire:** It's just not the same without mum. I feel lost without mum. It's just hard to do just the normal everyday things. I just miss her companionship. Just the laughs we have together, her smile.

**[Not knowing is like living in darkness]**

**Emma:** We just continue to live in hope really..hmm...yep.

**National Missing Persons Week: 2 – 8 August**

**You can help by keeping an eye out.**

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