

# Spectrum News

The Magazine of Autism Tasmania Inc.

ISSUE: April 2011

## INSIDE THIS EDITION



Autism  
Awareness  
Month

CALL TO  
ACTION

*Brenda Smith  
Myles in  
Launceston*

Advisor Service  
News



## Robyn Calls for Awareness





You are invited to the launch of Autism Tasmania's

# Call to Action

Launched by:

**Mick Clark**  
**Autism Tasmania President**

**Cassy O'Connor MP**  
**Minister for Human Services**

**Jacque Petrusma MP**  
**Shadow Minister for Human Services and for Children**

Thursday 21 April, 11:30 am  
Parliament House Reception Room, Hobart

Autism Tasmania's Call to Action highlights areas of priority for the Autism community throughout the state, as identified by Autism Tasmania in partnership with people on the Autism spectrum and their families, together with professionals, and stakeholders.

A light lunch will be served on the day

**Please RSVP** to Jodie Denman at Autism Tasmania on [jodie@autismtas.org.au](mailto:jodie@autismtas.org.au) or ph: 6107 9999 (choose option 1)

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**Deadline for the next issue of Spectrum News is 1 July 2011.**

# A Message from our CEO

The old Autism News newsletter underwent a period of slumber from about 2009 onwards. We are proud to re-launch it in April 2011, Autism Awareness Month. As you can see, the members' publication has been transformed into a magazine, *Spectrum News*, incorporating parent / family stories, events and workshops, local and national news plus information from Autism Tasmania, including the Advisor Service.

With your help we will evolve this first issue to better reflect the issues and stories that are important to you. Please email us with your thoughts, ideas, photos and stories.

The magazine is quarterly so there will be plenty of opportunities to participate and have your say.

Before I move on, a big thank you is due to Sara Lindsay, Project Officer at Autism Tas, for the mammoth job she has done in the design and production of Spectrum News.

Autism Tasmania has also undergone a period of rapid change, particularly in the last few months. My appointment as Chief Executive Officer in mid November 2010; an almost completely new management Committee; new office premises in the south; a new Service Agreement with the State Government which kicked in July 2010; and confirmation of our FaHCSIA funding continuing for the next 3 years have all led to a re-focus and revitalising of the organisation.

It's time to re-engage with our membership and the Autism community in general, and to forge new partnerships with government (all parties), service providers and professionals whilst strengthening existing ones. This is the only way we will realistically be able to affect change and outcomes for people with an Autism Spectrum Disorder in Tasmania.

Our Call to Action has named the main areas of need. There are many. We have distilled them to 5 areas: education; family support, assistance and respite; critical need for services for adults with an ASD; increased support for children aged between 7 – 18 years; and early intervention for young children (aged 0-6 years).



This document forms the backbone of our commitment and work with the Autism community, hand in hand with you and the community in general. There is a lot to be done and I am looking forward, with your participation, guidance and support, to continue doing it.

Please phone us, email us, come into our regional offices and have a cuppa with us – and in the context of this new publication, I invite you to be involved in future productions of Spectrum News.

I look forward to meeting and working with you.

**Manuel Duharte**



The new office at 1 Bowen Road Moonah

April has been a busy month so far at Autism Tasmania with the events we have been coordinating and taking part in for Autism Awareness Month, which is an opportunity to help raise awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorders.

**Wednesday 30 March - Autism Month newspaper editorials**—Autism Tasmania along with Robyn Davis (see pg 6) spoke to the Tasmanian Mercury for an article to kick off Autism Awareness Month. It was hoped that the story would run on Saturday 2 April 2011 which was World Autism Day, but sadly the Mercury couldn't oblige. The article aims to raise awareness of issues affecting people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their families. Another story Autism Tas took part in which appeared in the Examiner on 1 April featured AT CEO and Nadia Ollington on Census and Autism Awareness.

**Throughout April - Art exhibitions** - Three art displays have been coordinated around the state by Rose Clark: South – Glenorchy City Council, April 3 to 15; North West - Devonport State Library from Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – til end of April; and North - Launceston State Library 8<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> of April.

The displays, which featured work by students with in the Autism Spectrum, showed a fantastic array of talent through paintings, drawings, collages, and sculpture. Congratulations to all who participated.



**Saturday 9 April - Uni Gym fundraiser** - An enjoyable but exhausting fundraising spin-a-thon event was attended and participated in by Autism Tas staff Sara Lindsay, Arielle Vertigan and Manuel Duharte. (See page 9.)

**Thursday 21 April - Call to Action** – Autism Tasmania's Call, to be launched at Parliament House by Autism Tas President Mick Clark, Human Services Minister Cassy O'Connor, and Shadow Minister for Human Services and Children Jacquie Petrusma. The Call to Action identifies the imperatives for the Autism community in Tasmania. It has been developed by Autism Tasmania in partnership with people on the Autism Spectrum, their families and professionals working with those on the Autism Spectrum.

**Throughout April - Tasmanian school newsletters information** - Autism information Inserts went to schools across the state through the Ed Dept info stream for insertion into school newsletters. Four weekly inserts were organised by Sara Lindsay with the assistance of Kate Wilson. Actual inclusion into newsletters was up to the discretion of individual schools.

**Thursday May 5 – Brenda Smith Myles Workshop** - A consultant with the Ziggurat Group and recipient of the 2004 Autism Society of America's Outstanding Professional Award, Brenda Smith Myles, is being hosted by Autism Tasmania to present a workshop in Launceston: The Hidden Curriculum & Behaviour Interventions for Individuals with High Functioning Autism / Asperger's Syndrome (see back cover).



# Robyn Calls for Awareness



**Robyn and Ashton** turned up early for the Mercury interview at Autism Tasmania's Hobart office. Robyn's calm exterior belied the nerves she was feeling at the thought of being interviewed by a newspaper. "I've never been in the paper before" she confessed with a quiet smile. Ashton, her six year old son with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) was excited and inquisitive at the prospect of having his photo taken and talking to a reporter. Every car that drove past the window prompted a strafe of questions about whether that was the man from the Mercury and episodes of bubbling enthusiasm emanated from the youngster who was taking some time off school to be here.

It was Tuesday March 29. Autism Tasmania had planned and discussed an Autism article for some weeks with Mercury staff, aimed at kicking off Autism Awareness Month with a feature on the Saturday edition, which fell on World Autism Awareness Day, April 2. Today was the day Robyn, Ashton and I were to be interviewed at 10:30am.

The article content aimed at articulating the reason why the general community needed to be Autism aware. I can spout those reasons in my sleep. Talk to our Autism Advisors, talk to therapists or read the research. The same stories of inequity will emerge. But I wanted to amplify the point of view of someone who lives with Autism. Robyn volunteered without hesitation. A brave decision from someone who understands that living in a family with a child with Autism can mean having to tell your story countless times to countless strangers in search of services and support, forgoing the privacy and protection the rest of us guard in our own family lives. "If it will help raise awareness and assist other families, then I'll do it" Robyn asserted.

John the photographer turned up and quickly and expertly formed a rapport with Ashton, taking the boy's directions into account when setting up the photos, one of which graces the cover of this magazine, thanks to John's generosity.

The reporter, however, didn't show. My gruff phone calls to the Mercury found that the assigned reporter had gone elsewhere, to cover another story. We made an appointment for a phone interview later on in the day. Ashton went back to school and Robyn would have to prepare all over again.

In the afternoon Robyn returned calm and smiling. She handled the interview expertly and with dignity, choosing her words carefully to ensure that the right language and message would manifest itself into print.

She explained to the interviewer via speaker phone in front of us that Autism can be a hidden disability; there may be no physical manifestations which often prompt others to make adjustments and help put people's interactions, behaviour and anxiety into context. Without this, people with an ASD can be labelled as rude (or children as naughty), odd, or miscreants.

Robyn told of the ups and downs of raising Ashton. She was honest in her accounts of difficult times in public, when her son was overwhelmed by environmental factors; noise, lights, crowds – everyday factors the rest of us hardly notice or are bothered by. She spoke of people casting judgement on her and Ashton in these situations, and the need for Autism awareness to neutralise such lack of understanding.

*'If it will help raise awareness and assist other families then I'll do it.'*

I joined Robyn and we spoke of how difficulties in the areas of communication, thinking patterns, and social interaction, which can define Autism, can lead to isolation, ridicule, bullying and depression; if you are a teenager with an ASD then even more so. The fact that there are Autism specific organisations, advocacy groups, and support groups highlight that in this unequitable society, people with Autism still require assistance to access appropriate services which are inherently basic and taken for granted by the rest of us: education, health, transport, social participation, and employment for example. These are areas that a person with an ASD can often only properly access through adequate funding and resourcing in areas of early detection, access to diagnosis and intervention, individual support throughout school life, and transition support to tertiary education.

Robyn's words were linked with Autism Tasmania's Call to Action document, due to be launched on April 21 and which will attempt to address the scope of need in the Autism Community. We carefully crafted what we hoped were 3 key messages: It is Autism awareness month; these are the issues the community should be aware of from the point of view of someone who lives with Autism; and the Call to Action is being drafted to canvass those issues.

The article came out the next day, Wednesday 30 March – not in Autism Awareness Month and not on World Autism Day Saturday 2 April. I vented my frustration at some editorial staff. We felt like the piece had become a mid week space filler, instead of a substantial weekend feature. The disappointment subsided in Robyn before it did in me.

I had a coffee with Robyn the following day. She was not sure if the article had done justice to the messages we were trying to send. We talked about the article and the experience of families talking to media about their private lives and the effect of their children's disability on the family unit. In the public arena, such stories can easily turn a message of strength and hope into a display of pity and sensationalism, dependant on the reporter, the media outlet and the perception of the general public. How would this story be perceived?

Congratulatory messages from other families and friends began to filter through email and text messages. The feedback to Robyn from those here at the office was warm and positive. Robyn felt more at ease. As long as the article helps raise awareness and therefore assist other families, she said, then maybe it would be OK.

**Manuel Duarte**





## National Autism Summit

On 1 April, Autism Tasmania attended a National Autism Summit in Sydney hosted by Autism Awareness.

Autism Awareness is an Australian-based not-for-profit organisation, which was founded in February 2007. Since its inception, Autism Awareness has run many events and campaigns including three Autism Expos in Sydney, a television community service announcement campaign, and a distribution of 'The Early Warning Signs' childhood developmental booklet to medical centres nationwide.

The summit was facilitated by print and TV journalist Ellen Fanning and the theme of the Summit was 'Simplify, Unify, and Amplify'. The twenty eight invited delegates from around Australia who attended the Summit, comprising of Autism organisations, families, therapists, and doctors, were asked to nominate key issues for discussion on which a joint statement could be agreed.

The following summaries highlight the areas discussed and agreed on by the Summit attendees:

**Diagnosis** - entitlement to early affordable and comprehensive assessment and diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders.

**Early Intervention** - adequate funding for intensive early intervention and a wait period of no more than 3 months between recognition and service provision.

**Education** - life-long access to educational services appropriate to needs and have competently trained educators in the specific educational needs of people with autism spectrum disorders

**Life** - a right to live an independent productive, fulfilling life, which enables people to participate fully in an inclusive and supportive community.

**Research** - comprehensively funded, national, long term research agenda, to enhance the lives of all people who live and work with autism into the future.

**National Disability Insurance Scheme** - endorsement of the urgent need for a National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Furthermore there was unanimous approval from the 28 delegates from Around Australia to work together with Australian Advisory Board-Autism Spectrum Disorder (AAB-ASD) to create a peak national body with additional representation from interest groups in the autism community outside of the state organisations.

The six statements above were highlighted in a letter to Senator Jan McLucas, Parliamentary Secretary on Disabilities and Carers, (who spoke at the summit) on behalf of attendees to communicate the outcomes to her and to lobby the Senator for the dollars required to fund the proposed national Autism Peak Body.

Autism Tasmania's CEO Manuel Duharte was at the summit and is the newly-appointed Autism Tasmania nominee director on the Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders, replacing Mick Clark who has resigned after 8 years in this role. Manuel will keep you abreast of national developments, and will continue to take forward the issues facing Tasmanian people who have an ASD and their families to the national stage.

## Light it up Blue, Sydney

Autism Awareness also organised the lighting up blue of the Sydney Opera House, and a Light it Up Blue cocktail event after the summit at West Circular Quay to commemorate World Autism Awareness Day on April 2nd.

As the Opera House's hue slowly turned blue, an autism awareness ad campaign featuring Tom Gleisner (of *Thank God You're Here* and *Working Dog* fame) and siblings of children with Autism was played on an outdoor screen.

Later on in the night Christopher Woodthorpe, from the United Nations in Canberra, confirmed Autism Awareness as a UN affiliated Non-Government Organisation in Australia for their work in raising awareness of autism in Australia and making it well placed to ensure that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is fully recognised when



**Saturday 9 April**

## Unigym fundraiser

An enjoyable but exhausting fundraising spin-a-thon event was attended and participated in by Autism Tasmania staff Sara Lindsay, Arielle Vertigan and Manuel Duharte.

The University spin room was festooned with banners, balloons, AT info sheets and media statements for the event. Kate Wilson pedaled for four hours, after having assisted in the coordination of the fundraiser.

A huge thanks to Kate and to Helen Kollias, the Unigym Manager who coordinated the day. Funds raised from the spin-a-thon will go towards continuing Autism Tasmania's Census project.



# Asperger's Syndrome in Marriage



**Over the last decade** many people would be aware that there has been an upsurge of awareness and diagnosis of Autism and Asperger's Syndrome. Most of the cases being identified are children. Their behaviours are often exposed and uninhibited, allowing for ready identification and appropriate intervention and assistance to take place. Improved behaviour & communication patterns in turn enable more successful adjustment into adulthood.

What many people will not be aware of is that there is a second wave of identification taking place within the adult population. For adults with Asperger's Syndrome, their behaviours since childhood have gone "underground" and layers of coping strategies and defence mechanisms greet the social world. These behaviours often give the impression of someone quite "together" - perhaps a little eccentric or odd - but passable because of their high intelligence, impressive knowledge, high integrity and particular flair or

gift in an area or career, such as engineering, telecommunications, computers, art, religion and politics.

Many adults with Asperger's Syndrome do marry and have children. Marriage often follows a period of "ideal" courtship. However the experience of the partners and children are quite different to what most partners would experience and expect. Partners of an adult with Asperger's Syndrome often have awareness early in the marriage that something is not right but they can't work out what. They often speak of being aware that something, like a piece of a puzzle, is missing.

The partner with Asperger's Syndrome can manifest a wide range of varying behaviours with varying intensities. However feedback from their partners in marriage suggests

there are many common threads in their experience of marriage. Below is a list of some common characteristics of the marriage experience and of the partner with Asperger's Syndrome by an Asperger's Syndrome Partner Information Australia (NSW) partner support group

- An essential need to have things done in a prescribed manner or order
- A tendency to correct and instruct those around them
- Seeming to be experiencing "normal" situations differently, noticing different things and having to deal with different priorities which often prevent co-operation and teamwork, leading to frequent conflict. As a result the relationship and communication deteriorate quickly. Efforts to reason and resolve situations often result in partners feeling that they have been dug in deeper.

They often feel that their efforts have been fruitless and even worse, have increased the level of complication.

- Verbal combat around “technicalities” or “order” of a situation rather than the “spirit” or “essence”.
- The partner with Asperger’s Syndrome may appear to have an air of superiority or even arrogance and an apparent lack of respect for the knowledge, credibility, expertise or authority of others. They may have high intelligence or gifted abilities in some areas but seem to lack basic “common sense” or “know-how” in other more commonplace situations.
- The partner with Asperger’s Syndrome may not recognise the effort their partner is constantly contributing to the relationship to try to sustain it. The partner with AS may have great difficulty cooperating with others or working as part of a team or unit. They may seem focused only on what’s going on for them, and unaware of what’s going on for those around them.
- The partner with AS may “shut-down” if they don’t know what to say or how to behave. They may disengage with partner or family indefinitely.

This information was reproduced with kind permission from ASPIA - Asperger’s Syndrome Partner Information Australia. ASPIA is a support group and information source for partners of adults with Asperger’s Syndrome. ASPIA commenced meetings in June 2003 (under the former name “GRASP”).

ASPIA contact details and enquiries are:  
 Asperger’s Syndrome Partner Information Australia (ASPIA)  
 PO Box 57 Macarthur Square LPO  
 MACARTHUR NSW 2560  
[www.aspia.org.au](http://www.aspia.org.au)  
[info@aspia.org.au](mailto:info@aspia.org.au)

*There is no support group for partners of people with Asperger’s Syndrome that we are aware of in Tasmania, but if a number of people are interested in forming such a group, please contact Autism Tasmania.*

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*FaHCSIA funding may be used for our workshops*

# The A Team—A Success Story



Gabby Knox working in the A Team room

**The A Team program** stemmed from educators being creative about solving the Issue of “how to educate students with Asperger's Syndrome who wanted to learn, but could not manage the mainstream school environment”.

The A Team program was designed by the Department of Education to support the unique needs of students with Asperger's Syndrome. Students came to the A Team room at Newstead Heights on average for one day a week. The classroom was specifically set up to cater for students particular needs, particularly the sensory needs of the students. Each session had no more than 6 students and one teacher and one teacher's aide supported the students. The A Team program has achieved some fabulous results for students, including helping them transition back to the mainstream education

system, giving students enrolled in distance education a chance to socialize in a supportive environment and most importantly it gave the students a sense that they were understood and that they could achieve.

This fantastic program was going to be shut down by the Government at the end of term 2 2009. There were no real reasons given for this decision other than it was a pilot program that's time had come to an end.

After the announcement a group of parents combined and formed the A Team Support Group to fight for this incredible program.

This group showed that when parents band together perseverance does pay off. As a group we worked with Autism Tasmania to lobby the government. We worked with the Liberals and



Greens to try and have the original decision to close the program reversed. Our lobbying successfully pressured the government into initiating a review of the program. Karen Gee completed this review, with input from the A Team Support Group, Autism Tasmania and other key stakeholders including all the parents and students involved in the program. Karen Gee's recommendations included the program being moved into distance Education and being expanded around the state.

Just days before the 2010/11 Budget was handed down, it was confirmed that the program would continue as per the recommendations of the review. The Education Minister Lin Thorp gave all of the review recommendations in principle support. This included the expansion of the program around the state.

Over the past six months the A Team Support Group has worked with the staff of Distance Education to ensure that the program's transition is a success. We are very pleased with the progress to date. Most importantly the parents have

been given input into transition and recently were given a tour of the new room on the e school campus at the Mayfield Primary School. The program will undergo a name change with the Launch of the e school next year, it will go from the A Team to the STARS... we will keep you updated on the progress of this great program, hopefully the next update will be to let you know about the expansion steps being taken!

**Kristen Desmond**

Photos courtesy Gabby Knox and the A Team





Sam Hooper and Allison Lapham at the Gearing up Expo in Launceston

## The Northern Annual Gearing up Expo

was held on April 14th at the Tailrace Centre in Riverside. This event provides an opportunity for people living with disabilities, families and carers to find out about services available within their local community. There were representatives from the UTAS, Polytechnic, Baptcare Gateways Services, Family Planning Tasmania, Life Without Barriers, National Disability Services Tasmania (NDS), Speak Out Advocacy and many others.

Autism Tasmania was very happy to have an exhibit and relished the opportunity to interact with families, carers and those impacted by Autism and meet new potential clients. Sam Hooper, Allison Lapham and Kathy Fry were all on deck to get the word out about Autism Tasmania, and the exciting things happening within our organisation. The expo not only supplied us with an opportunity to interact with people but also to network with other service providers and people involved in the disability sector.

The day was jam packed with events and

information and we left tired but with a great sense of achievement and look forward to participating in the upcoming expos.

There are three annual Gearing Up expos in Tasmania. The Burnie expo will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> May at the Burnie Arts and Function Centre, and the Hobart Expo will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> July at the Derwent Entertainment Centre (DEC). For more information please go to

[www.ndcotas.com.au/gearingup](http://www.ndcotas.com.au/gearingup)

Sam Hooper



# Movie Review: Temple Grandin



## Review of Temple Grandin movie

If you ask anyone who has seen it what they think of the movie *Temple Grandin* they will smile: the film leaves you feeling good whether you are familiar with the work of Temple Grandin or not. It celebrates Grandin's unique perspective of the world, her brilliant mind and her tenacity, without romanticizing autism. Neither does it minimise the devastating impact it has on her ability to relate to others, and for others to relate to her. There are some absolutely heart wrenching moments in the film which I defy anyone to sit through without a tissue. There are also some magnificent moments where you'll still need the tissues. Just take a big wad and you'll be fine.

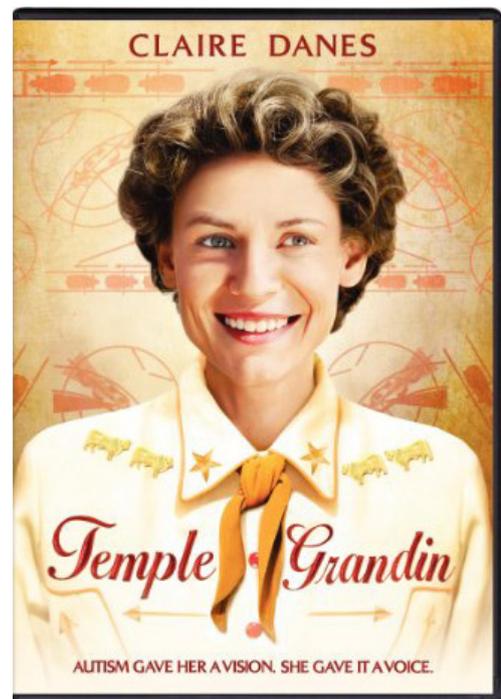
Claire Danes is perfect as Grandin. She inhabits the role so comfortably: it's worth checking out some clips of the real Temple Grandin on Youtube to see just how well Danes captures her mannerisms, voice and appearance. In the DVD extras Grandin talks about her involvement in the film and how well Danes plays her.

I particularly like the way the film focuses on the involvement of the people closest to Grandin and the part they play in her success at navigating through a baffling and at times hostile world. Julia Ormond is wonderful as Grandin's mother. She exudes convincing love and belief in Grandin, as well as the strength to never let Grandin take the easy way out.

*Temple Grandin* is one of the best films I have seen in ages and I can't recommend it enough. It is a wonderful story regardless of how well you know the work of Temple Grandin. It is simply a well told story of a woman who is "different but not less".

Coming to DVD in Australia soon.

**Arielle Vertigan**



If you would like to review a book or movie for a future issue of Spectrum News contact [sara@autismtas.org.au](mailto:sara@autismtas.org.au)

## Connect and Relate for Autism

"Our experiences and our responses to our experiences mould our life journey. I was born and grew up in Tasmania exploring the beaches, climbing the mountains and feeling soothed by the water, rocks, forests and trees on many bushwalking adventures. It has been a long time away but I have finally returned and it feels like coming "home". I have always wanted to help people and make a difference but I have also had a long journey away through difficulty and despair trying to find answers to help my son diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome... I found "home" when I discovered Steven Gutstein and his Relationship Development Intervention RDI@ Program."

It is a dark and difficult time for parents of a child with a developmental disability learning to understand and come to terms with the diagnosis. On top of understanding behaviours and trying to navigate the maze of possible interventions, parents will also be struggling in their ability to develop a relationship where they can guide the child's thinking and doing. Parents may be great parents with siblings but have significant difficulties with their child with a developmental disability.

"I struggled to help my child; he could not take my perspective or follow my lead and understandably became easily anxious, overwhelmed and avoidant trying to stay in his safe known, as he was trying to cope with everything alone. His sister just naturally referenced and looked to me to decide if it was safe or okay and with that trust and guide was constantly seeking new challenges in which she learnt and grew."

Life is dynamic and ever changing. Our lives are getting busier and faster and filled with more demands. We need to be adept at filtering the central from the peripheral, at creative problem solving and flexible thinking, at going with the flow and drawing on our past memories of resilience through difficulties and memories of success and competence to motivate and regulate our behaviour and actions and to manage our excitement and anxiety. Unfortunately, these are the exact areas of core deficit for people with ASD and seriously impact for their quality of life.

"I wasn't after compliance, doing because we said so. I wasn't after rote repetition doing for a bribe or a reward. I wanted real change in my child's ability to think for himself, to mindfully self manage and to be able to co-regulate with others. I didn't believe he came from another planet and I couldn't accept this

was the best we could expect. I didn't want to take away the Asperger's Syndrome and who he is, I wasn't after a cure. I just wanted to reduce the impact of the deficits so he could enjoy life to the best of his potential."

RDI@ answered all my questions; we have seen incredible improvements in the quality of life for our whole family and for my son. I am passionate about the potential for change and empowering parents to create real change. I wanted to share this amazing program and make this available for other families. I completed the professional training program in Houston Texas and have been working with families, parents and schools as a RDI@ Program Certified consultant in NSW. I am now based in Hobart, Tasmania. RDI @ is a journey where parents are invited back into the developmental role of guide for their child. The goals of RDI are: building minds; developing dynamic abilities for real world success; applying best practices to learning; strengthening and empowering parents, brothers and sisters and tailoring intervention to build on each person's uniqueness.

**Bronwen Prazak B.A. (UTAS) Grad. Dip. Ed. (UNE)**

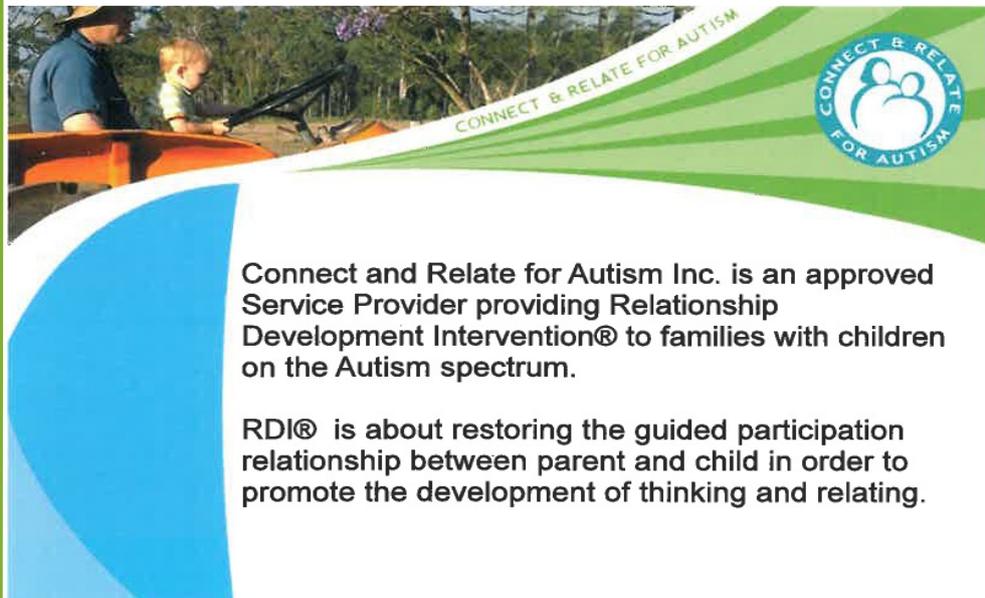
RDI @Program Certified Consultant (RDI Connect, Houston, Texas)

ASD Life Quality Connections

Connect and Relate for Autism Inc,

0423 066 276 rdi@asdconnect.com.au

www.rdiconnect.com.au www.connectandrelateforautism.com.au



Connect and Relate for Autism Inc. is an approved Service Provider providing Relationship Development Intervention® to families with children on the Autism spectrum.

RDI® is about restoring the guided participation relationship between parent and child in order to promote the development of thinking and relating.

[www.connectandrelateforautism.com.au](http://www.connectandrelateforautism.com.au)

## Connect and Relate for Autism Inc



**Connect and Relate for Autism Inc (CaRfA) is a group of Relationship Development Intervention RDI® Consultants Australia who work in all states of Australia.**

### **Relationship Development Intervention RDI®:**

- Addresses areas of social and emotional development that typical children achieve in their early years that form the basis for developing and understanding relationships with others.
- Is a new intervention based on current research that addresses the core deficits of autism. Develops relating to others, experience sharing and acquiring the thinking needed to manage changes in everyday life.
- Guides parents to help their child manage and engage with the complexity and dynamic changes that occur everyday rather than avoiding them or becoming overwhelmed.

## The Advisor TEAM



**Sam Hooper**  
Autism Advisor  
Team Leader-



**Arielle Vertigan**  
Autism Advisor  
(South)



**Kathy Fry**  
Autism Advisor  
(North)



**Allison Lapham**  
Advisor Service  
Admin Support (North)

### The Advisor Team Chronicles

Life is proving to be very exciting and active for everyone at the Advisor Service. Just some of the things that have happened recently:

- Autism Tasmania has employed our first CEO (Manuel Duharte), as well as a new Administration Officer (Jodie Denman) – Welcome onboard Manuel & Jodie.
- We have relocated offices in Hobart – so much more space, light and even a dedicated family room.
- The number of families accessing funding and services through the Helping Children with Autism package (HCWA) has surpassed our target of 300
- The Australian Government's commitment of \$190 million over four years to deliver the HCWA package, has been extended until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

We were very pleased with the number of families who participated in the Advisor Service evaluation. A special thanks is due to all those families who took the time to help us with this evaluation. This information is extremely important to ensure we are meeting the needs of families across the state. After carefully reviewing the evaluations we have identified a need to increase our contact with families. We will be achieving this through newsletters, emails, mail outs, phone follow ups and additional consults – you have spoken and we have listened.

If you would like more information on the HCWA Package, or would like to chat with one of our friendly Autism Advisors, please feel free to contact us.

### Helping Children with Autism [HCWA] brochure

We are proud to release the HCWA brochure, which was designed to help families and health care professionals access information about this government initiative.

We would like to extend our Thanks to the Triffett family for being our poster Family for this brochure.

**Thank you Triffetts!**



**Helping Children with Autism (HCWA)**  
An initiative of the Australian Government to help address the need for support and services for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

If you would like a copy of this brochure or know of a location where this resource would be useful,

Please contact us on 6278 9985

A BIG **Thank you** to the **Hobart Women's Health Centre**

for your invaluable and generous contribution towards the printing costs of this brochure.

**Special Thanks to Robyn Davis for sourcing this grant and liaising with the Hobart Women's Health Centre. Your help has been greatly appreciated.**

SPONSORED BY



#### Autism Advisor (South)

1 Bowen Road, Moonah, Tas, 7009  
PO Box 514, Moonah, Tas, 7009  
Email: [autismsouth@autismtas.org.au](mailto:autismsouth@autismtas.org.au)  
Phone: (03) 6278 9985

#### Autism Advisor (North)

59D Amy Road, Launceston  
PO Box 358, Launceston, Tas, 7250  
Email: [autismnorth@autismtas.org.au](mailto:autismnorth@autismtas.org.au)  
Phone: (03) 6344 1212

# Updated List of Early Intervention Service Providers

(FaHCSIA approved)

Families accessing the FaHCSIA funding can select an early intervention service that is best suited to the needs of their child and family. These providers are referred to as panel providers or consortiums.

The Early Intervention Service Provider Panel in Tasmania currently consists of the following providers:

Panel Service Providers	Contact:
<b>Best Start Therapy Services</b> Marzia Dosio (Occupational Therapist) Lisa Ford (Psychologist) Catherine Silcock (Speech Pathologist)	<b>M:</b> 0401 382 351 ( <b>Marzia</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0411 117 765 ( <b>Lisa</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0439 010 285 ( <b>Catherine</b> )
<b>Dr Larry Cashion</b> <a href="http://www.drcashion.com.au">www.drcashion.com.au</a> Psychologist	<b>M:</b> 0429 057 755 ( <b>Larry</b> ) <a href="mailto:larry@cashion.net">larry@cashion.net</a>
<b>Connect and Relate for autism</b> <a href="http://www.connectandrelateforautism.com.au">www.connectandrelateforautism.com.au</a> Bronwen Prazak (RDI program certified consultant)	<b>M:</b> 0423 066 276 ( <b>Bronwen</b> ) <a href="mailto:rdi@asdconnect.com.au">rdi@asdconnect.com.au</a>
<b>Giant Steps</b> <a href="http://www.giantsteps.tas.edu.au">www.giantsteps.tas.edu.au</a> Anne Duncan (Principal)	<b>Ph:</b> 03 6362 2522 ( <b>Anne</b> ) <a href="mailto:principal@giantsteps.tas.edu.au">principal@giantsteps.tas.edu.au</a>
<b>ISADD</b> <a href="http://www.isadd.org">www.isadd.org</a> Jura Tender (Psychologist) Krystal Chugg (Northern Case Manager—ABA Therapist) Sarah Charlton (Southern Case Manager— ABA Therapist) Amelia Kenny (Southern Case Manager— ABA Therapist)	<b>M:</b> 0400 567 646 ( <b>Krystal</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0435 359 652 ( <b>Sarah</b> )
<b>KIDSCODE</b> <a href="http://www.jennyroberts.org.au">www.jennyroberts.org.au</a> Jenny Roberts (Occupational Therapist) Nicole Kingston (Kidscode Practitioner)	<b>M:</b> 0418 316 754 ( <b>Nicole</b> ) <a href="mailto:nicolemkingston@gmail.com">nicolemkingston@gmail.com</a>
<b>SPOT ON</b> <b>Speech Pathology Tasmania—Speech Pathologists</b> Rosalie Martin, Lisa Johnson, Linda McKillop, Felicity Laurence, Sarah Kay, Tanya Laughter, Mariam Seeney  <b>Independent Kids—Occupational Therapists</b> Alison Hopwood, Karen Fair, Rachel Reid, Ruth Croser  <b>Psychologists</b> Anne Hadrill, Miriam Kirby, Sari O’Meagher,	<b>Speech Pathology Tas</b> <b>Ph:</b> 03 6234 5717  <b>Independent Kids</b> <b>Ph:</b> 03 6234 5333  <b>Psychologists</b> <b>M:</b> 0419 535 215 ( <b>Anne</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0417 110 842 ( <b>Miriam</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0439 348 875 ( <b>Sari</b> )
<b>TLC Psychology</b> <a href="http://www.tlcpsychology.com.au">www.tlcpsychology.com.au</a> Mickaela Schelleman (Psychologist & consortium director) Katrina Bock (Occupational Therapist) Alice Miller (Speech Pathologist)	<b>M:</b> 0410 788 844 ( <b>Michaela</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0407 005 058 ( <b>Katrina</b> ) <b>M:</b> 0410 788 844 ( <b>Alice</b> )
<b>Hobart Speech Pathology Service</b> Vicki Allen, Michelle Melick (Speech Pathologists)	<b>Ph:</b> 03 6224 0668 ( <b>Vicki</b> ) <b>Ph:</b> 03 6225 4353 ( <b>Michelle</b> )

Families can also access Panel Providers from inter-state, for a list of providers  
 Australia wide please visit the FaHCSIA website:  
[www.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au)

## Early Intervention Funding:

### Eligibility

Children must be deemed eligible for this funding before they turn 6, and: Have a diagnosis of one of the following:

Autistic Disorder

- Asperger's Disorder/Syndrome
- Rett's Disorder
- Childhood Disintegrative Disorder
- Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS)

### Eligible diagnosis must be made by:

- A Paediatrician
- A Psychiatrist; or
- A Multidisciplinary team (Consisting of Speech and Occupational Therapists and a Psychologist)

**"tentative diagnosis" or characteristics of Autism is not a sufficient diagnosis**

Max \$12,000 funding can be used until the child's 7th birthday.

Max of \$6,000 per financial year.



Early Days workshops provide up-to-date information about Autism as well as parenting tools you can use to promote the development of your child. You also get the opportunity to meet other parents and share ideas and experiences.

In Early Days workshops you will learn about Autism Spectrum Disorder and what it means for your child and family. You will also learn practical strategies that you can use at home to make a difference to your child's development.

### Early Days workshops are available in three formats:

- face to face workshops
- telephone workshops and;
- online workshops.

These workshops are available in all States and Territories across Australia. In all Early Days workshops you will be provided with evidence based information, and the workshops help you apply practical strategies and ideas to your own specific situation.

For more information, or to register, please visit [www.earlydays.net.au](http://www.earlydays.net.au) or call 1800 334 155

## HAVE YOU CHANGED ANY OF YOUR CONTACT DETAILS?

Please ensure your contact details with the Advisor service are current

### Resources

Up to 35% of a child's funding can be used to purchase resources.

Max \$4,200 in total

Max \$2,100 per financial year

Families do not have to use this percentage on resources, the full funding amount can be used for direct intervention.

Only the child's panel provider can purchase resources after making a professional assessment of which resources would assist the child's therapy.

### ORR / Access Payment

The Outer Regional Remote and Access Support payments may be available for those families experiencing specific barriers to accessing services.

If you would like more information please contact your local Autism Advisor.



Positive Partnerships now have a new Online Parent/Carer Course. This online course is available to help you work in partnership with your child's education placement to improve their learning outcomes.

### By participating in the online course you will gain:

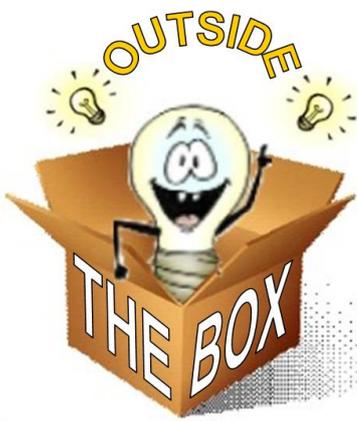
- a greater understanding of how the characteristics of autism impact on your child's learning at both home and school;
- an understanding about the processes and strategies to facilitate effective parent, school and teacher partnerships;
- specific strategies on how to advocate to support your child's participation at school and ongoing learning needs; and
- strategies to strengthen your support network and how to link to local services and supports to meet your child's ongoing learning needs.

The course is comprised of 5 modules;

- Understanding Autism: Using the Planning Matrix
- Creating Positive Partnerships
- Problem Solving: Using the GROWTH Model
- Developing Support Networks
- Using Evidence to Guide Decision Making

On completion of the course, you will receive a certificate.

Positive Partnerships  
[www.autismtraining.com.au](http://www.autismtraining.com.au)



## WHAT A GREAT IDEA...

Our Autism Advisors are always learning new and inventive ideas from families everyday, so we decided this would be a great opportunity to share these idea's with you.

**Special Thanks to Nicole Gates**  
for her creative idea of 'Outside the box'



### Won't Eat vegetables!

One parent sneaks grated cheese, vegies, nuts (anything and everything), into bread dough then rolls it into thin bread sticks (like rusks) to bake.

Her little boy eats them all through the day—easy to eat, nice to hold, tasty snack, veggie intake covered.



### Going on a Teddy Bear Hunt

Fill a large doona cover with soft toys and cushions, give your child a torch and go hunting for teddy bears.

Not only have you created a easy and affordable calm place for your child you have invented a way to keep the bedroom tidy!

\* supervision recommended

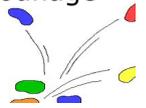


### A spoon full of sugar helps the medicine go down.

Having troubles getting your child to take medication?

One parent got around this by adding medicine syrup in with melted chocolate in a freddo frog mould. For tablets, another parent squeezes small portions of the tablet into jelly beans, The crunchy outside works as a good camouflage

\* ensure you check with your GP



### Is grocery shopping a nightmare?

Did you know you can do your grocery shopping online? Parents have described this service as a sanity saver!

**For more info:**

**COLES:** [www.colesonline.com.au/online-shopping](http://www.colesonline.com.au/online-shopping)

**WOOLWORTHS:** [www.homeshop.com.au](http://www.homeshop.com.au)



### Has your child "checked out" these websites?

[www.zacbrower.com](http://www.zacbrower.com)

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

[www.poissonrouge.com](http://www.poissonrouge.com) (tip click the British flag in bottom right corner for English)



## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.....

If you would like to see us continue 'Outside the box' in future issues of the Advisor News, please help us by providing a short story or photos of your inventive ideas when you have had to think outside the box.

or

Send us information on your child's favourite websites to:

**autismsouth@autismtas.org.au or; phone 6278 9985**

# Parent Support Groups



**Parent groups** meet in many areas of the state on a regular basis. The groups are specifically for parents, carers, extended

families and friends of those with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Your child doesn't have to have a diagnosis for you to come along.

The groups are fairly informal and the content of the meeting is on an interest/need basis – that is those parents who come along can nominate what happens at upcoming get-togethers. At various times there can be a guest speaker or a topic of interest/need that people would like to talk about with others at other times a DVD or movie which focuses on Autism Spectrum Disorder from a mainstream point of view.

There is always time for a cuppa and a chat with others and there is also the opportunity to pick up handouts with information about new developments in relation to families: funding options, respite, upcoming seminars and workshops as well as new books and media productions.

Some parents who come along to the groups attend every get together, others come along when the topic is of interest to them. Whatever the situation parents are very welcoming to newcomers remembering that they too were a newcomer at some stage.

Please feel free to ring me at any time for information about the group in your area.

## **Rose Clark**

Family Support Co-ordinator  
Autism Tasmania  
6423 2288 and 0407 320 048

## **Locations and Dates**

### **Northern Tasmania:**

Launceston: meet at St Giles, Amy Rd, every second Tuesday evening in the month – 7.30 – 9.30pm. Coffee mornings are also held at irregular intervals at Peckish in Kings Meadows.

George Town: meet at Port Dalrymple School, Agnes St, on the first Thursday in the month – 10.30am – midday.

### **North West Tasmania:**

Burnie: meet at Burnie Library meeting room on the last Monday in the month – 10 am – midday Day and meeting place are being reviewed.

Circular Head: meet at the District Hospital's meeting room on the third Friday in the month – 10.30am – midday.

Devonport/Ulverstone: group to be re-established in the early part of the year.

### **West Coast:**

Meetings 'travel' around towns- Queenstown, Rosebery and Zeehan. No set meeting days or times. Phone 6423 2288 for information.

### **East Coast:**

Currently in recess but being re-established after Easter -likely meeting locations either St Helens or Scamander. Phone 6423 2288 for information.

### **Southern Tasmania:**

Bridgewater: meet at the Bridgewater Community House on the second Thursday morning in the month – 10.30am – midday.

New Norfolk: meet at the New Norfolk Community Health Centre (located at the hospital) on the second Thursday in the month – 1pm – 2.30 pm. This maybe changing so it's wise to check by phoning: 6423 2288

Hobart: meet at the Autism Tasmania office, 1 Bowen Rd, Moonah on the second Thursday evening in the month – 7.30 – 9.30pm.

Huonville: meet at the Health Centre, Sale St, on the second Friday morning in the month – 10am – midday.

## **Asperger's Syndrome Adult Support Groups:**

Hobart: meet on the last Sunday in the month at the Autism Tasmania office, 1 Bowen Rd, Moonah – 2.00 – 4.00pm.

Launceston: meet on the first Saturday in the month at the ARAFMI office, Howick St, 1.30 – 3.30pm.

# Events Calendar

APRIL

## FABIC - Behavioural Assessment workshop

**Date:** Thursday, 28 April 2011 **Time:** 8:30am - 4:30pm **Venue:** Swanston Grand Mecure Melbourne Vic  
**Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** Full \$220 **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** Yes **Booking Info:** 07 5530 5099, info@fabric.com.au, www.fabric.com.au

## FABIC - Positive Behavioural Interventions

**Date:** Friday, 29 April 2011 **Time:** 8:30am - 4:30pm **Venue:** Swanston Grand Mecure Melbourne Vic  
**Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** Full \$220 **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** Yes **Booking Info:** 07 5530 5099, info@fabric.com.au, www.fabric.com.au

## Sue Larkey Workshop [Teaching Strategies & Behaviour Support]

**Date:** Monday 2 May 2011 **Time:** 9:30 - 3:00 **Venue:** Tasmanian Racing Club, Tattersalls Park Elwick Function Centre Hobart TAS **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** \$125 Special rates for parents of children with ASD  
**Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** No **Booking Info:** Phone: 0433 660 379 dearne@suelarkey.com

MAY

## Sue Larkey Workshop [Teaching Strategies & Behaviour Support]

**Date:** Tuesday 3rd May 2011 **Time:** 9:30 - 3:00 **Venue:** Archers Manor, 17 Alanvale Road, Newnham Launceston TAS **Targeted to:** All **Cost:** \$125 Special rates for parents of children with ASD **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** No **Booking Info:** Phone: 0433 660 379 dearne@suelarkey.com



## The Hidden Curriculum & Behaviour Interventions for Individuals - Brenda Smith Myles

**Date:** Thursday 5th May 2011 **Time:** 9:00am - 4:30pm **Venue:** Tailrace Convention Centre Launceston TAS  
**Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** \$145pp or \$125 pp for Autism Tas members **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** No  
**Booking Info:** Phone: 03 6107 9999 or email allison@autismtas.org.au

JUNE

## FABIC - Functional Behavioural Assessment for People Using Unwanted Behaviours workshop

**Date:** Monday, 6 June 2011 **Time:** TBC **Venue:** Lenna of Hobart [Battery Point] Hobart TAS **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** Early bird - Book & Pay before 6-5-11 single \$198.00, booking 2 or more \$175.00. FACHSIA funding available \$242.00 **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** Yes **Booking Info:** 07 5530 5099,

## FABIC - Positive Behavioural Interventions for People Using Unwanted Behaviours

**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2011 **Time:** TBC **Venue:** Lenna of Hobart [Battery Point] Hobart TAS **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** \$220.00 **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** Yes **Booking Info:** 07 5530 5099, info@fabric.com.au, www.fabric.com.au

## FABIC - Creating a Positive Experience for person with ASD

**Date:** Wednesday, 8 June 2011 **Time:** TBC **Venue:** Lenna of Hobart [Battery Point] Hobart TAS **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** \$220.00 **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** Yes **Booking Info:** 07 5530 5099, info@fabric.com.au, www.fabric.com.au

JULY

## FABIC - Creating a Positive Experience for person with ASD

**Date:** Monday, 18 July 2011 **Time:** TBC **Venue:** Swanston Grand Mecure Melbourne Vic **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** TBC **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** Yes **Booking Info:** 07 5530 5099, info@fabric.com.au, www.fabric.com.au

## Picture Exchange Communication Scheme (PECS) Basic Training - Pyramid Educational Consultants

**Date:** Thursday 21st & Friday 22 July 2011 **Time:** 8:30am - 4:15pm both days **Venue:** Mercure Hotel, Bathurst Street, Hobart Hobart TAS **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** \$660 Professionals \$363 Parents **Can**

SEP

## Asia Pacific Autism Conference

**Date:** 8-10 September 2011 **Time:** 11:00 am to 7:00 pm **Venue:** Burswood Entertainment Complex Perth WA **Targeted to:** ALL **Cost:** Varies **Can FaCHSIA funding be used:** No **Booking Info:** T: +618 9389 1488 info@eecw.com.au

Autism Tasmania is on Facebook, we include many events either directly or indirectly related to Autism on Facebook. "Like us" to be updated regularly.

*\*FaCHSIA funding is available to eligible families with children on the Autism Spectrum between the ages of 0-6 years. To discuss your child's eligibility please call your Autism Advisor on 03 6278 9985.*

*\*Listing in the events calendar is a free service, we take no responsibility for inaccuracies or omissions. Inclusion does not imply endorsement of companies or events. Please contact the events host for more information. For your event to be included please email sara@autismtas.org.au.*



## Participant Name[s]

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation [if applicable]: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone no. or email to confirm registration: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people requiring special dietary requirements:

Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten-free \_\_\_\_\_ Casein-free \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

A Certificate of Attendance will be available on completion of the workshop.

## Terms & Conditions [which you accept by registering]

1. When payment has been received, processed & receipted, workshop participation is confirmed.
2. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the starting time to confirm your attendance on the day.
3. If the workshop is cancelled by Autism Tasmania Inc, we will contact you and give a full refund.
4. If you cancel your attendance in writing up to 14 days prior to the workshop you will receive a full refund. If you cancel in writing within 14 days of the workshop you will receive a 50% refund. "No shows" will not receive a refund. We will accept substitute attendees up to Monday, 2 May 2011.
5. Information provided by registrants will be treated in accordance with applicable privacy legislation.

## Payment [which must be made with your registration]

This document becomes a Tax Invoice for GST when you make a payment. Please keep a copy.

Registration fee includes GST, lunch and morning/afternoon tea.

Autism Tasmania members	Group of 5 or more	Regular Individual	Total Payable
people @ \$125ea.	people @ \$125ea.	people @ \$145ea.	\$

### Please indicate method of payment:

Paid directly to Bendigo Bank [Please include your name when making the EFT or direct deposit]  
BSB: 633-000, Account Number: 136780525, Account Name: Autism Tasmania Inc.

Cheque or money order enclosed to Autism Tasmania Inc [please don't send cash in the mail]

Visa or Mastercard credit card

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Post to: Registrations, Autism Tasmania Inc, PO Box 358, Newstead, TAS, 7250**

**Email: [allison@autismtas.org.au](mailto:allison@autismtas.org.au) Enquiries: 6107 9999 or [allison@autismtas.org.au](mailto:allison@autismtas.org.au)**

## The Hidden Curriculum and Behaviour Interventions for Individuals with High Functioning Autism/Aspergers Syndrome



**Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> 2011**  
**Tailrace Convention Centre Riverside**

9am – 4.30pm



**Brenda Smith Myles Ph.D.**, a consultant with the Ziggurat Group, is the recipient of the 2004 Autism Society of America's Outstanding Professional Award and the 2006 Princeton Fellowship Award. She has written numerous articles and books on Asperger Syndrome and autism including *Asperger Syndrome and Difficult Moments: Practical Solutions for Tantrums, Rage, and Meltdowns* (with Southwick) and *Asperger Syndrome and Adolescence: Practical Solutions for School Success* (with Adreon). The latter is the winner of the Autism Society of America's Outstanding Literary Work. Brenda has made over 500 presentations all over the world, written more than 150 articles and books on autism and Asperger Syndrome, and served as the co-chair of the National ASD Teacher Standards Committee. In addition, she was recently acknowledged as the second most productive applied researcher in ASD in the world from 1997 to 2004.

### The workshop will explore

*The Hidden Curriculum: Understanding How Unwritten Information Can Impact the Individual with ASD?*

One important social skills area that has long been neglected is the hidden curriculum—the do's and don'ts are not spelled out for everyday behaviour, but somehow everyone knows about (Bieber, 1994), except children and youth with AS. The hidden curriculum includes skills, actions, modes or dress, and so on, that most people know and take for granted. Every school and every society has a hidden curriculum. This unspoken curriculum is the one that causes challenges and, indeed, grief for those with autism spectrum disorders. This session will overview the hidden curriculum, its importance to individuals with ASD, and provide examples for home, school and community; and

*Behavior Interventions for Individuals With High Functioning Autism/Asperger Syndrome*  
Addressing the behaviour problems of students with ASDs is one of the greatest challenges schools face. We will explore the application of the Ziggurat Model to address rages, meltdowns, and difficult behaviours. Learn to recognise precursors of meltdowns and address behaviours using the levels of the Ziggurat Model.

### Cost (all prices are inclusive of GST)

**\$145**

per person

**\$125**

per person for group bookings  
of more than 5 people

**\$125**

per person  
for Autism Tasmania Members

Prior registration is essential. There will be no registration or payments accepted on the day. Once your registration has been processed you will receive confirmation of registration/receipt of payment. Confirmation of registration and entry on the day of the workshop is simply by name. No ticket is required.

Limited seats available

For more information please contact

Phone: 6107 9999

Email: [allison@autismtas.org.au](mailto:allison@autismtas.org.au)

