

Spectrum News

The Quarterly Magazine of Autism Tasmania Inc.

Autumn 2015





1300 288 476
 www.autismtas.org.au
 autism@autismtas.org.au

HOBART

1 Bowen Road Moonah, TAS
 PO Box 514, Moonah, TAS, 7009

LAUNCESTON

59D Amy Road, Launceston
 PO Box 358, Newstead, TAS, 7250

Autism Tasmania Inc.

Terry Burke
 CEO

Philippa Geard **Allison Lapham**
 Accountant Administration
Kate Wilson **Sara Lindsay**
 Consultant Communications

Southern Information Team

Amy Jansen
 Jodie Denman
 Robyn Davis

Northern/North West Information Team

Deborah Smith
 Maree Morgan
 Rose Clark

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor nor any member of Autism Tasmania Inc. The mention of specific companies and trademarks does not imply that they are endorsed by Autism Tasmania Inc.

The information provided herein is for informational purposes only. All medical information presented should be discussed with your healthcare professional. Remember, the failure to seek timely medical advice can have serious ramifications. We strongly urge you to discuss any current health related problems you are experiencing with a healthcare professional immediately.

This publication does not constitute or provide scientific or medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment and is distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. In no event shall Autism Tasmania Inc. be liable for any damages arising from the reader's reliance upon, or use of, these materials.

The reader shall be solely responsible for any interpretation or use of the material contained herein.

The Editor reserves the right to make such corrections as are appropriate and in accord with established editorial practice, in material submitted for publication. Articles from Spectrum News can be reproduced with permission and acknowledgement of the source.

Contents

From the CEO Desk	3
Sinbad the Sailor	4
Autism and Sensory Friendly Events	5
Autism MOOC	6
Glossary of Autism Acronyms	7
NDIS Quality & Safeguarding Framework Consultation	8
Family Fun Days	8
Diary of an Assistance Dog	10
HCWA Program	11
Creative Arts Activities	12
React Drama Class	
Unique	
Insight from the Spectrum	13
Thank you to our Supporters	14
Tips and Tricks	16
Early Days	17
Apps in Focus - Recommended by Members	18
New fundraising App	19
Diary of an Assistance Dog (cont.)	20
Empowering Parents Workshop	22
Book Review	24
Autism Tasmania Library	25
Social/Support Groups and Information Sessions	26
Application for Membership	27

Cover image:

Autism friendly performance of Sinbad the Sailor by Big Monkey, with thanks to Cassie Xintavelonis

Welcome to the autumn edition of Spectrum News. The first few months of 2015 have flown by and last week saw another successful World Autism Awareness Day. Autism Tasmania was proud to be a supporting partner of the Spectroscopic initiative of Amaze (Autism Victoria) which was shown for the first time in Tasmania as part of Lighting it Up Blue celebrations at Parliament House Hobart. Due to the inclement weather the facilities at nearby Salamanca Inn were used for all activities pre the Lighting It Up Blue ceremony.

Please see details later in this edition of how you can view the Spectroscopic - Stories of Autism film.

Congratulations to Ashton Hill for being named Autism Awareness Ambassador for 2015 and in providing his insight on autism prior to flicking the switch on Parliament House.

In addition, in collaboration with the University of Tasmania, the Makers Workshop in Burnie was also lit up blue last Thursday with some added promotion of the actual day and Autism Tasmania. A full report of the events and images will be a colourful addition to our winter edition of Spectrum News.

For the first time we are releasing Spectrum News in a more functional and user friendly electronic format. To encourage our members to transfer to receiving Spectrum News electronically and reduce our production costs we are conducting a competition where all members who currently receive Spectrum News electronically or provide instructions to transfer to electronic copies in the future will enter a draw for a family East Coast Escape. Our thanks go to

Sandpiper Ocean Cottages Bicheno in providing this wonderful holiday donation.

Autism Tasmania has recently finalised its Strategic Plan 2015-2018 which can be viewed on our website. A key component of this will be to further engage with our growing membership which has passed the 700 mark to better represent your views on issues that affect your lives. Details of regional forums will be provided in the coming months for this purpose. We look forward to catching up with you at the Family Fun Days.

Terry Burke
CEO

Win Win Win

A family holiday



Sandpiper Ocean Cottages - Escape to Bicheno

All members who currently receive their Spectrum News via email will be automatically placed in a draw for a family holiday on the beautiful East Coast of Tasmania.

For those members who currently receive a printed version of Spectrum News they can also enter this draw by giving instructions to change to the new electronic format by emailing their name and email to autism@autismtas.org.au

Entries close on the 31 May 2015



Autism Tasmania Board Members:

President

Mick Clark

Secretary

Anita Brunacci

Treasurer

Mike Derbyshire

Senior Vice President

Dijon Barrett

Vice President

Kieron Cornwell

Board Members

Kathryn Fordyce

Abbey Guilbert

Rosalie Martin

Dr Lyndsay Quarmby



Autism Friendly Performance of Sinbad the Sailor

Big Monkey have been performing shows for children at the Botanical Gardens for 20 years but their performance of *Sinbad the Sailor* on Saturday the 10th of January was a first both for the theatre company and theatre in Hobart. With the help of a team of over 25 volunteers, the production of Sinbad became "Autism Friendly" meaning that children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families were encouraged to attend a theatre performance where they could feel welcome and supported.

While no modifications were needed to be made to the performance, a "Chill Out Zone" was set up for individuals to use throughout the show if needed, the use of electronic devices were permitted, and volunteers were on hand to ensure children remained safe during the performance. The cast and crew were briefed before the show, learning about Autism Spectrum Disorders and possible challenges individuals might have during the performance. It was decided that an additional introduction be given at the start of the show to enable children to familiarise themselves with the actors and the roles they were playing.

The performance was well attended, the weather was perfect (not too hot, not too windy) and the actors were in fine form! It was wonderful to see so many happy, engaged faces with both children and adults enjoying the show. Thanks must go to the many volunteers who gave up their Saturday afternoon to help out and be a friendly face for families who hadn't attended a show at the Botanical Gardens before. It was especially fantastic to see so many young people helping out. Thanks must also go to Autism Tasmania for setting up the Chill Out Zone during the performance.

Cassie Xintavelonis



Photo Credit: Justan Wagner

Autism and Sensory Friendly Events

What is meant by an "Autism Friendly" or "Sensory Friendly" event?

They are events supportive of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and/or sensory difficulties and are becoming increasingly popular at venues around the world. There are autism and sensory friendly movies (Village Cinemas Eastlands for instance), theatre shows, museum exhibits, and sports events. There are autism and sensory friendly classes, workshops, and even holiday packages.

While there are no official definitions available, the terms may mean one or more of the following (depending on the context):

- Offered in a simplified format with clear preparation of what to expect;
- Offered with reduced waiting times and a greater ease of access both in and out of the venue as well as to facilities;
- Offered in a smaller group format with a designated rest area or "chill-out zone";
- Offered with more visual supports such as signage and picture scripts;
- Offered only to individuals with autism and their families and/or carers;
- Offered in a quieter manner (lower sound, at a less busy time of day) and with fewer visual distractions (reducing lights, no flickering or flashing backgrounds etc);
- Offered with relaxed expectations about an individual with own movement, behaviours and communication;
- Offered with relaxed rules as to the use of supportive technologies and sensory aids;
- Offered with greater choice in food options to accommodate an individual with a restricted diet – allowing families to provide their own food and drinks.
- Offered in collaboration with professionals who lead, advise and train staff.

Autism and Sensory Friendly events and programs may be charitable events that are supported by grants, sponsors or other funding making them less expensive than typical events of the same type. Some autism and Sensory Friendly events are ongoing, while others are one-of-a-kind.

Why would you and your family want to attend an Autism or Sensory Friendly event?

Here are just a few of the reasons families give:

- The individual is challenged by the noise/chaos/expectations of a typical event, but would actually enjoy attending the event if it were quieter/more structured/more accepting;
- Families, carers or siblings want to take part in a particular type of activity or event, but are prevented from doing so because the individual would find the experience too demanding;
- It provides a setting in which others will not judge a child or individual with autism or sensory difficulties and in which families, carers or siblings share a common experience;
- It provides a small supported step toward greater community inclusion;
- It is less expensive than a typical event (especially important when families or individuals may already be financially burdened by the cost involved in accessing therapies and supports);

It may cater for a particular special interest of the individual and hence offer them the opportunity to be validated or meet others who share that interest.

Amy Jansen

The NEW Entertainment™
Memberships are coming soon!



To pre- order your copy please visit

<https://>

www.entertainmentbook.com.au/

Autism MOOC,

Email:

autism@swin.edu.au

Twitter:

[@SwinMOOC](https://twitter.com/@SwinMOOC)

▶ Register now

SWIN
BUR
* NE *

SWINBURNE
UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY

On April 2nd 2015 Education will launch an Autism MOOC (Massive Open Online Course). The MOOC takes a very practical approach to Autism. It approaches Autism through the lens of inclusivity, fostering understanding and equipping participants with the skills and knowledge to solve practical issues in the lives of individuals with Autism for better social, emotional and educational outcomes.

The academic leads on the Autism MOOC are Associate Professor Michael Grimley and Lecturer in Education, Ms. Emma L. Donaldson. Both bring expertise in the autism field, education and program design.

Experts have been sourced from Australia and across the globe to contribute areas of practice and experience in autism. Some of the expert contributions are from individuals on the autism spectrum.

There is evidence that suggests the Autism community is in dire need of practical advice and support and that much of the academic research has been focused on theoretical aspects of the disorder rather than advice and support.

The MOOC is aimed at family members and practitioners involved in the day-to-day issues involved in managing the environment surrounding an individual with Autism. It takes a problem/case/scenario based learning approach emphasising that there is not one correct way to approach different situations. This is very different to many MOOCs that are academically based. The MOOC uses an eclectic approach to understanding and supporting individuals with an autism spectrum disorder, rather than focus on one intervention or solution. Participants work collaboratively and critically to assess the information provided.

Participants will be guided through content specific to the weekly topic and engage in activities that build on knowledge and understanding of autism spectrum

disorders. Many carers are very knowledgeable about the theories and research associated with Autism but it is rare to find practical advice and support, whilst developing the capacity to critically assess information on autism.

We also hope to foster connectedness amongst participants by sharing experiences. Participants will be expected to engage in the content by viewing videos, listening to podcasts, assessing scenarios and sharing contributions based on experiences. By engaging in authentic scenarios, participants will gain skills to analyse different situations. Our overarching aim is to equip participants with the skills to improve the lives of individuals with Autism and their families. The Autism MOOC will be held completely online and will require approximately 2 hours time per week. Materials can be accessed at whatever time suits. The MOOC will require participants to watch two short videos per week (approximately 5 minutes each) and ask you to respond to particular scenarios which you will share with other participants. Content will be released on a weekly basis and there are no assessments.

We will have an introductory "Week 0" commencing on the 2nd April, which will cover netiquette, e-safety, ethics and online navigation, and then will commence the content of the MOOC on the 13th April for a 6 week duration.

Our hope is that we are able to build a community of support from this MOOC and that there will be more iterations of the course. In 6 weeks we can only scratch the surface but if successful we hope to build on its successes and continue to 'give back' as experts in education.

Glossary of Autism Acronyms

Negotiating the maze of terminology used in reference to Autism services, therapies and supports can be overwhelming. The following is a list of common acronyms (a word formed by combining the beginning letters of a name or phrase) that you may come across.

AAC - Augmentative and Alternative Communication

ACD - Association for Children with Disability

AS – Asperger’s Syndrome

ABA - Applied Behavioural Analysis

ABC – Antecedents, Behaviour, Consequence

ATSS - Adult Training Support Service

ASD - Autism Spectrum Disorder

CAPS – Central Auditory Processing Disorder or Contingency Aids Payment Scheme

CARS – Childhood Autism Rating Scale

CBS – Community Based Support

CBT – Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

CES – Community Equipment Scheme

CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

CHAT – Child Health Association of Tasmania

CRN – Commonwealth Reference Number

CTST - Community Transport Scheme Tasmania

DHHS - Department of Health & Human Services

DoE - Department of Education

DSM - The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

DSS - Department of Social Services

DTT – Discrete Trial Training

DX - Diagnosis

ECIS – Early Childhood Intervention Services

EI – Early Intervention

FCT – Functional Communication Training

FXS – Fragile X Syndrome

HCWA – Helping Children With Autism Program

HICAPS - Health Industry Claims and Payments Service

HACC – Home and Community Care Program

IEP – Individual Education Plan

IFSS – Integrated Family Support Service

ISP – Individual Support Package

IQ – Intelligence Quotient

KWS – Key Word Sign

LAC – Local Area Coordination/Coordinator

MOOC – Massive Open Online Course

NDIA – National Disability Insurance Agency

NDIS – National Disability Insurance Scheme

NT - Neurotypical

OT – Occupational Therapist

PBS – Positive Behavioural Support

PECS – Picture Exchange Communication System

PRT - Pivotal Response Training

RDI – Relationship Development Intervention

SCERTS - Social Communication, Emotional Regulation and Transactional Support

SDR – Register of Students With a Severe Disability

SGD – Speech Generating Devices

SI - Sensory Integration

SPD – Sensory Processing Disorder

TADS – Tasmanian Autism Diagnostic Service, formerly known as T ASDAS

TEACHH - Treatment and Education of Autistic and related Communications-handicapped Children

TOM – Theory of Mind

Have your say on NDIS quality and safeguards

Are you interested in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)?

The Australian and state and territory governments are working together to develop a new national quality and safeguarding framework for the NDIS. It's about making sure people with disability are provided with quality support, choice and control to pursue their goals and aspirations.

What do you think are the best ways to ensure that people have access to high quality supports?

Take a look at the consultation paper to see what issues are being considered. Think about how the different quality and safeguarding options affect you or those you care for. Perhaps you have some new ideas for maintaining quality and safety.

Have your say on any of the key topic areas:

- building capacity

- monitoring and oversight
- National Disability Insurance Agency provider registration
- systems for handling complaints
- ensuring staff are safe to work with participants
- safeguards for participants who manage their own plans
- reducing and eliminating restrictive practices in NDIS funded supports.

How to get involved

You can get involved by making a submission, joining the discussion in the online forum, completing a questionnaire or attending a public meeting.

Visit engage.dss.gov.au to download the consultation paper and fact sheets and have your say today.

Consultation period

16 February 2015 - 9:00 am

To 30 April 2015 - 5:00 pm



go blue for autism in April

April is Autism Awareness Month

Autism Family Fun Day

Sunday 19th April
2pm—4pm
The Burnie Waterfront,
near the playground.



Come wearing blue and bring a plate of blue food or your own BBQ. Sausages provided.

There will be activities for the children, a jumping castle, bubbles, face painting and lots of friendly faces

Autism Awareness

Family Fun Days

These events are to raise community awareness of autism

Hobart

Date: 12th April from 11am - 2pm
Derwent Entertainment Centre
All activities are free

Launceston

Date: 18th April from 2pm - 4pm
St Catherine's Hall—Penquite Road,
Norwood



**Food and drink
will be available for purchase on the day.
Entry by gold coin donation.
Come along and join the fun.**



Assistance dogs for children on the autism spectrum are currently offered through a small selection of specialist organisations in Australia. The dogs are trained for a number of supporting behaviours to help a child with autism manage daily routines and regulate. They are also trained in life-saving tracking techniques similar to search and rescue or police dogs. Families are involved in the training to ensure the dog best meets the child's and family's needs. After applying for an assistance dog and undergoing a wait period, the King family from the beautiful North West Coast of Tasmania travelled to the mainland to meet and learn how to handle an assistance dog for their daughter Indiana. Indi's mum Tammy is happy to share her diary of the process with Spectrum News readers.

Diary of an Assistance Dog

DAY 1

Today has been nothing short of fantastic! We spent the morning doing paperwork, getting to know the other family who are here and doing some fun activities around communication. We got back after lunch and there were two dogs there waiting patiently....we now have a beautiful female dog named Jill who is now part of our family! She is nearly 3 years old and just adorable! Indi fell in love with her straight away. It was beautiful to watch! Indi kept telling everyone that Jill was happy to have

a new owner and that she was her new "hot water bottle and snuggle bunny". When Indi and Jill have bonded a bit more, she will come and stay with us at the house we are renting. Bring on tomorrow's session!

DAY 2

Today was a bit more intense and we still have so much to learn. The morning session was all about social groups and where we fit into that. Then we had fun learning some commands with our dog, Jill. She was fantastic and even started to look for Indi when she was squealing. As it's been raining pretty much all day today, there are a lot of puddles around and what's Indi's favourite thing to do....jump up and down in muddy puddles - just like Peppa Pig! She got soaked and was not impressed that we told her to stop! We are given a lot of information to take in but they deliver it in an engaging way so we can retain it (hopefully!) Indi is bonding beautifully with Jill and it's lovely to watch that happen.

DAY 3

Did some work today walking Jill off the lead and she handled it beautifully. We talked today about our rights and responsibilities, about where we can and can't take the dog and about knowing how to read other dogs. Tomorrow, we take the dogs out in public.....

I'm a bit nervous about that based on Indi's poor behaviour today. Indi's older brother, Jacob, is working really well with a stubborn dog named Ingo and doing so well they think he should be a dog trainer! He has a natural ability and Ingo is showing a lot of respect for him.

DAY 4

Today, the weather has been hot hot hot! We worked on getting Jill to walk next to Indi's cane and wheelchair. We went to a park and walked her around while using all the new commands we've learnt. Then we went to a cafe and into a chemist and that was definitely a challenge. Jill came into the car and sat next to Indi and she just hugged her the whole time. Jill is having her first sleep over with us tonight so we are a bit excited! I'm pleased the weather is going to be cooler tomorrow!

DAY 6

Today felt like an emotional roller coaster. We did tracking in the park which was good and Jill found Indi both times we did it. I told Indi we were playing

About the Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) Program

We recognise that the autism journey is often challenging, but at the same time very rewarding and at Autism Tasmania we all share a passion for working with children on the autism spectrum and their families.

Following diagnosis, or during the diagnostic process, families and carers may contact a HCWA Advisor at Autism Tasmania. Access to the program is free.

The Program is a state-wide service which assists families by providing a link between the diagnostic phase and access to early intervention programs and associated support services.

HCWA Program assists families and carers of children aged 0-6 years, who are diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder to:

- Understand about Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Access the Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) funding package**
- Provide practical advice about caring for a child with an autism spectrum condition
- Provide information about local services including:-
 - Parent support groups
 - Parent and carer workshops
 - Playgroups
- Access further resources and other support options

**The Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) package is an Australian Government initiative that provides additional support for children with a diagnosed Autism Spectrum Disorder, their families and carers. The HCWA Programme is one component of this package and is delivered by Autism Tasmania Inc within Tasmania, to both urban and rural areas.

HCWA Advisors are not case managers, but are available to talk to and wherever possible will endeavour to assist families/carers to help support and address their child's specific needs.

Please feel free to call our HCWA Team:

Hobart

Jodie Denman
& Amy Jansen
(03) 6278 9985
1300 288 476
E-Mail: autism@autismtas.org.au

Launceston

Deborah Smith
& Maree Morgan
(03) 6344 1212
1300 288 476



Isobel Lewis Speech Pathologist

Isobel is the manager of Isobel Lewis Speech Pathology. Isobel has

recently registered to be a service provider for the Helping Children with Autism and Better Start Initiatives through the DSS. Isobel enjoys working with children and has had experience working both in the UK and Australia. This work has included time at Early Childhood Intervention Service, working with school age children, and working with high school students.

Isobel aims to help and support parents in developing skills that will enable them to further enhance their child's communication skills. An integrated approach is strongly emphasised with input from other professionals, such as occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, and paediatricians. Services are provided in a relaxed, fun, play based environment and can occur in the clinic setting, school / preschool environment, or in the family home.

Isobel Lewis is currently a service provider for the Southern Region of Tasmania.

React Drama Autism Friendly class

One of the core features of Autism Spectrum Disorders is a deficit in non-verbal communication including difficulties with intonation, posture, gesture and facial expression. In an interesting parallel, in traditional drama classes, students focus on several key performance elements: voice (intonation, projection and diction), use of body on stage (posture and gesture), characterisation (facial expression and overall presentation) and active listening and reacting. Therefore, a drama school is a logical community setting to provide individuals with ASD with social skills training.

A pilot program was developed with students aged between 9 and 15 who attended weekly classes for a 5-week term. The class was facilitated by a Psychologist with experience in both social skills groups and drama teaching. Typically developing peer tutors were also present during sessions to model appropriate behaviour and demonstrate required skills. Each week a specific skill was targeted with the primary focus being non-verbal communicative skills. Drama games and activities were carefully selected to reinforce the concepts being taught during the class with students learning a skill explicitly before being able to generalize what they had learnt in more naturalistic activities.

Students developed basic theatre skills which in turn enabled them to learn about the importance of non-verbal behaviour such as facial expression and gesture and have an opportunity to develop social skills through role play, group discussion and interaction with peers. As an added benefit, the classes helped develop self-confidence and also prompted some of the students to continue with regular drama classes as a hobby, developing a new interest and an additional social opportunity.

Enrolments are now being taken for Term II.

Term II at React starts the 2nd week of school term Tuesday 28th April and runs for 10 weeks.

For further information, please contact Cassie Xintavelonis on 0409 557 958

www.reactdramaschool.com.au

To register, please contact React on 0417 827 805 or reactdramaschool@netspace.net.au

ROMPERS - UNIQUE MAKING MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME



My name is Jo Bigg, I have been teaching dance for 19 years and I have a passion for sharing dance with **every** child.

Some time ago I taught a little girl called Holly, she has Autism. Holly's mum and I wanted her to be like every other girl and wear a tutu and have the opportunity to perform on the stage. She planted a seed in my heart to make a class that was as unique as Holly is. Finally I feel I now have the knowledge to offer a class that reflects the "Unique" qualities that children like Holly have. They can teach me more than I will ever know, that is the uniqueness of us all.

My dance school is a non-competitive, stress-free, family-oriented and individual-focused learning dance environment. Our dancers will explore the art of dance whilst developing essential cognitive and gross motor skills, confidence and personality with nurturing and professional level dance teachers. All classes are open to viewing which allows the parents to be a part of their child's dance memories.

I currently have children with autism, cerebral palsy, and chromosomal related differences attending my dance school and cater equally for both boys and girls.

Our philosophy is that dance must be FUN! However our program has been designed to always nurture and educate not just for dance but also for life. We help to develop rhythm, coordination, musicality and creativity, as well as the ability to follow directions, interact with peers, take turns and gain self-confidence.

Our classes are held at Lindisfarne and Sandy Bay and are either 45 mins or an hour (\$14 or \$18). Your first class is free to see if it is what you are looking for.

Contact Jo via email romperj@bigpond.com, www.rompersandstomp.com, Facebook Rompers Hobart or my mobile 0418 545 156.

This new page has been created for teenagers to share their stories, achievements and creative efforts.



Starting High School- My thoughts

by Holly

I loved my years at Primary School and never wanted to leave. I remember how I cried and cried on the last day of Primary School and how I felt like I wasn't ready to leave - I just wanted to stay there forever with all my favourite teachers and people that knew me. I didn't want things to change and I wasn't sure that I wanted to grow up at all.

I was looking forward to High School, but I was very nervous and scared as they didn't know all about me, but I soon got used to it. I am very settled now.

I had some lovely peer support people who helped me find my way around when I started there and they helped me to know what to do and when. The school actually seemed a bit smaller than what I remember from when I visited last year, but maybe it just seems that way as before I couldn't find my way around very well and now I know where things are and it is more familiar.

I really like art because we get to do lots of new things. We are making puppets at the moment and I can't wait to finish mine, it is of Simba from Lion King except it won't be finished now until after Easter.

I like High School because we get different teachers all the time and I do lots of new things. I went on School Camp and I slept OK even though I really missed my mum. There were lots of fun activities to do, including kayaking and I was really proud that I went even though I was very nervous about it.

Primary School was awesome, but I am discovering that High School is really great as well.

Hobart Full Moon Hash

Red Dress Run (Extract from Report)

Saturday February 7, 2015
Hobart City and Surrounds

It was 35 degrees and 60 or so frocked up ladies??? gathered at the Brunswick Hotel, some had come from far and wide, there were feathers and dangly bits as well as blonde locks and red. Smooth as a cucumber and happy as can be, lots of slippery bits and stuffed as well. Collection tins were a fashion accessory, with pretty mauve flowers to represent 'Autism Tasmania', the recipient of bribery conducted around the streets and docks of Hobart. There couldn't have been any discerning news around that day as the television crews filmed some footage which made it to the evening news along with the Wooden Boats!



Armed with police permits and mud maps the red dressed hashers and some Autism Tasmania representatives trundled through the main thoroughfares of the City, the Mall, Salamanca and the Wharf alongside. There was welcome relief under the trees at St David's Park as the temperature soared to boiling kettle status. The sometimes bewildered people were more than happy to part with coins or folding stuff for a glimpse of flesh or hairy chests popping out of bra extenders. And then it was up the hill to Domain House where the eskies were and Eve's ginger beer that didn't touch the sides before we headed back to the Brunswick Hotel where the Autism Tasmania representatives had cooked up a very welcome BBQ lunch.

A great day full of fun and more importantly we raised \$3191.75 for Autism Tasmania.

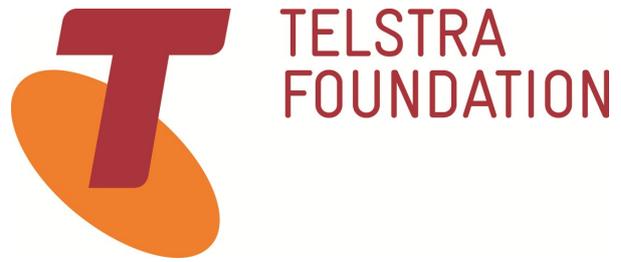




Frances Schroeter, Vice President and Southern Co-ordinator of Tasmanian Brick Enthusiasts Inc presenting \$1,000 cheque to Terry Burke, CEO



Brad Saunders of Advanced Personnel Management presenting a cheque for \$218.25 to Terry Burke, CEO



Great news! Telstra Kids grant

We are delighted to announce our success in applying for a \$1,200 grant from Telstra. Telstra Kids funds the little things that can make a big difference to kids' lives, helping kids to play and learn. Our Telstra Kids grant will be used for the Autism Family Fun Days.

Huge thanks to Gabby Wilson from Telstra, who is a member of Autism Tasmania, for applying for the funding for us. We are very excited to share in the million dollars the Telstra Foundation provides each year to help kids across Australia to connect to their local communities.

Special Thanks

We would also like to acknowledge Julian & Kate Edwards for their continuing support with raising autism awareness and fundraising through schools and the local community in the southern region.



For World Autism Awareness Day 2015, Amaze (Autism Victoria) imagined a project that would allow their community to be seen and heard.

Amaze invited those living on the spectrum, and their families and their supporters, to share their very individual stories of autism via the creation of their own short film.

Participants were asked to share the good. The challenging. And a wish.

The films were submitted, and a short film, (17mins 40 secs in duration), was created to help convey the incredible diversity of life on the spectrum.

To view the film visit www.spectrospective.com.au/ Autism Tasmania was proud to be a supporting partner of this project.



TIPS FOR CUTTING HAIR AND NAILS



It is not unusual for children with autism to be afraid of cutting hair and nails.

Because understanding the multiple meanings of words is hard for a child on the spectrum, they are likely to associate the word cutting and the scissors as things that are related to danger and pain. Equipment such as noisy hair clippers and restricting capes further complicate the haircutting issues.

- Use data collection and observation to try to understand why your child is stressed by these activities.
- Good clear visual supports that include information about how long this job will take, that this type of cutting does not hurt, and what to do if the hair is itchy on your skin etc are extremely helpful. These stories should be read over and over away from hair cutting time, and the key points should be used in a simpler form during the task to remind the child what to do.
- A sequence strip that shows the steps in the haircutting task can help the child feel more organized on the day. They could hold that strip while the hair was being cut to assist with transfer of information about the scissors etc being safe, and the reward that will occur after the hair or nail cutting
- Some children benefit from holding a picture of what their reward will be while this task is going on, and they then exchange it directly and immediately when the job is finished – immediacy of reward is a key factor to success in very stressful tasks.
- Preparation is key – do not spring a haircut or the nail clippers on your child or they will become more afraid and more anxious about the job. Use a social story and/or visual over and over to help your child understand about hair and nail cutting, and mark the day these things will occur on a calendar. Talk about these things with your child in a positive way and let them see you having a haircut and having your nails cut.
- Small steps and build up - e.g. Visit to hairdresser and sit in chair only, then leave. Short sensory experiences in play, to get used to the noise and the feel of the scissors and the hair clippers, are recommended. Taking photos of each of these steps and building up the sequence also helps for your child's own hairdresser story is recommended. Developing a similar story about nail cutting can be helpful.
- Counting – counting can help a child to know how long the hair or nail cutting will last and this reduces the child's stress level.
- Motivators and specific praise – how will you let your child know that they will be rewarded for being 'good' during hair and nail cutting? The reward must be relevant and motivating for the child.
- Sensory considerations – some children are very sensitive around the head and the ears. Increasing touching of the hair and the nails in play prior to these events can be a useful desensitisation. Sitting in front of the mirror can help with haircuts so that the visual child can see what is happening.
- Watching video of others having a haircut and having their nails cut is often helpful.
- Wrapping tightly and forcing will create a negative memory that will be difficult to change. It is better to take small steps and build up slowly.



EARLY DAYS PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS

Autism Tasmania are proudly supporting families by providing workshops for mothers, fathers and other family carers of children who have a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder or who are going through the assessment and diagnostic process.

Early Days is a national program funded by the Federal Government under the Helping Children with Autism Package and is run by local facilitators.

NORTHERN WORKSHOPS

Introduction to Autism

Thursday 14 May 2015
9:30am— 2:00pm

Tips for Every Day Skills

Tuesday 2 June 2015
9:30am — 12:00pm

Play & Social Learning

Tuesday 23 June 2015
9:30 am — 12:00pm

VENUE:

Northern Children's Network
59D Amy Road, Newstead

Facilitator: Robyn Thomas

E: robynt@autismtas.org.au

P: 6344 1212 or 0458 375 604

NORTH—WEST WORKSHOPS

Introduction to Autism

Friday 1 May 2015
9:30am—12:30pm

Understanding Behaviour

Thursday 28 May 2015
9:30am— 2:30pm

VENUE:

Devonport Community Health Centre
Cnr Steele and McFie Streets Devonport

Facilitator: Rose Clark

E: rose@autismtas.org.au

P: 0407 320 048

SOUTHERN WORKSHOPS

Introduction to Autism

Thursday 30th April 2015
10:00am — 2:30pm

Understanding Behaviour

Thursday 7 May 2015
9:30am — 2:30pm

Play and Social Learning

Thursday 28 May 2015
10:00am—12:30 pm

Helping My Child Cope with Change

Thursday 4 June 2015
10:00am—12:30pm

Progression to School

Thursday 25 June 2015
10:00am—2:30pm

VENUE:

Autism Tasmania Offices
1 Bowen Road, Moonah

Facilitator: Jodie Denman

E: autism@autismtas.org.au

P: 6278 9985 or 1300 288 476

To register and to obtain further details on the content of any of the individual workshops please contact your local Early Days facilitator



Autism Apps by Touch Autism

Autism Apps is a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism and other special needs. It also includes links to any available

information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

The screenshot shows the 'Autism Apps' app interface. The top bar has 'Back', 'Autism Apps', and 'Settings' buttons. Below is the app 'Wait Timer - Social Story & Visual Timer Tool' by Touch Autism, with a 5-star rating and a 'Download \$2.99' button. A description states: 'Wait Timer is a visual and audio tool to help teach good waiting behavior. The app includes a social story about waiting, and an audio/visual timer that can be set to different times.' Features listed include: 'Great color-coded visual timer that shows the time ticking away', 'Settings to easily change the "wait" time', 'Social story that talks about waiting and waiting strategies', and 'Wait time is the time of the whole clock (full circle), so users can always clearly see time remaining.' To the right, a 'Featured Apps' section lists: 'Splash Math Worksheets for...' (\$9.99), 'Sound Touch' (\$5.99), 'LAMP Words For Life' (\$299.99), 'Gro Garden' (\$2.99), and 'Language Skill Builder - Cen...' (\$4.99).



Dexteria

Dexteria is a set of therapeutic hand exercises to improve fine motor skills and handwriting readiness in children and adults.

Dexteria's hand and finger help build strength, control, and dexterity. Dexteria is suited to children and adults. Pre school age children also have their own app, Dexteria Junior.

Touch and Learn – Emotions



This game app focuses on helping children learn to read body language and understand emotions by looking at photos and figuring out which person is expressing a

given emotion. The app is super easy to customise and getting the "wrong answer" does not interfere with gameplay.



Choiceworks

The Choiceworks app is a learning tool for helping children complete daily routines (morning, day & night), understand and control their feelings and improve their waiting skills (taking turns etc).

Features include:

- Three boards: Schedule, Waiting and Feelings
- Image Library preloaded with over 180 images and audio
- Add your own images and record your own audio
- Create profiles to personalise and manage multiple users
- Save an unlimited number of boards for multiple children or different routines
- Share boards by Email or iTunes File Sharing
- Ability to print boards or save as PDF



Stories2Learn

Offers the ability to create personalised social scripts and stories using photos, text and audio messages. Comes preloaded with 12 narratives that can be used to teach

social skills in the areas of reciprocal play, non-verbal communication, playground and school rules, turn taking and more.



No More Meltdowns

Dr. Jed Baker's popular book No More Meltdowns has been developed into an app by SymTrend, a popular source for electronic diaries. Using the app and

accompanying website, users can record triggers to meltdowns and create plans to anticipate these triggers and prevent future problem behaviours. Strategies for de-escalating behaviour and remaining calm.



raisingchildren.net.au
the australian parenting website

Raising Children’s Network, Children with ASD & Disability App

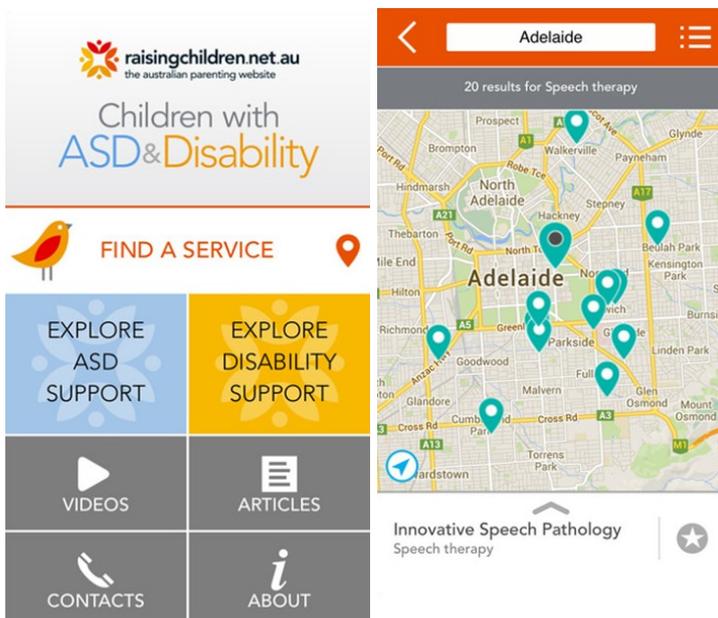
If you have a child with a disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Raising Children Network has created the Children with ASD & Disability App for you to use before and after diagnosis.

Using the App, you can:

- connect to ASD or disability services in your area with a mapping tool and key contacts directory
- navigate your way through the Australian services system with step-by-step expert guidance
- learn from other parents’ experiences through parent videos
- get more information about disability and ASD with up-to-date, research-based articles.

About Raising Children Network:

Raising Children Network – raisingchildren.net.au – is Australia's most complete source of information and ideas about raising children.



KM Funding App.

KM Funding is a fitness tracking app for iPhone and android smart phones that aims to inspire Australians to be more active for good.

For every kilometre (km) users walk, run or cycle they will earn funds for charities. Users can earn 10c for every km cycled, and 20c for every km walked or run.

This is a health and well being app. If you walk, run or cycle regularly you can fundraise for Autism Tas without having to ask anyone for money. The only cost for you is \$2.49 to purchase the app and your time and effort to run, walk or cycle. Too easy. . Oh and it's available on iPhone and Android

HOW IT WORKS?

STEP 1
Download the Km Funding app from the app store or google play

STEP 2
Follow the prompts to select a charity and start your session

STEP 3
When you finish, accept the sponsorship and share your achievement

hide and seek and she thought that was fantastic! We went for a walk around a lake and had lunch under a tree. Indi had no hitting at all for all day yesterday and today so that is just fantastic! We had a bit of stress with a toileting issue from Jill when we were in public but we did what was expected and cleaned it up straight away. We are finding it a bit hard to read what she is telling us but we will learn. We went to a supermarket (somewhere we try to avoid with Indi) and we took her to a display of bouncy balls - knowing full well that Indi would want to touch and play with them all. When I asked her to put them back and it was time to go, she got angry but we just told her to hold Jill's lead and we started walking. To our absolute amazement, Indi did as she was told and by the time we got to the checkout, she was singing the same line of a song over and over (to self regulate) but she was happy. To finish off the day, we went to a place that has heaps of trampolines and Indi absolutely loved it! She did get a bit anxious when other kids came into her space but other than that, she was great! When we woke up this morning, Indi was sitting on the floor outside the bedroom doing some colouring and Jill was sitting right beside her. It was a beautiful sight to see them bonding.

DAY 7

We are officially half way through our training today! We practised our commands and tricks today and Jill will do all but one with us so we will practise with that one tonight. After lunch, we met at a beautiful botanical garden and had a play at the park. Then it was time to practise some more tracking but Indi was having too much fun on the built-in trampoline so she had a huge melt down. One of the trainers and I made Jill walk around the park attached to Indi by a tether while Indi screamed her head off. I wasn't to talk to her or look at her but only to praise Jill for walking so well. It took some time but eventually, she snapped out of the behaviour. After we finally got around to tracking, Indi was more than happy to hold Jill's lead and walk nicely with us! That was a massive win for us because if we were at a park at home and Indi had a melt down, we would've just had to take her home. To finish off the day's training, we went to Bendigo Pottery and it was just beautiful. There is no way we would've even attempted to take Indi to a place like that prior to Jill. I'm convinced this dog has magical powers!

DAY 8

Today was another roller coaster. We had good success with tracking, good success with practicing tricks but Indi's behaviour really tested us. We went to a bakery for lunch and Indi refused to hold Jill's lead so we had to tether her again and she had the biggest melt down but 30 seconds later and a bit of walking around in a car park, she calmed down. We sat down for lunch and I felt completely overwhelmed about everything that's happened over the last 8 days and promptly burst into tears. After that we went to a shopping centre and had to walk around with Jill but I had to do it by myself this time. Indi was pretty good, even though we set her up a few times! We met at a pet store and swapped so the dads could take the dogs and kids. Then us mums had a whole hour to relax and go shopping! Tomorrow, we sit for our written test so we are studying tonight and testing each other. Poor Jill keeps looking up every time we say a word she recognises!

DAY 9

This morning, we had a big talk about what happened at the shopping centre yesterday and how we handled it. Then, it was written test time, and....we all passed! I'm so very proud of ourselves and especially Jacob as he now has a junior dog handling license. Not many other boys his age would have that! After lunch we did some more tracking and then went to another shopping centre, which was a lot easier than yesterday! Indi was very well behaved during this trip so that made it a lot easier and I was much more relaxed this time.

DAY 10

We started the day with tracking at the botanical gardens then learnt some new commands. Then the dads took the kids, dogs and siblings bowling. Indi got a strike on her first go! The mums got to go to a market, which was lovely. Then we all had burgers for lunch and they were delicious. After that, we all went to the art gallery....I would like to take this opportunity to apologise to anyone who may have been at the Bendigo Art Gallery this afternoon and heard Indi, very loudly, state every time she saw boobs in a painting! Then it was off to an indoor aquatic centre. Indi had an absolute ball! Then home for a quick change and back out for tea with everyone. It was just under a 12 hour day and we are

all completely exhausted. Can't believe we graduate in just 4 more days

DAY 11

Today we started the morning with theory and then went to a park area for tracking. Jill did an amazing job today and found Indi straight away. The afternoon consisted of practice for our practical test tomorrow. This will take place in a shopping centre. We need to prove that we can handle Jill in a public place along with Indi at the same time. Jill is testing the boundaries today with not a lot of listening so it will be interesting to see how she goes tomorrow. Tonight, we took Jill to a cafe to have a drink with an old friend from school that I haven't seen her in 20 years so we had heaps to catch up on.

DAY 12

In the morning, we got to wash the dogs at a hydro bath which was so much fun! When we got back to the centre, Indi had a huge melt down and had to be tethered to Jill and walked around until she calmed down. Jill was fantastic and sat next to Indi and licked her face to break her out of the melt down. After lunch, we did our practical test in a shopping centre and Indi complained the whole time and Jill didn't want to sit for me when asked. It was my partner's turn next so Jacob and I went to a coffee shop to have a nice cold drink. After we finished both tests, we went home to relax. Not long after that, we got a phone call to say we had both passed our tests! Yay! That's another one out of the way. Jacob will do his test in the morning. I'm exhausted after today! Only two days left and we go home

DAY 13

Started the day at the shopping centre so Jacob could do his practical test and he passed beautifully. We then did canine health care and our skills test, which we all passed easily. It was very hot here today and had already reached 24 degrees by 9am and it's supposed to be around 36 tomorrow. We can't believe how quickly the time has gone since we've been here and how much we've learnt. We are really going to miss everyone we've met along the way but also glad that we will still be in contact with them. They are such beautiful people who have such a passion for dogs and how they can help people's lives change for the better. So it's graduation day tomorrow, or as Indi calls it 'gradulation day', and we are so excited to

have gotten this far in our journey and how much Jill has already made a difference to our lives. I will need to bring along the tissues tomorrow I think when it comes time to thank everyone and say goodbye

DAY 14 - GRADUATION DAY

Well we did it! Two weeks of intense training and we survived! Graduation was fantastic (even though I cried when watching a montage of our journey!) and we had the chance to have an interview with Channel 9 news and a local newspaper! We said our goodbyes to everyone and headed into Melbourne to check in at the airport. What a journey we've had over the last fortnight.

ONE WEEK LATER: We've been home for a week with Jill now and she has settled in nicely. She fell asleep on the couch next to Indi tonight, which was so cute! We are all noticing positive changes in Indi's behaviour (most of the time!) and her melt downs are not lasting as long as they used to. It's onwards and upwards from here!

Tammy King



Griffith University in association with Autism Tasmania Inc would like to **invite you** to participate in an exciting **free** workshop and research project

***Empowering Parents to Guide Their Child's Learning:
Working with schools and professionals to get the best outcome for your child
with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)***

*Monday 20th April and Tuesday 21st April 2015, 9.30am-4.00pm – Launceston
Thursday 23rd April and Friday 24th April 2015, 9.30am-4.00pm - Hobart*

Last session of the day is optional to allow for maximum attendance



Australian parents of an estimated 20,000 school-aged children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) regularly engage with schools and services to access effective learning and education programs for their children as they move from early childhood, to primary and secondary school, and into adulthood. Parents often report feeling frustrated and disempowered in selecting and accessing effective programs and support for their children with ASD during the school years. The aim of this workshop and research project is to give you, as a parents of a child with ASD the knowledge, strategies and support they need to develop a vision and plan for their child and to work with educators and professionals to develop and implement effective educational programs for their children.

At the beginning of the project, you will participate in a two-day workshop in which you will be given specific training and strategies in the use of the *Cycle of Learning* framework in order to enable you to guide your child's learning as they progress through school and to work with schools to implement effective educational programs that will support your child to achieve his/her full potential. During the workshop, you will be guided to develop not only a plan for your child, but a plan of action to help you make more effective decisions, be a successful advocate for them, and assist them to identify their own strengths and needs and eventually advocate for themselves. Specifically you will be given skills and training in order to:

- Develop a vision for your child for the next 3-5 years
- Assess your child's strengths, interests, and needs
- Identify priorities and goals for your child
- Select and engage with educators/professionals to access effective educational programs/strategies for your child
- Evaluate your child's progress and the effectiveness of strategies and programs
- Negotiate with school professionals and other service providers to progress an overall plan for their child as they progress through the lifespan.
- Advocate for your child and promote the self determination of your child as they move through different educational programs
- Develop a future learning plan for your child and an action plan for yourself

After the workshop, you will be provided with ongoing support and strategies through an interactive online website where you will be able to access expert advice and support as you navigate the challenges and successes to implement your plan and support your child. You will also have the opportunity to provide input and feedback to help shape the website and workshop in order to create an effective tool for providing parents of children with ASD across Australia with the tools and information they need to help their child achieve their goals as they move through school and into adulthood.

Who should attend: This workshop is primarily for parents or carers of children with ASD, but would also be helpful for parents of children with other developmental disabilities.

**Where: Launceston - Door of Hope – Launceston Conference Centre
Meeting Room 7, 50 Glen Dhu Street, Launceston**

**Hobart - Bahá'í Centre of Learning for Tasmania
1 Tasman Highway, Hobart**

Presenter:

Dr. Amanda Webster, Autism Centre of Excellence - Dr Amanda Webster has worked for over 28 years with both individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities and their families in school, home and community settings. Before coming to Griffith, she worked in Australia and the USA in positions as a school leader, program developer, special educator, early intervention specialist, and behavior analyst in both inclusive and special schools and home settings. This has led her to develop a particular expertise in the design of education programs for individuals with ASD and other disabilities as well as the implementation of evidence-based practice for individuals with ASD in school curriculum and environments. Dr. Webster is currently the Program Convenor for the Autism Studies program at the Autism Centre of Excellence at Griffith University where she regularly teaches classes on ASD to postgraduate students from a range of backgrounds including teachers, psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, and parents.

No cost to attend: Morning tea, lunch and all day tea and coffee provided on both days.

Registrations will close on Monday 13 April, 2015. Numbers are strictly limited.

To confirm your attendance please call or email Allison on 1300 288 476 or autism@autismtas.org.au with the information below.

Name:

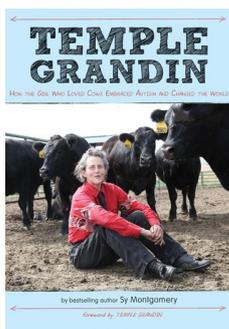
Contact Number:

Email address:

Age of ASD child:

Special dietary requirements:

**!! Stop Press !!
Launceston - Only 5 spots remaining
Hobart - Only 10 spots remaining**



Temple Grandin – How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World

Written by Sy Montgomery

Published by Houghton Mifflin books for Children.

'Be kind, for everyone is fighting a hard battle' – Plato.

These words are on one of the opening pages of Sy Montgomery's latest book.

People who are familiar with Temple Grandin and her life may reflect that she has succeeded in her chosen career despite have autism however Temple has said on many occasions that she has succeeded *because* she has autism.

This is not just another biography about the world famous Temple Grandin. This really well presented book is designed for younger readers in middle school through to high school students.

Temple Grandin is one of a small group of experts in the animal world who are responsible for redesigning facilities in which animals are handled and slaughtered, ensuring the process is more humane for the animals. Temple also has autism.

Autism can be thought of as a 'children's issue' although we know of course that children with autism grow up to be adults with autism. Temple Grandin has written many books on the subject including *Thinking in Pictures* and *Animals in Translation*.

This book, **Temple Grandin, How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World** doesn't talk down to its readers, in fact the text is very much like the writing of Temple herself.

The author, Sy Montgomery chronicles Temple's life and her myriad of achievements, but much of the focus is on her childhood. Diagnosed with Autism at the age of three, the book follows her life from a little girl who couldn't speak as a pre-schooler, through her primary school years to adolescence when she was often teased and misunderstood into young adulthood and her life to the present day.

A major factor in Temple's ultimate successes in life began with her mother who resisted enormous pressure to have her daughter institutionalised as a child believing that this was not the path to take and who sought out schools and learning opportunities for her daughter.

This is a book for young people who are interested in this amazing woman and/or autism as well as for siblings, parents and extended family.

Rose Clark



Footprint Books are a generous benefactor donating numerous books to our library. For our Summer Edition they kindly donated 3 copies of each of the Starving the Anger Gremlin workbooks written by Kate Collins-Donnelly for our Summer Giveaway.

And the winners are:

South

Jodie Booth and Kylie Cantwell

North

Sarah Rawson and Anita Frost

North-West

Zoe Hingston and Melinda Davis

All winners have been notified.

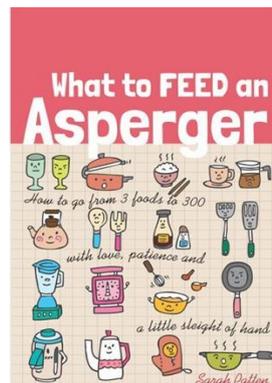
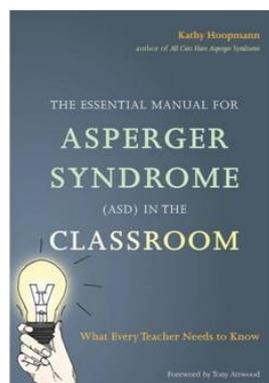
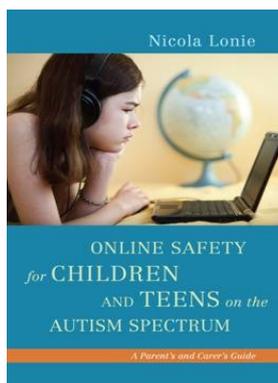
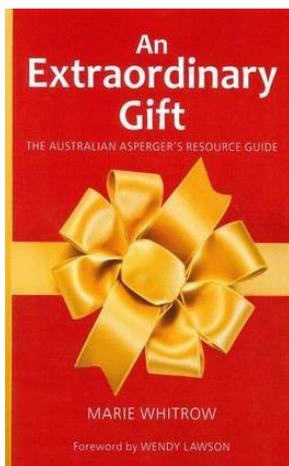
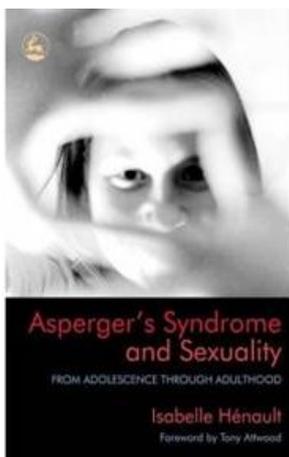
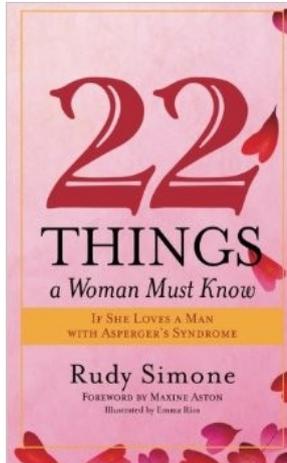
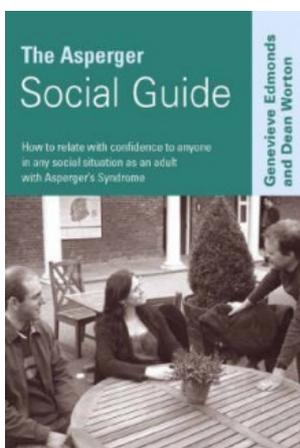
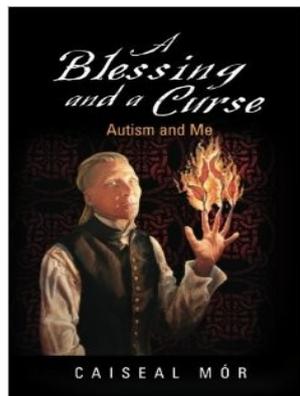
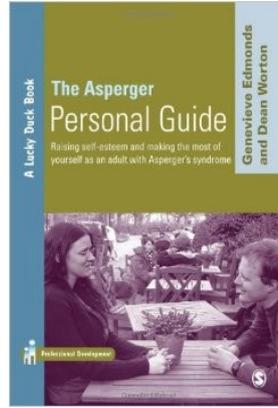
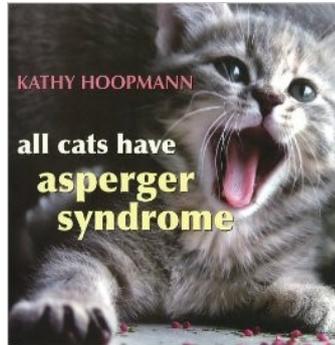
Footprint Books are generously offering Autism Tasmania friends and families a special discount code (TAS14) which offers a 15% discount on all titles and free delivery.



Celebrating 15 years of serving lovers of learning!
www.footprint.com.au

Look what is new in our library

Check our website for regional availability. Thank you to our private donors and Footprint Books for regularly donating items to our library



Autism
TASMANIA INC.
Making Futures Brighter

Are you a member of Autism Tasmania?

If so, you can borrow books and DVDs (3 in total) from our libraries in Newstead and Moonah.

Books can be borrowed for 1 month, DVDs for 1 week.

Check out our website for the listing of resources in your area.

Social/Support Groups and Information Sessions as at April 2015

Southern Tasmania

Dunalley

Dunalley Community Neighbourhood Centre, Arthur Highway

First Thursday morning in the month - 10am - Midday
Contact: Amity - 6253 5579

Hobart

Fortnightly on Mondays 10:30am - 12:30pm
Venue varies each fortnight, contact us for current location

Contact: Robyn at robyn@autismtas.org.au

Hobart Adult Aspergers Group

Autism Tasmania office, 1 Bowen Rd, Moonah

Last Sunday in the month 2.00 - 4.00pm

Contact: Rose Clark 0407 320 048

Regular visits are made to **Bridgewater, Clarence Plains, Geeveston** and **New Norfolk**. Please contact our office for details.

North West Coast

Autism information sessions are conducted regularly at:

- Circular Head
- Burnie
- West Coast

For details please contact Rose Clark 0407 320 048

West Coast

West Coast Focus Group

The Linc Library—Queenstown

Every second Thursday in the month
10.30am - midday

Contact: Sharon - 0429 117 413

Northern Tasmania

Launceston

Autism information sessions are conducted regularly at:

Northern Children's Network, Amy Road, Newstead.
Please contact our office for details

Bike Centre family get togethers in school holidays

Contact: Robyn Thomas 0458 375 604

Adult Asperger Group—Launceston

Aspire Building, 190 Charles Street, Launceston

First Saturday in the month 1.30 - 3.30pm.

Contact: Rose Clark 0407 320 048

Regular visits are made to **Scottsdale, Campbell Town** and **George Town**. Please contact our office for details.

Upcoming Information Sessions

Circular Head Information Session

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder and why am I hearing it so often?

On Friday 24th April at the Smithton District Hospital in the Community Meeting Room there will be an information session for interested community members, parents, family members and carers.

Come along and find out about the condition that is affecting families in every community.

There will be a short presentation, books to peruse and handouts to take home with you.

It will also be a time to meet others in your community, have a chat and there will be a cuppa available as well.

So....keep Friday 24th from 12.30 – 2.30 free and come along.

For further information phone Rose on 0407 320 048

For more information please call: **1300 288 476**

or

Email autism@autismtas.org.au

Application for Membership

Person 1**if more than one person, please tick box to indicate primary mail recipient**

Name: _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___ *Must be 18 or over.

Organisation (if applicable) : _____

Residential Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Postal Address or as above _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate your membership category:

- Person on the Autism Spectrum
- Parent/Grandparent of person on the Autism Spectrum
- Extended Family of person on the Autism Spectrum
relationship _____
- Other Individuals
- Professional/Organisation**

I agree with the guiding principles of Autism Tasmania Inc. I understand that acceptance of membership is subject to approval of the Board and that my personal details will remain private.

Membership fee:

Professional/Organisation/Other Individuals \$27.50

Person with Autism/Parent/Grandparent Free

Donation *Any donations would be appreciated and assist us with providing support _____

Donations over \$2 to Autism Tasmania Inc. are tax deductible and receipted separately **Total:\$**_____

Payment Method (if applicable):

- Paid directly to Bendigo Bank** [Please include your name when making the EFT or direct deposit]
Account Name: Autism Tasmania Inc. BSB: 633 000 Acct No. 136 780 525
- Cheque or money order enclosed** [please do not send cash through the mail]
- Visa or Mastercard**

Card Number: ___ / ___ / ___ / ___ Expiry Date: ___ / ___

Person 2**if more than one person, please tick box to indicate primary mail recipient**

Name: _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___ *Must be 18 or over.

Organisation (if applicable) : _____

Residential Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Postal Address or as above _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate your membership category:

- Person on the Autism Spectrum
- Parent/Grandparent of person on the Autism Spectrum
- Extended Family of person on the Autism Spectrum
relationship _____
- Other Individuals
- Professional/Organisation**

I agree with the guiding principles of Autism Tasmania Inc. I understand that acceptance of membership is subject to approval of the Board and that my personal details will remain private.



Autism
TASMANIA INC.
Making Futures Brighter

ABN: 90 215 494 454

Hobart

1 Bowen Road, Moonah
PO Box 514, Moonah 7009
Ph: (03) 6278 9985

Launceston

59D Amy Road, Newstead
PO Box 358, Newstead 7250
Ph: (03) 6344 1212

Phone: 1300 288 476
Fax: (03) 6278 3020
Email: autism@autismtas.org.au
www.autismtas.org.au



Find us on
Facebook