

# **AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.**

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*Offering life long support to people with  
Autism and related disorders.*

**Patron:**

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Norwood,  
Tasmania, 7250.

**Phone:** 003 432308 (home)  
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## **ANNUAL REPORT 1992/'93**

**1st Annual Report**

**14th August 1993**

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# **AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Welcome to the first annual report of Autism Tasmania. It has been an interesting and extremely busy year as we work towards becoming established. Our objectives are many but initially our aims are

- (1) to provide information and support to parents and professionals with an interest in autism;
- (2) to raise community awareness of autism;
- (3) to have assessment teams in each region confident of diagnosing autism and
- (4) to support the establishment of a Giant Steps Therapy and Education Centre in Tasmania.

These are major objectives and will not be achieved in the short term. However the process has begun through the following initiatives.

There are currently 60 financial members of Autism Tasmania (57 at 30th June) covering parents, grandparents, extended families, speech and occupational therapists, teachers, children's services divisions, other autistic associations, special needs resource workers, child health sisters, group homes, family resource centres, carers, politicians and interested people. Our thanks go to the members. We hope the existing support for the organisation will continue and grow and that benefits are gained while being a member.

Autism Tasmania leaflets were produced through sponsorship from Pasminco-Metals EZ. These leaflets include information on autism, names and numbers to contact for support and a membership form to Autism Tasmania. Initially 2,000 were printed and these have been distributed throughout the state. Another 2,000 have recently been printed, also with the help of Pasminco-Metals. It is encouraging to see that new memberships are coming in from these leaflets.

In late 1992 Autism Tasmania applied for and was successful in being awarded the inaugural Beryl Haines Award through the Tascare Society. This grant enabled us to invite Dr Tony Attwood to Tasmania to present seminars to families and professionals. Approximately 60 people attended the family seminar with 145 professionals following. Evaluation questionnaires have provided us with valuable feedback regarding future seminars. At both seminars there were people present from all parts of the state. Dr Attwood was a captivating speaker and his visit was a highlight of our first year. Dr Attwood's visit also enabled the association to raise some funds through registration fees. This will allow us to embark on a few projects and we are currently looking at the possibility of leasing/renting/purchasing our own photocopier.

Professor Bruce Tonge, Head of the Centre for Developmental Psychiatry, Monash University, Victoria, was in Hobart just prior to Christmas in 1992 and very kindly made himself available to give a public meeting. This was well attended despite the timing.

A project we have given our full support to is the establishment of a Giant Steps Therapeutic and Educational Centre in Deloraine in Northern Tasmania. Mark Ward is Autism Tasmania's representative on the steering committee. Giant Steps will cater initially for children with neurological disorders such as autism from the ages of 3-13. Both overseas and throughout other parts of Australia it has been recognised that children with autism have different needs to other special needs children and autistic schools can be found in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia.

Giant Steps is a Canadian Programme founded by Ms Darlene Berringer. Darlene visited Tasmania in February this year at the invitation of parents Deidre and Kim Triffitt to look at the feasibility of

setting up a satellite of her programme in Deloraine. She has given a commitment to establish a centre here but will not do so without a commitment for recurrent funding from the state government.

A steering committee comprising parents, representatives from the Deloraine community and interested people was formed in March and this committee has been meeting weekly since. A submission has been forwarded to Mr Beswick which is currently being examined by his department. A submission has also been placed with the Department of Employment, Education and Training which is also currently being reviewed. The committee continue to meet with and lobby politicians and hope to have the centre operating in 1994.

Autism Tasmania became an incorporated body in January 1993. President, Mark Ward is the public officer.

Autism Tasmania is producing newsletters for the members. These are now being produced quarterly with issues in February, May, August and November. The aim of the newsletter is to inform members of happenings within the association and provide information on autism and current research. The newsletter has developed in the last year and we look forward to producing a document of high quality that is enjoyable to read.

The Launceston Younger Set invited a representative from Autism Tasmania to speak to their organisation, in May this year. After they had listened to several groups we were delighted to learn that they have chosen to support our association. Over the next twelve months they will be raising funds for Autism Tasmania. This money will be presented to us in June 1994. When The Younger Set were addressed several projects were outlined including the production of a Parent Information Kit, purchasing much needed books, tapes and videos for our library and to offer support to Giant Steps.

The first of these projects is underway and National Autism Week from the 12th-18th September 1993 will see the launch of a Parent Information Kit in Hobart. Eventually the aim is to give this kit to parents upon a firm diagnosis of a child with autism. However at this stage it is planned to issue it to parents of children where autism is suspected or to parents seeking information. Car bumper stickers are also being produced for National Autism Week. Publicity such as this all helps to create an awareness of autism. Windmill Educational Supplies in Launceston have agreed to assist us in this project and we appreciate their support.

In 1992, the Commonwealth Early Special Education Program Committee, awarded Autism Tasmania a grant for \$3,000 to bring an "expert" in the field of autism to the state to run a series of workshops in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie. Ms Vicki Bitsika is a psychologist who was employed by the Victorian Autistic Children's and Adults Association (VACAA) as Autism Education Project Officer during 1991. Ms Bitsika will be in Tasmania in early November to lead workshops based on the Victorian Autism Project.

The committee of Autism Tasmania; Mark Ward, Rose Clark, Ros Ward and Michael Rutledge (and David and Carol Ollington who resigned during the year) wish to thank the many people and organisations who have supported us during our first year. The future is exciting as we work towards achieving our objectives and in doing so make the lives of those children and adults suffering from autism just a little more bearable.


Mark Ward  
President

**AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.**

**Public Officer's Report**

I, Mark Jonathan Ward being the Public Officer of Autism Tasmania Inc. do solemnly and sincerely declare that the accompanying Statements of Assets and Liabilities (Balance Sheet) and Income and Expenditure as at 30 June 1993 exhibit a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at that date and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information therein is correct.

SIGNED  
PUBLIC OFFICER

 (M.J. Ward)

Signed before me

at

.....  
LAUNCESTON  
.....  
3RD AUGUST 1993  
.....

on

 (A. Morgan)  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

File: 9293POR


# AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.

## Report to Members

We hereby certify that the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure and Statements of Assets and Liabilities (Balance Sheet) of Autism Tasmania Inc. for the year ended 30 June, 1993 shows the true financial position of Autism Tasmania Inc. as at the date and reflects the true results of the financial operations of Autism Tasmania Inc. for that period.

DATED this day of 3rd August 1993


SIGNED  
PRESIDENT

 (M.J. WARD)

SIGNED  
SECRETARY

R. R. Ward (R.R. WARD)

SIGNED  
TREASURER

 (M.J. RUTLEDGE)

File: 9293RTM

**AUTISM TASMANIA**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE**

**30/10/92 TO 30/6/93**

INCOME	\$	EXPENDITURE	\$
Memberships	1,160.00	Credit Union M'Ship/Share	10.00
Donations	396.40	Incorporation fee	100.00
Beryl Haynes Award	1,500.00	Advertising - Incorp.	155.10
Tascare Grant		- (Bruce Tonge Lecture)	166.40
(Darlene's air fare)	2,000.00	Venue Hiring Charges	245.00
T.Attwood Reg.	7,400.00	Stationery & Postage	540.88
Interest	41.94	Assoc. Stubs (ARI,AFSA)	67.80
		T.Attwood fee	1,500.00
		T.Attwood Seminar	
		Catering	3,038.00
		T.Attwood accom.	127.80
		T.Attwood Regn postage	
		& paper	322.12
		T.Attwood Regn credits	320.00
		Darlene's air fares	2,000.00
		National Conference	
		video etc	95.00
		Exhibition table fee	20.00
		Gov't Charges	14.37
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,498.34</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,722.47</b>
Account Balance		Account Balance	
(S1) 30/10/92	0.00	(S1) 30/6/93	2,855.14
Account Balance		Account Balance	
(S7) 30/10/92	0.00	(S7) 30/6/93	1,233.68
Cash in Hand 30/10/92	0.00	Cash in Hand 30/6/93	0.00
		Less unrepresented cheques	652.95
		Plus outstanding deposits	340.00
	<b>12,498.34</b>		<b>12,498.34</b>

Signed.....*M. Rutledge*.....  
M. Rutledge Treasurer

AUDITOR'S REPORT

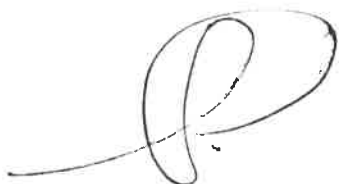
I have examined the financial records and accounts of Autism Tasmania Incorporated, in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards for the period ended 30th June 1993.

In my opinion:

- a) I have been given all information and explanations required by me.
- b) As shown in the financial statements, current assets exceeded its current liabilities by \$3775.87. In my opinion this factor, along with other matters contained within the Financial Statements, suggests that the Association is in a position to continue as a going concern and be able to meet any of its known financial commitments. The Financial Statements include all necessary adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded assets amounts or the amounts and classification of liabilities that are required to prove that the Association is able to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the financial position of Association, according to the information at my disposal and the explanations given to me and as shown by the books of the Association; and

- c) The rules relating to the administration of the Association appear to have been observed in most instances, subject to the undermentioned qualification:-  
That a physical check of the Inventory was not requested or conducted as part of the Audit.



6th August, 1993

P.S. Ryan J.P.  
MAIWO, AFAIM, MNIA.  
Reg. Com. Education Dept. Auditor  
Reg. Assoc. Incorp Act 1964 Auditor.



## AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.

### Listing of Office Bearers & Committee Members

Commencing Inaugural Meeting 10th October 1992

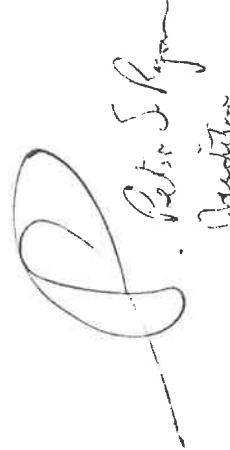
Name	Position	Address	Occupation	Resignations
Mark Jonathan Ward	President	3 Grand View Place, Norwood, 7250	Professional Engineer	
Rosemary Jocelyn Clark	Vice President	47 Saunders Street, Wynyard, 7325	Teacher / House Spouse	
Roxley David Ollington	Vice President	13 Oakwood Court Bridgewater, 7030	Tradesman	13 June 1993
Roslyn Rae Ward	Secretary	3 Grand View Place, Norwood, 7250	House Spouse	
Michael John Rutledge	Treasurer	200 Marys Hope Road, Rosetta, 7010	Engineering Estimator	

We hereby certify that this list of Office Bearers and Committee of Autism Tasmania Inc. is a true and accurate list of the Office Bearers and Committee members of Autism Tasmania Inc. as at 30 June 1993.

DATED this day of 3rd August 1993

SIGNED  
PUBLIC OFFICER

*M. J. Ward*  
(M. J. WARD)



*Peter J. Ryan*  
Secretary

SIGNED  
SECRETARY

*R. Ward*  
(R. R. WARD)

File: 9293DBR

# AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.

## List of Financial Members

We hereby certify that the accompanying List of Financial Members of Autism Tasmania for the year ended 30 June, 1993 shows the complete list of 57 financial members of Autism Tasmania Inc. as at the date.

DATED this day of 3rd August 1993

SIGNED  
PRESIDENT



X (M.J. WARD)

SIGNED  
SECRETARY



(R.R. WARD)

File: 9293MEMB



# AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.

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## AGENDA

9293agda.wpf

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,**  
Saturday 14th August 1993,  
Frederick Street School,  
57 Frederick Street, Launceston.

1. Opening - 11.00 am.
2. Apologies.
3. Correspondence.
4. Minutes.
  - 4.1 Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting.
  - 4.2 Confirmation of minutes.
5. Annual Report.
  - 5.1 Reading of the Annual Report.
  - 5.2 Motion for adoption of the Annual Report.
6. Treasurer's Report.
  - 6.1 Statement and Balance Sheet.
  - 6.2 Motion for adoption of the Treasurer's Report.
7. Election of Office Bearers.
  - 7.1 President.
  - 7.2 Vice President.
  - 7.3 Vice President.
  - 7.4 Secretary.
  - 7.5 Treasurer.
8. Vote of thanks to outgoing executive.
9. Special Business.
10. Close.

