

Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2017 from the Board, Management and Staff at Autism Tasmania

Our offices will close **Thursday 22 December at 3pm (Launceston) and Friday 23 December 12:30pm (Hobart) and both re-open 9am Tuesday 3rd January 2017**

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1. PRISM 17 - Exhibitor Applications Closing Soon

Click here for the [Exhibitor Expression of Interest application](#) form for



Open to those aged 16 and over who identify as being on the autism spectrum.

Contact Autism Tasmania on 1300 288 476 or visit autismtas.org.au

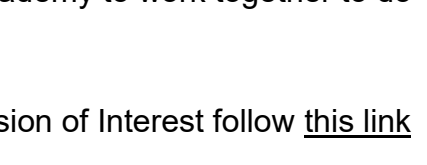
further details.

There will also be a school aged section, details to be released early 2017

2. Autism CRC - Expression of Interest application open for Workshop for adults on the autism spectrum (Melbourne June 2017)

Researching Autism Together

When researchers and adults on the autism spectrum work together as peer researchers, research is more likely to be appropriate, relevant, genuine, meaningful and effective. Autism CRC is hosting a workshop that will support researchers and adults on the spectrum to develop the skills needed to do peer research. This workshop will train members of the Autism CRC Research Academy to work together to do autism research.



For more details and to lodge your Expression of Interest follow [this link](#)

3. Air Travel with children on the autism spectrum

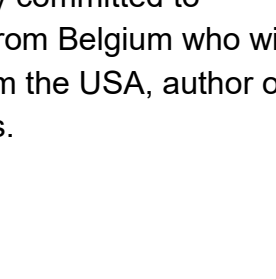
If you are travelling with children this Christmas Launceston Airport has created a wonderful travel advice document (with visuals!) to help you navigate through their terminal with your child. There is even an activities section. Follow [this link](#) to view the document and to see other disability planning information go to the [Launceston Airport website](#). A big thank you to Launceston Airport for creating a fantastic support for the autism community.



4. APAC 17 - 7-9 September 2017

GROWING WITH AUTISM

The conference theme is "Growing with Autism" and reflects the recent shift in autism research and practice to look beyond the early childhood and school years to the whole of life for people on the spectrum.



At APAC 17, people on the spectrum, family members, practitioners, researchers and policy makers will together explore how people on the spectrum of all ages, supported by their families and communities, can be the people they want to be. A number of world leaders in the field have already committed to speaking at APAC 17 including Peter Vermeulen from Belgium who will give the opening address and Dr Barry Prizant from the USA, author of Uniquely Human, who will give the closing address.

To learn more and to book follow [this link](#).

5. Autism Tasmania Northern Upcoming Activities

- **Picnic in the Park - Heritage Forest**

When: Thursday 12th January 2017, 12pm-2pm

Where: Heritage Forest, Conway Street, Mowbray

Bring your lunch and sun hats and come for a picnic lunch in Heritage Forest. Have a turn on the flying fox, play in the playground or bring an activity to share. No registrations required, just turn up!

- **Minecraft Mania**

When: Wednesday 18th January 2017, 10am-2pm

Please contact Robyn Thomas (robynth@autismtas.org.au or 6344 1212) to register and receive further details. Bring your own laptop (with Minecraft installed) and join the LAN party. We will have a lunch break from 12- 12:45 so bring your lunch and a sunhat.

*Please note that if we experience networking difficulties this event will still take place, but may involve participants playing individual games on their own computers.

- **A day out at the Bike Centre - Launceston**

When: Wednesday 25th January 2017 11:30am-1:30pm

Where: Launceston City Council Road Safety Centre
47-67 Lawrence Vale Road, South Launceston

Bring your bikes, your scooters, your helmets and your family! Sausages will be available for you to sizzle. Tea and coffee will also be provided. No registrations required, just turn up!

6. Alice in Wonderland by Big Monkey Theatre - Sensory Friendly Performance

When: Saturday 21st January 2017 at 2pm

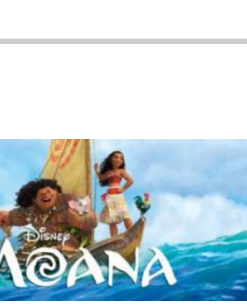
Where: Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

Book: Call one of the following:

Botanicals Garden's Shop 6166 0455; or

Centertainment 6234 5998; or

Theatre Royal 6233 2299



This session is designed for children with additional needs and their families with a time-out room with sensory toys and an Auslan signer.

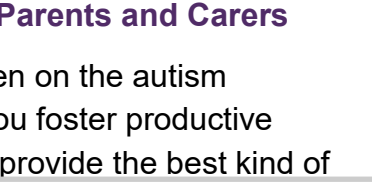
7. MOANA - Sensory Friendly Movie - Burnie

When: Monday 16th January 2017 at 10am

Where: Metro Cinema Burnie

[See link for further details](#)

8. Sensory Depot - Congratulations Bronson



In our September edition of Spectrum e News we mentioned a local business, [Sensory Depot](#) manufacturing fidget toys/ sensory toys, created by a Tasmanian teenager on the autism spectrum. We are pleased to announce that in the Taking Science to School (TSTS) Science Awards on 20 November 2016 Bronson won first prize in the Engineering Section of Junior Secondary Division of the State Finals and also took out a Rowe Scientific Award in the Junior Engineering Section of the Special Awards.

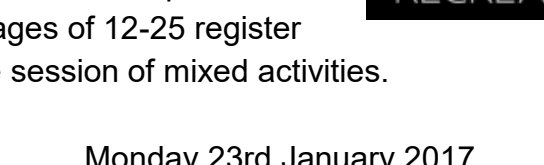
He has also been invited to the BHP National Awards in February.



Congratulations Bronson!!

9. Positive Partnerships - Workshop for Parents and Carers

If you are a parent/carer of school aged children on the autism spectrum, this workshop is designed to help you foster productive school, family and community relationships to provide the best kind of support for your child.



When: Tuesday 28 February 2017

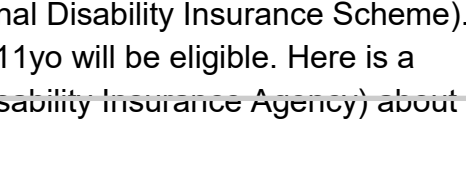
Where: Tasmanian Racing Club - Glenorchy

Cost: Free

To Register: [Follow this link for details](#)

10. YouthARC Hobart - January Activities Session - 12-25yo

The Youth Arts & Recreation Centre is a creative, exciting, safe and engaging space for all young people aged 12 – 25. It's a great place to meet up with friends, get involved in an art, music or recreation workshops, use facilities, check out an art exhibition or see a music gig. Best of all most things are free!



If you are on the autism spectrum and between the ages of 12-25 register now for a free session of mixed activities.

When: Monday 23rd January 2017

Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm

To Register: Contact Robyn Davis 6231 2745 or robynth@autismtas.org.au

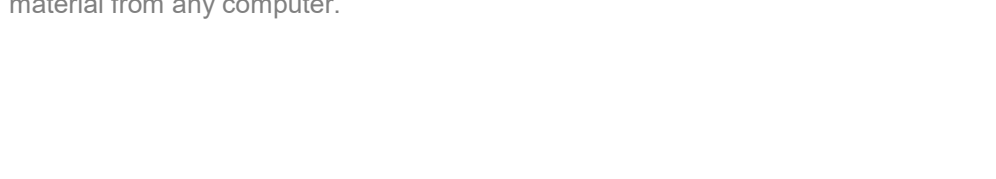
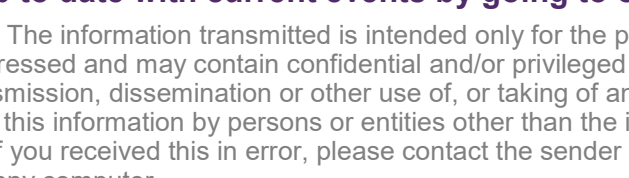
11. Getting Ready for the NDIS - A short video

From 1 January 2017 people between the ages of 25-28 years old will be eligible to apply for the NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme). From 1 July 2017 people aged from 4-11yo will be eligible. Here is a [short video](#) from the NDIA (National Disability Insurance Agency) about getting ready for the NDIS.

12. Every Australian Counts - Take their survey

The **Every Australian Counts** team have had such a big response that they are keeping the survey open until the end of the year to make sure it captures as many views and issues as possible, from as many people as possible.

It will also give them a clearer picture of how the NDIS is faring in the



first six months since the full roll out began.

All responses will be collated into an 'Every Australian Counts NDIS Community Report Card' so they can talk to governments early next year about what the community thinks is working - and what isn't.

To participate in the survey click on the image above or follow [this link](#).

****Keep up to date with current events by going to our [website](#)****

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