

Brief History

Autistic Nottingham began several years ago as a small Self Help Group. With the kindness, encouragement and support of the Self Help UK team, membership began to rise sharply and they established themselves as a local campaign, representing the often overlooked voices of autistic adults. Autistic Nottingham and East Midlands has now become a branch of the NAS, enabling us to extend our services and support.



The leading UK charity for autistic people (including those with Asperger syndrome) and their families. We provide information, support and pioneering services, and campaign for a better world for autistic people.

Arran Linton-Smith

As part of the National Autistic Society's upcoming autism awareness campaign, autistic cyclist Arran Linton - Smith is highlighting the benefits autistic people can bring to the workplace by undertaking a second Guinness World Record attempt. Last year, Arran became a Guinness World Record holder for the 'Most brands advertising on a single sportsware item'.



He engaged over 100 businesses, raising over £5,000.

This year, at 60 years old, he is going to do it all over again, after his record was broken by the Mayor of the City of Dubbo in New South Wales.

To sponsor Arran and advertise your company visit:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/arranlinton-smith2016>

Chris Ellis, Artist

"I was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder last year aged 40 and I have had a lot to learn about how it affects me and how to manage the difficulties I experience on a daily basis. I gain the peace and quiet I need from being in nature and enjoy losing myself in creativity. These activities give me time to relax on my own and just be me, I can also express myself without the social anxiety that being with others can cause.



My art has developed from very realistic images to colourful abstracts using mixed media and currently I am enjoying lino cuts. The images are usually connected to nature and gardening, which was my career until injury meant I had to stop.

It seems my love of the natural world continues to grow through my art'. My work can be seen on www.facebook.com/ChrisEllisCreates and a selection is for sale at www.etsy.com/shop/ChrisEllisCreates



VOX is a Community Interest Company working to support services and people who use them to have a voice. VOX is currently supporting 'SPLAT' the Nottingham City Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Board.



Thanks to the following organisations for their support and generosity:

Nottingham City Council - Venue
Interserve Construction - printing
VOX (UK) CIC - programme design



Nottinghamshire Branch of the NAS Launch Event

Thursday 7th April 2016

Ball Room, Council House, Nottingham



'Morning Glory' - Chris Ellis

Jayden Hansford

Jayden is a 21 year old man who has autism and severe learning disability, but a special talent formusic, which emerged before he was five. Unable to access formal music tuition because of hisdisability, Jayden taught himself to play keyboard. He has just finished 2 years formal tuition at Nordoff-Robbins, London.

www.facebook.com/Jaydens-Music-to-the-Community



Lauren Lovejoy

Miss Universe Great Britain 2014 finalist winning the two big titles of: Miss Not In Vein and Miss Congeniality.

A jazz/blues/soul recording artist/songwriter, she was also an XFactor finalist in 2014.

Lauren is an ambassador to the NAS and Childrens Strong Bones Charity. Lauren has performed to thousands of people and is working with some of the most established music producers in the UK today.



Lauren 26 years old was diagnosis of Aspergers Syndrome aged 14.

Lauren says 'singing is the only thing she feels in control of and wants to show people you can achieve what ever you want in life regardless of having a label and this a perfect example'

www.facebook.com/laurenlovejoyofficial @laurenlovejoy6

Paul Wady

I was diagnosed autistic at the age of 41 in 2004, the same year as my wife was which was how we met. I have worked for the National Autistic Society for over 10 years, conducting training around the UK amongst other jobs such as setting up a social group and teaching meditation to other Aspies.

I live in London, work at head office and generally annoy neurotypicals. I wrote the book Guerilla Aspies, a neurotypical society infiltration manual.

www.paulwady.com



Programme

7.40 Opening - Jayden Hansford, Piano Recital

7.45 Welcome - Cllr Darren Langton, NAS Ambassador

7.50 Lilian Greenwood, MP Nottingham South

8.00 Cllr Jackie Morris, Lord Mayor of Nottingham

8.05 Lauren Lovejoy, Singer

8.10 Launch of Nottingham/Nottinghamshire NAS branch

- Mark Lever, Chief Executive, NAS

8.20 Paul Wady, Self Advocacy Performer

8.30 The Value of Work

- Arran Linton-Smith, Vice Chair, Nottinghamshire NAS

- Thomas Madar, Secretary, Nottinghamshire NAS

- Film 'Take The Extra Two Steps'

8.50 Digital Nottingham

- Claire Labdon-West, Nottingham City Council

- Sally Weatherall, Webenable Media

9.00 Close - Nikki Stevenson, Chair Nottinghamshire NAS

9.10 Finale - Jayden Hansford and Lauren Lovejoy