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AWARE News

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AWARE NEWSLETTER

AWARE Meetings Tuesday 13th June 7.30 pm.

This month's speaker, Claudia Dickinson (formerly of the Barnardos Cygnet Group and Hillbrook, now trainee Clinical Psychologist), will talk about sensory issues in ASDs and strategies that might be helpful. She will also briefly introduce some research she is conducting, looking at how mums of young children with classic autism manage to develop a good relationship or are able to tune into their children.

The May meeting, choosing secondary education, was very informative and hopefully useful to those who attended. Many thanks to parents Kath Pickard, Karen Mitchell and David Blamires for sharing their personal experiences with us of Aireville, South Craven and Upper Wharfedale schools. The main messages from these parents were to check the schools out for yourself as each child is an individual with their own needs; smaller schools seem to suit children with ASDs better; don't sign to accept conditions on your child's statement prior to them starting at the school, as you only have two months' to appeal, by which time they probably won't have even started attending the school. Finally, don't accept that your child cannot attend your chosen school: fight for your child, give reasons why they can't attend the school offered eg the school cannot guarantee the support hours, the campus isn't secure etc.

The following organisation was recommended as very useful:- [Independent Panel for Special Education Advice \(IPSEA\)](http://www.ipsea.org.uk)

www.ipsea.org.uk 0800 0184016

AGM

The AWARE AGM will take place at The Bridge Inn, Keighley on 11 July at 7.30pm. Some committee members who have been with AWARE for a long time will be stepping down that evening, so please come along and show your appreciation of their hard work over the years. We shall, of course, be looking for some members to take their places, preferably parents whose children are currently accessing AWARE events so that they are already involved.

Librarian needed urgently!

Our librarian has moved home and can no longer look after our valuable resource of books so please can anyone take over her role, keeping the books in their home and bringing them to our monthly meetings at the CDC? Please contact Jo asap!

Half Term Play Scheme Thurs 1st & Fri 2nd June

The play scheme is for families but we do have limited supported places available - please contact Jo a.s.a.p. The scheme runs 10am to 3pm for all children up to age 16 - they are welcome to bring a friend. Cost is £2 per family plus £1 for a friend; please bring a packed lunch. The supported places are for children age 8 – 16 years and cost £8 per child per day. The summer scheme will run from Mon 14th Aug to Fri 25th, probably a combination of family and supported places - watch this space for more details.

Autism friendly screenings - please ring Jo for confirmation or check our website.

Jo is waiting for confirmation of the screening of Shaggy Dog, on Sunday 18 June at 10.45am at the Leeds/Bradford Odeon, Gallagher Leisure Park, Thornbury, Bradford. Tickets are £3.95 and one carer per child with an ASD goes free. Usual adjustments - sound to be lower, low lights and no trailers.

Swimming Sessions

Craven (Aireville) swimming pool, Saturday 10 June, 6-7pm. Cost £1 per person - a committee member will try to be at the sessions, will make themselves known and will collect the money; please pay them not the centre staff and show your AWARE membership card.

Youth Club

AWARE Youth Club takes place at **Addingham Youth Centre 7pm-9pm Fridays** for 7-16 yr olds, for children with ASD/siblings/friend. £2 per family + £1 a friend. A parent must stay with each family, and new members are always welcome. NB No youth club on 2 June. Crafts with Margaret on 9th, trampolining on 23rd, bouncy castle 16th & 30th.

Monday Night Youth Club for 12-18 yr olds

This club for teenagers with Asperger's Syndrome or high functioning autism is run by Tony Parkinson from Bradford Children's Disabilities Team, with the help of a group of trained and dedicated volunteers. The club meets at Addingham Youth Centre, 7-9 pm, Monday nights, with a weekly sub of £1. If you think your son or daughter would be interested, please get in touch with Tony on 01274 734018 or mobile 07880984686.

Thank you to AWARE volunteers

Jenny Jeffels, one of our youth club volunteers was presented with a certificate in recognition for her volunteering for AWARE at the Community Showcase held at the Winter Gardens, Ilkley on Mon 8th of May - well done, Jenny! (A photo appeared in the Wharfedale and Airedale Observer last week.) Only one person could be nominated this year (Mary McTigue was nominated last year), but we would like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny and all our other volunteers for their hard work and commitment.

Trampoline Sessions

The next session will be Saturday 24 June at 11am. Please book ahead with Jo.

Bowling

AWARE's next family bowling session will take place on Sunday 25 June at 11am, at AMF Bowling, Alston Retail Park, Keighley, at a reduced price of £2.50 per person per game. If you would like to join us, please call Jo by Friday 16 June.

AWARE Coffee Morning - Tuesday 20 June

Jill Wallis is giving us another session on brain gym at Addingham youth centre, 10 - 12am.

Brian & Tricia Adock are fundraising for AWARE

Brian and Tricia Adcock, friends of Charlotte Harris who attends the Friday youth club, are doing a round West Yorkshire cycle ride in aid of AWARE. If you would like to sponsor them please send your cheque/PO payable to AWARE to Jo, contact details on back page. We shall let you know how much they raise.

Fundraise for AWARE with old mobile phones and used stamps!

Jo has found another way of raising funds for us: by collecting old mobile phones which can be recycled, and used postage stamps. Please could you give Jo any old mobile phones you are no longer using and also all stamps cut out from envelopes.

[Www.buy.at/aware](http://www.buy.at/aware)

It doesn't cost you any extra, but we get a percentage of the profits.

Printer Cartridges

Please check to see if empties are recycled at your place of work. If not, you could offer to collect them for AWARE. You can bring them to meetings or the youth club or contact Caroline Whitaker on 01535 657402 to arrange collection. Please note that previously re-manufactured inkjet cartridges or damaged ones are no good.

Child Development Centre books

Airedale CDC have asked us to remind our members to return any CDC books they are no longer using as they have parents requesting books that have been loaned out for some time. If you are attending their Annual Fun Day on Saturday 24 June, there will be a table in the Reception area where overdue books/equipment can be returned.

Drop in Sessions for Carers

Wed 14	10.30 – 12.00	Bingley Drop in Bunters café, Myrtle Park, Bingley
Tue 20	10.30 – 12.00	Drop in, Wetherspoons, North Street, Keighley.
Fri 23	10.30 – 12.00	Drop in, Oasis café, Church Street, Ilkley

Carers Resource: 01756 700888

The Resource at King Egbert School Conference 1 July, 9.20 - 4.15

Speakers include Dr Patricia Howlin and Genevieve Edmonds. For info/booking form, contact Rachel Leader or Leanne Brown on 0114 2369931

BILD Courses: Telephone 01562 723025

Social stories and play skills for children with autistic spectrum disorders

London 13 June 2006 Event code SASD4

Personalised learning using supportive strategies in and out of the classroom: PLLuSS

This workshop addresses the needs of the child with complex autism and an inability to learn and stay in the classroom. Manchester 15 June 2006 Event code PLSS3

Intensive interaction

Leeds 20 June 2006 Event code ININ1

NAS Courses: Telephone 0115 911 3367

<http://www.nas.org.uk/nas/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=404&a=5433>

Conferences organised by the NAS Conference and Events Department taking place in our Northern region.

A-Z list of NAS services in England

<http://www.nas.org.uk/nas/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=800&a=9577>

An A-Z list of the services the NAS provides in England

Bradford Info

From the very large to the small and local - the best of living, working, playing and visiting Bradford will be celebrated across the summer in a series of events running from June until the end of September. Big Summer team: 01274 432552 www.bigsummer.info

Help Lines: Need help or support?

The National Autistic Society Parents' Help line: 0845 070 4004 (Mon-Fri 10-4)

email Help Line: autismhelpline@nas.org.uk

PARIS (Public Autism Resource and Information Service): www.info.autism.org.uk

Health Care Professionals Information: 0171 903 3599

Bradford Parent Partnership Line: 01274 481183

North Yorkshire Parent Partnership 01756 792427

Bradford MDC Children's Services: 01274437500

Leeds Social Services: 01133984702.

Carers' Resource, The Wheel House, The Water Mill Park, Broughton Hall Business Park, Broughton, Skipton, BD23 3AG: 01756 700888

Children's Information Link www.bradford.gov.uk/childcare

Barton Hill Advice Service (guides to claiming disability living allowance, attendance allowance and incapacity benefit) www.bhas.org.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

AWARE phone line : 01943 466543, **mob.** 07764432933, **email** jo.galasso@tesco.net

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Committee Members

Chairperson - Kathy Altringham Tel. 01943 609103 email: altringham@lineone.net

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Treasurer - Gary Owen

Librarian -

Membership Sec.- Nina Prosser Tel. 01943 601370 email: nprosser@hotmail.co.uk

Publicity Officer - Lynne Fryer Tel. 01535 640841

Assistant Secretary - Karen Robertson email: karenrobertson31@hotmail.com

Committee Members - Kath Pickard, Bev Bertwistle and Lewis Mackenzie

AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:

Bradford Carers' Grant



BBC Children in Need Appeal