

# AWARE News June 2007

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Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter or material AWARE produces, AWARE Management Committee (Trustees) and any staff (paid or unpaid) cannot accept liability for any matters connected with or arising from this information. AWARE does not recommend any particular approach to autism: we merely seek to inform so families can make their own decisions, tailored to the individual concerned.

June Dates	Time	Activity & Location	Cohort/Age Group	Cost
Thurs 31 May Fri 1 June	10am-3pm	Playscheme Addingham Youth Centre <i>Just turn up</i>	All family	£2/family
Mondays 4, 11, 18 & 25	7 – 9pm	Monday Night Club, Addingham Youth Centre <i>Ring Tony to attend</i>	HFA/AS 12+ (Parents don't stay)	£1/ person
Fridays 6, 15, 22 & 29 <i>NB no club 1 June</i>	7 – 9pm	Friday Youth Club, Addingham Youth Centre <i>Just turn up</i>	Children 7 – 16 yrs, inc siblings (Parents stay)	£2 /family + £1/friend (1 friend per child only)
Saturday 9	6 – 7pm	Swimming, Aireville Pool, Skipton <i>Just turn up</i>	All family	£1/ person
Tuesday 12	7.30pm	Monthly meeting – CDC Airedale Hospital <i>Just turn up</i>	Parents, Carers, Professionals	Free
Tuesday 13	1-2.45pm <i>New time</i>	Coffee & Chat, Addingham Youth Centre, <i>Ring to book</i>	Parents, Carers	Free
Sunday 17	11am	AMF Bowling, Keighley <i>Ring to book</i>	All family	£2.50 pp or BOGOF
Saturday 23	11am	Trampolining, Addingham Youth Centre <i>Ring to book</i>	All family	£2 /family + £1/friend
Sunday 24 Odeon don't know what film it will be yet, ring Jo to find out nearer the day.	10.45am	Cinema – Odeon, Gallagher Leisure Park, Thornbury, Bradford	All family  <i>Just turn up</i>	£2.50 per child, adults free

HFA – High functioning autism, AS – Aspergers

N.B. For further details of all our activities contact Jo 07764432933; for the Monday club contact **Tony** Parkinson on 01274 734018 or mobile 078809 84686.

## **Monthly meeting, Tues 12 June at 7.30pm, Child Development Centre, Airedale Hospital**

The June speaker will be Janet Browne, Education Bradford, who will talk about the use of Social Stories with children with an ASD.

The speaker for May was Claudia Dickinson, Clinical Psychologist, who talked about her research project (in which AWARE parents were involved) on how mothers bond with their ASD child. Claudia presented the interim findings to her research and said that we shall receive copies of the final report when it is published. Claudia kindly gave AWARE a donation of £200 for our assistance with her research, for which we are very grateful.

The monthly CDC meetings are not currently very well attended and we know from members that some parents would like to attend but can't make it in the evening; any suggestions to a more convenient day and time would be welcome. If the majority of people prefer day time, then it could possibly be at Addingham YC as the CDC wouldn't be available to us during the daytime.

## **AWARE AGM, Cow and Calf Hotel, Ilkley, Tues 10 July at 7.30 pm**

The AGM will take place on Tues 10 July, at 7.30pm at The Cow & Calf Hotel, Ilkley. Nominations for people to stand as committee members should be put forward to Jo at least one week prior to the meeting.

## **Librarian STILL needed urgently!**

Contact Jo if you are interested.

## **Spring bank play scheme**

Play scheme days at spring bank will be Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May and Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June. All supported places taken but if you would like to attend with your children, (up to age 16) just turn up: £2/ family/day + £1 per friend.

## **Advance notice of summer play scheme**

We are pleased to say we have again received a grant from BBC Children in Need to pay our summer play scheme support workers, so will be able to offer up to eight supported places per day, the scheme will run from Monday 13 – Friday 24 August. Bookings are now being taken for supported places.

## **Summer trips**

Bradford Play Development organise trips for play schemes to attend – they provide the buses and pick up from our venue at a reasonable price. If you are interested please contact Jo asap.

The trips will be:

**2<sup>nd</sup> August Chester Zoo      9<sup>th</sup> August Flamingo Land      16<sup>th</sup> August Scarborough**

Jo doesn't find out further info until 6<sup>th</sup> July so please get in touch to express your interest and she will contact you with further details, as this info will be too late for the July newsletter.

## **Cygnets Group**

Cygnets is a Barnardo's training course for parents of children on the autistic spectrum aged between 7 and 18 years and the next Cygnets course will be running on 6 consecutive Fridays from 15<sup>th</sup> June from 10am – 12.30 at BADASG. If you would like a place or for more information, please contact Andy Morris on 01274 481183

## **Fundraising for the NAS**

AWARE member David Hudson, whose son, Jacob, was diagnosed with an ASD in August 2006 is undertaking a bike challenge from London to Paris in Sept 2007 in support of the NAS. Having received lots of support from the NAS, Jacob's parents Davis and partner Lisa Webster want to give something back: David's challenge is to cycle over 300km in 3 days! For more information:

[www.getmilesmore.org.uk/event\\_details.php?id=22](http://www.getmilesmore.org.uk/event_details.php?id=22)

You can also donate online at: [www.justgiving.com/davidmudson](http://www.justgiving.com/davidmudson)

## **NAS help! 2 Parent Seminars**

### Anger Management in Adolescents with AS

This seminar is aimed at parents/carers of children aged between 10 and 16 with a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome and will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> June in Wakefield and will cover communication strategies and coping strategies for dealing with difficult behaviours.

### Supporting Siblings of your child with ASD

This seminar is aimed at parents/carers of children with ASD and additional siblings (aged up to 18) and will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> June in Sheffield.

For more information on either of these seminars or to book a place, contact Jill Seward on 0115 847 3531 or e-mail [help2@nas.org.uk](mailto:help2@nas.org.uk)

## **From BADASG In Focus: Autism in Adulthood**

A great deal of emphasis is placed on children with autism and a lot of the help available is aimed at children and young people, but what is available for adults on the autistic spectrum? Unfortunately, not a great deal is available in Bradford. In fact, according to the PARIS database (Public Autism Resource & Information Service), there are 19 services that fit the criteria 'adult services' in Yorkshire (4 in Bradford and one of these is for adult siblings), in comparison to 57 in the West Midlands.

In Bradford we have an employment service: Prospects Step into Work, and advocacy service, and a diagnostic service for adults, but it is somewhat more difficult to find the kinds of community outreach services, social groups or supported living projects that are available in other areas. Of the few resources that we have, Prospects Step into Work is an organisation that can provide support in finding work for people on the autistic spectrum who are receiving incapacity benefit and have (or are seeking) a diagnosis of autism or Asperger's syndrome. Further details about prospects can be found on the National Autistic Society website at [www.nas.org.uk/prospects/yorkshumber](http://www.nas.org.uk/prospects/yorkshumber). The advocacy service that people on the autistic spectrum can access is the Mental Health Advocacy Group. They can provide support, advice and information and can be contacted on 01274 770118.

The diagnostic service in Bradford is through Leeds Road Hospital. They can be contacted on 01274 363666

There is some additional help available, but these are not specific to Bradford and district. The closest support group for adults is Leeds Asperger Adults. They support adults with Asperger syndrome and you can find them at [www.leedsaspergeradults.org.uk](http://www.leedsaspergeradults.org.uk)

NB. BADASG will be relocating to new premises in June: 89 Caledonia Street, Bradford

## **Disability Advice Bradford Holiday Information**

This service provides clients with information on specialist holidays, locations, accommodation and leisure activities. Clients who are unable to afford a holiday can also apply to the scheme for support in applying to certain trusts and charities. Please contact Martin Brooks on 01274 594173.

A similar service for carers called The Bradford Carers' Holiday Scheme is also run from DAB by Kath Davies on the same number.

### **Survey for people with AS or HFA**

A PhD psychology student from Royal Holloway, Pippa Hembry, is investigating what people with AS or who are HFA worry about in order to help us provide them/you with better support. The survey is completely anonymous and can be completed on line by people aged over 18 with AS or HFA: [www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=155312119269](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=155312119269)

Please contact Pippa On 01784 414012 or [p.hembry@hahoo.co.uk](mailto:p.hembry@hahoo.co.uk) if you have any questions or would like a paper copy.

### **Fundraise for AWARE with old mobile phones and used stamps!**

Please collect old mobile phones, and used postage stamps (with as much paper cut off as possible please) to raise money for AWARE. Please save them and bring them along to any of our sessions, or ring Jo and she will arrange collection.

**Please make internet purchases via our webshop at <http://www.buy.at/aware>**

It doesn't cost you any extra, but we get a percentage of the profits, so please buy here!

Shops include - Amazon, John Lewis, M & S, Littlewoods, Adams kids, Early Learning Centre.

### **Printer Cartridges**

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

### **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](mailto:autismhelpline@nas.org.uk)

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

Health Care Professionals Information: 0207 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](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/childcare)

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

### **AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:**

#### ***Bradford Carers' Grant***



*The Cow & Calf, Ilkley*

