

here to help...support & advice numbers

NAS South Lanarkshire: 07941 252 485

Local advice and support direct from the South Lanarkshire branch.

NAS Helpline: 0845 070 4004 (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm)

A UK wide service with advisers who have all worked with people with an ASD. The line is open to people with ASD, family members & professionals.

Advocacy For Education: 0845 070 4002 (Option 3)

Education Advice and advocacy for parents and carers of children with autism.

Parent To Parent Line: 0800 9520 520

Free, confidential support to parents of a child or adult with autism provided by other volunteer parents.

future meetings

We meet every second Wednesday of the month in the District Court Room, Civic Centre, Andrew Street, East Kilbride (beside the Ballerup Hall) from 7:30pm until 9:30pm. Mums & Dads, Gran-nies & Grandpas, Aunties & Uncles, Carers and Professionals are all welcome.

We work to have guest speakers at our meetings, but the meetings without speakers are always very lively too! Speakers will be confirmed on the email mailing list and website. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for future speakers.

Dates for the rest of the year are as follows:

May 14, Jun 11, July 9, August 13, Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10.

Check our website for guest speakers.

contact details

If you would be interested in helping out in any way, please make contact.

Our contact details are:

Ross Macfadyen

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Elaine McKelvie

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web: www.trialogue.org.uk

Branch Address: South Lanarkshire NAS, 9 Halfmerk North, Maxwellton, East Kilbride, G74 3EH.

got an email address?

It is much cheaper and easier to email [trialogue](mailto:mail@trialogue.org.uk). Please send an email to mail@trialogue.org.uk and I'll add you to the list. You will also receive news updates/info as I get it. No "spam" guaranteed!

Many thanks. This newsletter is also available at : www.trialogue.org.uk/Newsletters/index.htm

the usual legal notice!

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The National
Autistic Society
south lanarkshire
www.trialogue.org.uk

The Newsletter of NAS South Lanarkshire

Issue No 11 : May 2008

tiger tim supports I Exist

Our launch of the National Autistic Society's *I Exist* campaign report at the Banqueting Suite, County Buildings was great success!

The report was launched at South Lanarkshire Council headquarters and was attended by over 70 guests, including DJ 'Tiger' Tim Stevens MBE from Radio Clyde 2.

The event was hosted by Dr Charles Clark, Public Health Consultant, NHS Lanarkshire. Dr Clark recounted his experience in

supporting people with autism. Also speaking were Carol Evans, NAS Director for Scotland, who called for more services for adults with autism across Scotland. Mark Lever, NAS Chief Executive, outlined the *I Exist* campaign aims. Nigel Rooke highlighted the services of the Glasgow Autism Resource Centre.

NAS Councillor for Scotland, Ross Macfadyen said: "We are really delighted that so many people were able to attend the Central Scotland launch of this important report and help to make the evening a big success. We hope that those in attendance will take away the report and use it to improve and develop their services for adults with autism."

"I'd like to thank the speakers who supported the event, in particularly Dr Charles Clark, NHS Lanarkshire for hosting the event and 'Tiger' Tim for his support. The presentation from Nigel Rooke of the Glasgow Autism Resource Centre outlined the diagnosis and support they provide for adults with autism. It is one of only two such centres in Scotland. With an estimated 35,000 adults with autism in Scotland, we desperately need these centres to be available in all Health Board areas."



'Tiger' Tim Stevens, Ross Macfadyen, Dr Charles Clark & Mark Lever



www.think-differently.org.uk

Your autism charity

meet the committee

We have a new branch committee, which started by arranging the I Exist event at the County Buildings. Joining Ross are Elaine McKelvie and Karen McWilliams.

contact a family

South Lanarkshire has a new Contact a Family representative, our own Elaine McKelvie!

Contact a Family has a network of parent volunteer representatives across Scotland giving support and information to parents of children with additional needs. There is a helpline; parent to parent contact; and an online directory of every disability and syndrome with details of what each entails and helplines for each.

For more information, contact Elaine on 01355 237569. e-mail: elaine.mckelvie@cafamily.org.uk or web: www.cafamily.org.uk

summer holidays

As last year, we have acquired Playscheme Passes for travel throughout Strathclyde Region.

They can be used Monday to Friday outside peak hours on bus, train, underground and ferry services. For example, you could take a train to Glasgow, then to Largs and get the ferry across to Millport! Bike hire, unfortunately is not covered by the passes!

Details and to book the passes, phone Elaine on 07989 784024.

We also have group membership of the Glasgow Science centre, which means you can get in for £3 a head instead of £10. You need the pass to get in, so if you'd like to take advantage of this, call Ross or Elaine. You could also use the travel passes to get there too!



princess royal trust training

The Princess Royal Trust for Carers runs training courses for carers across Lanarkshire. One such course is *Challenging Behaviour*. This course is running at the following times:

Thurs 8th May 10:30am-2:30pm at the PRT LLC in Airdrie
Mon 2nd June 10:30am-2:30pm at the Murray Owen Centre, East Kilbride

There is also a two day course at Moodiesburn Church on Thurs 15th and Fri 22nd May.

If you are interested in these or the other courses the PRT provide, call the Lanarkshire Carers Centre on 01698 428090

SLC make room for autism

South Lanarkshire Council have extended autism specific primary classroom into the Rutherglen/Cambuslang area.

From August 2008, there will be a class of 6 in Cathkin Primary School and another class will follow in 2009/2010. From August 2008, there will also be additional placements available at Robert Owen Primary in Lanark.



Further, a new general additional support needs unit will be created in Cairns Primary School in 2011.

Jackie Brown, of the *Make Room For Autism* campaign said, "It is difficult to put into

words just what this means for families in Rutherglen & Cambuslang who have a child with autism either now or in future. We could not be happier!"

"Cathkin Primary is a wonderful school with an excellent existing base of children with additional support needs. This is what we had always hoped would be the decision of South Lanarkshire Council and it is without doubt the best location for a new autism unit to develop and grow."

Local MSP, Robert Brown said, "This is brilliant news. The campaign group have done a superb job and it has been a privilege to work with them. It is entirely right that young people with ASD should have proper and suitable support in their own community"

Rutherglen SLC councillor Eileen Baxendale added, "Congratulations to the Make Room for Autism campaign group. I am pleased that South Lanarkshire Council have responded positively by planning the local provision of two small classes for primary aged children with autism."

Council leader, Eddie McAvoy commented, "this is all down to Mrs Brown, who fought a very good campaign. I never knew about these problems until they were brought to my attention. I'm delighted we are able to do the right thing."

coffee morning - sat 30th may 10-12

We will be having a fundraising coffee morning at Claremont Parish Church on Saturday 30th May from 10 am until 12 noon. Please come along for a cuppa and a gab!

We also have some brick-a-brac on sale. Donations would be gratefully accepted.