



Press Release SL03/12/03

For Immediate Release

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SOUTH LANARKSHIRE NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY VISIT ART CENTRE PANTO

The South Lanarkshire Branch of The National Autistic Society visited the "Scrooge" Panto at the East Kilbride Arts Centre on Wednesday 17th December.

As a feature of autism is heightened senses, the performance was especially tailored for the audience: lighting effects were altered and sound effects were either cut out or turned down. Some of the ghosts' appearances were toned down a little so they were not too scary for the children. "We were happy to adapt the show for the NAS kids. They were a great audience," said Raymond Burke, director of KYBO Theatre Company and pantomime villain Captain Bilgewood.

Branch Chairperson Linda Johnson said, "We'd like to thank Radio Clyde's Cash For Kids appeal for funding our visit to the panto. The night was a roaring success with over 90 people attending. We raised £100 for branch funds, which will help South Lanarkshire people living with autism or Asperger's Syndrome."

The next monthly meeting of the NAS is on Wednesday 14th January in the District Court Rooms, Civic Centre, Andrew Street, East Kilbride. Further information can be accessed on our website www.slnas.org.uk.

The attached picture shows back row: Colin Jarvie (Treasurer, SLNAS), Denize Donnelly (as Senga), Ross Macfadyen (Communications, SLNAS). Front Row: Raymond Burke (as Captain Bilgewood), Linda Johnson (Chairperson, SLNAS), Gordon Munroe (as Scrooge) and Ian Foyer (as Bob Cratchett).