

Vice Chair's Report – 31st May 2017

Autism Awareness Presentations

'Living with ASC'

Late 2015 BAAS was approached by Helen Bucke, Occupational Therapist/Team Manager of the ASC Support Team in Bolton and her team as part of the TES (Trafford Extended Service) and Greater Manchester Mental Health Team (GMMHT), with a view to giving presentations at their Autism Awareness Training sessions to delegates, comprising of professionals and parents/carers.

To date, both the Chairman, Graham Heywood and Vice Chairman, Roselle Gorman, have given 11 presentations to May 2017 sharing our experiences from the perspective of parents/carers bringing up our sons with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC's), input of which is always well received and feedback has been very encouraging.

Our presentations have taken place at various venues including Royal Bolton Hospital, Castle Hill, Bolton, Brunswick House, Salford and The Curve, Prestwich (next to Prestwich Hospital).

Helen Bucke advises that our input has been much valued, has received fantastic evaluations and their courses are now over-subscribed.

As a result, the group was awarded a donation of £500 from NWTDT to March 2016.

Vice Chair, Roselle, now has a beautiful video explaining autism in simple terms which, it is felt, will be of great interest to the trainees and raise awareness among non-autistic audiences, to stimulate understanding and tolerance in future generations. This will be viewed and discussed at future presentations.

Further presentations have been requested, the latest of which took place on Tuesday 23rd May in Prestwich and a further is booked for 26th September at Brunswick House in Salford.