Welcome to the August/September issue of Surrey News

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- Please vote for us in the Lloyds Community Fund 2014 – page 4
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NAS Surrey Branch talks – page 6
- Guildford Weds 17th September – Dr Raja Mukherjee on diagnosis and mental health problems in adults.
- Redhill Weds 8th October – Anna Nicholson from NAS on updates to the SEN Code of Practice.

Careless campaign: Please act by Aug 15th

The NAS has been running a campaign called ‘Careless’, about the regulations and guidance for the Care Act – the new framework in England under which councils will decide which adults with autism or other health/disability/care needs will receive support. The regulations and guidance set out in detail how councils should make these decisions. The NAS launched their Careless campaign because they are concerned the new system as it stands could leave many adults with autism at risk of abuse, neglect and social isolation as the proposals fail to adequately recognise needs such as staying safe, building relationships or being verbally prompted to carry out tasks.

There is now a new campaign action which the NAS is asking people to take, which must be done BEFORE AUGUST 15th. All you have to do is answer four key questions which the Government want your views on (you can give your answers to all four, or just some of them if you prefer). Your answers will show the importance of making sure the new rules take autism into account. You'll find advice on things to consider so don't worry if you've never written a response before. You can contribute via this link https://act.autism.org.uk/ea-action/action?ea.client.id=10&ea.campaign.id=29706&ea.tracking.id=NASWebsite

Emma
Emma Whitfield
Branch Officer (volunteer)

News and information for adults with ASDs - page 8

NAS Surrey Branch
Tel: 07423 435 413
Email: emma@mugsy.org
Web site: www.mugsy.org
Twitter: @NASSurreyBranch
Donations: www.justgiving.com/nassurreybranch
NAS Surrey Branch Contacts

Branch officer:
Emma Whitfield 07423 435413 emma@mugsy.org

Treasurer:
Haywood Drake 01483 457646bobdrake357@btinternet.com

Information officer/web site:
John Muggleton 01483 872683 john@mugsy.org

Branch Membership:
Nancy Rowell 01252 514708 membership@mugsy.org

Events:
Sarah Mead 01483 454245 sarah_mead@hotmail.co.uk
Emma Searle 01737 360069 ephillpotts@gmail.com

Deputy Branch Officer / Adults:
Sara Truman 01483 822630 nas@mugsy.org

Branch libraries:
West: Haywood Drake 01483 457646 bobdrake357@btinternet.com
East: Jenny Lawson 01342 314801 jenny.lawson73@gmail.com

West Surrey:
Natalie Pattinson 01483 850142 punkpin_pie@yahoo.co.uk

North Surrey
Eileen Bruce 01932 225379 evbrcue@hotmail.co.uk

South East Surrey:
Helen Trenaman 01737 360069 trenamans@talktalk.net

Parents of Girls' Group
Rachel Pearson 01483 727378 racheldpearson@gmail.com

Fathers’ Group:
Martin Trenaman 01737 360069 trenamans@talktalk.net

Parents of Adults’ Group
Hilary Dyce 01276 66032 hilarydyce@yahoo.co.uk

Other Useful Contacts

Unless stated, organisations not endorsed by the NAS Surrey Branch or the NAS

NAS web site: www.autism.org.uk. For personalised information go to www.autism.org.uk/signpost.aspx

NAS Helpline: Tel: 0808 800 4104 (10am – 4pm), or email autismhelpline@nas.org.uk (replies within 14 working days)

NAS national membership: 020 7903 3563. Email membership@nas.org.uk

Education Support

NAS Education Rights: 0808 800 4102
Surrey Parent Partnership: 01737 737300 http://www.surreyparentpartnership.org.uk/

SOSISEN charity to support statementing, tel: 020 8538 3731, Web: www.sossen.org.uk

Family Support & Representation

NAS Family Support worker - for families with at least one child in mainstream education Tessa.emery@nas.org.uk, tel: 07436 261163.

NAS Parent-to-Parent line 0808 800 4106
Portage – support for children with additional needs under 3.5 years 0300 200 1004

Family Voice Surrey www.familyvoicesurrey.org

Activities for children and young people

NAS Resource Centre, Godalming Tel: 01483 521743
SEResourceCentres@nas.org.uk
InterAKlive, Epsom-based charity for children with ASDs and other communication difficulties 07876 762178, www.interaktive.org.uk
SID (Social Information on Disability) useful information site www.asksid.org.uk/fab

Local parent support / classes

Redhill CAMHS group for parents of children with ASDs, tel: 01737-287002
Early Bird (under 5) / Early Bird plus (5-8yrs) developed by NAS, delivered by trained staff from Surrey CC. Tel: 0300 200 1004

Adult Services

Surrey Adult social svcs: 0300 200 1005
NAS Surrey Service Tel: 01483 861600, email: surrey.service@nas.org.uk

Employment Support

Employability for people with learning disabilities/ASDs tel: 01483-519690, email: employability@surreycc.gov.uk

Benefits advice

Carers Support http://www.carers.org/carers-services/find-your-local-service
Cerebra DLA guide: 0800 328 1159
About the NAS Surrey Branch

The Surrey Branch of the NAS is a volunteer-run parent-to-parent support group for families in Surrey affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders. It’s FREE to join (although a small donation is appreciated) and we have around 1,400 members.

The branch holds regular meetings to which non-members are also welcome. It also organises social events, local coffee mornings and special interest groups, and represents parents in meetings with health, education and social services. We host an active Yahoo! online forum, and produce this newsletter every two months. To join, email emma@mugsy.org for a membership form or go to www.mugsy.org/membership.

If you are a member of the NAS at national level, you can nominate us as your branch by emailing membership@nas.org.uk, which means we receive a percentage of your annual subscription.

We’re part of The National Autistic Society, a national charity founded by parents in 1962 which runs a wide range of services such as schools, clubs and adult centres. It has over 20,000 members, 100 branches and works in partnership with more than 50 local autism societies. The NAS exists to champion the rights and interests of all people with autistic spectrum disorders and to ensure that they and their families receive quality services appropriate to their needs.

National Autistic Society, 393 City Rd, London EC1V 1NG
www.autism.org.uk. The National Autistic Society is a registered charity, number 269425. Company limited by guarantee number 1205298.

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NAS workshop on Autism and Behaviour in Oxted

NAS Family Support worker Tessa Emery (formerly Phillips) is running a workshop in Oxted for parents / carers of children and young people with ASDs designed to help them understand difficult or challenging behaviours and develop strategies to help to manage these. The session is ideal for parents and carers who would like to meet other local families and share experiences.

The 'Autism and Behaviour' workshop will be on Thursday, 11th September from 10am - 2.00pm (NB please bring your own lunch).

Booking Essential – places limited. Please contact parent volunteer Simon Abrams by email at abramsmail@gmail.com.

Dad’s Group Skittles evening in Ewhurst

The Dad’s Group is a friendly group of fathers of children and young people on the spectrum who meet socially a few times year. It is an opportunity to meet other Dads to support each other, build friendships, find out what works and what doesn’t and to have a fun evening. Any Dads are welcome to join the skittles evening in Ewhurst on Friday 19 September at 8.00pm. For further details, contact Martin Trenaman, 01737 360069. trenamans@talktalk.net

We’re Charity of the Year for Sainsbury’s in Dorking

We have been chosen by the ‘Great Place to Work’ team from Sainsbury’s in Dorking as their charity of the year. Thanks go to Sarah Mason for nominating us. Sarah and Louise Mullen have already raised a spectacular £612 at the supermarket’s summer fair, and there are many more opportunities to come. If you live in or around Dorking, please do support Sainsbury’s and let us know if you are able to get involved in any of the fund-raising events planned for the coming year.
Lloyds Community Funding – please vote in September
The NAS Surrey Branch has been shortlisted for public voting in the Lloyds Bank Community Fund 2014 – many thanks to Mandy Elton for nominating us. There were over 4,500 applications and, according to a letter we had from Lloyds, “The standard was very high this year and it’s a great achievement for your nominated community group to have made the short-list”.

The public vote will take place from 2nd September to 10th October 2014 in participating Lloyds branches, online and by SMS. The community group with the most votes in a community will get £3,000, the next £2,000, the third £1,000, with fourth place getting £500 in each of 350 community areas.

Please pop into your local branch of Lloyds or go online to http://www.lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk to vote for us! Thank you

New Sibs group in Kingston
The Kingston autism charity Express CIC has set up a group called Sibs @ Express for children who have a brother or sister with autism.

The group provides an opportunity for children to come together, make new friends and have a space to share their feelings. To find out more, email Express CIC at info@expresscic.org.uk

For those in the Sutton area, there is also an established siblings group called Rainbow Sibs @ Green Wrythe Primary School. Contact is Lilian Cooper, tel : 020 8648 4989, email lcooper22@suttonlea.org .

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If you’re looking for ideas of how to fill the summer holidays, or want useful phrases to talk about your child’s needs when you go abroad, have a look at this useful page on the NAS web site http://www.autism.org.uk/autismsummer

Challenging Behaviour Foundation forum
People who are caring for a relative with severe learning disabilities whose behaviour is described as challenging can now get more specialised help and advice from The Challenging Behaviour Foundation, which now has its own Family Carers’ Email Network. The network is open to parents, siblings, grandparents or even an aunt or uncle of someone with severe learning disabilities.

All the messages are anonymous and you can ask for advice on any issue you’d like. Topics typically include challenging behaviour, iPad apps, strong furniture, how to become a deputy or renovating your house. To join the network, email Jessica at network@thecbf.org.uk. Or read about it on the website www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk.

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If you are looking for advice about issues connected with autism, you can connect with over 700 people in and around Surrey by joining the NAS Surrey Branch forum at http://www.mugsy.org/contact.htm #Form. Or visit the NAS’ national online community http://community.autism.org.uk/

Reigate half marathon
Please support Branch member Helen Reynolds who is running the Reigate half marathon to raise money for the NAS Surrey Branch. You can cheer along on the day on Sunday, 21st September or contact her to donate at nibbleandsqueak@ntlworld.com.

Infographic to help understand SEN reforms
National Autism Board – new members needed


The Board is seeking four new members: two adults on the autistic spectrum who can self-advocate (with or without assistance from a supporter) and two people who are family carers of adults with autism. Remuneration and travel expenses for preparation and attendance at meetings are offered.

For further information about the roles and how to apply please see the Department of Health recruitment page here: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health/about/recruitment (you will need to scroll down to see the item) or contact Anita Wadhawan, Adult Autism Policy Team on 0207 210 5391 or anita.wadhawan@dh.gsi.gov.uk. The deadline for applications is 5th September 2014.

War Horse Relaxed Performance

The National Theatre, in association with the National Autistic Society, is putting on a relaxed performance of War Horse on Saturday 20th September at 2pm. This specially adapted relaxed performance will provide:
- An environment suitable for people with autism / learning disabilities
- Relaxed quiet areas in the foyer
- A visual story to help prepare visitors
- Trained and welcoming staff on hand

Based on the novel by Michael Morpurgo, the show includes amazing life-sized puppets.

You can find out more about the performance or book via the National Theatre web site: www.bit.ly/Vg8yUE

Parents’ chance to have their say on mental health services

The mental health charity YoungMinds is working with NHS England to support the participation of parents and carers in improving mental health services for children and young people.

YoungMinds will be working with the national Children and Young People’s Improving Access to Psychological Therapies programme (CYP IAPT) and the five regional hubs that currently work with 67 CAMHS partnerships, voluntary organisations and local authorities to develop excellent practice involving parents to improve:
- joint decision making around the type of treatment received by the child or young person
- availability and accessibility of services
- overall experience and opportunities to feedback and comment on services

YoungMinds are looking for parents to be involved in this work to help shape and inform what they do.

Over the next 12 months, YoungMinds will support and work with a group of 20 parents or carers to make sure they are properly and accurately reflecting families’ needs and challenges through facilitated workshops, led by an experienced YoungMinds facilitator. Out of pocket expenses will be paid for attendance at workshops, and dates and times will be set according to the availability of the parents attending.

There will also be a closed Facebook group and a chance to be involved on a more informal basis through a wider interest group that will receive only email updates and be asked to feedback on recommendations via email.

If you are a parent or carer interested in helping shape how parents can participate to improve the delivery of care in CAMHS please register by going to http://www.youngminds.org.uk/for_parents/parents_improving_services
Forthcoming Talks & meetings

NAS Surrey Branch Meetings start with coffee at 7.45pm and the talks begin at 8.00pm, lasting around one and a half hours including questions and answers. There is no charge to attend, but we do welcome a small donation on the door. Meetings are open to non-members.

Please contact Emma Whitfield, emma@mugsy.org if you wish to attend to give us an idea of numbers.

WEDS 17th SEPT - GUILDFORD
St Saviours Church, Woodbridge Road, Guildford GU1 4QD.
For map, see page 11 or go to http://tinyurl.com/o4st4nx

Dr. Raja Mukherjee – Adult diagnosis and mental health issues for adults with ASDs

Dr Mukherjee is a consultant psychiatrist with a specialist interest in neurodevelopmental disorders, and he leads the Surrey service for diagnosing autism, Aspergers, ADHD and other complex neurodevelopmental conditions in adults - the AAA Diagnostic Service in Epsom, which was opened last year.

He will talk about the work of the diagnostic service and also answer questions about the mental health issues which can sometimes develop in people with ASDs, and what help is available for them.

Dr Mukherjee leads the clinical teams at Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust for adult autism and is a representative on the Specialist Mental Health Clinical Reference Group to NHS England helping to guide specialist service development.

WEDS 8TH OCTOBER- REDHILL
St Joseph’s Church, 122 Ladbroke Road, Redhill RH1 1JX
For map, see page 11 or go to http://tinyurl.com/o4st4nx

Anna Nicholson, Policy and Participation Officer for London and the South East from NAS head office will give an update on the new SEN code of practice.

She will explain families’ rights under the new legislation and debunk some of the current myths around the new Education Health & Care plans. Please note, she will not be able to answer questions about Surrey’s specific application of the CoP.

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Josh Muggleton’s Report

Many members greatly enjoyed the talk in May by Joshua Muggleton about his trip to Australia to work with Tony Attwood, particularly the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for people on the spectrum. Josh has now published his report on the findings, which includes the topics covered in the talk in more depth, plus more tips and strategies for parents, teachers and psychologists. The report, Improving Outcomes for People with Autism Accessing Psychological Support, is available to download for free here: http://goo.gl/Z8rMLm. Josh says, ”If you find it useful, please feel free to spread it as widely as possible - the more the better! If you do want to share it, it would be brilliant if you could send people the link above for them to download their own copy, rather than send them the report as an attachment. This is just so that the charity which funded this project, The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, can keep track of how many people the report has reached”.

If you have any questions, you can email Josh at joshua@mugsy.org.
Daniel Jeffery is a young man who has Asperger syndrome and volunteers as an NAS Autism Champion. In answer to Emma’s questions, and some from the audience, Dan gave an insightful account into his life and how he has learned to cope with his diagnosis. He told us that his family moved to Camberley so that he could attend Carwarden House School, where for the first time he felt that his teachers understood him.

Although he first began to feel ‘different’ when he was 8 or 9, he was not diagnosed until he was 18. At first he denied it, but now believes it is the ‘coolest thing’ to have Aspergers. Dan said that college was not a success, and he spent 10 ‘wilderness years’ when he didn’t fit in socially anywhere. His ‘Big Bang moment’ was in 2007 when he was referred by a counsellor to the NAS Aspire service in Godalming. This experience, he told us, was a revelation and ‘turned on the lights’ in his head. He met others on the autistic spectrum and began to want to volunteer, starting with the youth group. From then, it has ‘avalanched’ and he feels he is on a ‘wonderful journey’ working with the NAS Campaigns team around the country.

Dan’s message to parents of children on the spectrum is to let them be themselves as much as possible, rather than try to make them fit in. However, he said it is important to encourage young people and help them to meet others. He added that ‘dark spaces’ can be a comfort.

Dan told us that what has helped him most has been social skills training; now he understands about personal space, making eye contact and waiting for pauses in conversation. However he is still sometimes unsure whether something said is a joke or not. He has learned to deal with sensory issues such as being in crowds, which for him is ‘being crushed like in a nutcracker’, by distracting himself – earphones help, as does a stress ball. All this can still be very tiring, and he said that sometimes his ‘filter plays up’ and he can be inappropriate. Dan added that his work at Sainsbury’s has also helped him, and he is able to help others in the store who may be having difficulties.

In answer to parents’ questions, Dan highlighted the need to help children understand that is OK to be different and books such as Asperger Syndrome for Dummies can help. He said that people with ASD can learn from their mistakes, although it is often a matter of trial and error.

Dan sees a brighter future for children on the spectrum; he gave an example from the Autism Show, where he saw a child having a meltdown and everybody helped without judging. He ended by giving a warm tribute to the recently deceased Lorna Wing: ‘People on the spectrum owe her so much, we now have the torch – don’t let the flame die!’

Ombudsman report on Surrey CC and SABP Trust
Surrey County Council and Surrey and Borders Partnership (SABP) NHS Foundation Trust, the providers of CAMHS services, have been criticised in a recent report by the Local Government Ombudsman and the Health Service Ombudsman, following a complaint by the mother of a young man with Aspergers.

The complaint was that the services provided by the council and SABP were inadequate, uncoordinated and failed to meet their needs. You can see the decision summary here: http://www.lgo.org.uk/decisions/children-s-care-services/disabled-children/surrey-county-council-09-007-810-joint-phso/
News for Adults

Surrey CC Local Authority Trading Company

On 18th August some adult social care services for people with disabilities currently provided by Surrey County Council will be put under the management of a new organisation called Surrey Choices. This is a company which is wholly owned by Surrey County Council, but trading as a type of business known as a Local Authority Trading Company (LATC).

Many local authorities have set up LATCs in recent years, because it enables them to have more flexibility. For instance, someone who wants to use a Council funded drama group for people with learning disabilities, but is not eligible to have services provided by the Council, would currently not be able to go. Under the new system, he would have the chance to pay to attend the group. Those who currently receive social care services from Surrey County Council will still get their service paid for by the Council.

In the immediate future, current service users should not notice much change other than the name Surrey Choices being seen where it used to say Surrey County Council. In future it is hoped that new services will be introduced in response to the wishes of current and potential service user customers. For more information go to http://surreychoices.com/

TV series about gardening and ASD

Betty, an independent television production company, is making a new series for a major channel exploring the benefits of gardening for people with autism. This series will feature award-winning landscape designer, Alan Gardner, who has Asperger syndrome. Using his own knowledge and experience, Alan will train up a small team of gardening enthusiasts who have ASD who will transform unloved, unruly and unkempt gardens under Alan’s continued mentorship.

The Betty team wants to find people who would be interested in becoming gardening apprentices and would be available for filming intermittently from September until early October 2014 (the schedule is still being decided). The gardens will be in different parts of south east England so some travel and overnight stays in hotels will be required. The production team will pay for these. They are looking for men or women, aged 18 and above, who have been diagnosed with autism or Asperger syndrome and are interested or experienced in gardening.

If you would like to take part and be filmed for national television or you would like further information, please contact Louisa Mullan in the NAS press team Louisa.mullan@nas.org.uk tel: 020 7903 3588.

New group in Reigate

A new group for adults with Aspergers is meeting in Reigate twice a month on Mondays from 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. The group is being run by the Advocacy organisation Surrey Disabled People’s Partnership. For more details email: mary@sdpp.org.uk or tel: 07885 705133.

There is also a group in Camberley which meets on Wednesdays. Email wendy@sdpp.org.uk or tel: 07885 705132.

ASPIre forthcoming dates

The NAS Aspire social group for over-18s meets throughout the summer in Godalming on alternate Thursdays from 18.00 to 21.00. Next dates are August 21st, September 4th and 18th, October 2nd, 16th and 30th. Discussion topics are chosen and led by members of the group Contact Howard Childs Tel: 078 999 355 18, email: howard.childs@nas.org.uk.
For those who were not able to make it to our AGM in Woking in July, here is a copy of the Branch Officer’s Report to members.

National Autistic Society Surrey Branch
Annual Report to members – July 2014

We now have over 1400 people in and around Surrey who receive our newsletter and almost 800 people who belong to our moderated online forum.

Local Support Groups
- Local meetings continue to evolve and grow, with new meetings this year in Frensham, Haslemere, Cranleigh and Chertsey, in addition to our established groups in Guildford, Camberley, Walton-on-Thames, Bookham, Redhill and Woking.
- The parents of girls group, run by Rachel Pearson, now has over 80 members and continues to meet in Woking and Guildford.
- The parents of adults group, run by Hilary Dyce and Sara Truman, meets monthly in Farnham, Guildford, Camberley and Weybridge and once a quarter in Reigate.
- The Dads’ group, run by Martin Trenaman, continues to meet about once a quarter in members’ homes or local pubs, as well as offering a dedicated email forum.

Events
With most cinema groups now offering ASD-friendly screenings, we have stopped hosting our dedicated cinema event, but plan to replace it with a bowling event in November.
Indoor climbing – as the Redhill venue has sadly closed, we returned to Walton-on-Thames in February, with a good turnout of children with ASDs and their siblings. As ever, the staff at High Sports were fantastic with all the children.
Ice skating in Guildford: this event, held jointly with interAKtive, is consistently well attended, attracting old and new members every year.
Christmas party was again at Woking Leisure Centre where we had dedicated use of the soft-play area and sensory room for under-9s. Thanks again go to Santa, Ben Whitfield.

Talks
Over the past year we have attracted up to 50 people to our talks, with speakers including Catherine Manning from the Centre for Research into Autism & Education; Josh Muggleton on working with Tony Attwood and CBT. Alaster Calder from Surrey CC on benefits; Simon Lowe, a young man with ASD; Hugh Constant, Head of transition for Surrey CC; Clare Truman on growing up as a sibling of someone with an ASD and Christina Earl of EmployAbility on supporting people into work.

Branch volunteers also talk regularly at parents’ groups and workshops run by health and CAMHS.

Branch Conference
Our 2013 event, “Autism, what really helps” was a huge success and Sara Truman has kindly offered to run another one in autumn 2015. The topic will be announced shortly.

Parent workshops
We hosted three full-day NAS Family Autism Seminars in Leatherhead and Guildford for up to 25 parents each, covering the topics of Managing Behaviour; Understanding Behaviour and Supporting Siblings. Thanks to generous donors, we were able to offer these free to parents.
Lobbying
We have continued our meetings with CAMHS and now have three clinical 'autism champions' for each region, plus support from LD nursing and the ASD primary mental health worker. Sara Truman and John Muggleton represent families with ASDs on the Autism Partnership Board and various committees and I have been an active member of the parent representation forum Family Voice until stepping down from the steering committee last month, although I remain an associate member of the group.

Donations and fundraising
We have continued to benefit from kind donations from individuals, companies and groups who are too numerous to mention. Special thanks go to Squires garden centre in Cobham, who made us their charity of the year for 2013/14, and for the team of members who collected money in Santa's Grotto there over Christmas. Thanks too to ATG Theatres who allowed a team of volunteers to collect at the live screening of 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time' in May and the Epworth Choir who held a concert in Woking to raise funds. The branch has used donations to fund parent workshops and events.

Branch Committee
Thanks as ever go our very hard-working and knowledgeable committee. We have recruited two new committee members this year – Emma Searle and Eileen Bruce.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emma Whitfield</td>
<td>Branch Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haywood Drake</td>
<td>Treasurer / W Surrey Librarian</td>
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<td>Sara Truman</td>
<td>Deputy Branch Officer / Adult Issues</td>
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<td>John Muggleton</td>
<td>Information Officer</td>
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<td>Sarah Mead</td>
<td>Event bookings</td>
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<td>Natalie Pattinson</td>
<td>NW Surrey rep</td>
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<td>Rachel Pearson</td>
<td>Parents of girls / employment issues</td>
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<td>Eileen Bruce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emma Searle</td>
<td>Events</td>
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Sarah Davis, Anna Tuckman and Adrian Good have stepped down this year, but Anna is still helping with event bookings and Adrian continues to act as key link with the CAMHS group for parents of children with ASDs in Redhill. Thanks go to all of them for their help.

Our thanks also go to our other key volunteers:
- Nancy Rowell, membership secretary
- Stella Drake for providing teas and coffees at Guildford and Woking
- The Redhill meetings team – Marion Simpson, Helen Trenaman and E Surrey librarian, Jenny Lawson
- Other coffee morning hosts, Tessa Patel (Walton), Christine Malik and Bonnie Noyce (Frensham), Donna Pigden-Bennet (Camberley), Jeni Cronin (Bookham), Fiona Ringwood (Haslemere), Lucy Tosh (Cranleigh) and Sara Mason (Dorking)
- Hilary Dyce for organising the parents of adults group with Sara Truman, and acting as reporter on some of our meetings.
- Martin Trenaman for organising the dads’ group.

Thanks also go to Alessia Mitchell, Jamie Mitchell and Charlotte Bignell our key branch support contacts at NAS head office.

Emma Whitfield
Branch Officer, NAS Surrey Branch 8th July 2014
Maps to Branch Meetings

GUILDFORD Wednesday 17th September. St Saviours Church, Woodbridge Road, Guildford GU1 4QD.

REDHILL Wednesday 8th October. St Joseph’s, 122 Ladbroke Road, Redhill RH1 1JX
NAS Surrey Branch Calendar September - October 2014

Our local support group meetings and talks are a great place to meet other people who may be dealing with similar issues to yours. Please always phone/email the host for details and to make sure it's still on before you go.

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<tr>
<th>September</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 4th Sept 7.30pm Farnham PARENTS OF ADULTS GROUP Hilary Dyce 01276 66032 <a href="mailto:hilarydyce@yahoo.co.uk">hilarydyce@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Monday 29th 9.30am Frensham LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Christine Malik 07941 121395 <a href="mailto:christinemalik@btinternet.com">christinemalik@btinternet.com</a> or Bonnie Noyce 07712 187083 <a href="mailto:jbnoyce@yahoo.com">jbnoyce@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 11th 10.00am Haslemere LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Fiona Bowring 01428 641087 <a href="mailto:timandfiona@btinternet.com">timandfiona@btinternet.com</a></td>
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<td>Friday 12th 10.00am Guildford LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Sara Truman 01483 822630 <a href="mailto:nas@mugsy.org">nas@mugsy.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 17th 10.00am Walton-on-Thames LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Tessa Patel 01932 886578</td>
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<td>Wednesday 17th 10.00am Redhill LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Helen Ruffhead 01737 212043 <a href="mailto:h.ruffhead@ntlworld.com">h.ruffhead@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>Weds 1st Oct 7.30pm Camberley – PARENTS OF ADULTS GROUP Hilary Dyce 01276 66032 <a href="mailto:hilarydyce@yahoo.co.uk">hilarydyce@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Wednesday 17th 7.45 for 8.00pm Guildford Talk by Dr. Raja Mukherjee on adult diagnosis &amp; mental health for adults with ASDs Emma Whitfield <a href="mailto:emma@mugsy.org">emma@mugsy.org</a> 07423 435413</td>
<td>Weds 1st 10.00am Chertsey LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Emma Whitfield 07423 435413 <a href="mailto:emma@mugsy.org">emma@mugsy.org</a></td>
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<td>Thursday 18th 10.00am Guildford PARENTS OF GIRLS GROUP Rachel Pearson 01483 727378 <a href="mailto:racheldpearson@gmail.com">racheldpearson@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Thurs 2nd (TBC) 7.30pm Reigate PARENTS OF ADULTS GROUP Sara Truman 01483 822630 <a href="mailto:nas@mugsy.org">nas@mugsy.org</a></td>
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<td>Friday 19th 8.00pm Ewhurst Dads’ Group Skittles evening Martin Trenaman 01737 360069 <a href="mailto:trenamans@talktalk.net">trenamans@talktalk.net</a></td>
<td>Weds 8th 7.45 for 8.00pm Redhill Talk by Anna Nicholson, Policy &amp; Participation, NAS, on the new SEN code of practice Emma Whitfield <a href="mailto:emma@mugsy.org">emma@mugsy.org</a> 07423 435413</td>
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<td>Tuesday 23rd 10.00am Camberley LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Donna Pigden-Bennett 01276 670347 <a href="mailto:donna@woodcoteconsultants.co.uk">donna@woodcoteconsultants.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Wednesday 24th 10.30am Bookham LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Jeni Cronin <a href="mailto:jeni.cronin@talk21.com">jeni.cronin@talk21.com</a> 01372 458661</td>
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<td>Friday 26th 10.00am Cranleigh LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Lucy Tosh 07968 948513 <a href="mailto:lucy@lucytosh.co.uk">lucy@lucytosh.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Monday 20th 9.30am Frensham LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Bonnie Noyce 07712 187083 <a href="mailto:jbnoyce@yahoo.com">jbnoyce@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Friday 24th 10.00am Cranleigh LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP Lucy Tosh 07968 948513 <a href="mailto:lucy@lucytosh.co.uk">lucy@lucytosh.co.uk</a></td>
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