

BORDERS ASPERGER & AUTISM GROUP SUPPORT



- SC; 032508



Borders Asperger & Autism Group Support

- Who are we?
- What do we do?
- Why do we do it?
- Where do we do it?
- When do we do it?



WHO are BAAGS?

Committee



- accountancy skills, fundraising skills, event management skills, administration skills, marketing skills, design/editorial skills, public speaking skills, couple/family mediation techniques, property buyers, respite care providers, advisers, advocates.....



What do BAAGS do?

- Signpost to other relevant agencies
- Advocacy during meetings/appointments
- Information to help understand the condition
- Advice to help be understood & accepted
- Support in times of anxiety & stress
- Encouragement to keep on going
- Friendship for life
- Respite if it helps
- ACCEPTANCE



Why do we do it?

- Been there, done that, seen the film, bought the t-shirt etc etc.....
- Give a future for our children
- To have autistic people accepted as the 'norm'
- Someone has to!!!!!!



Where do we do it?

- Open meetings  **The Keg**, Golden Lion High Street, Galashiels on the **LAST MONDAY** of **EVERY MONTH**, @ 7-30pm.

EVERYONE WELCOME

- Casual coffee at an agreed place.
- E – mail, phone, letter
- Wherever it is needed



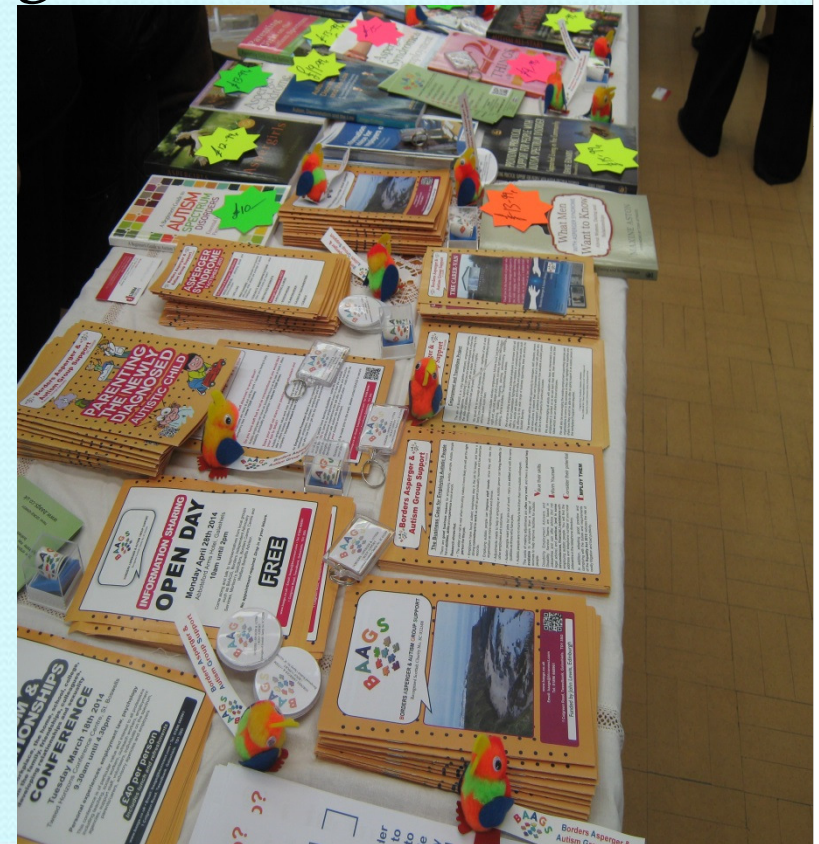
When do we do it?

- As soon as the phone rings.
- As soon as we read the email.
- As soon as the letter arrives.
- As soon as a person contacts us.
- No set working hours, no closed office, no holiday breaks
- **WHEN WE ARE NEEDED AND ASKED**



BAAGS.....

- Training workshops/seminars
- Outreach talks/networking
- Fundraising events
- Membership
- Resources
- CARER-VAN





BAAGS.....

- **Training...** high quality, professional speakers, comfortable & local venues, affordable to all delegates...Members discounts
- **Outreach/networking...**local organisation/group talks, attend other organisation events, support other groups and promote their work
- **Fundraising.....** Store collections, Charity nights, selling crafts, collecting cans in a range of shops
- **Membership.....** £5 per year helps towards costs such as postage, stationary items etc.



.....BAAGS

- **Fundraising events.....** Music nights, raffles, body-shop parties, book selling parties, Annual Quiz Night..... Always looking for ideas and helpers!!!
- **Resources.....**books, videos, weighted blankets, soft play shapes, lap pads, tactile cushions, body huggers, special needs buggy, sensory tiles...all available for members to borrow
- **CARER-VAN.....**for respite and holidays. Anyone who lives with autism is welcome to have use of the CARER-VAN...for short breaks or a planned holiday. Costs are kept to a minimum, we can be flexible depending on circumstances and funding issues.



CARER-VAN



- ◆ 8-berth
- ◆ 3 bedrooms
- ◆ Double- Glazed lockable windows
- ◆ Full central heating in all rooms
- ◆ TV with built in DVD
- ◆ 2 x twin bedded rooms with over-head storage and wardrobes
- ◆ 1 x Master bedroom with over-head storage and wardrobes
- ◆ shower & w.c.
- ◆ separate w.c. & hand basin
- ◆ Fully equipped kitchen includes full size fridge/freezer
- ◆ Wooden decking to side and front of caravan
- ◆ quiet cul-de-sac
- ◆ Parking adjacent to van
- ◆ passes included

On site amenities on this Family friendly haven holiday site include;

- ★ Heated swimming pool (indoors)
 - ★ outside pool
 - ★ adventure playground
 - ★ tennis
 - ★ Show bar
 - ★ live entertainment
 - ★ amusements
 - ★ Restaurant
 - ★ Supermarket
 - ★ Gift Shop
 - ★ Launderette
- Plus loads more




- What is your understanding and knowledge of Autism?
- Do you work with someone with Autism?
- Do you know someone with Autism?
- Have you ever seen a documentary or read about Autism?
- Do you have any specific questions? What are they?



AUTISM

- Autism is a lifelong neuro-developmental condition
- Autism is believed to be heritable of which the causes are poorly understood
- Symptoms typically manifest between the age of 18 months and 3 years
- There is no cure for autism, however, early intervention has proven to support an individual to realise their full potential



“Autism isn’t something a person has, or a ‘shell’ that someone is trapped inside. There’s no normal child hidden behind the autism. Autism is a way of being. It is pervasive; it colours every experience, every sensation, perception, thought, emotion and encounter, every aspect of existence... This is important so take a moment to consider it: **Autism is a way of being. It is not possible to separate the person from the autism.**”

Jim Sinclair (1993) Autism Network International



Work with me to build bridges between us

- Recognise that we are equally alien to each other.
- My ways of being are not merely damaged versions of yours.
- Question your assumptions. Define your terms.



Dysfunction

- Poor planning and organisational skills
- Impulsivity
- Uninhibited behaviour
- Poor regulation of emotion
- Lacking ability to seek alternative courses of action or ideas
- Difficulty experienced in staying focussed and learning from experiences



An ASD diet!

- 67% - picky
- 90% - sensory issues around food
- 46% - oral-motor problems
- 62% - selectivity by type

Children with food selectivity have more affected sensory modalities



- Hypersensitivity/over-responsiveness
- Notices changes in appearance
- Dislikes messy hands/face
- Can't tolerate lumps
- Sensory overload in school dining room
- Hyposensitivity/under-responsiveness
- Overstuff mouth
- Poor smell/taste discrimination
- Sensory seeking - pica



CONTACTING BAAGS

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Thank you

- Berwick Computer Services
- Golden Lion, Galashiels
- Border Telegraph
- Southern Reporter
- TD1 Radio
- Radio Borders

YOU