



# The National Autistic Society's Professional Conference

1 & 2 March 2011 - Manchester Central Convention Complex

## Delivering Excellence in a Time of Austerity

**This two-day conference will be a unique opportunity for senior professionals to discuss best practice and share learning.**

Key speakers include:

- > **Dr Lorna Wing**, The NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism
- > **Professor Christopher Gillberg**, University of Gothenburg
- > **Professor Declan Murphy**, Institute of Psychiatry
- > **Dr Wendy Lawson**, Autism Consultant

Endorsed by:



Royal College of  
General Practitioners

Accept difference. Not indifference.

# The National Autistic Society's Professional Conference

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## Welcome

Following the excellent feedback we received from the 2010 sell-out event, I'm delighted to announce the return of **The National Autistic Society's Professional Conference**.

We all know that times are tough. Implementing the adult autism strategy in the face of cutbacks and tightening budgets has placed increasing pressure on professionals. However, The National Audit Office's report *Supporting people with autism through adulthood* has revealed that investment now in improved strategy and planning can lead to dramatic long-term improvements in the future.

Attending this two-day conference will give you the information and tools you need to increase the effectiveness of services and improve outcomes for people with autism. Plenary sessions with expert speakers will present an overview of the changing environment and the latest developments in the field of autism. Our streamed seminars will give you practical strategies to implement in your work, while our Breakfast Briefings and Evening Debate will provide the chance to discuss and debate the current issues faced by autism professionals.

We believe this conference will be addressing a critical need by providing professionals with information and strategies to improve the lives of people with autism, achieve long-term cost savings and deliver excellence in these times of austerity.

I look forward to meeting you and your colleagues in March 2011.



### Carol Povey

Director of the Centre for Autism at **The National Autistic Society** and Chair of the **Professional Conference editorial board**

**Don't delay** - last year's event sold out, so book now to avoid disappointment.

**Register now at:**

[www.autism.org.uk/conferences/professional2011](http://www.autism.org.uk/conferences/professional2011)

## Editorial board



### Virginia Bovell

Parent of a 17 year old with autism



### Dr Julie Beadle-Brown

Senior Lecturer in Learning Disabilities  
**University of Kent**



### Dr Juli Crocombe

Consultant in Developmental Neuroscience and Learning Disability  
**St George's Hospital**



### Dr Gina Gomez de la Cuesta

Action Research Leader  
**The National Autistic Society**



### Dr Judith Gould

Director  
**The NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism**



### Dr Glenys Jones

Lecturer and Researcher  
**Autism Centre for Education and Research**  
**University of Birmingham**



### Steve McGuinness

**NAS Trustee, Councillor and Autism Consultant**



### Richard Mills

Research Director  
**Research Autism**



### Ronwen Smith

Head Teacher  
**Linden Bridge School**



### Jane Vaughan

Director of Education  
**The National Autistic Society**



### Shelley Welton

Joint Commissioning Manager (Vulnerable Adults)  
**Monmouthshire County Council/Aneurin Bevan Health Board**

"An excellent combination of practical information about the new initiatives, up-to-date professional thinking and coordinating these with the needs of the person on the spectrum and families. The mix was great and I came away buzzing with ideas."

**Denise Edwards, IDEAS**

# Delivering Excellence in a Time of Austerity

## Evening Debate and drinks reception

17:30 – Tuesday 1 March 2011

Sponsored by: **AXCIS**  
Education Recruitment

At this year's evening debate, our panel of expert speakers will consider whether "**Advances in brain imaging technology will significantly enhance the lives of people with autism**".

The debate will be chaired by **Professor Declan Murphy**, who supervised the groundbreaking research on the new brain scanning technique which can detect whether a person has autism. **Dr Christine Ecker**, who led the study, will be speaking together with **Dr Wendy Lawson, Dr Michael Fitzpatrick** and **Dr Alison Hale**.

Expect some strong opinions and lots of questions from the floor at this lively event. Stay for the Drinks Reception afterwards, sponsored by **Axcis Education Recruitment**, to network with your colleagues and the day's speakers.rs.

## Breakfast Briefings

08:15 – Wednesday 2 March 2011

Sponsored by:   
**Options Group**  
making a difference  
www.optionsgroup.co.uk

On Day 2 of the conference, you can attend one of our four **Breakfast Briefings**. These facilitated networking and discussion forums will give delegates a fantastic opportunity to debate current issues facing the autism community. Choose from the four listed below

- 1 Autism and gender identity disorder**  
**Professor Ina van Berckelaer-Onnes**  
Clinical Child and Adolescent Studies, Leiden University
- 2 Key legal issues and developments in community care**  
**Steve Broach**, Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers
- 3 Developing a research partnership between schools and scientists**  
**Professor Tony Charman**, Chair in Autism Education, Centre for Research in Autism & Education, Institute of Education and **Jude Ragan**, Headteacher, Queensmill School
- 4 Training in autism: knowing versus understanding... quality against quantity**  
**Theo Peeters**, Founder of the Opleidingscentrum Autisme, Antwerp and Speaker, Trainer and Consultant

Places are limited, so don't forget to pre-register to secure your place.

## Who should attend

- **Education professionals** from mainstream schools, special schools and Local Authorities
- **Directors** and **senior managers** with responsibility for Local Authority and PCT autism service commissioning
- **Directors** and **senior managers** of adult service providers
- **Clinicians** across the professional field, including psychiatrists, psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists and GPs.



## Attend to:

- hear **keynote presentations** from **expert speakers** discussing the latest developments in the field
- choose the seminar stream most **relevant to you**
- learn **practical strategies** to implement with your colleagues
- **network** with professional colleagues to **benchmark your performance** and learn from your peers.

## Sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities

In this tough economic climate, this conference will give you a cost-effective way to promote your products and services and enhance your company's profile amongst your target audience.

To find out more about our unique sponsorship and exhibition packages, call Mary Lawrence on 020 7923 5709 or visit [www.autism.org.uk/conferences/professional2011](http://www.autism.org.uk/conferences/professional2011).

"The conference was extremely professional and well organised, all the seminars had excellent speakers and interesting content."

**Kate Holliday**, Specialist Advisory Teaching Service

# Conference Programme

Day One – Tuesday 1 March 2011

08:00 **Registration and refreshments**

09:45 **Welcome by the chairs**

**Dr Julie Beadle-Brown**, Senior Lecturer in Learning Disabilities, University of Kent

**Steve McGuinness**, NAS Trustee, Councillor and Autism Consultant

10:00 **Welcome address**

**Mark Lever**, Chief Executive, The National Autistic Society

10:15 **Keynote presentation**

**A history of autism: my conversations with the pioneers**

**Adam Feinstein**

10:45 **Q&A session**

**Adam Feinstein**

**Dr Lorna Wing**, The NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism

10:55 **Refreshments and time to visit the exhibition**

**Poster Session 1:** take time to visit the posters in Group 1, where presenters will be on hand to talk about their work

11:30 **Training clinicians to diagnose Asperger syndrome in adults**

**Dr Peter Carpenter**, Consultant Psychiatrist, Avon and Wiltshire Partnership MH NHS Trust

**Dr Tom Berney**, Consultant in Developmental Psychiatry, ESPA (Education and Services for People with Autism)

**Professor Terry Brugha**, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Leicester

12:10 **The passionate mind: how individuals with autism learn**

**Dr Wendy Lawson**, Autism Consultant

12:50 **Lunch**

13:25 **Portrait of the Autist as a Young Woman: a mixture of poems and stories exploring life growing up high on the spectrum.** Radio 4 Saturday Live poet Kate Fox

Radio 4 Saturday Live poet in residence and comedian Kate Fox presents a work in progress extract from her one woman show "Portrait of The Autist As A Young Woman" in which she fuses storytelling, stand up and a dash of poetry to explore life on the autistic spectrum from a woman's perspective. The show is being produced by ARC Stockton and will be touring the country in the autumn. [www.katefox.co.uk](http://www.katefox.co.uk)

13:50 **Seminar streams - choose your individual sessions from the four streams listed below**

## A – Education

Dedicated to the memory of **Bent Vandborg Sørensen**

Chair: **Ronwen Smith**  
Head Teacher, Linden Bridge School

**Sex and relationship education with young people with autism**

**Lynne Moxon**  
Consultant Psychologist, ESPA (Education and Services for People with Autism)

## B – Adults

Chair: **Julie Beadle-Brown**  
Senior Lecturer in Learning Disability, University of Kent

**Implementing the adult autism strategy: implications for professionals and people with autism**

**Carol Povey**  
Director, Centre for Autism, NAS  
**Anya Ustaszewski**  
Autism Awareness Trainer and Campaigner, and Composer/Musician

## C – Clinical

Chair: **Richard Mills**  
Research Director, Research Autism

**Time for change – rethinking the international classification systems for diagnosis of pervasive developmental disorders**

**Dr Judith Gould**  
Director, The NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism

## D – Supporting families

Chair: **Caroline Hattersley**  
Head of Information, Advice and Advocacy, The National Autistic Society

**Creating joyful and effective speech and language therapy for home programmes**

**Gina Davis**  
Specialist Speech and Language Therapist, Attention Autism

14:30 **Transition between seminars**

14:35 **Perceptual problems in individuals with autism - implications for management and support**

**Dr Michael McCreadie**  
Consultant Clinical Director, Studio III

**The pervasiveness of autism thinking in daily life situations**

**Hilde de Clercq**  
Previously Director of the Opleidingscentrum Autisme, Antwerp and Speaker, Trainer and Consultant

**Understanding sleep problems in autism**

**Professor Paul Gringras**  
Professor of Paediatric Sleep Medicine and Neurodisability, Evelina Children's Hospital

**Don't just do something – stand there! A sceptical guide to autism treatments**

**Dr Michael Fitzpatrick**  
Barton House Health Centre

15:15 **Refreshments and time to visit the exhibition**

15:45 **Autism and the interbrain**

**Professor Digby Tantam**, Clinical Professor of Psychotherapy, Dilemma Consultancy

16:25 **Biological difference in the brain – so what?**

**Professor Declan Murphy**, Head of Department, Forensic and Neurodevelopmental Sciences Institute of Psychiatry

17:05 **Closing remarks from the chairs**

17:30 **Evening Debate**

At this year's evening debate, our panel of expert speakers will consider whether **"Advances in brain imaging technology will significantly enhance the lives of people with autism"**.

For more information about the debate, see overleaf.

18:30 **Drinks reception sponsored by** 

20:00 **End of day 1**

# Day Two – Wednesday 2 March 2011

08:15 **Breakfast briefings sponsored by Options Group**  
Choose from the four listed below

- 1 **Autism and gender identity disorder**
- 2 **Key legal issues and developments in community care**
- 3 **Developing a research partnership between schools and scientists**
- 4 **Training in autism: knowing versus understanding... quality against quantity**

09:15 **Welcome by the chairs**  
**Dr Glenys Jones**, Lecturer and Researcher, Autism Centre for Education and Research University of Birmingham  
**Anya Ustaszewski**, Autism Awareness Trainer and Campaigner, and Composer/ Musician

09:20 **Keynote presentation**  
**Early symptomatic syndromes eliciting neurodevelopmental clinical examinations (ESSENCE)**  
**Professor Christopher Gillberg**, Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, University of Gothenburg

10:00 **What I wish I'd known sooner and what I wish I knew now**  
A retrospective of childhood and adolescence, lessons learned and anticipations of future challenges  
**Virginia Bovell**, Parent of a 17 year old with autism

10:40 **Refreshments and time to visit the exhibition**  
**Poster Session 2:** take time to visit the posters in Group 2, where presenters will be on hand to talk about their work.

11:15 **Seminar streams - choose your individual sessions from the four streams listed below**

A – Education	B – Adults	C – Clinical	D – Supporting families
Chair: <b>Jane Vaughan</b> Director of Education The National Autistic Society	Chair: <b>Carol Povey</b> Director of the Centre for Autism The National Autistic Society	Chair: <b>Juli Crocombe</b> Consultant in Developmental Neuroscience and Learning Disability, St George's Hospital	Chair: <b>Virginia Bovell</b> Parent of 17-year old with autism
<b>Inclusion or exclusion - key developments in education law for children with autism</b> <b>Steve Broach</b> Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers	<b>Sensation and perception in autism and the built environment</b> <b>Teresa Tavassoli</b> , Department of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge <b>Andrew Brand</b> Research Associate, Royal College of Art Helen Hamlyn Centre	<b>The importance of sense-making in individuals with autism: communication and play closely considered</b> <b>Professor Ina van Berckelaer-Onnes</b> Clinical Child and Adolescent Studies, Leiden University	<b>Managing family meltdown – the low arousal way</b> <b>Linda Woodcock</b> Studio 111 Training Systems

11:55 **Transition between seminars**

<b>Autism – the Kingsway way</b> <b>Mary Burgess</b> SENCO, The Kingsway School	<b>Using personalisation to improve the quality of life for people with autism</b> <b>Dr Julie Beadle-Brown</b> Senior Lecturer in Learning Disabilities, University of Kent <b>Andrew Ellis</b> Individual Budget Holder	<b>The diagnosis and education of women and girls with autism</b> <b>Dr Jacqui Ashton-Smith</b> Principal, Helen Allison School <b>Dr Judith Gould</b> Director, The NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism	<b>The impact of sensory issues on individuals and the family</b> <b>Nita Jackson</b> Author, Artist and Musician <b>Carolann Jackson</b> Chair of ASAP Essex (Asperger Syndrome Adults and Parents in Essex) and mum to Nita
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12:40 **Lunch**

13:25 **Portrait of the Autist as a Young Woman: a mixture of poems and stories exploring life growing up high on the spectrum.** Radio 4 Saturday Live poet Kate Fox. For details see Day one programme.

<b>Playfulness as a trigger for child-led social interaction: what can technology offer?</b> <b>Dr Karen Guldberg</b> Director, Autism Centre for Research and Education <b>Dr Wendy Keay-Bright</b> Reader in Inclusive Design & Senior Lecturer Graphic Communication, Cardiff School of Art and Design	<b>My son is an adult and has undiagnosed ASD – what should I do?</b> <b>Dr Tom Berney</b> Consultant in Developmental Psychiatry, ESPA (Education and Services for People with Autism)	<b>Sensory processing problems in children: pitfalls and challenges in diagnosis and assessment</b> <b>Dr Elspeth Webb</b> Reader, Cardiff University	<b>Selective eating in children with autism</b> <b>Dr Gillian Harris</b> Senior Lecturer in Applied Developmental Psychology, University of Birmingham
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14:30 **Refreshments and time to visit the exhibition**

15:00 **Attention autism – a practical, cost-effective approach to the teaching of attention and communication skills for children with autism**  
**Gina Davis**, Specialist Speech and Language Therapist, Attention Autism

15:40 **An interview with... Lorna Wing**  
An informal interview by **Professor Christopher Gillberg** followed by questions from the audience

16:20 **Chairperson's Closing Remarks and a closing poem from Kate Fox**

16:30 **Conference ends**

# The National Autistic Society's Professional Conference

Brochure code

1 & 2 March 2011 - Manchester Central Convention Complex

## To make a booking:

### Online

[www.autism.org.uk/conferences/professional2011](http://www.autism.org.uk/conferences/professional2011)

**Email** conference@nas.org.uk

**Tel** 0115 911 3367

**Fax** 0115 911 3362

**Post** NAS Conference and Events  
6th Floor, Castle Heights  
72 Maid Marian Way,  
Nottingham, NG1 6BJ

### How did you hear about this conference?

Please write here

### NAS Internal

T1 Code:

T2 Code:

T3 Code:

Nominal Code:

## Rates

### One Day rates

Day One £250 + VAT

Day Two £250 + VAT

### Conference rates

£395 + VAT

### NAS Members rate

£295 + VAT

### Exhibitor rate

£1,295.00 + VAT

### Please confirm which seminars you will be attending at the conference

Day 1	Education	Adults	Clinical	Families
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1A <input type="checkbox"/> 2A	<input type="checkbox"/> 1B <input type="checkbox"/> 2B	<input type="checkbox"/> 1C <input type="checkbox"/> 2C	<input type="checkbox"/> 1D <input type="checkbox"/> 2D
Day 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3A <input type="checkbox"/> 4A <input type="checkbox"/> 5A	<input type="checkbox"/> 3B <input type="checkbox"/> 4B <input type="checkbox"/> 5B	<input type="checkbox"/> 3C <input type="checkbox"/> 4C <input type="checkbox"/> 5C	<input type="checkbox"/> 3D <input type="checkbox"/> 4D <input type="checkbox"/> 5D

### Please confirm which breakfast briefing you will be attending on Day 2

**1**  Gender identity disorder

**2**  Key legal issues

**3**  Research partnerships

**4**  Training in autism

## Delegate details

Title	First name	Surname
Job title		Tel
Organisation		Fax
Email		
Keeping in touch with you via email will help to keep our costs down. <b>Please tick this box if you are happy to receive emails from us</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Address		
Town	County	
Postcode	Country	

The National Autistic Society would like to update you from time to time in order to inform you about our work.

If you **do not** want to receive any mailings from The National Autistic Society, **please tick this box**

### NAS membership number:

### Any special requirements

i.e. Access/Dietary/Support/Other?

## Terms & conditions

### Conference fees

All prices include entrance to the conference and seminar sessions, lunch, refreshments and comprehensive delegate documentation. Fees do not include delegate accommodation and travel and The National Autistic Society (NAS) is not responsible for arranging these.

### Payment

Payment must be received before the conference date. If payment is not received by this time, delegates will be required to guarantee payment by credit card on the day of the conference. Cheques should be in pounds sterling and should be made payable to "The National Autistic Society".

### Cancellations and Refunds

Delegates who wish to cancel their places must do so in writing. If notice of cancellation is received at least 21 days prior to the event, the NAS will refund the full registration fee less £50 administration charge. If notice of cancellation is not received within 21 days prior to the conference, then we regret that no refund can be made.

Substitutions can be made without charge up to 3 days prior to the event. In the event that the NAS has to cancel the event, delegates will be given as much notice as possible and given a full refund (if paid in full) or a credit note (where payment is not yet made). We regret that we will be unable to compensate delegates for any travel or accommodation costs incurred.

### Overseas Delegates

EU countries: Delegates attending from EU countries are exempt from paying VAT only when their organisation is VAT registered within their own country. Confirmation of the VAT registration number is required at the time of booking. Non-EU countries: VAT will be charged on the invoice but you are able to claim back the VAT charge.

## Booking contact

If you are booking on behalf of someone else, please provide your contact details here.

Title	First name	Surname
Job title		Tel
Email		

## Payment details

### CHEQUE

Please find enclosed a cheque for £

Please make all cheques payable to The National Autistic Society

### INVOICE Please complete all details below

Invoice for the attention of	
PO Number (if applicable)	
Address	
Postcode	Tel No
Email	

### CREDIT CARD

Card type	Card number	
Start date	Expiry date	Security code (3 digits on reverse)
Name on card		
Signature		