# Tayside

## Scottish autism

## Autism Awareness Month



As part of Autism Awareness Month, Neal Ferrie (pictured as Wallace the bear!) and Andy Larder from Tayside services manned a Scottish Autism stand at Dundee's Olympia Swimming Pool. There was lots of interest at the stall and we had a great day out speaking to people from the local community. We raised a total of £213.32 – a massive thank you to everyone.

## V&A Visit Dundee Services

Peter Nurick, Communities Producer with V&A Museum of Design Dundee, visited the Service User Forum held at North Lindsay Street in March to give us a bit more information about the development of the museum on Dundee's Waterfront. He showed the group a slide show of the progress of the build to date and described to us what the final building would look like and what would be displayed within the museum once it opens in 2018.

Peter was looking for feedback as to what we knew already about the museum, what we would like from it and what would make it easier for us to visit. There was lots of good input from the group. Peter also brought along some brochures for us to look over and a virtual reality headset which allowed you to be in the building and have a look around it. This was a big hit with the group with all those present having a shot of the headset.

# Squiggle Away Sessions

Every Wednesday afternoon, Danielle Du Plooy from Uppertunity comes to North Lindsay Street where she runs Squiggle Away for us, which is a two hour group art session. Each week, individuals are supported to make a new and personalised piece of art based around a theme and using different methods and art materials.

Squiggle Away has been a big success since starting earlier this year and due to the positive feedback from everyone who has attended, it will be a regular weekly group activity within the day service. Uppertunity also runs a range of workshops and other art groups at various locations around Dundee which are designed to help develop and promote new skills and interests.




# Kelly's Skydive

Kelly McDyre, a staff member from our Dundee service, recently took part in a sponsored skydive to raise money for Scottish Autism!

Kelly said: "I have wanted to do a skydive for a number of years and to do one for my work, Scottish Autism, was great, amazing in fact. I loved every minute of it, raising close to £500 for the services in Dundee, giving something back to the awesome guys I support."

Well done Kelly!



# Coffee Morning

In March, the Dundee Outreach service held their annual coffee morning fundraiser event at North Lindsay Street. In the lead up to the coffee morning a number of the individuals we support met at the Service User Forum to decide on a date, decorations and what organisations the money raised would go towards, and of course, what to bake! Two charities were chosen by Ross Tyrie and Ryan Nicol: The British Heart Foundation and MND Scotland. These charities were chosen because both individuals knew people who were affected by these conditions.

Everyone worked really hard to make lots of amazing cakes, including cupcakes, cheesecake and truffles. Parents and guardians, friends and work colleagues were all invited to try the tasty cake. Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves and as a result people were very generous in their donations, meaning that a fantastic amount of £171 was raised. Ryan Nicol was particularly invested in this project and he took the responsibility of counting and ensuring both charities received their share of the funds raised. This event was a great success due to the hard work of all those involved. Well done everyone!



**For more information about our services in Tayside, please contact 01382 226769 or email tayside@scottishautism.org**

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