

Central

What's going on • Spring/Summer 2018

Scottish autism

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Scottish Inspiration



Art Opportunities has been really busy in the last few months creating lots of unique artwork inspired by Scottish culture. We held our exhibition in November at the service in Alloa. The night was a huge success and we raised over £730! It was a busy evening, with everyone coming along to support the artists and the work we do. Thanks to everyone who came to support us.

Many individuals within Art Opportunities contributed to a group art piece. This took several weeks to complete and continues to be admired by everyone! The piece was created using a variety of media and artistic methods. Paint filled balloons were popped in a creative session which fashioned an abstract background on the canvas. This was then developed further by various artists. We filmed the creation of the artwork which you can view on Scottish Autism's Youtube channel.



Fun at the Fayre's



Central Services has also held a number of Christmas events including Gartinny's pop-up shop, a Christmas Fayre and we also attended Prudential's Festive Fayre. These have all been particularly successful in raising funds to purchase new resources which will help to further develop the unique talents of the individuals we support.

Well Done Stewart!

You may have seen one of our artist's work on the Christmas thank you cards that were sent out to our supporters. The snowman was created by Stewart Wilson. His drawing of an Irn Bru can from our Scottish Exhibition, was also featured on the new menus of our new service Makers, in Alloa.



You can purchase Art Opportunities work within the new Makers Gallery.

Makers Cafe Welcomes the Minister for Mental Health



February 1st saw the Grand Opening of Makers in Alloa, by Maureen Watt, Minister for Mental Health. Makers community cafe, shop and gallery gives the people we support valuable opportunities to directly experience the workplace.

Jackie Latto, Scottish Autism's Director of Autism Services, said; *"This is Scottish Autism's 50th Anniversary year and we are incredibly excited about this development for both Scottish Autism and Alloa. Autistic people will be directly involved in the running of Makers, and this will provide them with the opportunity to boost their confidence and independence, along with providing an opportunity to learn vocational skills. It demonstrates how autism services are evolving, enabling autistic people to lead full and enriched lives and become valuable members of the community they live in."*

Jackie continued; *"We also hope to attract external bodies and community groups to Makers to use its wonderful multi-purpose hub space, bringing more people into Clackmannanshire and the surrounding area."*



Maureen Watt, Minister for Mental Health in the Scottish Government, said; *"I am delighted and honoured to officially open Makers Cafe and Community Hub today. It is an inspiring, nurturing space that people who access Scottish Autism's services will benefit enormously from, as well as being a fantastic boost for Clackmannanshire and the surrounding area."*

Welcome Amanda!

Amanda Druggan joins the Central Services Manager team, having worked previously across the organisation in a peripatetic Services Manager role. The Central team would like to welcome Amanda to her new role.



For more information about our Central Area Services, please contact 0845 300 9271 or email central@scottishautism.org