



POLLY'S
PLACE



Polly's Place opened in October 2012 in Sunninghill, Berkshire. With a shop, gallery and offices it is now the "hub" of The Autism Trust.

The Vocational Training Centre gives young people who are autistic the chance to get work experience in an environment that is similar to work yet also provides support and encouragement



The Autism Trust is an Approved Centre to deliver ASDAN qualifications in Employability. The young people will be working towards this qualification during their work experience.

The People!!!!

Meet Aisling Walsh

Who takes a professional approach to her work experience.....

18 year old Aisling, with Asperger's Syndrome, is currently in the Sixth form at a local school and she gains work experience at The Autism Trust on two days a week. She is working towards her ASDAN Employability Certificate. She processes orders and loves to take them to the local Post Office. Aisling has strong spreadsheet capabilities and enjoys updating Sales Ledger and Postage Ledger each week, she helps to keep our records in order.

Aisling says "I am working towards my qualification which will look good on my Curriculum Vitae when I am applying for jobs."



She enjoys socialising with girls from another local school who come in weekly as part of their Volunteering element of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. This enables Aisling to practice her social skills and often takes part in social games with them. She even dragged them into helping her wrap Christmas presents



Although not part of her regular work experience, Aisling really enjoys coming to The Autism Trust to attend the Craft Clubs held during the school holidays, even though it takes her two hours to get here.

Mo Wilson, Polly's Place Manager loves her no fuss, assertive attitude towards her work and all who work with her.

In her spare time she loves to make cakes and enjoys cooking



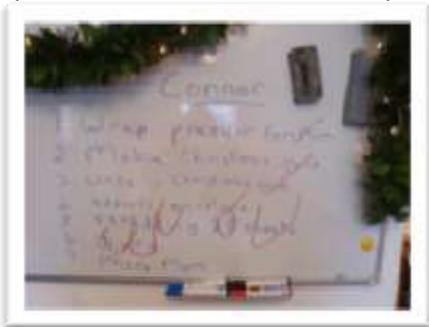
Meet Connor Teather

Who has found new skills at Polly's Place.....

17 year old Connor with autism comes to Polly's Place one afternoon a week for work experience. Connor enjoys making products to sell in Polly's Place as part of The Autism Trust Enterprise.



Connor loves to surprise his Mum with his beautiful hand made gifts to show how much he loves her. Connor likes to follow a task list and tick off each one as he completes it. He decorated a pot, made the wrapping paper and label for his Christmas present to her.



Polly's Place provides an environment where individuals with autism can bring their 1:1 support worker. This enables them to access training where normally this level of support is only given in a school environment. Connor looks forward to his weekly visits.



Meet Edward Tucker

Creative young man with autism gains work experience in a caring environment

Twenty-seven-year-old Edward Tucker works at Polly's Place, The Autism Trust's social enterprise shop and in Sunninghill.



PART OF THE TEAM—Edward's attention to detail and sunny disposition make him an integral



His chipper attitude brightens the atmosphere and his photography skills are an absolute asset to the online store. "I take photos of new products going on to the Polly's Place website," said Edward. He uses creative angles and works with natural sunlight to capture some incredible images that show Polly's Place products in the best possible way. His pictures are instrumental to the online store and help generate interest and sales from all over the world.

With a huge interest in trains, he's also started collecting and displaying the pictures he takes from the bridge down the street from the shop. "We just love having him around. He's part of the Polly's Place team and like family to us," said Mo Wilson, the manager of Polly's Place. The most important thing to Edward is that The Autism Trust and Polly's Place provide him with a job that he enjoys in a supportive and caring environment. Visit the online store to see Edward's photographs www.theautismtrust.org.uk



"We just love having him around. He's part of the Polly's Place team and like family to us..."

Meet Felicity Edge

Young woman with autism excels in her work at The Autism Trust...

Twenty-nine year old Felicity Edge has been volunteering at The Autism Trust's social enterprise shop Polly's Place since it opened in October 2012.



"I'm enjoy customer service, updating stock and inventories, packaging orders, gift-wrapping and posting," said Felicity. She loves being a part of the warm environment and making customers and other volunteers feel welcome and supported. "Felicity is an absolute asset to Polly's Place," said Polly's Place manager Mo Wilson. "She's one of the most active young adults I've ever met—she volunteers for everything and does all she can to be actively involved "

Her position at Polly's Place has opened doors for her in the community as well; she's volunteered at a local theatre down the street from the shop in a front-of-house role this summer. "I enjoy being involved with all types of people and organisations. The things I've learned and knowledge I've gained from these experiences can be used to help others in other environments as well," she said. Shop online at www.theautismtrust.org.uk and Felicity will be instrumental in getting your order packed and shipped out



Meet James Bye

Navigating the workplace and beyond...

James Bye, an 18-year-old with autism, gains work experience every Wednesday morning at The Autism Trust in Sunninghill.



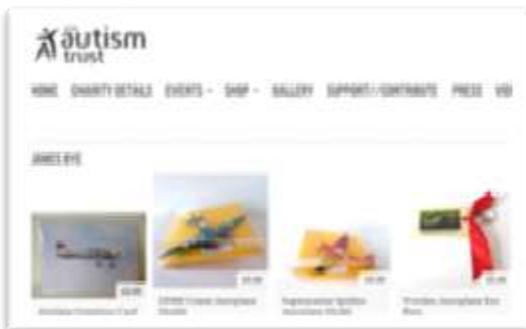
James plays an important role in making stock checks and taking inventory at Polly's Place. He prefers doing behind the scenes jobs for Polly's Place, The Autism Trust's social enterprise shop, like making labels for the new products and preparing them to go on sale in the shop and gallery.



He also sells his own work in the store, earning money and giving him even more insight into personal finances and careers. Fueled by his interest in planes, he made an entire series of models of his favorite planes that sold out within weeks to other plane enthusiasts. Currently, James is selling a range of handmade key chains featuring planes and birds in the store. He loves seeing his items sell and when asked what he'll do with the money that he earns from the social enterprise store, he said, "I think I'll buy some airplane models."

[Find out more](#)

You can see all of James's amazing work on sale at Polly's Place in



Meet Natalie Priest

Animation's lively characters inspire young artist to pursue her dreams...

Natalie Priest, 29, is an artist with Asperger's Syndrome. Her work is on display in The Autism Trust's gallery in Sunninghill in the UK where she also volunteers in the Polly's Place shop serving customers, hanging new pieces in the gallery and working toward the ASDAN Employability Certificate.



"I feel very happy to have found Polly's Place this April," said Natalie. "It gives me the opportunity to sell my artwork and get my art out there in a safe environment." Her uncanny self-portraits steal the show. She's also working on an animated film called Energetic Frequency Organisms that she'll release on her blog this summer. "I have loved to make art and create characters from an early age. I started by making characters of insects as I loved insects and spiders."

This progressed to making flip books, comic books and getting a GCSE and an A-Level in Art and Design. Animation at degree level was a natural choice for me as I had wanted to study animation and make films since I was 10." Inspired by one of her favorite animated Dreamworks films, Madagascar, Natalie is heading on an adventure this autumn to the actual country. She'll be doing volunteer work in an orphanage.



FIND OUT MORE

You can see all of Natalie's amazing work on sale at Polly's Place in Sunninghill or online at www.theautismtrust.org.uk/collections/vendors?q=Natalie+Priest or on her blog www.rainbowchild83.blogspot.co.uk

She'll also be posting about her experiences in Madagascar here: www.rainbowchildinmadagascar.blogspot.co.uk

Meet Ryan Wilson

A young man with autism who thrives when challenged

Eighteen year old Ryan Wilson comes to Polly's Place on a Friday to gain work experience. Ryan also volunteers at the local theatre with Felicity. Ryan is usually smiling and happy to share a joke with us.



Ryan loves to crafting, creating individual products for the Autism Trust Enterprise. He is also one of our Artist's who regularly sells his homemade decorations and keyrings.

Ryan is always happy to pose for the local media to promote the work that is carried out at The Autism Trust.



Ryan and Aisling work together towards achieving their valuable employability skills for their ASDAN qualification. They are both on target to achieve their Award and Certificate by the end of this

Polly's Place Angels – Our Wonderful Volunteers

Our Volunteers help in the shop, product processing for our on-line store, working with the ASD work experience individuals, assisting at Coffee mornings and other events and off-site stalls at craft fairs. The work carried out by our volunteers is invaluable to the functioning of the Trust's



Lettie Jones



Dot Denby



Gill Owen



Linda Hamley



Lyn Deason



Natalie Priest



Anna Blackburn



Diura Stobart



Bonno Stobart



Friederike Grant

Holiday Volunteers



Katie Nicholas



David Wilson



Sue Champion

The Sunninghill Team



Mo Wilson - Polly's Place Manager

Mo has a wealth of experience with all aspects of the autistic spectrum, from special diets, biomedical, holistic therapies to Home Educating Ryan for 6 ½ years. She trained in ABA and VB to use these and RDI techniques to facilitate her son's communication problems. She now uses those years of her experiences to train individuals with autism in vocational skills at the Sunninghill trust in the UK. She provides many kinds of support for the UK autism community and the artists who sell their art and craft products through the gift boutique and gallery. Mo dedicates all her time to autism and the individuals and families that need her help. She maintains that her son Ryan is her best teacher.



Brenda Linter - Vocational Enterprise Director

Brenda has worked with young adults with autism for 8 years. She is a qualified Assessor and IQAP (Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Process) and has also achieved her PTLLS (Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector) qualification. She has developed vocational employability courses tailored to meet the individual needs of people with autism. Brenda is also trained in wellbeing strategies. Brenda is responsible for developing the Vocational Training Programme. This will enable our young adults to obtain vocational qualifications and future employment.



Kathryn Bilton – Windows & Display

Kathryn comes to Polly's Place and creates some wonderful window and shop displays. This is the most recent display for World Autism Awareness month.



Felicity Edge – Data Entry Clerk

Felicity started as a volunteer in October 2012 and has continuously extended her confidence and abilities since then. She is now employed for one day a week as a Data Entry Clerk. She is one of the persons responsible for processing and entering the products and artwork on our on-line store. She is a much valued member of the team.

Charity Details

Oliver Jones - Chairman

Oliver Jones is a professional business director with a successful track record of leading fast growth entrepreneurial ventures as well as holding board level appointments in large corporate businesses and not-for-profit organisations.

He is married with one daughter and has a godson who has autism.



Polly Tommey - Founder

Polly Tommey founded the trust in 2007 after her middle son Billy was diagnosed with autism. She is also the editor of The Autism File- a bimonthly digital magazine that goes out to over 20,000 subscribers all over the world.

And a Junior Board

David Wilson

David Wilson, 16 from Surrey, is a dedicated younger brother to Ryan who has autism. He raises money for The Autism Trust by selling his photographs in Polly's Place and volunteering at events as well as serving on the Junior Board



Tom Rodwell

Tom Rodwell is a 19 year old English student at King's College London. Tom's younger brother Sam, who is now 16, has had severe autism since Tom can remember and can only communicate non-verbally. Tom has written articles for the Autism File magazine as well as appearing on the Autism Media channel. He is thrilled to join the Junior Board and wants to engage more within the autism community in a variety of ways and is excited for the possibilities the future holds for him and his family.

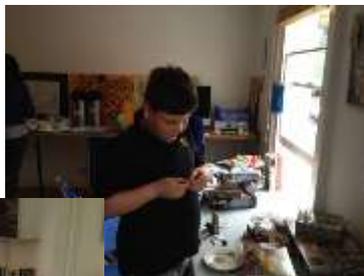


Charlie Edwards

Charlie Edwards is a 19 year old business student at University of Birmingham. Charlie's younger brother Jonathon, 16, has severe autism. A long standing relationship with The Autism Trust and the Autism Media Channel has given Charlie the chance to become a part of the autism community through articles, blog entries and appearances on the Autism Media Channel. Being a part of the Junior Board was a great honour for Charlie and he is looking forward to taking the next steps in



Lego Clubs and Crafternoons are held during school holidays for ASD families.



Families with autism often find it hard to access clubs with understanding. We provide an environment where families feel they can let their hair down and not worry about anything. This enables much fun to be had while creating. The concentration and smiles say it all.



Coffee & Support mornings are held monthly and have guest speakers and Activities.



Gluten free cakes served at our Coffee mornings.

Why not visit our online Store to view our unique range products and



POLLY'S PLACE
the autism trust

theautismtrust.org.uk
info@theautismtrust.org.uk

76 HIGH STREET, SUNNINGHILL, SL5 9NN
01344873030
Registered Charity 1117657



POLLY'S PLACE is a unique gift shop with handmade products beautifully crafted by people with an autism spectrum disorder and their families.

Every product sold gives 50% to the artist and 50% to THE AUTISM TRUST to provide vocational training and community level support to individuals with autism and their families.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK TO STAY IN TOUCH



OR @POLLYS_PLACE ON TWITTER

the autism trust

VISIT US AT 76 HIGH STREET, SUNNINGHILL, SL5 9NN
or online at THEAUTISMTRUST.ORG.UK

Our Artists and Products

The beautiful products we sell in our shop are labelled according to the Artist that makes them. The three categories are:

Made With Love

These products are made with love by individuals with autism.

Made With Hope

These products are made by mothers, family members and supports of people with autism in the hope of a brighter future for ASD individuals.

Supporting Autism

Show your support with branded merchandise from our campaigns.

We are proud to have 65 artists who have made over 2,000 products to sell in Polly's Place and on our online store. Of the 62 artists, 24 are people with autism, 3 are schools for people with autism and 38 are family, friends and supporters of people with autism.

Here are some of The Autism Trust's Enterprise products made by people with autism during their work experience at Polly's Place.



Window Displays

Here are some of the inspirational window displays that have been created by Autism Mum, Kathryn Bilton.



Polly's Place



Support and Contributions

Here is just a sample of the generous donations and fundraisers that have supported the Trust in our endeavour to continue provide the services we offer in Sunninghill.



Bella Tommey attended St Johns School in Leatherhead and nominated The Autism Trust to be their chosen charity for 2012-2013 and they raised a whopping £19,376.78. They also held sponsored events where students raised more money, through our Just Giving link. throughout the year.

Each year the Sunninghill community hold a Victorian Street Fayre. Due to the arduous task the young people with autism did with wrapping over 300 presents for Santa's Grotto the Sunninghill Street Fayre Committee kindly considered the Trust to be one of the beneficiaries, and presented us with a cheque for £500.



Tracey Bonser ran the Fleet Half Marathon in 2013 and raised £960 for The Autism Trust. Tracey ran the marathon in support of her cousin, Ryan Wilson, who has autism and benefits from attending work experience at Polly's Place (see his previous page for more details on what Ryan does).



Michael Brandon and Glynis Barber, Patrons of The Autism Trust, appeared on the Mr & Mrs television show and won £20,000 for the Trust and a carriage clock for themselves!!!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=Xs-iVUrigco

Hope's Year to Make a Difference!!!!

Autism supporter Hope Anscomb is dedicated to helping The Autism Trust provide futures with purpose for young adults with autism. Motivated and inspired by her friends with autism, she's devoted 12 months to attempting ridiculous feats all in the name of autism.

Follow her on her blog <http://hope-ridiculous-anscomb.blogspot.co.uk>

And donate to her JustGiving page

<http://www.justgiving.com/ayeartomakeadifference>

Here are just a few pictures of some of her antics.....



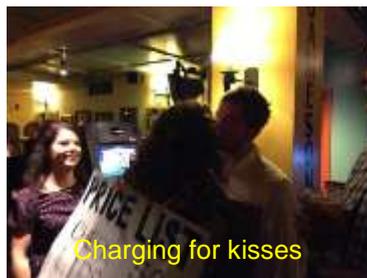
Hula
hooping



Supporting November



Valentines
date auction



Charging for kisses



Posing for Life
Drawing Class

How to Contact & Support Us

We

proudly sell products made by individual with autism, Asperger's and related conditions and their families- showing that it's not about what individuals with autism can't do, but what they can.

Have you got anything to sell in Polly's Place?

Your contributions help us provide vocational opportunities for individuals with autism and generates funds for The Autism Trust so we can continue to provide a future with purpose for young adults with autism.

We operate a sale or return policy and tend to mark all the items up 100% so we can fully reimburse the artist as well as supporting the work of The Autism Trust. If you'd like to participate in our social enterprise store, you can send your handmade and homemade items to our UK location. (for contribution form please see our website)

Polly's Place
76 High Street
Sunninghill
SL5 9NN

Your donations help us provide a future with purpose for individuals with autism, Asperger's and related conditions.

Donate directly or fundraise for us via our [JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/theautismtrust/) page
<https://www.justgiving.com/theautismtrust/>



or **text** LNJH40 £(followed by the amount you wish to donate) to 70070 to donate to The Autism Trust via text

There are now over 1,400 shops that will pay for a donation to The Autism Trust when you click through to them from givingabit and make a purchase. Visit <http://www.givingabit.com> to find out more how you can support our work at no extra cost to you



Thank you for any contributions you have made to date,
every little helps!!!!

