



Autism Awareness Centre inc.

**Canada's Premier National Provider of ASD Conferences
In Partnership With**

autism • west midlands



**Presents
May 17 & 18, 2007
Birmingham, UK
Ramada Hotel & Resort
Penns Lane, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands**

TEMPLE GRANDIN

*Author of Animals in Translation, Developing Talents, Thinking in Pictures, Emergence: Labeled Autistic
Co authored with Sean Barron Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships: Decoding Social Mysteries
Through the Unique Perspective of Autism*

Life Experiences, Visual Thinking, Social Interaction and Careers

KARI DUNN BURON

*Author of The Incredible 5 Point Scale, When My Worries Get Too Big and
A 5 is Against The Law! Social Boundaries: Straight Up! An honest guide for teens and young adults*

When My Autism Gets Too Big!

***Using Information From Research to Create Strategies for Addressing
Problems of Social Thinking, Learning and Behaving in
Autism Spectrum Disorders***

JOHN SIMPSON

Understanding Myself and Finding the Right Kind of Employment

***Learn practical skills that can be immediately implemented into
existing curriculum and training programs, at home,
school or in the workplace!***

Thursday, May 17, 9:45 am - 12:30 pm

Dr. Temple Grandin

Life Experiences, Visual Thinking, Social Interaction and Careers

Dr. Temple Grandin will speak about her life experiences with autism and how she began her career in the cattle handling industry. Dr. Grandin's presentation will cover a number of topics related to autism such as sensory issues, learning language, visual thinking and how it works, and the importance of developing an individual's strengths. She will stress the role of mentors, social interaction through shared interests, and discuss appropriate career choices for individuals with autism spectrum disorder. This presentation will address a broad range of ages and issues for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and is suitable for both professionals who work in the field of autism, parents, and those who want to acquire more information about autism spectrum disorders.

Temple Grandin, Ph.D., is inarguably the most accomplished and well known adult with autism in the world. She has been featured on major television programs, and written up in national publications, such as *Time* magazine, *People* magazine, *Forbes*, *U.S. News and World Report*, and *New York Times*.

Dr. Grandin has designed the facilities in which half the cattle are handled in the United States, consulting for firms such as Burger King, McDonald's, Swift and others. She presently works as an Associate Professor at Colorado State University but also speaks around the world on both autism and cattle handling.

Dr. Grandin's most recent book, co authored by Sean Barron, is *Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships: Decoding Social Mysteries through the Unique Perspective of Autism*. She has also written – *Animals in Translation*, *Developing Talents*, *Thinking in Pictures*, *Emergence: Labeled Autistic* and produced the videos – *Visual Thinking, Sensory, Careers and Medications (VHS)*; and *Dr. Temple Grandin (DVD)*.

Thursday, May 17, 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Kari Dunn Buron

When My Autism Gets Too Big!

A hallmark of ASD is the inability to interpret social situations accurately or consistently. This learning disability can lead to high levels of nervousness and anxiety in social situations. In this presentation, Kari Dunn Buron will discuss the issue of social anxiety in autism spectrum disorders and how the direct and systematic teaching of relaxation can help the person cope more effectively in highly social and unpredictable settings such as school or extended family gatherings.

Topic Outline:

1. An overview of how social situations can cause increased stress and anxiety in people with ASD.
2. Teaching relaxation in the home and at school.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the concept of systemizing and how that relates to teaching and learning.
2. Describe the anxiety curve model of functional behavior assessment and name 3 ways to teach relaxation proactively to highly anxious individuals with ASD

This session will continue on Friday, May 18 at 9:45 am.

Friday, May 18, 9:45 am - 2:45 pm

Kari Dunn Buron

Addressing Problems of Social Thinking, Learning and Behaving in ASD

Understanding social expectations and learning social skills is a major challenge for children and youth with autism spectrum disorders. The failure to understand the social framework of life can decrease a person's ability to achieve and possibly result in challenging behavior. At this workshop, Kari Dunn Buron will review what we can learn from the research regarding social thinking and autism learning styles to help us more effectively support and teach social and emotional information to individuals with ASD.

Topic Outline:

1. An overview of current research in the area of social cognition and related learning theories in ASD.
2. The impact of social cognitive problems on social anxiety and behavior
3. Teaching social understanding to people with ASD.
4. Systematically thinking about challenging behavior and developing plans for teaching individuals the skills needed to act and interact in more effective ways.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define social cognition and explain what research says about the relationship between cognition and autism spectrum disorders.
2. Understand the concept of systemizing and how it relates to teaching individuals with ASD.
3. Describe 5 elements of nonverbal social communication that impact social success and list 3 ideas for directly addressing this deficit in ASD.
4. Demonstrate the use of a system for thinking about the behavior we observe in ASD that can lead to a proactive and positive teaching or support plan.

Kari Dunn Buron has been working with students with autism for over 25 years. She has recently retired as the Autism Resource Specialist for ISD #916 in White Bear Lake Minnesota. She is the Designer of and Coordinator for the Autism Spectrum Disorders Certificate program at Hamline University (a graduate program for educators). Kari is one of the founding members of the Minnesota Autism Network, a statewide network of ASD educational consultants. In 1995, Kari developed and continues to work as the coordinator for Camp Discovery, a camp for youth with Asperger Syndrome. In 2003, Kari received a Self-designed Fellowship that allowed her to spend a year interviewing and working with a number of therapists and researchers in the area of social cognition and Autism. Kari is the co-author of the book, *The Incredible 5-Point Scale*, the author of *When My Autism Gets Too Big*, and the co-editor of a text currently in press titled *Educating Learners on the Autism Spectrum: Translating Theory into Meaningful Practice*.

Friday, May 18

John Simpson

Understanding Myself and Finding the Right Kind of Employment.

John Simpson is a young man with Asperger Syndrome who had mental health problems while at secondary school and was hospitalised in a psychiatric unit for 6 months where he eventually got a diagnosis of AS. He subsequently went to college and tried a part time job but found things extremely difficult. He found he needed to both understand and accept his own diagnosis and then learn to work with it and not against it. This led to him joining a discussion group for adults with AS and also getting some support from a specialist employment service for people with AS.

Currently John works part time as a Support worker in one of autism west midlands residential homes for people with ASD and learning difficulties. This has been remarkably successful in lots of ways and John will talk about his own history and finding a job that suits him that has been a surprise.

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please PRINT clearly

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL _____

We will only send you emails of upcoming conferences or other important information for your area.

REGISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE		DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATIONS May 05, 2007	
PARENT RATE	Before April 25, 2007	After April 25, 2007	
1 Day Only	£65.00 + 11.38 VAT = £76.38	£95.00 + 16.63 VAT = £111.63	£ _____
2 Days	£125.00 + 21.88 VAT = £146.88	£155.00 + 27.13 VAT = £182.13	£ _____
If attending only 1 Day, which day are you attending		Thursday _____ Friday _____	
PROFESSIONAL RATE	Before April 25, 2007	After April 25, 2007	
1 Day Only	£165.00 + 28.88 VAT = £193.88	£195.00 + 34.13 VAT = £229.13	£ _____
2 Days	£275.00 + 48.13 VAT = £323.13	£305.00 + 53.38VAT = £358.38	£ _____
If attending only 1 Day, which day are you attending		Thursday _____ Friday _____	
TOTAL ENCLOSED			£ _____

REGISTRATION INCLUDES: Sessions, Session materials, lunch, refreshment breaks.

VAT NUMBER: 875 2674 85

METHOD OF PAYMENT ***Please make cheque payable to Autism Awareness Centre Inc.***
FEES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO EVENT. Credit Card transactions will be processed in US dollars.

Cheque Enclosed Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____ Expiry Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____ Signature of Cardholder _____

Must be signed

Special Needs:

Do you have any special dietary or access needs? Yes No

If yes please describe _____

SEND COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

autism.west midlands
18 Highfield Road
Edgbaston, Birmingham, UK B15 3DU

Telephone: 0121-450-7576 Fax: 0121-450-7581
Email: ianc@autismwestmidlands.org.uk OR vharris@shawca

Visit our websites at:

www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk

www.autismawarenesscentre.org

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Hotel Information

The **Ramada Hotel & Resort** is the host hotel for this event. The hotel is located at **Penns Lane, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands**.

ROOM RATES: £ 89.00 *Taxes not included*

Rooms are subject to availability.

Delegates are responsible for booking and paying for their own accommodation. Individual reservations can be made by contacting the hotel reservations department directly at:

Telephone: 0121- 351-3111

Callers must mention the group name **Autism Awareness Centre Workshop** to ensure they receive the appropriate rate and are included in the guest room block.

Dress Code

Dress is business casual. Delegates are reminded that the room may be chilly at times and are encouraged to wear a sweater.

Meals, Refreshment Breaks

Lunch will be provided both days. Refreshment breaks will be served in the morning and afternoon.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be in writing and received prior to April 18, 2007. A £25.00 administration fee will be charged. From April 19 - April 30 half of the fee will be charged. May 1 or later the full fee will be charged. This policy will be enforced but you are encouraged to find a substitute.

Who Should Attend?

- Teachers
- Psychologists
- Parents
- Speech/ Language Therapists
- Consultants
- Educational Assistants
- Occupational Therapists
- Others who live or work with children who have Autism Spectrum Disorder or other Developmental Disabilities.



autism.west midlands and Autism Awareness Centre Working Together

The Autism Awareness Centre is pleased to have this opportunity to work in conjunction with autism.west midlands to provide those in the ASD community with two of the world's top authors on Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Our two organizations are committed to ensuring the best possible training for parents and professionals alike and therefore believe this will be an extremely beneficial conference for all involved.

autism.west midlands

autism.west midlands aims to improve the quality of life for people with autistic spectrum disorders and their families by raising awareness of the condition and making provision for the individual needs of people with autistic spectrum disorders.

We are the principal provider of autism-specific services for children and adults in the West Midlands region.

Our current services include a school for residential and day pupils, residential services for adults, supported living and employment support for adults with Asperger Syndrome, family support, an information help-line, and the provision of training for staff, parents and professionals.

We have established a large membership across the region since we opened our first residential service in 1988.

Canada's National Provider of ASD Conferences Leading The Way For Change!

The Autism Awareness Centre believes that education is the key to success in assisting individuals who have autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD), Asperger Syndrome and other disorders such as Tourette Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). With numerous social, communication, and behavioral intervention methods and the more recent field of biomedical interventions, it is important to keep parents and professionals on the leading edge of new information. By hosting workshops across Canada and providing resource support both in Canada and abroad, the Autism Awareness Centre is committed to ensuring information reaches all communities. The Autism Awareness Centre is leading the way for change by providing conferences to all corners of Canada.

Maureen Bennie is a mother of two children ages 8 and 10 with autism. She has managed an at-home Intensive Behavioral Intervention Program for the past 7 years for her children. She is the author of over 100 articles and book reviews that have appeared in publications and on websites throughout North America.

Victoria Harris has over 25 years experience in business management and event planning. Her attention to detail ensures the atmosphere at every conference inspires learning.