



# SMART TALK

## NEWSLETTER - September 2016

### Welcome



Smart Talk is an advocacy group for people with learning difficulties in East Lothian. We meet on Wednesday afternoons between 1-3pm, either in Tranent or Musselburgh. We always welcome new members.

<b>George Johnstone Centre, Tranent - 1pm - 3pm</b>	<b>MECA, Musselburgh - 1pm - 3pm</b>
	
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	October 19 <sup>th</sup> - Joint Meeting
November 9 <sup>th</sup> - No Meeting	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	November 16 <sup>th</sup>
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	November 30 <sup>th</sup>
December 21 <sup>st</sup>	December 14 <sup>th</sup> - Joint Meeting: Christmas Party
January 4 <sup>th</sup> 2017	January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2017
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	January 25 <sup>th</sup>

## HATE CRIME



On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Smart Talk will host a meeting for all members and guests at MECA Centre, Musselburgh.

Two Community Police Officers - Rona Duncan and Julie Cochrane - are coming to talk about hate crime on buses. Sadly, many people have had problems while travelling on buses, when other passengers have bullied them. The Police and Lothian Buses want to help people cope with Hate Crime, and try to stop people doing it.

If you would like to come along to this meeting and talk about your experiences and opinions, you are very

## Beyond Boundaries

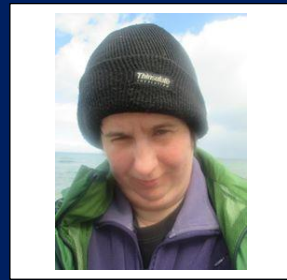


This is Michael O'Neill and Stevie Nelson - two of the most active people in East Lothian. Stevie runs Beyond Boundaries in his spare time. He offers lots of exciting activities such as cycling, climbing and water sports. Thanks to Stevie, Michael and other people with disabilities, get the chance to take part in outdoor sports.

Stevie would like to grow Beyond Boundaries, and offer more people opportunities to take part in outdoor activities and have fun. He is having a meeting on Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, in Haddington Townhouse. Anyone interested in getting involved with Beyond Boundaries should come along. Several Smart Talk members will be there.



Malcolm has been on a family holiday in York. He now comes to Smart Talk in Musselburgh - and has plenty to say.



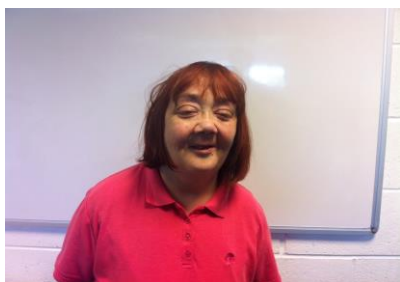
Sarah is just back from Mull, where she has been doing conservation work with New Caledonia Trust.



Lucky Andrew is just back from a trip to Lanzarote. As ever, he has lots to talk about at Smart Talk.



It is nice to see Ryan at Smart Talk. He used to be a quiet guy, but now he shares his opinions on life in East Lothian.



Janice has now started a music group in Fisherrow. She seems a busy lady these days.



We are missing Katrina at meetings just now - but for a good reason. She is working at a children's nursery.

## THE SMART TALK SHOW ?



For almost two years now, Smart Talk members have visited East Coast FM once a fortnight.



Sarah and Colin regularly present updates on the lunchtime show, on what is happening with Smart Talk and New Beginnings Club.

East Coast FM are looking for volunteers to get involved in the local radio station. This has now got some people thinking. Could we create our own regular show? We are now putting a wee group together to plan our own programme.

## get<sup>2</sup>gether

There will be a Mega Ball at The Brunton Theatre, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7-11pm. Tickets are £10 (£5 for carers).



### Christmas Smart Talk

There will be a joint meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>, at MECA Musselburgh. We will have music, games and snacks.

For more information on Smart Talk, contact Andy Murray on

07794 325590 or

[andy@partnersinadvocacy.org.uk](mailto:andy@partnersinadvocacy.org.uk)

