

Welcome to our Annual General Meeting

Monday 18 May 2026

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Branch Chair's Report (Mr D Carter)
3. Treasurer's Report (Mrs C Edmondson)
4. Election of Officers
 - a. Branch Chair
 - b. Branch Vice-Chair
 - c. Branch Treasurer
5. Planned activities 2026–27

Branch Chair's Report

Our regular activities:

- Autism Support Group
- Family Youth Club
- Lego Club
- Southampton Adults' Social Group
- Southampton Children's Social Group
- Partners' Group

Branch Chair's Report

Special events:

- Autism Seminar – May 2025
- 7 x River Hamble boat trips – June/July 2025
- Visit to Marwell Zoo – September 2025
- Circus Starr performances – September 2025
- Watercress Line visit – October 2025
- Mayflower Theatre panto relaxed performance – January 2026

Branch Chair's Report




Branch autism talk:

- To Communicare in Southampton – March 2026

Branch Chair's Report

Branch attendance at events:

- Eastleigh Community Showcase – June 2025
 - Advising at Mayflower Theatre panto dress rehearsal – December 2025
 - Stewarding at Mayflower Theatre panto relaxed performance – January 2026
 - Southampton SEND Family Fun Day – March 2026
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Branch Chair's Report

Collaborative work:

- Administrative support to and partnership with:
 - Hampshire Autism Voice
 - Hampshire Autism Ambassador Scheme
- Hampshire Autism Partnership Board:
 - Represented on the Board and its Autism Steering Group
 - Working with Hampshire & IoW ICB on Mental Health Charter for autistic people
- Close links with other local organisations including:
 - Autism Hampshire
 - Friends of In Touch
 - Speaking Space
 - Re:Minds

Branch Chair's Report



Branch membership:

- Currently have approximately 1040 Branch members
- Regularly circulating information to over 1100 people (including autism professionals)

Branch Chair's Report

Branch organisation:

- Run entirely by volunteers
- Branch Chair (assisted by Vice-Chair) – responsible for all aspects of running the Branch. Supported by Annie Dax, NAS Branches Manager
- Branch Treasurer, supported by NAS Branches Team Finance Officer
- Committee (11 volunteers) meet regularly to discuss the running of the Branch, look at funding issues and new ideas. Committee members undertake support roles including:
 - Helping to staff and organise events
 - Running resource library
- Other volunteers help out at specific events


Branch Chair's Report

Branch organisation:

- All volunteers undergo basic training and annual refresher training
- We have recruited more volunteers this year and currently have a total of 26 trained volunteers
- On average, our volunteers give over 180 hours per month supporting our activities (excluding special events that take even more time)
- We will soon be advertising for activity leaders for each of our regular activities to help spread the load of responsibility
- 3 local churches provide venues and some storage for our activities. We continue to be very grateful to:
 - Junction Church, Bishopstoke
 - Chandlers Ford Methodist Church
 - St Patrick's Church, Woolston

Branch Chair's Report

Branch organisation:

- All activities are fully risk assessed and covered by NAS insurance
 - We receive numerous email enquiries each week, including questions on many aspects of autism. However, as volunteers, we are unable to provide **any** professional advice or services.
 - We strive to keep our website and Facebook page up-to-date
 - The Branch committee welcomes ideas and suggestions on how they can continue to make this Branch a helpful resource for autistic people and their families
 - Please contact us with your comments – it is your Branch and we want to make it work for you!
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Branch Chair's Report



Our thanks to all volunteers, without whom there would be no South Hampshire Branch

(we welcome more volunteers too!)

Treasurer's Report

Branch account separated on paper as:

- Main account:
 - General branch finances including Eastleigh-based activities
- Southampton sub-group account:
 - Funds held specifically for Southampton-based social groups
- Hampshire Autism Voice sub-group account:
 - Restricted account which we manage on behalf of Hampshire Autism Voice and Autism Ambassador Scheme

PayPal account:

Used for all ticket transactions before money is transferred into main Branch account

Treasurer's Report

Donations:

- Total donations to Branch £4,719.67


Fundraising:

- Easyfundraising income £71.98
- NAS membership contributions £103.00



Treasurer's Report

Main costs of running our regular groups
(venue/refreshment/materials costs less attendance income):

- Autism Support Group – £1 67.00 (Church hire bill £1 12.50 received after 31/03/26)
 - Family Youth Club – £23.44 (Church donation still to be paid)
 - LEGO Club – £99.48
 - Partners' Support Group – £202.26
 - Adult Social Group – £252.31
 - Children's Social Group – £833.72
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Treasurer's Report

Cost of running special events:

- Autism Seminar 2025 – £1191.21
- Visit to Marwell Zoo 2025 – £588.71
- River Hamble boat trips 2025 – £988.44
- Watercress Line trip 2025 – £68.54
- Mayflower panto – Jan 2026 £122.20

Treasurer's Report

Other branch expenses include:

- Rental of Ready Steady Store £959.44
- Mailchimp (for newsletter production) £244.43

Treasurer's Report

Contribution to NAS Head Office:

- A 5% contribution imposed on Branches from July 2025
- Calculation based on average monthly balance of funds in previous year (excluding any restricted amounts)
- Our 5% contribution was £1,319.45
- Following feedback from Branches to NAS CEO and Trustees, this process has been reviewed with full input from Branches
- It has now been agreed to:
 - Continue with annual 5% contribution (not increased to 10% as originally stated)
 - Branches can retain their nominated share of the NAS national membership contribution.

Treasurer's Report



Balance brought forward 1 April 2025	£32,419.17
Net surplus for 2025/26	-£2818.11
Total balance at 31 March 2026	£29,601.06

Un-reserved savings Main Branch account	£13,577.24
Reserved savings Southampton sub-group account	£7,917.02
Restricted savings HAV account	<u>£8,106.80</u>
	£29,601.06

PayPal account:

Balance brought forward 1 April 2025	£2,421.95
Balance at 31 March 2026	£682.90

Treasurer's Report



Our thanks to Caroline for looking after our finances so efficiently



Election of Officers

- a. Branch Chair
David Carter willing to be re-elected
- b. Branch Vice-Chair
Rachel Carter willing to be re-elected
- c. Branch Treasurer
Caroline Edmondson willing to be re-elected

Planned activities 2026–27

All usual monthly activities plus:

- Local Offer Live event, Eastleigh – Friday 15 May 2026
 - Watercress Line visit – Saturday 16 May 2026
 - 7 x River Hamble boat trips: 13/14/20 June 2026
 - Possible Circus Starr performances – 21 September 2026
 - Investigating Marwell Zoo and/or Winchester Science Centre visits – Autumn 2026
 - Mayflower Theatre panto relaxed performance – December 2026
 - Autism Seminar – Spring 2027
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