

Agenda

9.00 – 9.30 am

Presentation will start at 9.30am

Session 1 9.30 am – 11.00am

When your brain is not good at guessing

Peter - Autism and the predictive mind. An explanation of recent neuro-scientific findings of how the brain is more guessing (using context) rather than computing information from the senses, leading to difficulties in predictive abilities and sensory overload. The need for a clear and predictable world to improve people's quality of life.

Gary - Explanation of the neuro-psychological differences shared by people with ASD known as 'Culture of Autism' and how a structured teaching strategy (TEACCH) helps promote better thinking, learning and understanding.

11.00am -11.15 am

Morning Break

Session 2 11.15am -12.45pm

Wellbeing and autism

Gary - How the principles of 'Positive Psychology' can be integrated into Structured Teaching to help make life more satisfying and rewarding for those with ASD.

Peter - If people with autism understand the world in a different way, how do they experience and understand the concepts of wellbeing and happiness? How can you find out if someone is happy, and what makes them happy?

12.45pm – 13.15pm

Lunch

Session 3 13.15pm – 15.00pm

Areas of Adult Life and Wellbeing

Gary - Sexuality and Relationships. The difficulties encountered by people with ASD with emotions and relationships and an overview of areas to consider, available resources, and some strategies and approaches to pursue.

Peter - Self knowledge is the beginning of wisdom. Would it improve the Quality of Life of a person with ASD if they had a better understanding of themselves and their autism? Should they be informed of their diagnosis and how could this be done?

15.00pm -15.20pm

Afternoon Break

Session 4 15.20 pm – 16.30pm

What has been learnt

What have both Peter and Gary learnt in the past decades about Quality of Life for people with autism? What has changed in their ideas and thinking, and what has stood the test of time Q&A from audience

SPECIALIST TRAINING EVENT

Date: Friday 1st July 2016

Topic: Quality of Life and Wellbeing in Autism

Guest Speakers:

Dr Gary B Mesibov and Peter Vermeulen PhD

Venue: The Inn on the Lake Hotel. A2, Shorne, Nr Gravesend, Kent DA12 3HB

Time: 09.30 am – 4.30pm

Short summary of the presentation

When your brain has difficulties understanding the world in the way that most autistic brains do, then life can be quite confusing or even threatening. In turn this affects a person's wellbeing and Quality of life.

People with autism are entitled to Quality of Life in the same way that everyone else is, and in this seminar Peter and Gary will be offering an insight into autistic thinking and understanding, and exploring some of the strategies that can improve an individual's day to day happiness and wellbeing.

Topics covered will focus on areas relevant to a person's learning process, life as an adult and the challenges in adult life for people with ASD with and without additional learning difficulties.



Dr. Gary B. Mesibov is a Professor Emeritus of Psychology in the Departments of Psychiatry and Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he served on the faculty for 35 years. He was the Director of Division TEACCH at the University of North Carolina from 1992 until 2010. Dr. Mesibov has received degrees from Stanford University (A.B.), The University of Michigan (M.A.), Brandeis University (Ph.D.), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Postdoctoral Fellowship). Dr. Mesibov is a licensed Psychologist in the state of North Carolina.



Peter Vermeulen has a MSc and PhD in Psychology and Educational Sciences. Worked with people with ASD and their families for more than 25 years. Now co-director of Autisme Centraal, a training and education centre for autism spectrum disorders. Peter is an internationally respected lecturer/trainer and he presents all over Europe and beyond. Peter has written more than 15 books and articles on autism.

Who should attend?

Anyone involved in the support of a person/persons on the autistic spectrum – care workers, health professionals, behavioural support personnel, managers, teachers, parents, guardians and advocates

Cost:

£95.00 per delegate

£50.00 per delegate if a member of, or parent to a person supported by Kent Autistic Trust

Price includes a full days seminar with coffees/teas and a light buffet lunch

This is a unique presentation that has been specially put together for today's event. To book your place please contact Janet Davenport,

Email: janet@kentautistic.com

