

FRIDAY 17TH MARCH 2023

With Lavinia Donling

FUNDRAISING FUN

Last weekend Yasmin and I were getting down to the serious art of fundraising. The first was in a shop in Holyhead - it was a cold day and we had to be up at the crack of dawn as we did on the Sunday to get our pitch at the Mona car boot sale. Both days were great for talking about TMW, but also reiterates there is a need for our services.

Our Non Executive Director, Ron, seems to love finding ways of fundraising and often is uploading his photos onto his personal fb page. The next thing I know is he is informing the NEDs and myself that he has sold 3 of his photos, and that was quickly followed up by a donation falling into TMW bank! Wow! Awesome! Thank you so much, Ron!



Find the new playlist on our YouTube

DISCUSSION GROUP

Last week, a group of individuals came together to talk about Panic Disorder. Thank you to those of you who volunteered, and those of you who volunteered and were able to participate. It was a big piece of work and I hope proves valuable to our community. My thanks also to Yasmin, Social Media Manager, who blew me away with making me sit in our sitting room with her cinema screen to show me the countdown to the program - she is one talented lady and we are very lucky to have her skill sets. If you missed the live premiere, do not worry, as you can head over to our YouTube channel and watch this.



HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

I told you a few weeks back we were commissioned to write a piece from Havas in partnership with Ambitious about Autism. This week they asked for the obligatory photograph. Yasmin struggled to get a photo I liked (I detest having pictures taken of me), but we managed to get one holding one of the cats where I got distracted by his purring. So, I believe that is being launched this coming week. We will keep you posted!

This week we had a conference to attend in Gloucester, and had to drive down in rubbish weather. We stayed in a really lovely Airbnb that was dog friendly. Callum was our host and was just lovely waiting up for us to arrive and showing us everything. If you want somewhere to stay, you will find his details on our fb group. It is very Autism friendly and a great shout out as it is minutes off the M6 near Worcester and Kidderminster.

The following morning we drove to Gloucester in sunshine and eventually found our venue put on by the Parent and Carer Alliance cic. They promote awareness around Fabricating Induced Illness. Speakers included Prof Luke Clements, Pro Andy Bilson, and lawyer, Sarah Westoby, who raised our awareness around research and litigation. It was an incredibly informative day, and we did lots of networking. I cannot do justice in this blog, and I do not wish to say more other than FII deserves a much bigger opportunity to discuss further in detail. I will be writing a piece on this, but also a parent has very kindly volunteered to do a discussion on this.

And finally we all love good news! Three of our clients have been highly successfully in being granted EHCP where our reports have been a major part in convincing the needs. Given our greater understanding on Tuesday, these are victories for some our families and reiterates there is more work to be done!

MORE WORK TO BE DONE

Our Non Executive Director, Wendy, has been working on some of the data we have collected, since TMW started, as data is priceless when it comes to arguing and defending our families. For example, whilst CAMHS takes you months and even years, did you know that from start of having a Mental Health assessment and Initial Screening to reports being posted out by recorded delivery takes us on average 45 days!!! We will endeavour to lower this time frame, but we know that most professionals return reports 6 - 8 weeks post assessments where we try to do 21 days max. Whoop whoop!



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Lavinia 



Available on YouTube now
Part Two set to air 24th March



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