

Speakup for Employment



Speakup for Employment



- Speakup was founded in Rotherham 34 years ago by a small group of adults with Learning Disabilities who wanted to make a difference and ‘Speak Up’ for better Services
- We haven’t forgotten our roots and core values working to “Make Things Better” ...
- But we have come a long way since 1988



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- One way we “Make Things Better” in 2022 is by providing ...

Paid Employment



- And supporting People with Learning Disabilities and Autism to find Paid Employment

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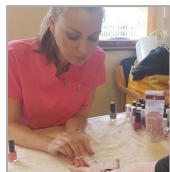
www.speakup.org.uk

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Now we have three stories to tell you:

- An Employees Story from Marshall
- An Employers Story from Jodie
- And my Self Employment Story



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An Employees Story - Marshall

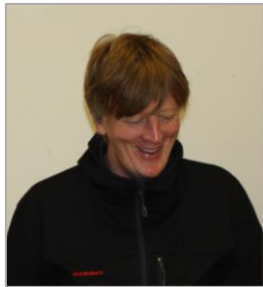


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- I have diagnosis of Autism and a Mild Learning Disability

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- I first became involved with Speakup through my CAMHS Support in July 2019
- She introduced me to Geoff ... one of Speakup's Principal Officers and Vicky who you saw on the Speakup for Employment Video
- They took me through the Speakup induction ... and shortly after I was introduced to the rest of the team

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- I was working with Geoff, as a volunteer, on some projects for NHS England

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- I was working with Geoff, as a volunteer, on some projects for NHS England
- And then ...

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- I was working with Geoff, as a volunteer, on some projects for NHS England

- And then ...

- Pandemic !!



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- Fortunately with the help and support from Speakup the Pandemic was not the end of my employment ambitions
- Through Zoom and MS Teams ...
- I have worked co-producing and leading on the Speakup training programme ...
“Making Things Better for People with Learning Disabilities and Autism”
- We have been delivering this training to Health Professionals, paid Carers and the Medical Students at Sheffield University over Zoom and MS Teams

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- Currently I am working on an Advocacy Project, with 3 colleagues from Speakup, to help people detained in Mental Health Units to get a better understanding of how to access Advocacy Services



- I know from personal experience how important this work is for inpatients because I am currently detained in hospital in Bradford

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- With the support I have from Speakup, I am able to continue doing my work over Zoom and sometimes I have been able to travel independently to Speakup's offices in Rotherham



- I enjoy working for Speakup ... it is giving me a purpose ... experience ... training in areas I will be able to use in the future

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- And the bonus to me
- Now I am a paid employee
- I get a Wage

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- I think my story shows that, in spite of a Pandemic Emergency and additional Mental Health issues ...



Support

- With support and Reasonable Adjustments, a person with a Learning Disability and Autism can work, earn a wage and make a valuable contribution

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- Thank you for listening to my story
- I hope it might encourage other People with a Learning Disability and/ or Autism to take up employment opportunities
- And I hope it will encourage Employers to offer employment opportunities to People with Learning Disabilities and Autism

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Employers Story



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An Employers Story - Jodie



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Employment is for Everyone

... is a social movement that aims to improve the employment opportunities for People with a Learning Disability and Autistic People

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South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw
Integrated Care System



In 2019 Speakup supported a South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System (ICS) event about improving employment opportunities for Autistic People

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Community Catalysts helped to set up a working group of four Key Social Enterprises

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Four social enterprises ...



- Speakup



- DEXX



- Artworks



- EDLounge

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We worked together to create a promotional video and a website

To show businesses why they should employ People with Learning Disabilities and Autistic People

<https://www.employmentisforeveryone.org.uk>

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Employment is for Everyone



Launch Event at Gulliver's Valley
Tuesday 14 June 2022

<https://www.employmentisforeveryone.org.uk>

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<https://www.employmentisforeveryone.org.uk>

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Self-Employment Story



Charlie's Beauty Zone

<https://www.communitycatalysts.co.uk/story/charlies-beauty-zone/>

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NVQ



- I finished NVQ Level 3 Beauty Therapy at Rotherham College in 2016
- I looked for a salon job but nobody would take me on, or give me a chance



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Doncaster and Bassetlaw
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

AURORA
Wellbeing Services



- I did some work experience at the Aurora Centre – Montagu Hospital in Mexborough

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- I did some work experience at the Aurora Centre – Montagu Hospital in Mexborough
- The Aurora Centre offers free beauty and complementary therapy treatments to local people, who have had a diagnosis of cancer

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- I did some work experience at the Aurora Centre – Montagu Hospital in Mexborough
- The Aurora Centre offers free beauty and complementary therapy treatments to local people, who have had a diagnosis of cancer
- I still volunteer there every week

<https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/services/breast-units/aurora-centre/?msclkid=5c0d730ed11c11ec8a2b71f1aa7faeac>

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- I was volunteering at Speakup



- And they put me in touch with Rotherham Community Catalysts

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Charlie's Beauty Zone

- Working from home



- At Speakup



- Cross Roads Care

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- And then ...



- Pandemic !!

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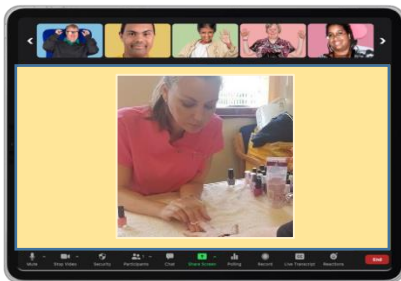


- Just as things were starting to take off I had to stop all therapies

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- Just as things were starting to take off I had to stop all therapies



- Thanks to Speakup's Zoom I have been able to run weekly therapy sessions with classes in – relaxation, hand massage, foot massage, facials

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- And I get paid to do this ...

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- As things have started getting back to normal I am slowly getting Charlie's Beauty Zone up and running again

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Thank you for listening to our Stories



- Marshall



- Jodie



- Charlie