



KSS community of practice conference Crawley 15th June 2016

Enriching Lives

SeeAbility is the operating name for The Royal School for the Blind founded in 1799. Registered Charity Number 255913.

Scott Watkin
Eye Care and Vision Team
SeeAbility
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Hertfordshire
Co Chair for Transforming Care
Assurance Board

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My Work at SeeAbility

- Chairing Look Here events
- Training advocacy groups, Peer Educator Network
Opening Eyes training
- Training Optometrists in eye care for people with learning disabilities
- SeeAbility Easy Read information – Accessible information standards

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What People have said about my work

Stephen Kill Eye Care and Vision Manager SeeAbility

“Scott is a very important member of SeeAbility’s Eye Care and Vision Team. He travels around the country delivering training and workshops, representing SeeAbility at meetings and conferences....and of course speaking at prestigious events like this one!

As a person with a learning disability and an eye conditions Scott is ideally placed to be speaking about this topic to self advocates, family carers and professionals.”

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What People have said about my work

Paul McCluskey self advocate Opening Doors a self advocacy group attended our Opening Eyes Training.

"Having attended SeeAbility conferences in the past, Scott has always presented himself smartly, is very professional and has a natural ability to engage any audiences. His knowledge and passion when delivering training always shows through."

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What People have said about my work

Laura Marshall tenant at Hartsbrook SeeAbility Service Speak Easy group member

- I felt very happy to meet you, and talk about the speak easy group. You made me feel comfortable about being the spoke person for Hartsbrook.

I enjoy going to the meetings, and its teaching me new things.

When you came to Hartsbrook to visit me, you explained things very well and slowly, so I could understand what I had to do, and what was going to happen, which I like.

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My Work at the University of Hertfordshire Learning Disability Nurses Course

Teaching 1st years about experience of health and social inclusion / exclusion.

Teaching 2nd years: Multi-cultural module – experiences of employment.

Teaching 2nd years about having a visual impairment and learning disability

3rd years contributing to mock interviews

Helps with student interviews for the course

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What people have said about my work

Margaret Jones Senior Lecturer University of Hertfordshire

“Feedback from students emphasises the impact Scott’s teaching has on them, they leave the sessions energised and keen to advocate equal access for people who have learning disabilities to health and social care.

Having Scott on the Team at the University of Hertfordshire has enabled our students to really hear the expert’s voice which hopefully they will reflect on throughout their careers.”

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What people have said about my work

Maria walker Learning Disability Nurse

“Scott only taught me for one seminar during my three years training to become a learning disability nurse, yet it was amongst the most memorable. I thought I had no prejudices about what people with learning disabilities could achieve. Scott made me question this. I hadn't recognised that a person with a learning disability would be a university lecturer, work for the department of health and chair national conferences for example. Although I am passionate about everyone's right to a normal life, Scott made me reflect on how many actually realise this right; despite his high profile career he still has professionals checking up on his homelife.

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What people have said about my work

Maria walker Learning Disability Nurse

This lesson has improved my practice now I'm qualified. Firstly as I see that this is the only population group who are expected to not be able to maintain a family life independently and secondly that with appropriate support anyone can achieve as much as anyone else.”

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My Personal Experience Using Health Services

- I have had mixed experiences when receiving health services
- Hospital inpatient with my eye surgery
- GP about my Stomach
- Maternity unit talking about contraception finding out if the LD Nurse was at the hospital

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Thank you

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<https://www.seeability.org/sharing-knowledge>

Some images courtesy of Photosymbols

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