

AbleOTUK -Newsletter

Support sessions 2023

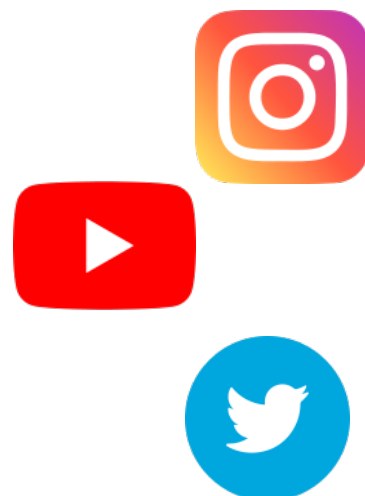
We hold monthly networking/support sessions on alternative Thursday evenings or Sunday afternoons. These sessions are open to all UK based occupational therapists/students who identify as disabled or as having a long term health condition.

We respectfully ask that allies do not attend these sessions to allow a safe space for all participants.

Dates for 2023 are:

- Sunday 25th June 3pm
- Thursday 20th July 7pm
- Sunday 20th Aug 3pm
- Thursday 21st Sep 7pm
- Sunday 15th Oct 3pm
- Thursday 16th Nov 7pm
- Sunday 17th Dec 3pm

[Book on eventbrite here](#)



Congratulation New Occupational Therapists

Well done to all those who have just finished their degrees and will soon be able to call themselves an occupational therapist. Here at AbleOTUK we have extra reason to celebrate as one of our founding members, Natalie Hicks has just qualified and has taken up her first job as a community health and wellbeing development tutor.



Elizabeth Casson Memorial Lecture

The lecture is a memorial to Dr Elizabeth Casson (1881-1954) in honour of her contributions to the occupational therapy profession. The first woman to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Bristol in 1929, Dr Elizabeth Casson specialised in psychiatry and introduced occupational therapy to England, setting up the first school of occupational therapy, Dorset House, in Bristol.

The Casson lecture is an honour to be asked to give this year Keir Harding gave a thought provoking lecture called - Nothing grows in toxic environments, if you missed it you can catch up [Here](#)

He thanked people who have helped him in his career including members of AbleOTUK



50 years of Pride - June 2023

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first Pride march in the UK – a day when hundreds of LGBTQ+ people and their allies arrived in London to protest a society where we were not safe to be ourselves.

Stonewall is a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights charity in the United Kingdom. It is the largest LGBT rights organisation in Europe. This Pride month they are called for us all to 'Take Pride - Stand up for LGBTQ+ rights'



Panorama - ADHD clinics

AbleOTUK would like to reach out to anyone affected by the recent BBC Panorama series on Private ADHD clinics.

Not only was this piece of journalism biased it was ableist and sought to minimise all self-reporting of symptoms.

We have heard of some sectors removing reasonable adjustments based on this documentary and hope this isn't the case in our areas of practice but would urge anyone who feels their diagnosis has been bought into question to contact their union, staff disability network or come along to one of our support groups.

OT Magazine

Our latest column has now been published by OT magazine. We are writing a regular column for every edition this year, you can sign up to get this diverted to your door for £9.99 a year.

This month is about our trip to the 'nothing about us without us' exhibition at the peoples museum in Manchester.



Contact us

Email AbleOTUK@gmail.com

Twitter [@AbleOTUK](https://twitter.com/AbleOTUK).

Instagram [@AbleOTs](https://www.instagram.com/AbleOTs)

Website <https://affinot.co.uk/ableotuk/>

Newsletter put together by Rachel Booth-Gardiner
@OT_rach

Registering with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Once you have finished your degree to use the title occupational therapist you must apply to go to the HCPC register, this need updating every 2 years, as part of the process of registering you must sign to say you are fit to practice, but if you have a health condition or disability what does this mean? Check out our Georgia Vine's article exploring this topic in May's OT news if you're a member of RCOT you can read it [here](#)

Northern and Yorkshire come back event



On the 17th May 2023 - the Northern and Yorkshire regional branch of RCOT held its first face to face learning event since the pandemic. In the room were 90 of the occupational therapy community, all ready to engage in two workshops. The first of which was co created by our very own Rachel Booth-Gardiner, Ketan Dave who works at RCOT and LGBTQIA+OTUK founding members Hannah Spencer and Rachael Daniels. You can see the slides from our workshop on the website [here](#)