

Chris Helps Autism Awareness Week

Tamworth's MP Christopher Pincher took part in this year's Autism Awareness Week by helping to raise funds in Sainsbury's on Ventura Park.

World Autism Awareness Week takes place each year around the last week of March and aims to raise funds and increase awareness of autism.

The National Autistic Society (NAS) estimates that around 700,000 people in the United Kingdom are on the autistic spectrum, which, together with their families, means that autism is a part of daily life for 2.8 million people.

To help this cause, local resident Huw Loxton (pictured far right), who has first-hand experience of looking after a child with autism, organised a fundraising campaign in the Tamworth Sainsbury's on Saturday 1st April.

Mr Loxton said: "It was a successful day raising funds and awareness for autism on Saturday. However for me it isn't just about the money, but about speaking to local people to help them understand more about autism. It's close to home for us and something that we live with every day."

Mr Pincher said: "It was a real pleasure to help fundraise with Huw, his daughter Megan and her friend Zak. We spoke to a lot of customers who were interested to find out more about autism and how simple things can be done to make our world just a little less traumatic for people with autism."

"One of my best friends has a child with autism and research and support for autism awareness is something I have helped with at Westminster too. I hope the money we raised with the kind support of Sainsbury's customers will go a little way to furthering that cause".