



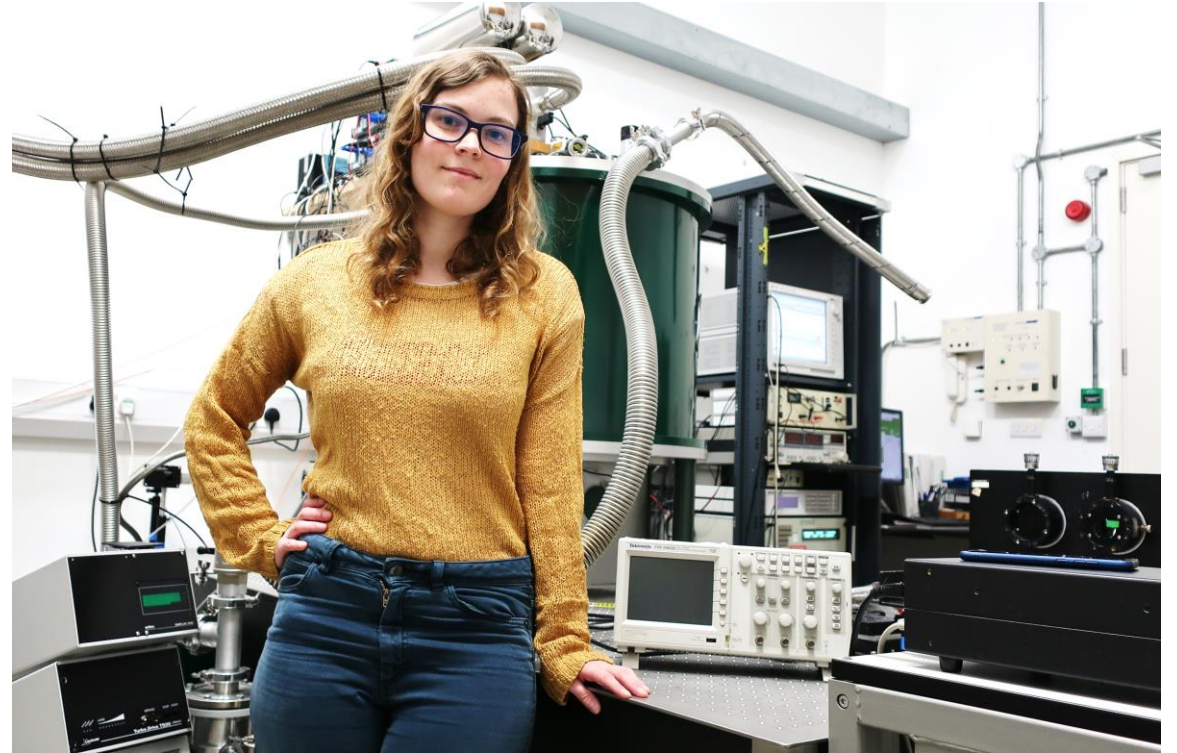
Neurodivergent in STEM: Empowering NeuroMinorities in STEM fields

Daisy Shearer

22 April 2021

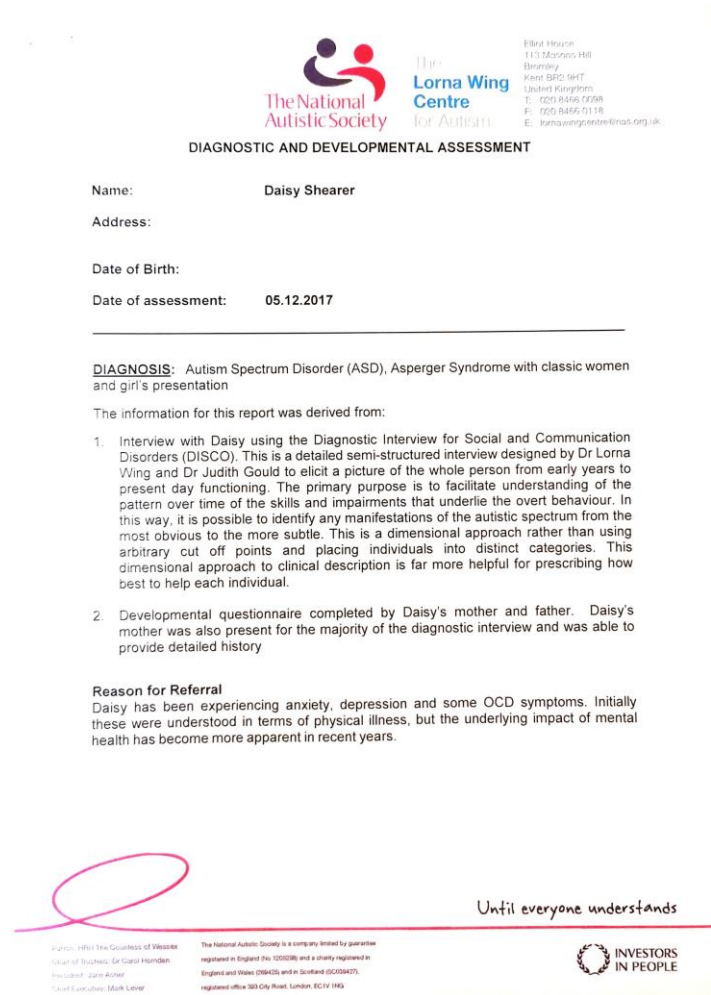
Academic background

- MPhys, University of Surrey 2014-2018
- PhD student since 2018
- Research area: quantum technology (semiconductor spintronics)



Autism Diagnosis

- December 2017
- During master's placement
- Diagnosis of a close family member
- 21 years old
- Enabled access to much-needed support



The National Autistic Society
The Lorna Wing Centre
for Autism

11 Elms Road, Hill
Barnsbury
Kensington, London W8 5HT
United Kingdom
T: 020 8466 5998
F: 020 8466 0118
E: lorna.wing@centreforautism.org.uk

DIAGNOSTIC AND DEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Name: Daisy Shearer

Address:

Date of Birth:

Date of assessment: 05.12.2017

DIAGNOSIS: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Asperger Syndrome with classic women and girl's presentation

The information for this report was derived from:

1. Interview with Daisy using the Diagnostic Interview for Social and Communication Disorders (DISCO). This is a detailed semi-structured interview designed by Dr Lorna Wing and Dr Judith Gould to elicit a picture of the whole person from early years to present day functioning. The primary purpose is to facilitate understanding of the pattern over time of the skills and impairments that underlie the overt behaviour. In this way, it is possible to identify any manifestations of the autistic spectrum from the most obvious to the more subtle. This is a dimensional approach rather than using arbitrary cut off points and placing individuals into distinct categories. This dimensional approach to clinical description is far more helpful for prescribing how best to help each individual.
2. Developmental questionnaire completed by Daisy's mother and father. Daisy's mother was also present for the majority of the diagnostic interview and was able to provide detailed history.

Reason for Referral
Daisy has been experiencing anxiety, depression and some OCD symptoms. Initially these were understood in terms of physical illness, but the underlying impact of mental health has become more apparent in recent years.

Until everyone understands

INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

(some information blanked out for privacy)

Neurodivergent in STEM



Who we are

We are a project increasing the visibility of neurodivergent people in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and STEM-related fields. By our stories, we hope to show that we have a place in STEM. This is a space to share experiences, advice and opportunities.

Our mission

We want to provide the next generation of neurodivergent people considering STEM careers with role models they can relate to, facilitate connections, and share best practice to help make STEM more inclusive for neurominorities.

Share your story

Neurodivergent in STEM is a community-driven project so we rely on contributions from you! If you identify as neurodivergent and work (or study) in a STEM or STEM-related field, please consider sharing your story. Go to the [‘contribute’ page](#) to find out more.

<https://www.neurodivergentinstem.com/>

Neurodivergent in STEM



Submit your story to 'Neurodivergent in STEM'

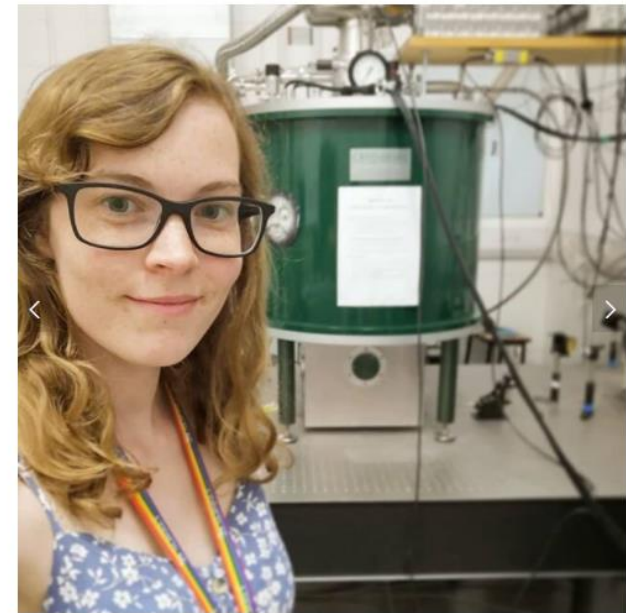
Thank you for your interest in sharing your story for Neurodivergent in STEM!

This form generally takes 10-20 minutes to fill out. It is split into the following sections:

1. General information
2. Work/study information
3. Social media information
4. Collection of photos: 1-8 photos of your work, you in action etc. with descriptions
5. Biography: 1500 character maximum biography about you, your neurodiversity and your work
6. Feedback

Neurodivergent in STEM

- Self-submitted contributions
- Profiles of public figures
- Shared on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook
- Showing the diversity within the neurodivergent community
- Providing relatable role models
- Raising awareness and understanding



"Hi! I'm Daisy. I'm a PhD student at the University of Surrey's Advanced Technology Institute researching semiconductor spintronics for quantum technology applications. I'm finding new ways to make a structure called a quantum point contact from semiconductor quantum wells which will allow me to control and manipulate the spin state of electrons flowing through my devices. By generating a spin-polarized current, I'm hoping to initialize semiconductor-based electron spin qubits. I get to work with all sorts of amazing equipment including a superconducting solenoid, focused ion beam, wire bonder and I get to do plenty of coding to model the physics of my devices. I was diagnosed with autism 2 years ago when I was 21. It's part of who I am and comes with its challenges but my autism is definitely part of why I'm a good scientist!"

Instagram: [@notesfromthephysicslab](#)

Twitter: [@QuantumDaisy](#)

Blog: [www.notesfromthephysicslab.com](#)

Website: [www.daisyshearer.com](#)

Neurodivergent in STEM



Neurodivergent in STEM

Find us online:

- Website- <https://www.neurodivergentinstem.com/>
- Instagram- [@neurodivergent_in_stem](https://www.instagram.com/neurodivergent_in_stem)
- Twitter- [@ND_in_STEM](https://twitter.com/ND_in_STEM)
- Facebook Page- [@NDinSTEM](https://www.facebook.com/NDinSTEM)
- Facebook Group- [neurodivergentinstem](https://www.facebook.com/groups/neurodivergentinstem)
- LinkedIn Group- [Neurodivergent in STEM](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/Neurodivergent-in-STEM)

Contact me

Email: daisykshearer@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.daisyshearer.com/>

Blog: <https://notesfromthephysicslab.com/>

Always happy to answer questions!