



## Robyn Steward

I have been asked who is Robyn Steward?

The simple answer was I don't know. I have tried to contact her but due to her popularity I have been unable to talk to her.

I then remembered something called google, put in her name and OMG what a lady. Please do google once you see what she has done you will not want to miss seeing her live here in Lincoln on June 6th at Lincoln College.

I have copied and pasted the articles below from google to give you a small insight.

Please book your place on this amazing evening where our warm up act will be Andrew Whitehouse who is responsible for putting PAACT and Robyn together.

The evening starts at 7:00pm through to 9:30pm. The cost is a staggering low £20.00. There is a limit of 60 places for this evening talk.

Gordon.

**Robyn Steward** Award-winning trainer, speaker, artist, musician and broadcaster on the autism spectrum

Robyn Steward is 29. She has worked in autism for 10 years and she sits on the National Autism Programme board. She works with teachers, support workers and other professionals; as well as speaking to parents and autistic people, she was consultant for the National Theatre's production *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*, and is author of *The Independent Woman's Handbook for Super Safe Living on the Autistic Spectrum*. She was joint winner of the National Autistic Societies Professional award for Outstanding Achievement by an Individual on the Autistic Spectrum.

**My work is much more about the many different experiences of autism individuals have the many different strategies which work for some and not all, the theories around autism, and the experiences I have had as a professional, than just about me. However, many people want to hear about my experiences. These will be featured in a forthcoming book. In the meantime, this short bio tells you a bit about me personally.**

**Robyn started life small, but made sure her life achievements were big. Robyn was born 3 months premature and spent her first 10 weeks in a critical condition in a hospital special care baby unit (where her christening took place).**



**Then she went home to Suffolk to grow up in the English countryside with her Mum and Dad. Robyn's parents noticed quickly that she was on the spectrum. Her Mum started making sure Robyn did not retreat into her own world, using a mutual interest in music which was the key and still is to Robyn's success.**

**Robyn learnt to talk late and even then she did not use it to communicate, but in echoalia and playing with sounds. But music accompanied Robyn, with her blooming vocabulary to school, through bullying and through hard times at school where people didn't understand her and she didn't understand them, leading to mishaps on both parts.**

Later, as well as autism, Robyn was diagnosed with 10 Disabilities. Her parents did not receive autism specific support. Robyn's diagnosis of Asperger's came at the age of 11, but the school didn't really know what to do. Robyn was rather adverse to learning social skills formally at first, as she did not understand that who she was would not change by learning skills.

*High Schools' prominent feature was being bullied, such as locking in toilets, names like spastic, and teachers who couldn't understand why she struggled with some things and not others.*

What helped Robyn through was her parents' time, dedication and love, a band called Pink Floyd, a few good teachers and a bunch of experiences. After being kicked out of school with no GCSEs, Robyn went to college and learnt about autism and started teaching others. Further education wasn't easy; she still struggled in work and got bullied to begin with. Then she went to university she got good grades and started mentoring others, she then left to travel round the world, inspiring educators, therapists, parents and people on the spectrum. Robyn, lives independently in London ( 150 miles from her parents) , and has built up her business to high acclaim. Her activities include speaking about autism at the House of Commons and frequently in the national and international press, and on radio and television. in May 2013 BBC Radio 4 made a documentary about Robyn's work and life and in the September of that year Robyn's first book on safety for women on the spectrum was published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers., she also collaborated with Mark inlet ( producer/engineer Duran Duran, dandy warhorse et al) on 3 singles and 1 EP , and painted the covers for a limited press of the EP :” super safe living”Robyn also helps to change government policies and raise awareness for people on the Autistic spectrum, as a National Autistic Society (NAS) Ambassador

In 2015 Robyn joined the department of health's autism programme board as a advocate for 2 years. At the NAS professional awards 2015 Robyn was awarded the award for ” outstanding achievement by a individual on the autism spectrum” along with Dr Julia Malkin MBE.

In 2016 Robyn wrote a EP which is being mixed by [Andy Diagram](#) , Robyn formed a band to perform her EP of 5 trumpets and 1 keyboard , the band is called Robyn Steward and the Hatonauts , Robyn is in a jazz Trio With Guitarist Rikki Jodelko and

saxophonist and percussionist Ned Smith they are called Robyn and the bar stewards, Robyn is also Trumpet player for Paul Hawkins and the Awkward silences.

Robyn still has autism and is still affected by it on a daily basis. However, she has built up an international career, friendships and a life. Her disabilities have influenced her lifestyle. Robyn has a condition called prosopagnosia which means she does not recognise faces, but recognises people by their shoes! Because of Robyn's physical disabilities, she needs to wear boots, and her visual impairment makes bright colors easier to see, hence bright shiny blue boots. Also, since she doesn't recognise her own face in photos and can't always see her shoes, she wears her purple sparkly hat. Robyn's difficulty with co-ordination makes a paint brush hard to use, so instead, she paints with her fingers. Robyn tries to change every negative into a positive and encourages others to do the same.



*I thought I would be homeless and a drug addict by the time I was 21, but when I did get to 21, I had a ticket to the USA for my first tour. School wasn't entirely to blame, but people's attitudes had a lot to do with it.*

