

## With thanks to a Superb Chair and Trustee

**Janet Speight** has been involved with NETA since its outset, forging its direction and making the charity what it is now. She stepped into the role of Chair from 2009 to 2015. She remained as a trustee and has only recently stepped down completely. Janet has been a determined advocate for people with aphasia, working with them, their families and speech and language therapists to ensure that people with aphasia are central to NETA. She has been very influential in shaping who we are and what NETA can be. She has worked tirelessly with us all, gently challenging us and taking an active part in every aspect of NETA. Her family members have been drawn in on this, with Bob, her husband, an active trustee previously, and her family members taking part in multiple events to support NETA. Janet has been and continues to be an inspiration to us all. On a personal level, many of us have learnt so much from working with Janet, learning which we continue to apply in our work with people with aphasia. NETA owes a debt to Janet for all her time, energy, enthusiasm and humour. The support people with aphasia are able to access in the North East is shaped by her vision and work. Thank you Janet for all you have done for NETA over many, many years. Dr Julie Morris



**The Magenta Singers at the King's Hall**



**A very successful Dancing for Charity evening**



**Nicholas Elliot after his epic  
Channel Swim**



**NETA Art Club**



I have had the pleasure of spending additional time with Janet when we were organising NETA's 10th Anniversary celebration at the Mansion House and when we had a special viewing at Tyneside Cinema of the film about Edwyn Collins and how aphasia affected him.

It was lovely to attend Dancing for Charity with her and Bob. We also had a giggle doing face painting at Walk2Talk, which they arranged for several years. Some years later we went to London together, when she spoke to the Aphasia Alliance.



**NETA's 10th Anniversary**

In all these settings, she has displayed strong determination, been full of good ideas, lots of good humour and laughs. She also has a special courage to face an unfamiliar audience and deal with adversity. She is a star! Bob deserves our sincere thanks for all his committed contributions to NETA. He and Janet make a great team! Judy McNamara, Trustee



**The Sage Music Sessions**

Janet was a great Chair and kept everyone in order during Trustees meetings! She always involved herself wholeheartedly in everything that was going on at NETA. From standing up and talking in front of audiences, to



**Aphasiafest at the Cluny**

participating in the Magenta Singers and the music sessions at the Sage where she tamed the steel drums and the ukulele. She also had us in fits of helpless laughter when filming for the website video! Eileen Charnley, Trustee

## NETA Christmas Appeal 2020

It's time to say a big thanks to all of you who donated and supported our Christmas Appeal 2020.

You raised just over £1,000 to help us continue the work at the NETA Support Centre.

The Support Centre provides now "Virtual" help and sessions during 2021.

The new coordinator Kathy Cann and Kerry are the team who will be spearheading future sessions.

Times are still very difficult and challenging for us, but with your help and support we are confident that 2021 will be another successful year for us.

Regards from all the Trustees

Gordon Doney

Chair & Trustee

