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## DADS DAY

**A FATHER'S JOURNEY:  
EXPLORING BEING  
THE DAD OF A CHILD WITH  
SPECIAL NEEDS**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
10am—3pm

The day will be led by: Barry Carpenter, Chief Executive, Sunfield and Stephen Venables, Everest Explorer & author of 'Ollie'. Stephen will present "On Top of the World - the joy of mountains and fatherhood" as well as "Living With Autism" where he talks about the long journey he and Rosie made with Ollie, attempting to break through the barrier of autism, but also learning to admire the unique qualities of their special child.

The cost for this event is £10 per delegate. For more information contact: **Sunfield Professional Development Centre**

Clent Grove, Clent, Nr. Stourbridge, West Mids. DY9 9PB

Tel: 01562 883183; Fax: 01562 881316; email: pdc@sunfield.org.uk

**www.sunfield.org.uk**



**Ambitious  
about  
Autism**

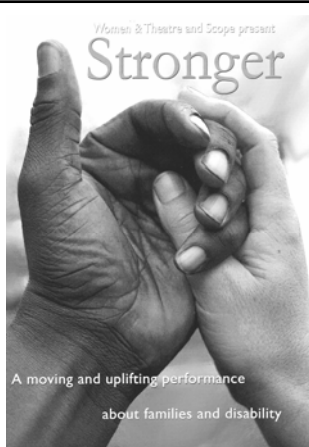
### Treehouse Parent Support Project Reports

Treehouse is the national charity for autism education. One way that Treehouse provides support to parents and carers is through the its Parent Support Project. The project is based on 'Constructive Campaigning for Autism Services: The PACE Parents' Handbook'. It is a three year project, started in September 2006. The aim of the project is to em-

power parents and carers of children with autism to improve the provision of autism education in 10 local authority areas across England. (Including Birmingham.)

Two reports from the project are now available online. Report 1 introduces the project and how it is working. Report 2 details emerging issues and some interesting and successful solutions. For a read about positive changes brought about by parents working together visit:

<http://www.treehouse.org.uk/publications/psp-reports/>



### STRONGER: Event Report 30/01/08

I think that everyone who attended the performance of "Stronger" by the Birmingham based "Women & Theatre" group will agree that it was a very powerful performance. At times emotional, yet definitely positive about living with a child with a disability. Most of the audience agreed that there had been parts of the story that they could relate to. This play will eventually be filmed along with some of the responses of those audience members who agreed to take part. This will become part of a training package for professionals called "Strengthening Families" which aims to remind professionals that behind every Special Needs child they are assessing there is a family with complex needs as well. For more information about this project visit: <http://www.face2facenetwork.org.uk/StrengtheningFamilies.htm>

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