

About Us

Daniel Giles OAM



Daniel is proudly Autistic working tirelessly as an advocate for other Autistic individuals and others with diverse needs.

He was diagnosed at the age of 2.5 years, experienced delays in verbal communication and needed assistance with understanding neurotypical social interactions.

Daniel's commenced his education in a special school. With support from his family and many others, Daniel transitioned from special education to mainstream schooling. He then went on to achieve a Bachelor of Graphic Design (Hons).

As an adult he lives independently, works part-time as a graphic designer and photographer, and does a range of volunteer work.

Daniel is actively involved in many roles including the Victorian Disability Advisory Council (DHHS), the Public Transport Access Council and the V/Line Accessibility Reference Group. He is also passionate about educating the community about being Autistic and mentoring other Autistic Individuals.

Daniel has been speaking at professional development events, to health care workers, educators and families since the age of 13 and has a unique ability to give a clear insight of life as an Autistic Individuals, along with strategies that have helped him with his quality of life, enabling him to achieve great things.

Daniel was honoured to receive the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2017 for his "Service to Disability and the Community".

Daryl Giles



Daryl is proudly Daniel's dad.

He is inspired by and in awe of Daniel's self-advocacy work and all that he has achieved.

After several years of discussing the possibility of a collaboration with Daniel, Daryl has come on board to present with Daniel and provide a parent's perspective of Daniel's life journey from his diagnosis through to the incredible recognition of Daniel's social justice work when he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2017.

Daryl brings to the discussion some insight into the emotional process of coming to terms with your son or daughter's diagnosis as well as his perspective on subjects including strategies surrounding early intervention, inclusion, education, independent living, employment and a careful measure of tough love to achieve best outcomes for your child on the autism spectrum.

Daryl has always been a calm and focused hands-on parent and willing to do what is needed to achieve the best for Daniel.

What we do

Together, we aim to bring our story far and wide. In doing so we aim to provide our audiences with:

- A better insight of the mind of an Autistic individual.
- Some ideas for strategies to achieve best outcomes at home, in the community and in school settings.
- A message of hope to the parents and families of children on the Autism Spectrum.



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Testimonials

I wanted to say thank you so very much for sharing your journey. You were both so inspiring and I was so moved by what you both had to say. Your presentation was the best I have attended in my 20 plus years of teaching. You have helped me both professionally as a preschool teacher and as a Mum of a 7 year old boy who has autism. I have passed on your information to many others. Thank you so very much. **JM**

We came to your Geelong talk last night and you were both nothing short of inspirational. My 13 year old was diagnosed with Aspergers, ADHD and Anxiety at around 8 years old. For him to listen to someone who shared and more importantly over came many similar has was wonderful and gave him so much confidence. He kept jabbing me with his elbow and saying "that is like me Dad" and we talked all the way home about Daniel's achievements and it gave my boy real belief that things would work out for him (sadly this is not always the case). One of the main things we took away from the talk was how much positive effect the extra curricular activities and camps seem to have on Daniel's confidence and social skills. My boy has never had the confidence to get involved in these kind of things but listening to both of you talk about these experiences has given him renewed determination to give such things a go, as well as a real understanding of the benefits of these kinds of activities. In this sense we can see that listening to your story could be the catalyst for some real improvement in our situation and we cannot thank you enough for that. We talked on the way home about Chris Varney, Temple Grandin and Daniel. We will spend more time on the weekend reading about and listening to other inspirational people with Autism. It is wonderful for my boy to see that he shares so much with such inspirational people. Thank you again for sharing your story and we would love to come and see your next talk. **CV**


We were at your Shepparton presentation and I was moved to tears by the strength and courage you both have. We have a 5 year old high functioning autistic boy W****, and although we are doing all we can to help him grow to a fine adult, as the parents of an autistic child you always seem to doubt yourself.....but tonight you showed us how far love, support and confidence can take our special ones. I cannot thank you enough for sharing your story and giving us hope, Daniel is a fine young man, if W**** becomes half the man Daniel is I will be soooooo proud. Daryl you have done an incredible job, your an inspiration to all of us with a loved one on the spectrum. **JS**

My son and I attended your presentation last night and we'd like to thank you for sharing your story and journey with us. Both Daniel and Daryl are amazing people and have such terrific advice and knowledge to share. We would recommend all professionals, parents, children and the wider community to attend Daniel's presentation. We hope we can meet with you again one day and all the best for the future. **NC**

What an amazing journey Daniel has been on! EVERYONE should get the opportunity to listen to this inspiring story about overcoming challenges, building resilience, having high expectations and achieving what you want in life. **KS**

I just heard the inspiring talk by Daniel Giles and his dad, Daryl, on the autism journey, in Bendigo. I would recommend attending for parents and for those on the spectrum who would like to hear more about autism as a lived experience. **AR**

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