# ScopeScope Awards

## A book of incredible people

## 2025

Headline sponsor

EVRi

## Event information

### Access services

* Infrared available throughout
* British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter on stage throughout
* Live captioning and roaming BSL interpreters
* Speakers will self-audio describe
* All video content will be captioned, and audio described
* Dog water bowls will be provided for assistance dogs

### Toilets

Accessible toilets are located:

* on the ground floor, by the main JM Finn reception
* on the first floor, to the right of the Ashes Suite
* on the second floor, on either side of the England Suite

There is also a Changing Places toilet located on the second floor. All accessible toilets are accessible by RADAR key, and are right hand side transfer.

### Other information

We also have:

* A multi-faith room is available on the third floor (accessible by lift and stairs)
* A parent and baby room is available on the third floor (accessible by lift and stairs)
* A quiet room is available on the third floor (accessible by lift and stairs)

If you have any questions or need assistance, please ask one of our friendly Scope volunteers, who are wearing purple t-shirts

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## Welcome

**Sir Robin Millar CBE (he/him)**

Chair of the Board of Trustees

Welcome to this year’s Scope Awards.

It is a privilege to be here with you as we honour the incredible achievements of our nominees. Individuals and organisations who are making a real difference in the lives of disabled people. They are all shining examples of passion, innovation, and dedication to creating a more inclusive world.

Of course, these accomplishments are achieved in the context of wider challenges. From disability benefit cuts to discrimination in the workplace. There is still much to do to achieve an equal future. We want a world where disabled people have the same rights and opportunities as everyone. Where barriers are removed. Attitudes are transformed. Where we don’t face extra costs.

But it’s precisely in the face of these challenges that the work of tonight’s nominees becomes even more impressive. Their resilience, creativity, and commitment to progress remind us all that change is possible.

I am also proud to share that, this year, our trophy design has been reimagined to reflect the spirit of inclusivity. It was co-produced with disabled people and designed by a talented disabled creative.

It embodies the power of accessible design. And the importance of diverse inputs in shaping a more equal society. It’s a symbol not just of achievement, but of the collaborative work that goes into making the world a better place for everyone.

Thank you for joining us to honour our outstanding nominees. Their achievements are a testament to the power of determination. Today, we celebrate their impact.

Robin.

## Our host

**Adam Pearson (he/him)**

Disability advocate, actor, presenter, and speaker

I’m honoured to be here today hosting the Scope Awards. These Awards are a celebration of the dedication, resilience, and advocacy shown by disabled people. And the companies, charities and organisations across the UK who are leading the way on equality and inclusion.

It’s a moment to recognise our achievements and reflect on the progress we’ve made together. As a disability advocate, like so many of you in the room today,

I know how you can sometimes feel like a drop in the ocean. And how easy it is to forget that without all these drops, there is no ocean. The Scope Awards help us to remember that.

Adam.

## Accessible Product

This award recognises an organisation or individual that has developed a product or service with disability inclusion at its heart. This category spotlights products and brands that use accessible design to improve the lives of disabled people.

### Barbie Fashionistas by Mattel

In 2024, Barbie introduced its first blind Fashionista doll developed with the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB). The Barbie Fashionistas series is the brand’s most diverse doll line. It offers more than 175+ looks in a variety of skin tones, hair textures, body types and disabilities. The dolls aim to advance Barbie’s continued goal of allowing more children to see their world reflected through play.

### Lake District National Park Authority

Miles without Stiles offers walking routes for everyone. Some paths follow rivers or wind through woodlands. They boast breath taking scenery and views. These routes provide those with access needs a chance to experience the beauty of the Lake District National Park, World Heritage Site. Barriers are removed, allowing disabled individuals to explore freely. There’s no need to worry about stiles or walls.

### Speak Easy by Nationwide Building Society

It’s estimated that 1 in 5 people in the UK will experience a communication difficulty. Speak Easy is a set of cards which can be used to communicate instead of speaking. It was launched in all 605 branches in September 2024. Each card has a commonly used banking phrase and an image to show what the card means. Customers can find the phrase they want to show it to a colleague to start a conversation.

### Tailo by Estendio

Tailo is a reading platform designed for neurodivergent students. It makes complex texts easier to understand. This is the latest innovation from Estendio, the company behind the award-winning app Present Pal. Chris, Estendio’s founder, has dyslexia.

He wants to empower disabled students with tools that break down learning barriers. They also help with self-advocacy. Since each student is unique, Tailo helps them read and process academic content in their own way.

## Celebrity Role Model

This award recognises a disabled public figure who has used their platform to affect change. This may be a TV personality, actor, musician, sports person, or any other well-known individual. They will have an ability to reach lots of people directly or indirectly through their role.

### Chris McCausland (he/him)

Chris McCausland is a stand-up comedian, actor, and Strictly Come Dancing winner. He is an established favourite on flagship comedy shows like Have I Got News for You and Would I Lie to You.

In 2023 Chris had his own travel series on Channel 4, Wonders of the World I Can’t See. Chris is blind and lost his sight gradually due to a genetic condition called Retinitis Pigmentosa.

### Dame Sarah Storey (she/her)

Dame Sarah Storey is Britain’s most successful Paralympian. She symbolises resilience and excellence in elite sports. In Paris, she won her 18th and 19th gold medals. She used the moment in press to address the gap between men’s and women’s cycling. And called for equal race distances in the Paralympics.

After her success in Paris, she earned a nomination for the 2024 BBC Sports Personality of the Year.

### Jordan Stephens (he/him)

Jordan Stephens is a creative, musician, writer, and performer, perhaps best known as one half of the chart-topping duo, Rizzle Kicks. Diagnosed with ADHD twice, he faced a tumultuous journey in his teens and 20s. Career success and deep friendships marked his life, but so did self-harm, hedonism, and heartbreak.

He’s been open about his mental health struggles, aiming to reduce stigma. In 2024, he published a book titled Avoidance, Drugs, Heartbreak and Dogs (ADHD).

### Sophie Morgan (she/her)

Sophie Morgan is a British TV presenter, producer, travel writer, speaker, and disability advocate. She is known for breaking barriers in media and travel.

A wheelchair user since 18, Sophie has hosted major programs for NBC, Channel 4, and the BBC. She writes for Condé Nast Traveller, The Sunday Times, and Wanderlust.

She founded Rights on Flights and co-owns Making Space Media with Reese Witherspoon’s Hello Sunshine. Making Space advocates for systemic change worldwide.

## Community Group

This award recognises a community group’s achievements around disability equality. It could be a community group or disabled people’s organisation that brings people together to create meaningful change in their local area. The group might deliver a service or campaign at a national or local level.

### ADHD Babes

ADHD Babes offers a safe space for Black women and non-binary people with ADHD, who often feel ignored by regular services. Their workshops give practical tools to manage ADHD, access benefits, and succeed in careers. Creative events help members connect and express themselves. Many say the community has changed their lives. One member even said, “ADHD Babes saved my life.”

### neurodiversikey®

neurodiversikey® launched in October 2023 to make the justice system and legal sector neuroinclusive. They focus on education, training, and raising awareness. They co-wrote a guide for people with ADHD in police custody.

They also conducted surveys on neurodiversity in legal education and practice. And created open-access resources and events. They follow the principle of “nothing about us without us.” As a fully neurodivergent organisation, they use their lived experiences to guide their work.

### Reverse the Ban York

Reverse the Ban York is an inspiring group of disabled volunteers and allies. They campaigned for years to lift the permanent ban on blue badge holders parking in York city centre, also known as the “Foot Streets.” A coalition of 27 Disabled People’s Organisations stood firm. They rejected the idea that disability rights and human rights must be sacrificed for “security”.

### Wheels for All

Wheels for All is a national accessible cycling charity. They promote inclusive cycling through a range of successful community engagement programmes. This gives people the opportunity to cycle on a regular basis with help, support, and guidance. Wheels for All Hubs across England provide a range of specially adapted cycles. Their dream is of a world where every disabled person can feel the exhilaration, joy and empowerment of cycling.

## Inclusive Workplace

This award recognises an organisation that has created an inclusive place of work. This could be through a commitment to hiring and supporting disabled colleagues. It could be creating inclusive policies or tackling disability inclusion in the workplace and outside of it.

### Evtec Automotive

Evtec Automotive is a one-stop shop for assembled automotive products, focused on people. Managing Director Kevin has increased the proportion of the workforce who identify as disabled to over 40%.

Evtec have launched supported internships and work experience programmes for over 140 disabled students. 11 of whom are now in paid roles at Evtec. Evtec believes the best way to assess someone’s ability is to give them a chance to do a job, with the right support in place.

### Happy Smiles Training

Happy Smiles Training is a social enterprise led by disabled people. It promotes inclusion and diversity. In the past year, disabled representation in their workforce rose to over 92%. All paid staff have lived experience.

In 2024, they used training income to build a new, accessible office. This improved staff well-being and set a standard for inclusion. Their approach combines lived experience-led delivery with ongoing peer mentorship. Every staff member and volunteer reports increased confidence and purpose.

### Inkfire

Inkfire is the only agency in the world led entirely by disabled people. In 2024, the team grew to 14 members. They all earn a living wage and have lived experience with disabilities.

As a fully disabled team, they created a remote, flexible, work environment. This setup allows everyone to thrive in their own way. By working globally, they’ve dismantled invisible barriers. Inkfire shows that accessibility and inclusion drive creativity and innovation.

### The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital is one of the largest specialist orthopaedic hospitals in Europe. It’s ABLE network has introduced a staff passport for reasonable adjustments. This passport comes with an Easy Read version and educational materials.

The hospital also launched educational posters and an exhibition called Beyond the Stigma. The exhibition showcases stories from disabled colleagues.

## Journalist

This award recognises a disabled journalist who has gone above and beyond with their reporting. This could be online, in print or broadcast. They could have championed disability issues or shown strong commitment to disability equality through a sustained body of work.

### Alex Taylor (he/him)

Alex Taylor is a BBC culture reporter. He tackles disability issues through impactful journalism. Alex’s investigations have exposed airlines charging disabled passengers double and poor wheelchair access at Ibiza nightclubs.

Alex has also challenged dating stereotypes in disabled and nondisabled relationships. In the online space, he recently explored how South Park’s disabled character is being manipulated on TikTok to fuel real-life hate. These stories aim to spark change.

### Drew Hyndman (he/him)

Drew Hyndman is a journalist and producer at the BBC. He has been advocating for and reporting on disabled people and their stories since his career began. He produces the BBC’s leading disability podcast, Access All. Drew has introduced disabled-led stories to programmes across the BBC.

He has also worked to improve support for disabled and neurodivergent staff at the BBC. Drew has also spoken openly about his experiences as an autistic and ADHD journalist.

### Frances Ryan (she/her)

Frances Ryan is a Guardian columnist and journalist. In the past 18 months, Frances has been named Commentator of the Year and helped to overturn a controversial care home policy. She finished her ground-breaking book on life for disabled women in Britain. She has held governments to account for their disability benefit reforms.

Frances also uses her journalism to highlight positive depictions of disability in popular culture. Her work has featured on the front pages of the Guardian, The New York Times, and British Vogue.

### Jennie Kermode (she/her)

Jennie Kermode is an author, journalist, and human rights advocate. She specialises in LGBTQ+ issues and film. Her work focuses on the intersectionality of disability and other identities, like LGBTQ+ status. It brings a nuanced view to disability rights discourse. Jennie has championed diversity in the arts.

She works tirelessly to create a world where disabled people can thrive without barriers. She wants neurodivergent and disabled voices to be heard.

## Marketing Campaign

This award recognises a campaign that has made an impact on the lives of disabled people. This can have a local or national focus and should have raised awareness or achieved change on disability equality.

### BBC Extend Campaign

BBC Extend is an employment attraction campaign for deaf, disabled, or neurodivergent people. BBC Extend ringfences roles that only people defined as disabled by the Equality Act can apply for. The campaign focuses on increasing the level of disabled talent at the BBC. It offers disabled people tailored job opportunities, events, and webinars to help them start a career at the BBC.

### Channel 4’s ‘Considering What?’

Channel 4’s ‘Considering What?’ campaign highlights the barriers Paralympians have to overcome to reach greatness. It’s not their disability. It’s the same forces any athlete must defeat: gravity, friction, and time. The campaign is a response to the disabled community’s criticism that the term ‘overcoming’ was patronising and othering. Because it’s time we all saw Paralympians the way the forces do - not as Superhumans - but simply as elite athletes.

### Crohn’s and Colitis UK

Crohn’s and Colitis UK’s Cut the Crap Campaign aims to end the stigma and confusion around Crohn’s disease and Colitis. The campaign’s bold, direct approach spoke to audiences. It helped many seek a diagnosis. The campaign featured a powerful video as well as digital and print adverts. It also featured an online symptom checker which has been used over 250,000 times.

### Valuable 500

Valuable 500 is a global group of 500+ partners and businesses. Together, they aim to end disability inequality. In 2024, they launched a video campaign for SYNC25, a global summit on disability inclusion. The summit will unite leaders from all sectors to accelerate inclusion for disabled people worldwide. The video featured disabled talent both in front of and behind the camera.

## Media Moment

This award recognises a media moment that has had a powerful impact. This could be a soap or drama storyline, entertainment TV show, film, podcast, or any other media format. The media moment should have helped shift attitudes on disability.

### Fight to Fly

Fight to Fly is a documentary about the inaccessibility of air travel. It features the biggest ever undercover filming operation by disabled people on UK TV. And shows disability advocate and presenter Sophie Morgan becoming the first British female paraplegic to travel to zero gravity.

Disabled volunteers undercover filmed the discrimination they face when flying. The film drew apologies from the airlines and airports. And prompted the Government to pledge to improve the experience for disabled flyers.

### Follow the Signs

A fully BSL-led hip-hop gig theatre show, Follow the Signs is performed in BSL, rap, spoken English, and movement, with creative captioning. It aims to be shared and celebrated by Deaf and hearing audiences together.

It tells the story of acclaimed dancer and choreographer Chris Fonseca. He became Deaf as an infant after contracting meningitis. A school system that could not value his differences failed him. Then, in his teenage years, music and dance entered his life.

### Rose Ayling-Ellis presenting at the Paralympics

Channel 4 raised the bar for accessibility at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Rose Ayling-Ellis made history as the first live sports presenter with a hearing impairment. The production team created an innovative system to support her when presenting. This system creates a framework for future live shows with deaf presenters. It demonstrates how reasonable adjustments can help disabled people achieve great things.

### Strictly Come Dancing

This year, Strictly Come Dancing has championed disability representation. Comedian Chris McCausland made history as the first blind contestant and winner. Tasha Ghouri became the second deaf contestant.

Chris’ success has highlighted how accessible teaching and reasonable adjustments can help disabled people reach their potential. It has challenged attitudes about what blind people can achieve.

### The Assembly

The Assembly features a cast of thirty-five autistic, neurodivergent or learning disabled interviewers. They question an A-list celebrity in one extraordinary TV interview. In this half-hour special, its award-winning actor Michael Sheen who faces the grilling of a lifetime from this unique collective. No subject is out of bounds, no question off the table: glorious chaos ensues.

### We Might Regret This

We Might Regret is a six-part BBC comedy series about Freya, a queer disabled Canadian artist who relocates to the UK. The show is a watershed moment for disability representation. Freya needs 24/7 support from a PA, and we see her navigate this presence alongside her relationship.

The series also explores issues around tokenism, grief, independence, and care. Critical success has resulted in two further commissions of the series.

## Scope partnership with Evri

We believe in
every parcel, every person, every place

That is why we have partnered with Scope to support us on our mission to become the most accessible parcel delivery company in the UK.

We are already making it easier for people to use our services.

* Customers can select several doorstep delivery options on our app
* Dedicated training and work inclusion programmes, and policy reviews

In terms of our commitments to Scope, we have beaten our first-year target and reached the milestone of £150,000.

There is more to come - follow our accessibility journey at Evri.com

Evri for everyone

## Purple Pioneer

This award honours an individual who has advanced disability equality in their local community. This could be a disabled person, or a non-disabled ally, who has raised awareness of disability issues or worked to change attitudes. This category recognises the work an individual has done to positively affect those around them.

### Lesta Woo (she/her)

Lesta Woo is a visually impaired professional dancer. She works with Illuminate Freedom and other sight loss organisations to offer accessible dance classes for blind and visually impaired people. She has developed and teaches a unique dance method that uses echolocation.

Lesta also serves as an access consultant in the dance and theatre world. Lesta also dances, performs, and teaches alongside non-disabled people and is supported by Jamboree.

### Natalie Busari (she/her)

Natalie Busari has greatly impacted the lives of disabled people, especially in the Black MS community. Her non-profit, The Nerve of My Multiple Sclerosis CIC, offers vital support. It empowers members to advocate for their health and offers a support network.

In London, her outreach has raised awareness of multiple sclerosis. It has created a sense of belonging for those who often feel isolated. Natalie also supports Black MS warriors across Europe and in Nigeria and Ghana.

### Reena Parmar (she/her)

Reena Parmar is at the forefront of driving disability and neuro-inclusion in law. She chairs The Law Society’s Disabled Solicitors Network (DSN). Through the DSN, she advocates for inclusion and accessibility. Reena also collaborates with others to create practical resources.

Reena has mentored many disabled and neurodivergent aspiring solicitors. She regularly posts about disability inclusion on social media and has given talks on disability inclusion. She has won awards for her work.

### Steph Blanco (she/her)

Steph Blanco champions disability equality across her work. Her research and TEDx talk about hidden disabilities have changed attitudes. Steph is Vice Chair of FND Dimensions. She also advocates for Higher Education students with complex needs. Steph’s teaching is inclusive and accessible. Her consultancy has helped organisations adopt inclusive practices that benefit disabled people.

Steph uses her lived experience of having a hidden disability to break down barriers and help others feel recognised and understood.

## Social Media Influencer

This award recognises a disabled social media influencer speaking about disability equality. They will have used their channels to effect change. This could be someone raising awareness of the day-to-day reality of disability. They could be challenging perceptions or educating their audience about accessibility and disability inclusion.

### Charis Townsend (they/them)

Charis Townsend is a deaf and autistic content creator. They share their love of sign language online. Charis creates educational content about autism, deafness, and BSL. They have worked with the BBC and TikTok to improve accessibility and break down barriers.

Charis has also worked with Young Minds. There, they have shared their lived experience of their intersecting identities.

### Jamie Shields (he/him) and Celia Chartres-Aris (she/her)

Jamie Shields and Celia Chartres- Aris created the Unlearning Ableism podcast. Their podcast hosts a diverse range of guests who share their experiences of ableism. They also created the Disabled by Society LinkedIn page. Their first policy paper heard from over 500 Disabled people about their lived experiences. They turned Disabled by Society into a business while continuing to support disabled people.

### Tumi Sotire (he/him)

Tumi Sotire is the founder of The Black Dyspraxic. The platform is dedicated to championing intersectionality within neurodiversity. Tumi has held multiple advisory roles at organisations working for neuro-inclusion. And is a leading voice in driving inclusion and empowerment within neurodiverse communities.

He is also an accredited Clean Language Coach and works with Genius Within to coach and empower neurodiverse individuals. Tumi has won multiple awards for his work in intersectionality and neuro-inclusion.

### Zara Beth (she/her)

Zara Beth is a content creator, writer, musician and disability advocate. She shares her experiences as a neurodivergent, queer adult living with chronic illness. This has raised awareness and created an online community. Zara hosts forums online which give the disabled community a place to share their experiences. She also amplifies other disabled content creators. Zara has written a book about her experiences, which will be published this year.

## Meet our judges

### Dr Shani Dhanda (she/her)

Head judge

Dr Shani Dhanda is a Disability Inclusion and Accessibility Specialist, Social Entrepreneur and Broadcaster. She founded Diversability, the Asian Woman Festival, and the Asian Disability Network.

Shani is a presenter on Rip Off Britain and regularly appears on Loose Women. She has been recognised with over 25 honours and awards for her work.

I’m proud and honoured to be Scope Award’s Head Judge for the second year in a row. And even more proud to say we have continued to embed our commitment to inclusivity. The Scope Awards exist to amplify disabled voices and build a movement of change. And that movement is all the stronger for including and championing diverse voices.

Diversity and inclusion remain central to our shortlisting and judging criteria. And our diverse judging panel reflects the wide range of lived experiences within the disability community.

As Head Judge, it’s been inspiring to see how these changes have led to an outstanding shortlist. Though it does make the job of picking the final winners a challenge! I am excited for you to meet our extraordinary finalists. They are all doing remarkable work to create an equal future for and with all of us.

Shani.

### Andy Cotter (he/him)

Andy looks after some of EVRI’s key retailer relationships with a team of commercial account managers. He’s passionate about the work EVRI are doing to become the most accessible parcel delivery company. With first-hand experience of how an impairment can affect you mentally and, in the workplace, Andy is proud to be judging the awards.

### Abi James Miller (she/her)

Abi James Miller is a specialist in access, inclusion, research and production support. She has worked with BBC, ITV, and Channel 4 over her five years in the creative industries. She has enhanced accessibility at Twickenham, Download Festival and Wimbledon. Abi is passionate about advocacy. She focuses on amplifying underrepresented voices and breaking down barriers in TV.

### Ade Adepitan (he/him)

Ade Adepitan MBE is a TV presenter, Paralympic medallist, and journalist. He is also a father of two, Bolla and Zayla. Born in Lagos, Nigeria and raised in East London, Ade survived polio as a youngster after he began to lose the use of his legs at just 15 months old.

### Charlotte Amy Louise (they/them)

Charlotte is a Disabled content creator and speaker raising awareness of stomas, chronic illnesses, and mental health. Passionate about representation, body image, and accessibility, they’ve shared their story on social media and TV to help others feel less alone.

### Chloé van Dalen (she/her)

Chloé is fluent in Dutch and English and has 20+ years of experience using different mobility devices. She founded Stick with Chloé to promote accessibility by creating content. This includes auditing locations, and advising travel, leisure, and events businesses. Through public speaking, she raises awareness and helps brands improve physical accessibility on a global scale.

### Danielle Vanier (she/her)

Danielle Vanier is an online creator, personal stylist, and disability advocate. She lives with Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Danielle empowers individuals to express themselves through fashion while championing representation and inclusivity. She uses her lived experience of chronic illness to offer support and advice to the disabled community.

### Dr Amit Patel (he/him)

Dr Amit Patel is a best-selling author, award-winning diversity, equity, and inclusion consultant, broadcaster, keynote speaker, and disability rights campaigner. He supports various charities and is dedicated to promoting equal opportunities and breaking down barriers for disabled people, ensuring a more inclusive society.

### Dr Amo Raju OBE DL (he/him)

Dr Amo Raju OBE DL is a Disability Ambassador and former CEO of Disability Direct. His achievements include stints in the bhangra music industry, politics, and commerce. Amo’s book ‘Walk Like a Man’ was published in 2021. He has won many awards, including a Scope Award in the Role Model category in 2024.

### Ekow Otoo (he/him)

Ekow Otoo is an actor, model and spoken word artist. When MS changed his life, he dove into the creative arts. Focusing mainly on TV and film dramas and commercials, he aims to tell all stories that make you cry, scream, and laugh.

### Isaac Harvey MBE (he/him)

Award-winning vlogger, all-round adrenalin junkie and President of Wheels and Wheelchairs, Isaac Harvey MBE was born with limb-pelvic hypoplasia which prevented his limbs from growing. This disability has not stopped him from skiing, skydiving, tall ship sailing and much more. In 2023 Isaac was made an MBE in the King’s New Year’s honours list.

### Jacqueline Winstanley (she/her)

Jacqueline Winstanley is the Founder of Universal Inclusion and CEO of the Disabled Entrepreneur Network. She is global thought leader on ethical collaboration between policy academia and practice to increase equality of access to opportunities. Jacqueline is Secretariat for APPG Innovative Inclusive Entrepreneurship as well as being a published author and poet.

### Kate Nash (she/her)

Kate Nash is the founder of Purple Space, the world’s only global network of disability employee resource groups. Kate’s second book, Positively Purple, won Business Book of the Year 2023 (DEI). She is a member of the LSEG EDI Global Advisory Council Leaders’ Group. Kate was awarded an OBE for services to disabled people in 2007.

### Lee Ridley (he/him)

Lee Ridley is a stand-up comedian, and the first to use a communication device live on stage. Performing as ‘Lost Voice Guy’, Lee won Britain’s Got Talent in 2018. He also won the BBC New Comedy Award in 2014. He has performed all over the UK and starred in and co-written four series of Ability for BBC Radio 4.

### Mesha Moinirad (he/him)

Mesha Moinirad is an entrepreneur, rehabilitation coach and advocate for the chronically ill community. Having a stoma himself, he uses his platform to raise awareness for those with his condition. As well as providing education that aims to make living with invisible disabilities more manageable.

### Nina Tame (she/her)

Nina Tame is a disability content creator, writer and mentor from the UK. She uses social media to debunk myths about disability and address ableism. Her lived experience of growing up disabled and parenting a disabled child influences her work. She is a proud part of the vibrant and diverse online disabled community.

### Professor Jason Arday (he/him)

Jason Arday is Professor of Sociology of Education at the University of Cambridge, Faculty of Education and a Professorial Fellow at Jesus College, Cambridge. He was formerly a Guest Editor on BBC Radio 4’s Today Programme. Jason was listed fourth on the prestigious Shaw Trust Disability Power 100 in 2023.

### Richie Brave (he/him)

Richie Brave is a Presenter, Broadcaster & Writer hailing from South London. He is known for his hard-hitting interviews and honest social criticism, which challenges people to think and reflect on themselves. Richie is host of BBC 1Xtra’s “1Xtra Talks” exploring the lived experiences of Black people across the UK.

### Sam Tatlow (she/her)

Sam Tatlow is the Head of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at ITV. As part of ITV’s Executive Leadership team, she is responsible for leading the team and overseeing ITV’s overarching DE&I Strategy. This strategy means colleagues can play their part in creating an equitable organisation and culture for all.

### Samantha Renke (she/her)

Samantha Renke is a broadcaster, speaker and writer. She is a regular columnist for the Metro. Samantha hosted ITV’s series, Unfiltered Women. Samantha is an ambassador for Scope, and various other charities. Her debut book, You Are the Best Thing Since Sliced Bread, was published in July 2022 by Penguin Random House.

### Shelby Lynch (she/her)

Shelby Lynch is an influential, Black, Disabled, LGBT+ model & content creator. She shares her style & creativity online with an educational approach. Shelby has been a cover girl for glamour magazine and rolled down the catwalk at London Fashion Week. She won a Scope Award in the Influencer category in 2024.

### Variety D (she/her)

The first black, female, disabled comedian of her era, Variety D has performed at Dave’s Disabled Comedians’ Showcase produced by UKTV & Phil McIntyre Entertainment. Her other credits include Sorry, I Didn’t Know (ITV), The Judi Love Show (BBC Radio London) and Two Birds In A Park (BBC Radio 4).

### Victoria Jenkins (she/her)

Victoria Jenkins is the founder of award-winning adaptive fashion brand Unhidden. She has changed the retail landscape in launching an adaptive collection with Primark. The collection makes fashion accessible for everybody. Victoria is also a disability advocate, Tedx speaker and author. She sits on multiple charity boards, as well as being co-chair of the Lilac Review.

### Zahari Brimacombe (they/them)

Zahari Brimacombe promotes inclusion in Girlguiding as an Inclusion Advisor. They also campaign for inclusion within one of Somerset’s largest employers. And co-produce on neuroinclusive healthcare. Zahari also helps to organise Open Table Taunton, an intersectionally inclusive monthly Christian gathering. They won a Scope Award in the Purple Pioneer category in 2024.

## Trophies for Champions

Meet Den, the Graphic Designer behind our brand-new Scope Awards trophy fit for disability equality champions. With experience in TV, arts, and brand design, Den brings a perspective rooted in community, creativity, and culture to his work.

“My community is where I feel seen”

Den’s personal experience has been a huge influence on his work as a designer. It has also been a big factor when shaping the look and feel of the Scope Awards trophy.

“I’ve learnt to lean on my community because this is where I feel seen,” said Den. “It’s also where I feel like my experiences can uplift those other stories that are similar to what I’ve gone through. Whether as an immigrant now living in the UK, being gay, or being disabled.”

“Functional, accessible and playful”

When designing the trophy, Den wanted to merge Scope’s new brand with a practical and accessible design. He said, “My approach was informed by my limb difference and the need to create an accessible product for the winners of the awards. I tried to consider how people would interact with it and how they would hold it.”

“I started by using the amplification circle as a motif for representing disabled voices and then attempted to make something functional, accessible and playful.”

“We need spaces where everyone can thrive”

Den believes that accessible design and accessible spaces should be at the heart of everything. “The disabled community is one of the communities that anyone can join at any point,” Den explains. “It’s therefore really important that we future proof our spaces to have spaces where everyone can thrive. And no-one feels like they need to hide.”

“So many things we now have are because of design for disabled people. The microchip was initially created just for hearing aids but now we have it in our mobile phones.”

“We bring a broader range of perspectives to any table”

Having diverse perspectives is something Den thinks is important to help to solve problems - not just in design but all aspects of life. “When we include disabled people in the design process, we gain crucial insights into accessibility needs that others might overlook,” said Den. “I think we just bring a much broader range of perspectives to any table. You’ll get a much more well-rounded version of any solution to any problem.”

Scope would like to thank the co-production panel who developed the brief from which Den’s design was created.

## Meet Naomi

Naomi is just one of the hundreds of thousands of disabled people whose lives could be affected by the Government’s proposal to cut disability benefits.

Naomi has severe ME, hyper-mobile Ehlers-Danlos syndrome (EDS) and a secondary complication of EDS and ME called Postural Tachycardia Syndrome.

Disability benefits are a lifeline for Naomi and she is fearful of the impact that cuts could have on her daily life. Naomi is already struggling with extra costs, including increased energy bills for heating to control her condition, and to power her personal assistive equipment and hospital bed.

“Without disability benefits I’d worry about not having the money to live independently”.

Naomi had to pay for an add-on for her manual wheelchair, as she could not get an electric wheelchair on the NHS. This cost Naomi £5,500. She used her Personal Independence Payment (PIP) to help pay for this.

Naomi believes that the Government needs to realise that disabled people have extra costs and that cutting disability benefits will be a catastrophe.

### How Scope is supporting disabled people

Scope’s online community saw 20,000 interactions on the day the Government published its plans for disability benefits cuts. And Scope’s helpline saw a near 200% increase in calls.

We have joined forces with over 100 charities and organisations to write an open letter to the Government urging them to reconsider cuts. And over 80,000 people so far have signed our petition against cuts to disability benefits.

These cuts will push around 350,000 more disabled people into poverty, including 50,000 children. The Government needs to listen to disabled people and understand the catastrophic impact their decisions will have. Find out how you can unite with us against cuts, visit scope.org.uk

## Thanks and credits

### Media partner

We are proud that Metro is our media partner for the Scope Awards 2025 and thank them for showcasing some of our nominees.

### Music composer

Alex Marchisone

www.alexmarchisone.com

### Trophy designer

Den Salazar

www.densalazar.uk

### Co-production group

* Abi Hayes
* Anna Freed
* Annabelle Lambert
* Bethann Siviter
* Darren Cryer
* Eddie Maxfield
* Jacqueline Stephens
* Saffron Baldoza

We hope you have enjoyed the Awards. We are always keen to hear your feedback and are open to ideas for how we can make this event as accessible and inclusive as possible. Scan this QR code to share your thoughts with us through the Scope Awards survey.

## Scope Awards

### Award timings

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | Where | Start | Finish |
| Arrival | England Suite (Second Floor) | 16:00  | No finish |
| Afternoon tea | England Suite (Second Floor) | 16:15 | 17:00 |
| Awards ceremony | England Suite (Second Floor) | 17:00 | 18:00 |
| Interval | No location | 18:00 | 18:20 |
| Awards ceremony | England Suite (Second Floor) | 18:20 | 19:15 |
| Drinks reception | Ashes Suite (First Floor) | 19:15 | 20:15 |

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