

HAND IN HAND

Befriend a Child's Volunteer Newsletter
June 2009

Expenses

We apologise if anyone's expenses have been delayed. Historically, expenses would need to be submitted by the 6th of the following month. Cheques would be written, countersigned and be posted at the end of the month with the mailshot.

Timing—wise, things aren't going to change. All expenses will have to be submitted by the 6th and these will be paid direct into Volunteers' bank accounts by the last working Friday of the month.

To clarify, you will receive an email from Elaine telling you when your expenses have been paid.

As this is a new procedure, it will take time to collate all the bank details.

You only need to provide your details once — we will then keep them on file during your time with us.

A big **hello** from everyone at Befriend A Child. It's the June edition of Hand In Hand already and with summer (kind of) upon us, we've got loads of ideas for activities to do this month, and a full list of local events which may be of interest.

Please check out the latest fundraising news and details of the upcoming quarterly training—we'd love to see you there! As ever, please contact us if you have any suggestions, news stories, activities or events which you would like to see in the next edition of Hand In Hand.

Thank you

Unfortunately, Befriend A Child have suffered a 'misplaced' money tin which has disappeared from the offices at 9 Bon Accord Square. During the course of the year, we have a number of events, open days and fund-raisers, as well as regular usage of the base unit which does allow visitors access to the building.

We are also looking for the safe return of the nunchuk controllers for the Nintendo Wii.

Can we please remind you that no-one should be left to wander the premises unaccompanied—this is also a potential health and safety issue!

Thank you for your co-operation.

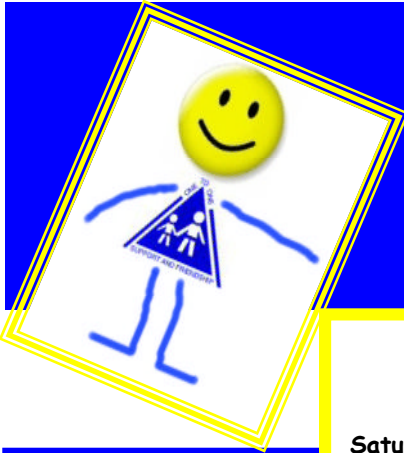
What do you call six weeks
of rain in
Aberdeen?
SUMMER!



www.befriendachild.com



The climbing wall at Transition Extreme is proving a popular attraction for youngsters. Here's 'G' in the centre of the picture with an obvious head for heights! Visit www.transition-extreme.com for more info.



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**Hello ...
Goodbye !**

Natalie, Colin and Kathleen joined us in May and are looking forward to being trained and matched.

Thanks to Kathleen and Laura Mc who are leaving us. Thanks for your dedication to the organisation.

**Quarterly
Training**

Thurs, August 20th

Jean Hood, ADHD Society at 7.30pm

Thursday, Nov 19th

Bob Thomson, St Andrews Ambulance — Basic First Aid at 7.30pm

Fundraising events in June

Saturday June 6th — Westhill Sedan Chair Race

Sunday June 7th — Westhill Bike Ride

Sunday, June 14th — Hilton Around The World Challenge

Saturday June 20th — Bag Pack at Marks & Spencer

Friday, June 26th — Second Annual Corporate Golf Day at Inchmarlo

For more information on any of the above contact Alan or Duncan

Great Scottish Run

half marathon & 10k

supported by

Lloyds TSB | for the journey...
BANK OF SCOTLAND



Befriender Dan Warrrender is bravely pulling on his trainers and tackling the Glasgow Half Marathon on Sunday, September 6th in aid of Befriend A Child.

Dan has setup a online sponsor form at www.mycharitypage.com/dan. If you have some spare cash to help ease the 13 miles of pain then please sponsor him and leave a message!

Said Dan: "I've never done anything like this before, but since stopping smoking a couple of years ago I've been pretty active, doing weights and going to a kung-fu class. I'm training by running for 8-10 miles twice a week, and despite the odd blister its going good. I've set a fundraising target of £400, and so far I have £100 so going well, but still all donations are warmly received!



A Very Happy Birthday to the following staff and volunteers who celebrate a June birthday:

Alan — 3rd

Rosie — 3rd

Susan — 8th

Jacqueline W — 12th

Claire — 15th

David — 18th

Gavin — 21st

Lisa — 21st

Laura Mc — 29th

Lynne M — 29th

Lyndsey — 30th



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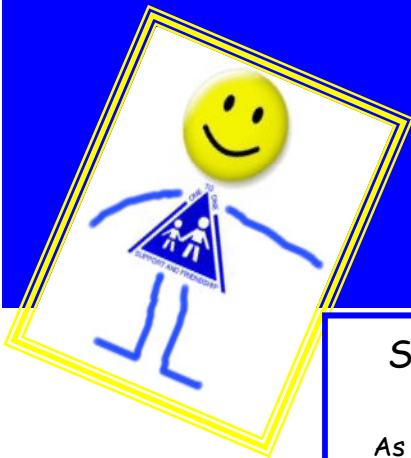


THINGS TO DO AND PLACES TO GO IN JUNE

- 6th June Feeing Market - Stonehaven for more information visit www.feeinmarket.org.uk
- 6th June Taste of Grampian Food Festival - Thainstone Centre Inverurie, 9.30am—4.30pm
- 7th June Turriff and District Pipe Band Annual Contest at The Haughs, Turriff
- 7th June World Ocean's Day - Macduff Marine Aquarium
- 8th June Ellon Heritage Fair - Ellon Academy
- 13th June Cove Gala
- 14th June Family Fun Day at Hilton Treetops. Join the staff of the Hilton and Befriend A Child to raise funds for the organization
- 20th June Oldmeldrum Sports and Highland Games
- 20th and 21st June Castle Fraser Steam and Vintage Fair
- 21st June Aberdeen Highland Games at Hazelhead Park
- 27th and 28th June British Armed Forces and Veterans Day at the Queenslinks. Parades, fly-bys etc
- 28th June World of Wee Walks at Duthie Park for 0-12 year olds. 01667 458849 for more info

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News In Brief



We are now taking orders for the new Spree Books, with some fantastic offers available on local restaurants and activities. Books are available at £23 each from the office.



Don't forget that Befriend A Child have access to leisure cards. There are some great discounts when using them at all Council pools and leisure facilities.



Wanted — Bag packers for June 20th and homebakes for June 14th. Contact Jane on 01224 210060

Summer Outing

As you may be aware we decided after last year's Summer Outing that we would stay in Aberdeen and have a group picnic in one of the local parks.

However before we organise this, could you please let us know whether or not you wish to attend?

The date we have in mind is Saturday 1st August at Hazelhead Park from 12-4pm. Please let Jean, Andy or Jane know as soon as Possible.

Befriender's Story

A volunteer (who shall remain nameless!) took her child swimming. The child loves the pool and the Jacuzzi and is learning to swim, but she is having problems keeping her legs afloat. Her befriender was helping her with this when the youngster turned to her and commented: "You're not as pretty without your makeup!"

The befriender thought to herself: "Yeah, that's why I wear it!"

This was taken as a compliment by the volunteer because she feels the child is comfortable with her, and was not frightened to tell her this.

Out of the mouths of babes eh?

Hilton Treetops Around the World Challenge

Hilton Aberdeen Treetops have joined with Hilton branches throughout the UK for *Around the World in a Day*.

Participants will collectively aim to travel the circumference of the earth - 24,901.55 miles - by taking part in one of two events: the competitive Team Challenge or the (slightly) more relaxed Miles4fun, designed for families. However **the fun doesn't stop there**. There will be lots of fun-filled activities for all the family both inside and out at the Treetops.



**AROUND THE
WORLD
IN A DAY**

Bouncy castle, face painting, a BBQ, a visit from the Grampian Fire and Rescue Service, stalls, wet sponge throwing and much more are planned for the day. Staff from Befriend A Child will be at the Hilton to lend support to all those taking part in the challenge, with all proceeds being generously donated to our organisation. It promises to be a fun day out for everyone and we would be delighted to see some of the volunteers and children on the day, or take along your own family and friends?

This is the first time that Befriend A Child have been chosen as the designated charity for the event and we want to show our support!



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Working Together

Befriend A Child are looking to form new partnerships and have received the backing of JADAT (Aberdeen Joint Alcohol and Drug Action Team) for a large funding application to the Lloyds Tsb Drugs Partnership Initiative.

Currently we accept the vast majority of our referrals through the Aberdeen Social Work department but with our supported children experiencing a range of issues in their lives, we've decided to explore new avenues to ensure that every child in the city who could benefit from a Befriender, is on our radar. Watch this space for an update on the application process.

Gift Aid

An important reminder! Gift Aid is tax relief which charities can claim against any donation by a UK tax payer and is worth an additional 22p for every £1.

We therefore urge you to please return all monthly expense forms - if you do not wish to reclaim then please write DONATION under the total claim section.

By doing this you can help boost the BAC fundraising efforts by almost a quarter!

Please call the office for more info.



Befriend A Child are delighted to have been awarded a five figure funding boost from **BBC Children In Need**.

The local 1:1 befriending service have been awarded £30,200 towards their on-going work with deprived and vulnerable children in Aberdeen, a figure which represents the biggest ever one year grant from the Children In Need appeal.

Our Chief Executive Karen noted that the grant would help even more vulnerable youngsters who would benefit from a little bit of quality time with an adult role model, and a grant of this size will make a tremendous difference to our on-going work.

Said Karen: "To receive a funding boost like this from BBC Children In Need is marvellous news."

FAMILY LIFE MAGAZINE

Befriend A Child are featured in the latest edition of Family Life Magazine, a free publication available 6 times a year.

The magazine is available from a number of supermarkets or by

contacting

denise@dcpublishing.co.uk

The Befriend A Child May Day Raffle — which raised £850 — was drawn on Friday, May 1st and the following lucky people all won prizes:

Framed Befriend A Child T-shirt, signed by Stefan Dennis - **Margaret Rae**.

A Carriage Clock donated by Aberdeen Lady Provost Sandra Stephen - **Kath Smith**.

Six Bottles of Wine - **Paula Mathieson**.

A Harmony Health and Beauty Voucher - **Paul Rawling**.

A Voucher for The Closet - **Eric Meston**.

A Voucher for the Sand Dollar Café - **Donna Waiter**.

Many thanks to all those who purchased a ticket.

