

HAND IN HAND

Befriend a Child's Volunteer Newsletter
December 2011



A big **hello** and welcome to the December edition of Hand In Hand. The festive season is upon us and with it, lots of opportunities for Christmas activities, visits from Santa and carol singing (if that's your thing!) We hope you have a fantastic time over Christmas and look forward to the prospect of another exciting year of befriending in 2012!

A Red Hot Trip

A group of eight children from Befriend a Child enjoyed a recent trip to Mounthooly Fire Station to meet with officers and get a unique chance to see around a working station.

The youngsters enjoyed the chance to get up close to an engine and find out more about the daily operations of the fire and rescue service.

Comments on the trip included – "It was brilliant," and even that it was "the best outing ever!"

Such was the positive feedback, we are looking at repeating the trip in 2012.



Base Unit



Please note that the Base Unit will be closed from **Thursday Dec 8th** until **Thursday, Jan 5th**. The office will close on **Friday, December 23rd** until

Thursday, January 5th. Volunteers are reminded that if they are on outings during this period, they should have their co-ordinator's number with them in case of emergency.

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THANK YOU!



Happy Birthday to the following Staff/Volunteers who celebrate a December birthday:

Keir B	27th
Sybille B	3rd
Sandra C	21st
Caroline D	8th
Pitre G	24th
Carol M	24th
CJ M	7th
Sarah Jane M	16th
Eddie P	23rd
Ryan R	29th
Shona S	15th



On behalf of all the staff at Befriend a Child, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our valued Befrienders for the dedication and commitment you have shown to the organisation during 2011. Christmas is of course a time for giving, and I would like to give huge thanks for helping to Turn a Frown Upside Down for so many disadvantaged young people in the Aberdeen area.

It is never easy in to find time in our all too busy schedules so I am always touched by the amount of hours given over by our volunteers to others. A very merry Christmas from everyone at Befriend a Child and above all, thank you for your wonderful efforts.

Karen

We are looking for a volunteer minute secretary for the management committee. The commitment would be attending the committee meeting one evening per month, taking notes then typing up the minutes and forwarding to Karen within 7 days.

We're also looking for a cleaner for approx. 5-6 hours per week. Pay negotiable.

From Jan 1st, Befrienders will be able to make weekend bookings for the Base Unit right up until 4pm on a Friday afternoon!

Hello to

Judith

Alice

Kellie

Jonathon

Elaine

James

Mary

Lindsay

Goodbye and thank you to

Sammy

Anna

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Helping Hand?



Thanks to a partnership with Alfa Romeo, Befriend a Child will be

holding a raffle to win a MITO 1.4 105 Sprint in 2012.

The car will be at various events throughout the area from Feb to Oct and we would be delighted if anyone can spare some time to take the car out and sell tickets.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the office on 210060

What's On In December

Saturday 3rd — Meet the Scientist @ Satrosphere. Staff from Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Labs will be at the Satrosphere for a day of hands on activities for all ages. Normal admission costs apply for the event, which runs from 10am to 2pm.

Sunday 4th — Carol Singing in Rosemount. Victoria Park Fountain is the setting for an afternoon of carol singing. Join in with the carols, light a candle and remember to wrap up warm! 4pm-5pm.

Sunday 4th — Santa and His Reindeer Parade, 12 noon. Santa and his sleigh will travel from Castlegate up Union Street to the Trinity Centre, where you can get up close with his reindeer! Santa will be joined by a pipe band, mascots and entertainers.

Friday 9th to Sunday 11th — Scotland Vs Wales Netball Test Series @ Aberdeen Sports Village. See the Scottish Thistles take on the Welsh Dragons, or catch the under 21s in action. Tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for children — for full details on match times visit <http://www.aberdeensportsvillage.com/news/731>.

Saturday 10th - A Light in the Dark @ King's Museum, Aberdeen University. A festive craft event with the chance to learn more about lamps, candles and lanterns, with the chance to create your own paper lantern to take home. 12 noon until 2pm. Booking is essential on 01224 274330.

Saturday 17th — Union Terrace Gardens Community Festival. Bon Accord Silver Band, Reindeer, Children's Art Competition, Santa and much more. This is a free event between 1.30pm and 3pm.

