

# HAND IN HAND

Befriend a Child's Volunteer Newsletter  
May 2011

befriend a child  
turn a frown upside down



A big **hello** and welcome to the May edition of Hand In Hand. The first ever chocolate-making sessions with Jamie from Cocoa Ooze were a big success (see below) and there are lots of other exciting outings going on all the time. We'd love to hear what you've been up to and share those experiences with fellow Befrienders!!!!

## In the Bag

Befriend a Child have secured a Bag Packing slot at Asda Portlethen on Saturday, July 23rd from 10am to 4pm. As ever, we are looking for volunteers to help out for a few hours and would be delighted to hear from anyone who can spare some time to help us raise funds



The Chocolate Making session with Cocoa Ooze was very hands on, messy and lots of fun!

The recent chocolate making sessions with Cocoa Ooze proved really popular—well who doesn't love chocolate? All those who took part got the chance to learn more about the process of making chocolate will getting messy!

Owner Jamie Hutcheon was fantastic at getting everyone involved with creating everything from Chocolate Lollipops and bars, to novelty shaped chocolates and chocolate dipped strawberries!

To top it off, the children were also given the chance to design their own gift tags to accompany their sweet creations.

Spaces are still available for the session on

Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> May. If you love chocolate this is for you! The staff are also looking at organising a team building session for volunteer befrienders—call the office if you are interested.

## Date for your diaries.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August is the Befriend a Child Picnic at Haughton Park in Alford between 10am and 4pm. Transport will be provided.

We have decided to go back to the 'good old days', with three legged races, egg and spoon, rounders, football and of course the sack race! Please contact the office on 01224 210060 to register your interest in attending.

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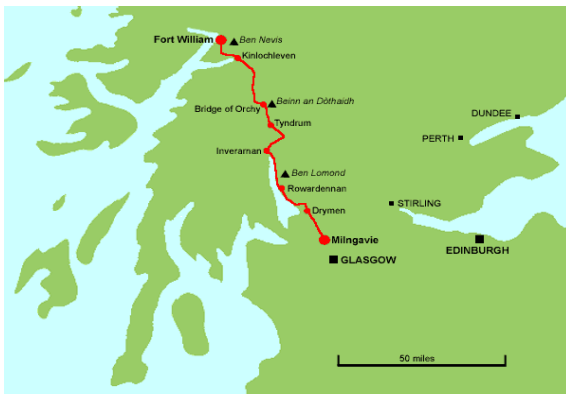
turn a frown upside down

## On Her Way!

Befriender Lisa Edmonston is hoping to swell the funds at Befriend a Child by walking the 96 miles of the

West Highland Way at the end of May. Lisa is really looking forward to the challenge and the opportunity to raise funds for the charity she supports through befriending.

"I am feeling pretty fit after all the training I am doing - I still feel a bit worried that I will not manage it all at my great age and am particularly bothered about getting blisters. I can't think of anything worse than the horrible pain of sore rubbing toes on hard boots! I have always wanted to tackle a really long walk as I love to be in the open air and walking is something I do regularly, although nothing on this scale before. When I was 17 I managed a 32 mile overnight walk but that was years and years and years ago!"



As well as the spectacular scenery, Lisa is looking forward to getting up in the morning and just getting out into the open with no thought of work or chores to do at home. She added: "Raising money by completing the walk has helped keep me focussed on training because I can't just give up and let people down. My friend and I consider we are doing it the easy way by staying in B&Bs but I hope it is still enough of a challenge to encourage people to donate money to the worthy cause of Befriend a Child." Lisa will be paying all her own expenses on the way so 100% of donations from Befrienders will go to Befriend a Child. All remaining contributions will be divided with her second charity, Help the Heroes. Anyone wishing to support Lisa with a donation can send a cheque to the Befriend a Child office or to Lisa at 34 Kinmundy Green, Westhill, AB32 6SF. Good luck Lisa!

Happy Birthday to the following Staff/Volunteers who celebrate an May birthday:

Cheryl C	-	2nd
Wendy M	-	5th
Andy R	-	7th
Morven A	-	11th
Jean G	-	12th
Laura C	-	14th
Fiona F	-	16th
Bethan J	-	16th
Sarah B	-	17th
Kirsty O	-	18th
Anne O	-	20th
Barry S	-	22nd
Steve B	-	24th
Gabrielle M	-	24th

## Hello to

Hilary  
Sophie  
Emma  
Helen  
Duncan  
Keri  
Carrie

## Goodbye and thank you to

Elizabeth  
and  
Louise

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## May – What's On?

### Sunday 8th – Vehicle Rides & Family Fun: Grampian Transport Museum

The Grampian Transport Museum's Family Fun Day has something for everybody. A day out to remember! Ride in and on an exciting variety of vintage and modern vehicles on our road circuit and local roads.

### Sunday 15th – Bon Accord Bike Ride – Hazel Head Park 11am

Fun day suitable for all the family, join the ride and cycle round the 22 mile, 7 mile or 1 mile routes.

### Sunday 29th – Aberdeen International Fun Day @ Duthie Park

Dancing, singing, music and food from all over the world to keep visitors entertained and busy. Organised by Aberdeen Lions – Noon to 5pm.

The next group session in the Base Unit will be a Games day with Bev on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May. Games include a Beetle Drive, Connect Four, Frustration and Battleships.

Volunteers  
Quarterly Training -  
Informal Get  
Together on  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>  
May 7-9pm. Come  
along and meet other  
volunteers  
for a chat.

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We are still looking for volunteers and children to take part in the Celebrate Aberdeen Parade on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are Interested, let the co-ordinators know.

