

The
Fostering
Network

FOSTERING IN Scotland

issue 52

The newsletter of **The Fostering Network** Scotland

Winter 2015/16

In this issue:

- **Scottish Government update**
- **Making contact work**
- **Let's Go Again**
- **And more!**



I am delighted to begin with warmest congratulations to Amy Davidson who won a Fostering Achievement for Education Award at our Fostering Excellence Awards ceremony in November 2015, and met The Duchess of Cambridge herself! Amy is a young ambassador for Fostering Community Champions, using her life experiences to mentor foster children and the children of foster carers. She is currently studying at the University of the West of Scotland, focusing on a career in photography. She was nominated by her foster carer, Dot, who describes her as a 'kind, loving girl who never takes anything for granted. She encourages her brother to do his best in school and has pushed herself by studying long hours and travelling to capture the best pictures for her portfolio.' Children, young people and foster carers from all over Scotland travelled to London for the ceremony, and we extend our congratulations to all those who were nominated. Pictured above, alongside Amy and Dot, are Betty and Jane from the Scottish Borders, who hugely appreciated the support of their Local Authority in covering their travel expenses.

We are also pleased (and relieved!) to report confirmation of further funding from the Scottish Government's Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund. This will support our core activities, as well as ensuring the continuation of our Fosterline Scotland service. This was a lovely way to end the year!

The cover photograph for this winter edition is of the McCreath family, a foster family in Inverness, celebrating reaching the top of Ben Wyvis. It was the first Munro the children had ever climbed! Thank you to everyone who responded to our call out for cover photos, please keep them coming in.

We have received substantial media coverage during recent weeks, both for our recruitment target campaign and also our campaign on minimum allowances for foster carers in Scotland (see page 5). We are

Hello everyone



hopeful that the Scottish Government's commitment to ending the postcode lottery in Scotland will be implemented soon.

All foster care households will have received copies of our latest Let's Go Again booklets: Fun with Food and Scotland has Talent. Thanks to everyone who has completed our previous challenges – remember there are now more certificates to collect. Every child who completes a challenge booklet will receive a certificate and gold medal. We look forward to hearing all about your latest challenges.

On our centre spread you will see a wealth of photographs from our highly successful Big Day Out. See if you can spot

Kevin Williams, our chief executive, being taught to take a selfie by one of our young champions! We will be heading back to Edinburgh Zoo for our Big Day Out 2016 – see page 6 for more information.

Finally, how about trying out one of our fundraising challenges? Take a look at page 10 to find out how to support our work transforming children's lives. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our newsletter. We love hearing your stories, keep them coming in!

Until next time,

Sara Lurie

Sara Lurie, Director

Free benefits workshop for foster carers

Thursday 28 April 2016

Glasgow Time: 9.45am – 2.30pm (including lunch)

Are you a foster carer member of The Fostering Network?

Would you like to find out more about what benefits you can claim as a foster carer, how to apply, what the conditions are and the changes to existing benefits under Universal Credit?

If yes then why not come along to our free workshop in April.

To find out more or to request a booking form, please contact Mirren Taylor:

e scotland@fostering.net **t** 0141 204 1400

Update from the Scottish Government



Decision Making Guidance for Foster Carers

In 2015, the Scottish Government commissioned the Scottish Child Law Centre to develop guidance that would assist foster carers with the many day to day decisions that need to be made regarding various aspects of the lives of children in their care. The guidance covers a wide range of topics and a consultation on the draft guidance was run during the month of November 2015. We received 24 responses and work is underway to finalise and publish the guidance by spring 2016.

Although the consultation has now closed you can still view the draft guidance at: www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/10/9827

The launch of a new Looked After Children Strategy

Getting it Right for Looked After Children and Young People, the Scottish Government's new strategy for looked after children and young people, was launched on 26 November 2015. The strategy builds on good work that is already underway across Scotland and calls on all those involved to be even more ambitious and to work together to deliver better outcomes for looked after children and young people.

The strategy identifies three priorities: early engagement, early permanence and improving the quality of care. It sets out actions for the Scottish Government and partners in order to deliver the priorities. It aims to:

- ensure the right services are in place to support families early on to prevent children needing to become looked after wherever possible
- speed up decisions for LAC, reducing multiple placements and ensuring more children have a permanent home
- provide high quality care and support more effectively matched to each child's needs.

The strategy can be found at: www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/11/2344/0

Foster Care Review

The Scottish Government has been undertaking a programme of work to implement improvements in foster care following the recommendations of the Foster Care Review. In 2016 remaining strands of work still to take forward include implementing a Learning and Development Framework for foster carers and SSSC are planning a consultation with the sector early in 2016.

In autumn last year, the Scottish Government announced the provision of additional funding to councils to allow them to ensure kinship care allowances were level with foster care allowances. It also committed to working with partners towards unified national rates of allowances in the longer term. It will gather representation from the sector into a review group to take forward this work early in 2016.

A more detailed progress update on the review can be found on the Scottish Government website: www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Young-People/protecting/lac/foster-care-review



Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 Continuing Care & Aftercare

After extensive consultation with the sector, publication of the guidance on Part 10 Aftercare & Part 11 Continuing Care is now imminent. Feedback and comments received have now been fully considered and the guidance will be published on the Scottish Government website. The Scottish Government is grateful to The Fostering Network for its involvement in helping to produce the guidance and particularly thanks those foster carers who attended consultation events. Your help has been invaluable.

Scottish Government officials are interested in following the uptake of Continuing Care throughout Scotland over the coming months and years. If you have a particular interest in Continuing Care or are actively considering a Continuing Care

placement, or indeed have a young person in a Continuing Care placement, we are keen to hear from you. Please contact Sara Lurie **t** 0141 204 1400 or **e** scotland@fostering.net if you wish to be part of the on-going development of this exciting new type of placement.



Mediation for children with additional support needs

If you are concerned about the education or additional support needs of a child in your care, talking to their school is a good place to start. It's often possible for issues to be sorted out by explaining your concerns to the child's teacher or head teacher, or by asking to discuss the child's Personal Learning Plan or Individualised Education Programme (IEP). If you have done this and are still concerned, you could talk to your education authority – ask to speak to the additional support for learning officer or the parent liaison officer.

If you have done this and are still unhappy you could consider using mediation. By law, education authorities must provide an independent additional support needs mediation service free of charge for parents, carers and young people (foster carers are included).

Mediation is a voluntary and confidential process where an independent person, the mediator, helps those involved in a disagreement to explain their concerns to each other and find a shared solution both parties are happy with. Any disagreement about the education of a child with additional support needs can be referred to mediation. Using mediation will not affect your rights to take the matter further later on.

If you would like more information, please book a place at our mediation workshop, facilitated by Children in Scotland, on Tuesday 19 April, 10.30am – 2.30pm, in Edinburgh.

To secure your place **e** scotland@fostering.net or **t** 0141 204 1400

Fosterplus Annual Conference

19 May 2016

Speaker: Kim Golding Nurturing Attachments

Kim Golding is a Clinical Psychologist who has worked with children and families within the NHS since her training was completed in 1985. Throughout this experience Kim has always been interested in parenting, and collaborating with parents or carers to develop their parenting skills, tailored to the particular needs of the children they are caring for. Kim has been fortunate in her work to have been trained and mentored by Dan Hughes in the use of DDP (Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy), helping families of children who have experienced early trauma from within their family. Kim's work in relation to nurturing attachments is a programme that is widely used and valued by parents and foster carers.

The day will be broken into talking about challenges of parenting: going through mistrust, intersubjectivity, shame, miscuing needs and focusing on how to emotionally connect with the children in order to overcome these challenges. Kim will also cover PACE and the House Model.

Who Should Attend:

- Foster carers
- Adoptive carers
- Social workers
- Teachers
- Healthcare workers
- Manager of the above services

Venue: Our Dynamic Earth, 112-116 Holyrood, Edinburgh, EH8 8AS

Cost: Foster carers & adoptive parents £50 + vat (£60)
Professionals £80 + vat (£96)



Scotland's Fostering Roadshow

Our fostering roadshow will take place on Thursday 17 March 2016, from 10am to 3pm, in Glasgow.

Join us for an inspiring day of learning and networking for both foster carers and fostering service staff. At our fostering roadshow, you can find out about the latest issues in the world of fostering and take away valuable information and practical tips and techniques to assist you in your role.

The roadshow, exclusively for members, will cover topics including:

- Continuing Care – exploring the impact of the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- additional support for learning – mediating support within education
- contact – what it means, how it impacts and ways it can be used to its potential
- making the right match – exploring effective assessments of foster carers
- health and foster carers
- social pedagogy.

It will also provide an opportunity to hear about some of the innovative practice taking place in Scotland.

Places are £30 each, or £75 for three. To book your place and ensure you don't miss out please visit:

www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/roadshows-2016

If you would like further information, please contact us, **e** scotland@fostering.net

Aberlour celebrates 140 years of success



Aberlour, the largest solely Scottish children's charity, celebrated its 140th anniversary with a special reception attended by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and our own director, Sara Lurie.

Sara was particularly impressed by the children's choir, made up of children who were born in Scotland and those who have made it their home. This was the first time the children had performed in front of an audience, and they gave a moving rendition of 'One Scotland', a self-penned song about sharing their country with one another.

There were also a number of impressive short films shot by BAFTA award-winning documentary-maker Garry Fraser, who grew up in care and spent some of that time in Aberlour Sycamore Service.



Campaigning to make foster care better

One of our strengths as the leading charity for fostering across the UK is our ability to campaign effectively to make foster care better. Together with our members and supporters we're a powerful catalyst for change, and have been leading the fostering agenda for more than 40 years. We influence and shape fostering policy and practice at every level.

The Fostering Network led the successful Don't Move Me campaign to allow young people to stay with their foster families until they are 21 if they wish to. This came into law in 2014 in England, and contributed to Part 11 of the Children and Young People Scotland Act 2014 which came into effect on 1 April 2015. In Scotland, the change in legislation applies to all young people born after April 1999 and is called Continuing Care (see the Scottish Government's update on page 3). For more information, visit our YouTube channel: www.tinyurl.com/jexzgc6.



We were also delighted, following years of campaigning, when the Scottish Government laid down an amendment which means it is now unlawful for children to be accommodated in a foster care placement with more than two other, unrelated looked after children.

However, there is still more to be done. Scotland is now the only country in the UK not to have a system of national minimum allowances and we have been campaigning on this issue for many years. In 2014, in response to the Foster Care Review, the Scottish Government said they would form a steering group to look into developing a scheme of allowance. Disappointingly, there have as yet been no timescales or details, resulting in us undertaking renewed campaigning on the issue. However, we look forward to working with the Scottish Government in the coming weeks to ensure this is taken forward without further delays.

In addition, we released our annual recruitment target press release in January, highlighting the need for 800 more foster families in Scotland during 2016. The release received substantial media interest across Scotland and we hope will lead to enquiries from prospective foster carers to your fostering services. As usual, there is an ongoing need for more foster families to provide homes for teenagers, sibling groups, children with disabilities, and now also unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in becoming a foster carer, please encourage them to contact your service and to visit couldyoufoster.org.uk. Also, do get involved in this year's Foster Care Fortnight, our annual national recruitment campaign which will take place from 16 to 29 May 2016.

If you would like to increase your involvement in our campaigning activities, please contact our campaigns team, e_campaigns@fostering.net.

Fostering Community Champions

Fostering Community Champions is an exciting four year project that aims to improve the outcomes of children in care. It will do this by reducing the isolation experienced by many foster carers, and by helping young people to use their experience of foster care in a positive and meaningful way. It's funded by the Big Lottery Fund's Investing in Communities programme.

Young people from fostering households (who are living in, or have lived in foster care, as well as sons or daughters of foster carers) will take part in a range of activities and 36 foster carers will be trained to provide peer support to foster carers throughout Scotland.



Our Big Day Out



On Sunday 15 November, The Fostering Network Scotland headed to Edinburgh for a day out at the zoo. We were joined by over 200 people, including more than 135 children and young people from throughout Scotland, as we celebrated the successes of the first year of our Big Lottery funded Fostering Community Champions project.

Despite the dreich weather lots of fun was had as children donned their animal masks, got their faces painted and took art classes all with an animal theme.

The face painting was undertaken by some of our young champions who turned out to be very talented. Our chief executive Kevin came to see how it was done (see above).

One of the aims of Fostering Community Champions is to produce a resource to help foster carers and the children they look after to make the most of contact visits with birth families. We asked adults and children to write their thoughts about contact on cardboard leaves which were hung on a 'contact tree.' We will add these comments to others we have collected and will be analysing them to help us inform the resource. See the opposite page for more information about the contact resource.

There were also information stalls in the Budongo chimp house with information from CELCIS, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration, Fosterline Scotland, Scottish Book Trust, Action for Sick Children Scotland, Who Cares? Scotland as well as

lots of information from The Fostering Network. The Scottish Book Trust also ran Book Bug sessions for children to enjoy singing and stories.

A huge thanks to everyone who came along and helped make the day a great success.

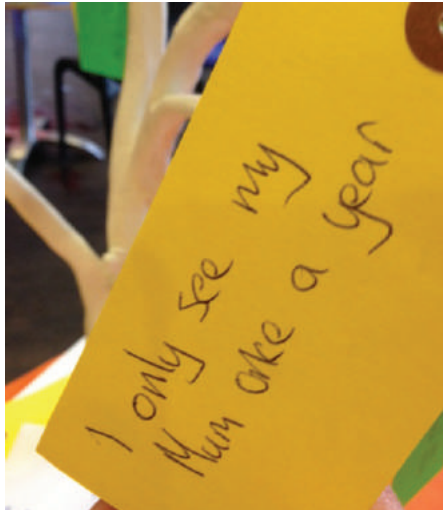
2016 date now confirmed

Following the success of 2015's event, we are delighted to announce our next Big Day Out will take place on 6 November 2016, once again at Edinburgh Zoo. To register your interest, please contact Deborah Cook, e.scotland@fostering.net

Contact – your experience

Def. the state or condition that exists when people see and communicate with each other

For most children, time spent with their parents is everyday family time, outings and holidays or the weekend. But for children growing up in foster care, spending time with their parents,



grandparents, brothers and sisters becomes 'contact' and has a vocabulary all of its own: contact centres, supervision, transportation, worker, unsupervised. Along with all that comes a set of rules, court orders and arrangements that have to be followed. It is therefore unsurprising that foster carers, fostered children and birth families often find contact stressful.

The Fostering Community Champions project is producing a good practice guide on family contact and we are asking as many people as possible to input into this. If you are a foster carer, work for a fostering service, are in foster care or are the son/daughter of foster carers, we would love to hear your views. We are gathering stories of good practice around contact and also examples of situations where things have not worked so well.

We are keen to hear about both positive and negative situations so that we can compile an accurate picture of what is happening across the country at the moment. It doesn't matter if you want to send a sentence or an essay, we would love to hear your thoughts on how to improve family time for all children and young people in foster care.

National discussion day

On Wednesday 9 March we will be holding a national discussion day in Stirling from 10am – 2pm. The day will focus on contact, and we will be looking at the issues, sharing good practice and learning from others' experiences. The event is free of charge and a light lunch will be provided. If you would like to come along, hear what others are saying and share your experiences, then please contact us to reserve your place:

t 0141 204 1400 or

e bethevoice@fostering.net

Let us support you...

'Sometimes, the person who's been there for everyone else needs someone to be there for them.'



As any foster carer will tell you, there are times when you just need to talk to someone. While some things can be discussed with our nearest and dearest, there are areas that are confidential or personal and you can't turn to the people you would in other circumstances.

There can also be situations where you have had support, help and advice from your supervising social worker but you would still like to speak to someone who has been there, who really gets fostering and can empathise with how you are feeling.

This is where the Fostering Community Champions project can help. We have a group of experienced and specially trained foster carers who are here to listen, to support, and to understand. They have all experienced the ups and downs of life as a foster carer and understand the emotions and the frustrations that come with looking after other people's children.

This will provide a means of talking through your thoughts on how to deal with a specific issue, a sounding board for your frustrations, somewhere to discuss the feelings of grief and loss that are part and parcel of being a foster carer or as somewhere you can debrief after a stressful situation or placement. The service is confidential and can be provided via phone or email, whichever is more comfortable for you.

If you would like to know more about the project or receive support from a champion then please contact Jane or Sarah on **t** 0141 204 1400 or **e** bethevoice@fostering.net

Fosterline Scotland update



In recent weeks Fosterline Scotland has received a number of enquiries about permanence orders. Not all children who come into care can return to live with their parents. In these cases the courts will decide the best option to make sure children are safe, stable and can grow throughout their childhood in a 'permanent' home. There are a number of different permanence options for looked after children including a permanence order.

Permanence orders in Scotland

Permanence orders were introduced by the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007. Permanence orders can only be applied for by the local authority and are designed to safeguard a child who will not be returning home. A permanence order will remove the child from the Children's Hearing System and can last until the child reaches the age of 18.

A permanence order can allow foster carers (and others caring for children) to have some or all of the parental rights and responsibilities needed to make day-to-day decisions affecting the child.

Permanence orders consist of two parts:

- **Mandatory provisions** – this gives the local authority the parental responsibility to provide the child with guidance and the parental right to control where the child lives.
- **Ancillary provisions** – the ancillary provisions are particular to each individual child and their circumstances. The local authority and/or any other person may be given some or all of the parental responsibilities, including responsibility of guidance (except the mandatory right of residence). Ancillary provisions can include contact arrangements, matters in relation to passport applications or foreign travel, and issues relative to



medical consent for the child. The main guideline is that they should always be in the best interests of the child. Parents may have some or all responsibilities and/or rights removed but not necessarily.

It is important to note, however, that the child may not be living in their permanent placement while permanence is being sought by the local authority. Where a permanent placement for the child is still being sought, it is very important that the focus continues on completing the permanence plan. An application for a permanence order may also include a request for authority for the child to be adopted. Court rules ask the local authority which sort of permanence order they are applying for, but thereafter the timescales for the process are the same whether the aim is to obtain a permanence order as the means of securing the plan for the child or a permanence order with authority for adoption.

Important points about the permanence order

- A permanence order may be a destination order in itself or it may be a route to adoption. Both types are very flexible and both types signal that the child is not going home.

- Every permanence order gives the local authority the mandatory provision.
- Every permanence order may also have 'extras' called ancillary provisions.
- The consent of a child of 12 or over is required unless the child is incapable of consenting for any reason.
- The child's welfare throughout childhood is the paramount consideration for the court.
- The child's views must be considered by the court.
- When the permanence order is granted the court or a children's hearing may terminate the supervision requirement.

However

- The permanence order may be varied or revoked.
- It does not last beyond 18.
- The child is a looked after child.
- It doesn't extinguish the child's legal identity as a member of her/his birth family, unless it is a permanence order with authority for adoption.
- It can only be applied for by a local authority.

Remember, **Fosterline Scotland** is here to assist with this query and many other types of queries! Our Fosterline Scotland telephone line is open Monday to Friday, 10am until 4pm. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have a query you would like help with.





Sibling contact - publication launch

Clan Childlaw launched a new publication on 27 November 2015, Promoting Sibling Contact for Looked After Children at an event hosted by the Faculty of Advocates. The paper is primarily directed at those making assessments, making recommendations in reports and taking decisions on sibling contact for looked after children.

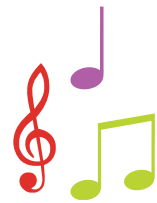
The report can be accessed online: <http://tinyurl.com/hlnh3g4>.

Foster carer transfer protocol

The Fostering Network, Independent and Voluntary Providers' (IVP) forum in Scotland and Social Work Scotland have recently revised the protocol for supporting best practice when a prospective or approved foster carer transfers between fostering services. The transfer of foster carers protocol Scotland (2015) is available on our website: www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/policy-practice/recruitment-and-retention/transfer-protocols or you can contact Fosterline Scotland on **t** 0141 204 1400 for more information.

Are you fostering a child with a disability?

Emer, a fourth year social work student whose own family has fostered, would love to talk to you about your experiences, helping The Fostering Network to represent your views. Please contact us directly for more information, **t** 0141 204 1400 or **e** scotland@fostering.net



Let's Go Again! Launching Fun with Food and Scotland has Talent!

Following the launch of our **Arts & Crafts** themed Let's Go Again booklet, we are offering an opportunity for foster families to participate in more challenges to become a medal winner! Inside this edition, all foster families will have received a copy of our latest booklets: **Fun with Food** and **Scotland has Talent**.

Fun with Food encourages children to experiment with cooking and food, aiming to promote healthy eating. **Scotland has Talent** aims to uncover children's hidden talents by engaging children in music and drama. All children who complete challenges will be rewarded with a certificate and gold medal. In total there are five coloured certificates to collect. Rather than *being* the best, we want to celebrate every individual *doing* their best - Let's Go enables everyone to be a winner!

If you would like additional copies of any of our Let's Go booklets, please do get in touch: **t** 0141 204 1400 or **e** scotland@fostering.net



Update from Learning and Development

2015 was another busy year, with training courses being delivered to fostering services throughout Scotland, and we're sure 2016 will be busy too! In addition to our wide range of in-house courses, we have the following popular open courses:

Caring for Children Who Have Been Abused: A Male Perspective*

Saturday 20 February 2016

Glasgow

Price: members £98.00 plus VAT/non-member £196.00 plus VAT (includes lunch)

Following on from the hugely popular Men Who Foster course, this course deals with the issues surrounding child abuse with a particular focus on the perspective of male carers

*Please note: this course is for men only

The Skills to Foster: Train the Trainers – change of date

Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 March 2016

Glasgow

Price: members £299.00 plus VAT/non-member £598.00 plus VAT (includes lunch)

The Role of the Supervising Social Worker

Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 May 2016

Glasgow

Price: members £215.00 plus VAT/non-member £430.00 plus VAT (includes lunch)

Courses fill up fast, so secure your place now!

To book a place, or find out more about any of our training courses, get in touch with Joy Crawford: **t** 0141 204 1400
e scotland@fostering.net
or visit: **www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk**



Participants at our recent Role of the Supervising Social Worker course, October 2015.



Set yourself a fundraising challenge

Why not set yourself a challenge for 2016, and support our work transforming children's lives at the same time!

We have a variety of fundraising challenges available:

GLASGOW KILT WALK*

Date: Sunday 24 April 2016

Distances to choose from: 6 miles, 13 miles, 26 miles

Registration fee: £31.62 (£13.20 for 6 mile walk)

Details: Register directly with the Kilt Walk, nominating The Fostering Network Scotland as your chosen charity for sponsorship raised.

* Please note there are also kilt walks in Aberdeen, Speyside and Edinburgh later in the year.



BEN NEVIS TREK

Dates: Friday 13 – Sunday 15 May 2016

Registration fee: £75

Minimum sponsorship: £500

Details: Launch Foster Care Fortnight™ from Scotland's highest peak! The cost includes two night's accommodation, meals and transport to Fort William (from Glasgow).

Edinburgh 5k Colour Run

Date: Sunday 17 July 2016

Registration fee: £15

Fundraising target: £100

Details: A 5k fun run where you are periodically blasted with colour!

FOSTER WALK – save the date!

Date: Sunday 11 September 2016

Registration fee: £10 for families, £5 for adults

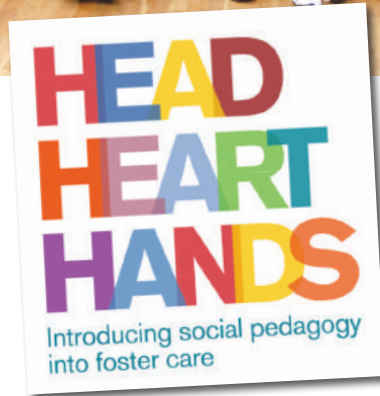
Minimum sponsorship: £75 for families, £25 for adults

Details: A 5k sponsored walk for the whole family. Watch this space – more information will follow!

For more information, or to take part in any of these or other exciting challenges, keep an eye on our website:

thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/fundraise/challenge-events. Alternatively, contact Linda Bowie, **t** 0141 204 1400 or **e** scotland@fostering.net

HEAD, HEART, HANDS



Our innovative four year Head, Heart, Hands demonstration programme is currently undergoing an intensive evaluation phase. The programme, showing the impact of introducing social pedagogy into foster care, was rolled out across six demonstration sites including City of Edinburgh Council, Orkney Islands Council and Aberlour Fostering, and has become a regular feature of our newsletter. It has been funded by various trusts and foundations, including: Comic Relief, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Henry Smith

Charity, The John Ellerman Foundation, KPMG Foundation, Man Charitable Trust and The Monument Trust.

Representatives from Head, Heart, Hands met in Orkney to reflect on the programme's impact.

Head, Heart, Hands is being evaluated by the Centre for Child and Family Research at Loughborough University, and a comprehensive evaluation report will be available in the autumn. In the meantime, our Social Pedagogy in Foster Care Practice Forum will continue to meet quarterly to discuss the progression of social pedagogy in Scotland. For more information, please contact Sara Lurie, [e scotland@fostering.net](mailto:scotland@fostering.net).

New resource supports children through hearings

A new guide to help professionals working with children and young people in the hearings system was published in December 2015.

The document Helping Me Make Choices has been published by the Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership (CHIP). It is based on what children and young people have said about the Children's Hearings System.

You can access the document by using this link: <http://tinyurl.com/o9kzy6n>

It is hoped professionals and decision makers will share it with other people to help children and young people understand what will happen before, during and after their children's hearing.

If you have any questions about the document, you can contact Alyson Evans, policy officer at Children's Hearing System: [e alyson.evans@chs.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alyson.evans@chs.gsi.gov.uk)



Congratulations to Chloé, our 2015 e-card winner!

We are delighted to announce that six-year-old Chloé's festive image was voted by our judges to be the winning image of our annual festive e-card competition. It was a difficult competition to judge, and our runners up for 2015 were: Jamielee, Dylan, Lisa, John, Sarah-Jayne and Keira.

Congratulations to all the fantastic artists who submitted their festive images for our e-card competition. We were so pleased to receive all the artwork before Christmas which added some festive magic to our office in Glasgow!

Remember, we love seeing your artwork and hearing your stories so please share them with us and we may publish them in a future edition of Fostering in Scotland.



Dates for your diary ...

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Caring for Children Who Have
Been Abused: A Male Perspective

Wednesday 9 March 2016 (Page 7)

Contact with Birth Families
National Discussion Day

Thursday 17 March 2016 (Page 4)

Fostering Roadshow

Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 March 2016 (Page 10)

The Skills to Foster: Train the
Trainers

Tuesday 19 April 2016

(Page 4) Additional support
needs mediation workshop

Sunday 24 April 2016

(Page 10)
Glasgow Kilt Walk

Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 May 2016

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Role of the Supervising Social
Worker

Friday 13 – Sunday 15 May 2016 (Page 10)

Ben Nevis Trek

Sunday 17 July 2016

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Edinburgh 5K Colour Run

Sunday 11 September 2016 (Page 10)

Foster Walk Scotland

Sunday 6 November 2016

(Page 6)
Big Day Out

Thursday 20 April

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Benefits workshop

If you are interested in attending any of these events
t 0141 204 1400 or e scotland@fostering.net

The Fostering Network Scotland...



With thanks to the funders
who supported this edition.

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the website:

t 020 7620 6400

For help with membership queries:

t 020 7620 6400

e membership@fostering.net

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Open all day, every day

t 0845 013 5004

The stress counselling helpline can be
accessed through this number



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