

P.A.C.S.

Post Adoption Central Support is supported by
Clackmannanshire Council, Falkirk Council and Stirling Council

PACS NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2007



Dear PACS members

I hope you are having a good summer, even if the weather has not been too kind. Below for your information are some forthcoming events which I hope will be of interest to you.

Adoption UK Autumn Seminar Saturday 15 September 2007
Attachment – Connecting – Attunement 10.00 am – 3.30 pm
Mossvale Community Church, 60 Greenock Road, Paisley PA3 2LE

Presented by: Dr Helen Minnis, Fiona Strachan and Roberta Manners

This one-day seminar run by Adoption UK for parents, foster carers and practitioners is on an understanding of attachment theory and different ways of connecting and attuning with hurt children.

Speakers:

- Dr Helen Minnis, Senior Lecturer in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Glasgow, who is developing diagnostic tools for assessing Reactive Attachment Disorder, will describe her recent research and its practical application for adoptive and foster families.
- Fiona Strachan, Independent Practitioner and adoptive parent, will speak about 'Connecting with Children through Stories'.
- Roberta Manners, Adoption Support Worker and adoptive parent, will demonstrate 'therapy type techniques' to help attune with our children.

Let me know as soon as you can if you would like to attend and **not later than Friday 7th September**. PACS will pay the fees for the conference.

An introduction to Adoption UK

Monday 22 October 2007
7.00 for a 7.30 start, finish at 9.15 pm

Logie Kirk Hall, Alloa Road, Causewayhead, Stirling FK9 5LH


Fiona Strachan, Development Manager in Scotland for Adoption UK will give a short presentation touching on Adoption UK's Services

- Adoption Support – Why we need it
- Adoption Support – Common Issues

- Things that can help
- Adoption UK in central Scotland

Adoption UK welcomes prospective and established adopters to all of their meetings and events.

Fiona will bring a bookstall on the evening and it will be an opportunity to see if people are interested in becoming volunteer coordinators in the area. A letter will be sent out about the meeting to Adoption UK members in central Scotland, so you can meet with a larger group of adopters.



Adoption UK training workshop
for parents and practitioners


Saturday 3 November 2007
9.30 for 10am start, finish 4.30pm

Parental Substance Misuse
Glasgow (venue to be confirmed)

Children born to parents misusing drugs, alcohol and tobacco, and the possible long-term implications provide unique challenges to their adoptive families. This workshop gives participants not just the knowledge, but the support and understanding, to develop strategies for the care of children affected by parental substance misuse in the home, school and the community.

"Thought I had come to the course knowing a lot - I didn't, but I do now!"
(Parent after taking the Parental Substance Misuse workshop)

Let me know by the 28th of September if you are interested in this workshop. PACS will pay the fees for the conference.



Other activities being planned by PACS, together with Adoption UK, are New Year and Easter socials and a training day for fathers. Further details will sent nearer the time.

Jane Rae from the Falkirk Social Work office very helpfully sends the PACS Newsletter out to about 100 recipients. It will make her task much easier if this can be done by email. Some families already receive the Newsletter this way, and it would be very much appreciated if you could let me know whether your are willing to do so as well.

With best wishes

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