

Southern Foster Carers Association of Tasmania:



Special Information



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

South West and South East regions are now operating as one.

As of the 6/05/11 these two regions became the

Southern Foster Carers Association of Tasmania

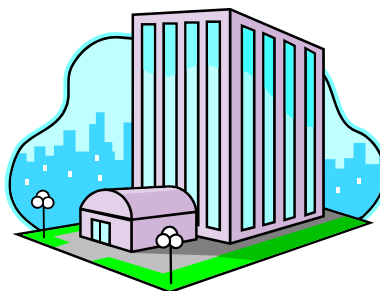
the contact in this region is current President Lesley Buckland.

What this means for you? All carers in the south will be provided with the same information, newsletters, invites etc. regardless of where you live. OoHC falls solely on the portfolio of South West Area Director Andrea Sturges, and is not split with South East Area Director Deb Leisser. Meg Dickson is the Acting Team Leader of OoHC.

We have new offices in Cambridge, this will be closer for some and further for others, there is loads of free parking at the door, no more long walks to McDougall Building. The offices have just been moved into and we are ironing out the bumps, We look forward to seeing carers there in the future, the office will be staffed Tuesday, Wed and Thursdays 10.30—1.30. once we settle in!

Carers will be able to come in for a cuppa, pick up food hampers and access the clothing pool.

Watch this space.....opening of new offices morning tea to be held soon!



CAMPER TRAILER FOR HIRE

This is a great way to have a inexpensive holiday or a weekend away. Each camper sleeps four, with a queen bed and two king single camp stretchers. Optional easy pop up tent for more room or storage available also

Gas stove, pots and pans

Table and 4 chairs

All you need is your linen and food.

Easy to tow and simple to put up.

Very cheap rates.....

For information and bookings

0417 034 885



Camper trailer set up ready for camping fun

Meetings held the 1st Friday of each month, 10.30am at Kennerley Offices
9 Timsbury Road Glenorchy. In the meeting room, Child care is available booking essential
 0428 547 547.

WE HAVE NEW OFFICES!!

We are in our new office's we are busy setting up, we look forward to an opening party, we will work the details out and send invites. Our email is still swfcats@live.com.au and our postal box is still P.O Box 39 Margate TAS 7054. Our offices are in Cambridge at the old chickenfeed building, (the red one!) this will be closer for some carers and further for others, we are happy to say that we have plenty of free, parking, no more long walks up to McDougall Building. Our aim is have the office open by appointment to carers and departmental and NGA's staff. We will keep our food hampers at the office so if your coming this way let us know and come on in. some of the clothing pool will also be there for your use.

F.A.S.T

Ken Abery

0437 006 876

Sheila Abery
0447

012

Lesley Buck
0428

FOSTER CARERS HELP LINE 24/7



Carers helping Carers

Run by carers They are there to help, You may need to talk to someone who understands the challenges of foster care.

Need some helpful hints to deal with a problem in your home, or in the middle of an after hours crisis.

All calls are confidential.

0428 531 531 call us and we will ring you back

What's on in May 2011

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3 Morning tea's each Tuesday @ Chigwell	4 Morning tea at Sheila's 10.30am	5	6 Joint regional meeting SW/ SE 10.30am Kennerley offices YAG	7	8 <i>Mothers Day</i>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Morning tea at June's 10.30am	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

With training could you help Carers in need ?????

We need Carers to become F.A.S.T Reps

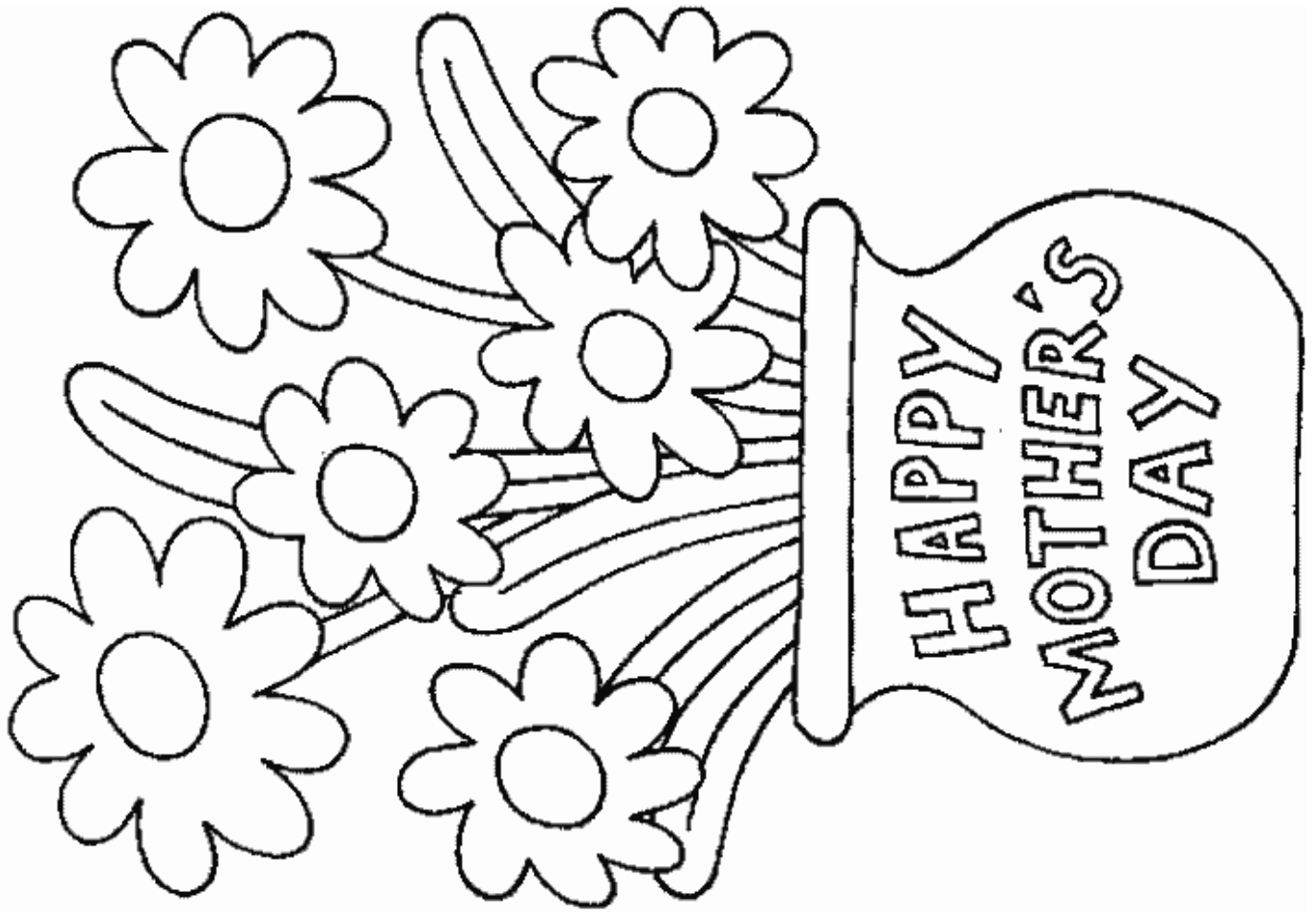
The Foster Carers Advocacy & Support Team [FAST] Reps Support and Advise Carers

Attend meetings with Carers when required

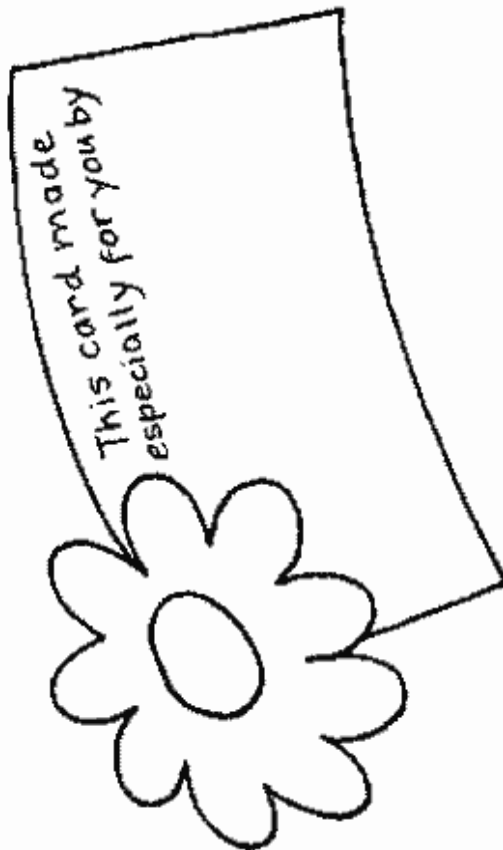
Report to the FAST Coordinator

if you would like more information please contact Ken Abery either by

email [ksa2@bigpond.com] or mobile 0437006876



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Are you present:

I have just been chatting to my Aunt who is in her 70's and has been an important person throughout my life. I have memories of staying with her when I was in primary school and she has a reputation for having a great sense of humour and always had her fingernails painted. She is an important part of me, sometimes when I dress now as a 52 year my husband would say, ' you look like Aunty Jo'. I am proud of that.

For children that we care for in Out of Home care, they too have memories and stories around their relatives who are a part of their life. When they have to move from there families because of REAL reasons and live with another family it is important that they have people that are present in their lives so they can develop stories around their life, family and important people in their lives.

As a foster carer or kinship carer, you are being very present in the children's lives you are caring for. You have the ability to be present for them; just to be there, to listen, to laugh and to enable them to develop an understanding of their life within the context they live.

OoHC



FCAT MEETINGS

Effective meetings can be achieved if all individuals are committed to some simple ground rules for behaviour before and during meetings

Mobile phones- As carers we are just a phone call away from our kids, So if your phone rings during the meeting Please leave the room to take your call.

Child Care- Provided free of charge, by trained staff in the child care room attached to the training room.

Code of conduct-

- act appropriately and treat people and organisations with respect; never being derogatory in their speech or manner
- act in the public interest, and not seek to gain any advantage for themselves, their family or friends;
- act in a way that is fair and unbiased;
- allow everyone to take part without interruption or intimidation and treat everyone equally;
- be open and honest about their actions and decisions, and give reasons for them
- be clear and honest about whether they are giving their personal view or the views of their organisation;
- declare any private interests or interests of their organisation relevant to their involvement with fcata and seek to resolve any conflict in the public interest

Any member who does not comply with the Code of Conduct will be asked to leave the meeting by the Chairperson

We're on the web
www.fcata.org.au

From the President;

There have been many calls to the department in relation to the TV add campaign so we hope to see these people become carers in the not to distant future. Food bank is having a lull in its supply in the warehouse and as such our ability to supply hampers is being effected., it will pick back up as more product arrives into the warehouse.

Elections for FCAT committee members are drawing close so its time to think about what you maybe able to offer the association. Nomination forms will soon be sent out.

Regards Lesley Buckland



CREATE Foundation works to create a better life for children and young people in care through connection and empowerment programs and by changing the care system from the inside out.

Foster Carer Training

CREATE Young Consultants were recently given the opportunity to present to a group of new foster carers undertaking training. They shared information on CREATE's activities and programs and then answered questions related to their foster care experiences. All were incredible and the new foster carers provided lots of positive feedback and were very touched by what the young people said, it gave them a real insight into what foster care is all about.

Young Consultants Training

Young Consultants Training is a two day training course for young people in care or with a care experience, aged 14 – 25. The modules include public speaking, advocacy, media interaction, workings of the Child Protection system and personal stories. This training is all about providing young people with the skills they need to advocate on behalf of all young people in care and ensure their voices are heard. By doing this training, young people will be called on by CRE-ATE to attend conferences, sector meetings, consultations, forums, events and provide training support.

Youth Advisory Groups

The Youth Advisory Group is a program that brings young people aged 12 and above together to discuss care issues and explore solutions. The Youth Advisory Group also tells CREATE how best to represent the opinions of children and young people in care. In Tasmania, Youth Advisory Groups are run every month and are co-facilitated by an experienced Young Consultant.

Club CREATE

To take part in any of our events, training and activities, you need to sign up to be a club.CREATE member. It's free, along with all of CREATE's events and programs, and you'll receive a welcome pack in the mail for joining, quarterly club.CREATE magazines, Christmas and Birthday cards and invites to all CREATE events in your area. You can join by ringing CREATE on **1800 655 105**, online at **www.create.org.au** or by visiting us at **260 Macquarie Street, Hobart**.