

# DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Rock pooling with Northam Rangers



*at Northam Burrows Country Park, Northam, EX39 1XS Bideford, Devon*

**August 15<sup>th</sup> (11 AM - 3 PM)**

*(meet at the Visitors Centre)*

A fun day on the beach with the Burrows Rangers and a ranger from the North Devon Coast AONB. Will include fun (educational) activities, rock pooling and seaweed foraging.

*(Please book using 'Events' tab on DFCA's Facebook page or contact Caroline Maund with numbers)*

**Don't forget to bring a picnic, drinks, wellies and sun cream for your youngsters!**  
**And, please remember, ALL children MUST be accompanied by their carer(s) on ALL DFCA activities.**

### Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur Park

<https://www.facebook.com/wildlifedinosaurpark/>



*Higher Leigh Manor, EX34 0NG Combe Martin*

**Saturday, August 25 at 10 AM**

*(Please book numbers using 'Events' tab on DFCA's Facebook page or contact Kim St. Barbe)*

**Don't forget to bring a picnic, drinks and sun cream for your youngsters!**  
**AND, please remember, ALL children MUST be accompanied by their carer(s) on ALL DFCA activities.**



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## Milky Way & Wake Park

<https://www.themilkyway.co.uk/roller-coasters-rides-north-devon>



at The Milky Way Adventure Park, Bideford EX39 5RY

**Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> from 10.00 a.m.**

*(Please book numbers using 'Events' tab on DFCA's Facebook page or contact Kim St. Barbe)*

# HUGE THANKS!

to the Fostering Service



for its generous contribution towards our next event!

*(please do make your appreciation known by email to [luke.chapman@devon.gov.uk](mailto:luke.chapman@devon.gov.uk))*



## SURF DAY



with Surf South West in Croyde, North Devon

on 8<sup>th</sup> September

*Please book - from one of two sessions – using 'Events' tab on DFCA's Facebook page or contact Kim St. Barbe with numbers)*

**11.15 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. OR 2.30 p.m. until 4.30 p.m.**

*(meet at Croyde Burrows Beach Car Park, EX33 1NZ)*

As DFCA are also contributing £5 per person for this event, the cost to carers will be **just £5 pp!**

**Don't forget to bring a picnic, drinks and sun cream for your youngsters!**

**And, please remember, ALL children MUST be accompanied by their carer(s) on ALL DFCA activities.**



# DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

Why not join the Fostering Team's (North)

## Walk in the North (2.5 miles)

along the Tarka Trail, on

**Monday 20th August 10.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.**

meet at the Tarka Trail car park beside the Puffing Billy meet at the Tarka Trail car park beside the Puffing Billy Café at Great Torrington. Parking is free. For more information contact; *Lindsay Hartley Russell on 07970 721746 or Kim St. Barbe on 07870842241*

## DON'T FORGET!!!

Our **AGM** on

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.**

**At the Kenn Centre, Kennford**

Followed by a support group with a 'bring and share' lunch

*Why not come and join us and meet others, just like you?*

### SOUTH WEST FOSTERING FORUM

**REMINDER  
NEXT MEETING  
22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**

All meetings are held in Taunton (as they involve carers from all over the South West Region). If you're interested in coming along, let one of us know. We can arrange to accompany you, so you wouldn't feel at a disadvantage.

### SARAH NAISH is coming to Town (!!)

Have you checked out the [www.naotp.org.uk/](http://www.naotp.org.uk/) website, yet, or the NAOTP Facebook page? You might be glad if you did. NAOTP provides excellent support, education and resources for ALL therapeutic parents (including us!). They offer real strategies around effective interventions and information around compassion fatigue and the effects of early life trauma and *Members can take part in Listening Circles and receive a whole range of information and free resources.*

**Sarah Naish, its founder, will be the key speaker at this year's Foster Carer's Conference on 31<sup>st</sup> October** (*more details can be found in the Fostering Devon newsletter*) **and will talk about, among other things, compassion fatigue. Not to be missed!**

**WATCH OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BOOKING PLACES ON THIS FROM THE FOSTERING SERVICE, COMING OUT SOON! 😊**



# DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

## NATIONAL UPDATES

# OFSTED

launched its

## POINT IN TIME SURVEY

on 9<sup>th</sup> July

and their Inspectors want to hear what you have to say about the Fostering Service in its

## Open Consultation

If you'd like to offer your views,

contact OFSTED direct on 0300 123 1231 (select option 5 and then option 2)

or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)

**Responses need to be received by 17 August 2018, so, don't delay!**

**Why not be a part of national change, rather than a victim of it?**

If you missed out on taking part in the last

## State of the Nation's Foster Care survey

Why not take part in this year's survey, by visiting

<https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/policy-practice/research/state-nations-foster-care-2018>

and making your views known?

This is a good opportunity to feed into the largest survey on foster care in this Country. It only happens every four years so,

**– MAKE YOUR VIEWS COUNT!**



# DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

## REGULAR NOTICES - DISCOUNTS, OFFERS and other 'FREEBIES'!!

### FREE / DISCOUNTED HOLIDAYS FOR CARERS

#### DON'T FORGET

**Timpson Trust** offers **free holidays** to foster carers (more information and application form can be obtained from any Timpson outlet OR at our DFCA meetings)

(Happy Holidays 😊!)

**Ilfracombe & District Lions Club** have also been running Holiday Homes for the disabled at The Golden Coast Holiday Park in Woolacombe that they are willing to offer to foster carers at **discounted rates!**

For more information, and application form, [contact www.e.clubhouse/sites/ilfracombe](http://www.e.clubhouse/sites/ilfracombe)



The Milky Way Adventure Park, Near Clovelly, EX39 5RY are currently offering **25% off standard admission prices** for locals to North Devon. Check it out at...

<https://www.themilkyway.co.uk/theme-park-attraction-north-devon>

### SAFETY FIRST!

**Devon & Cornwall Fire Service** offer a **Free Home Safety Check** for families

simply contact them direct on 0800 0502 999 or via [www.dsfire.gov.uk](http://www.dsfire.gov.uk) to book your check.

#### MID DEVON ALLIANCE FOR

**SEN** Saturday morning activities from 10 – 4 at PETROC College in Tiverton. For more details, check out

<https://www.masctiverton.org/>

#### EXETER LIBRARY

organise lots of fun activities, including their Minecraft Red Ticket Day, Time Travelling and Discovering Nature, PLUS, lots more!

**Why not check out their website for more details,**

<https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/exeterlibrary>



# DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

## **FN INFORMATION!**

We have acquired some more Information Leaflets for Carers from Fostering Network around the subjects of;

1. Inland Revenue & Tax for foster carers, and
2. Entitlement to Benefits for foster carers.

These will be freely available at our DFCA meetings.

If you'd like information on other topics, please do let us know.

## **AND DON'T FORGET...**

...to check out all the other events on our Calendar (attached).

There's bound to be something on there that could be right up your street



## **DON'T FORGET...**

...your MAX Card offers all foster carers discounts to a variety of entertainment venues. If you haven't received yours yet, speak to your SSW asap, so you and your children

## **DON'T MISS OUT!**

For more information about what's on offer check out...

<http://www.mymaxcard.co.uk/>

## **Foster Carers, caring for Children with Disabilities**

This Support Group meets on Mondays from 10 - 12 at Welland House, Chaddiford Lane, in Barnstaple every Monday.

Remaining dates for this year; 24<sup>th</sup> September, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> November and 10<sup>th</sup> December (Xmas lunch).

If you're interested in going along, please contact Helen Woolway (social worker) on 07967176713

## **Tarka Tennis in Bideford**

Is still offering lots to keep your child entertained. From mini tennis to regular tennis clubs to Wimbledon Fever, it's a fantastic place to get them on their feet. They are still offering their Special Olympics sessions on Saturdays from 2 – 4. More details can be found at...

<http://www.leisurecentre.com/tarkatennis/Tennis/page>

**BSL/ Makaton Practice Group**  
Last Tuesday of every month. No fee  
Beginners welcome  
Waterfront Inn, Westward Ho!

**For more information, telephone Sandy Buckley on 01237 425454**

## **TO ALL NEW CARERS,**

...if you'd like to join our Facebook page (where you can meet other carers in your area (and in other parts of the County) an access a wide range of information, guidance and knowledge from other foster carers, just like you, just send any one of the Committee (details at the end of this post) a 'friend request' and (after checking you are who you say you are – we are a closed group, after all ), we'll add you to the group.

**SIMPLE!**

*Committee; Trish Bagshaw, Leigh Strange, Lewis Crowden, Mike Gillard, Glyn Oliver, Denise Lacey, David Leyland or Andrew Randall)*



# DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

## CALLING ALL CARERS, IN ALL AREAS!

Walks around Devon and days out at a local park are simple family events that all ages seem to enjoy.

Would you like to organise walks in **your** locality? You know the best places in your own areas and you'll know which carers in your areas would join in with you if a fun walking event was planned. We'd be happy to help with arrangements, planning and broadcasting, but we need input from carers like you who know places in their area, so do get in touch if you would like to be more involved with creating events in your area.

**The more that get involved, the better the events (and, consequently, the support we can offer to one another) will be).**

**Contact Mandy Heggadon if you have some good ideas or would like to get more involved.**

## DISC!

Are you looking for advice and information around Childcare, childminders, nurseries, pre-schools, out of school and holiday schemes? If so, try contacting DISC (Devon's Family Information Service) on

0345 155 1013 OR

[www.devon.gov.uk/disc](http://www.devon.gov.uk/disc) OR  
[discinfo@devon.gov.uk](mailto:discinfo@devon.gov.uk)

They have a wealth of information around activities to do with your child, supporting and parenting and support for children with additional needs.

## REMINDER

MID & EAST SUPORT GROUP

19<sup>th</sup> September  
Colaton Raleigh Village Hall 11 – 1

## REMINDER

NORTH – Carer led Support Group

*(Run by carers with experience of managing complex behaviours)*

11<sup>th</sup> September – 10.30 – 12.30  
at The Freedom Centre,  
Barnstaple

## REMINDER

SOUTH – Support Group 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Colebrook Community Centre, Plymouth

AND at Colaton Raleigh Village Hall 11 – 1 pm



DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

# DON'T FORGET!

NEXT MEETING  
is our AGM

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September

10.30 – 1.30 p.m.

at The Kenn Centre, Kennford

followed by a support group with lunch  
(please bring a plate to share)

How to contact us; -

- **via** any one of our committee (so far!) Trish Bagshaw or Leigh Strange (**North**), Lewis Crowden (**Exeter**), Nicky Knight (**Mid & East**), Mike Gillard (**North**), David Leyland (**South**), Andrew Randall (**Mid & East**), Denise Lacey (**North**), Glyn Oliver (**Mid & East**), Sam & Stuart Penny (**Mid & East**) and Caroline Maund (**North**). Feel free to contact any of us (*via our Facebook page*) for any information about the Association and what we're doing on **YOUR** behalf or, if you'd simply like to get more involved.

If you're not already a member, simply search for any of our Committee (names above), via Facebook

- **via** Facebook. Simply 'friend request' admin' members, Trish, Leigh, Nicky or Mandy (*full names and areas above*) on Facebook and, once we've checked you are who you say you are, we'll add you to the closed group. After that, you need simply look for Devon Foster Carer's Association and you should be able to find us and join in the chat....

*If anyone would like to join us or help in any way, please do just let us know – the more the merrier*

REMEMBER, THIS IS **YOUR** ASSOCIATION

Your views matter! 😊

