

DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION



UPCOMING EVENTS

Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur Park

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



Higher Leigh Manor, EX34 0NG Combe Martin
Saturday, August 25 at 10 a.m.

(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.

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 31st from 10.00 a.m.

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

DON'T FORGET!!!

Our **AGM** on

Thursday 13th 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?



DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

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)



SURF DAY



with Surf South West in Croyde, North Devon
on 8th 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.

SOUTH WEST FOSTERING FORUM

**REMINDER
NEXT MEETING
22nd 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/ 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 31st 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

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!

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 😊!)

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 to book your check.

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)



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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>

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>

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; 24th September, 15th October, 19th November and 10th December (Xmas lunch).

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



DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

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)

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 Mandv Hezzadon 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 OR discinfo@devon.gov.uk



DEVON FOSTER CARERS' ASSOCIATION

REMINDER

MID & EAST SUPORT GROUP

19th September
Colaton Raleigh Village Hall 11 – 1

REMINDER

NORTH – Carer led Support
Group

*(Run by carers with experience of
managing complex behaviours)*
11th September – 10.30 – 12.30
at The Freedom Centre, Barnstaple

REMINDER

SOUTH – Support Group 13th September 2018 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Colebrook Community Centre, Plymouth
AND at Colaton Raleigh Village Hall 11 – 1 pm

DON'T FORGET!

NEXT MEETING

is our AGM

Thursday 13th 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! 😊

