

Families Outside

Voicing the needs of families affected by imprisonment in Scotland

Bulletin – November

www.familiesoutside.org.uk



2015

families
outside

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of families affected
by imprisonment

BY FAMILIES FOR FAMILIES

Families Outside National Conference 2015

9.30am - 4.00pm, Tuesday 1 December 2015 at Perth Concert Hall, Mill Street, PH1 5HZ

In this unique conference, people who have experienced the imprisonment of a family member speak up about what this is like, about the issues most important to them, and how we can work together to identify creative and sustainable solutions.

The conference will be chaired by former Detective Chief Superintendent, John Carnochan, OBE. John is a well known advocate of supporting families in deprived circumstances and established the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit, an amazing project which delivers innovative, effective practice in reducing violence using the Public Health model - the ideal man to direct the day's proceedings.

During the day there will be expected aspects to the format such as plenary speakers covering: the experiences of families of people who have committed a sexual offence; young people supporting each other; and the successful In Tune project run at HMP Addiewell. There will also be two round table sessions, covering a vast number of subjects that have been selected by families. On the more unusual side, we will be having a competition on the provision of **Family Friendly Prison Information**. Which prison can produce the best? Entries are still coming in. The voices of those affected by imprisonment will also be interspersed throughout the day along with an art exhibit, stands and a raffle. There will also be time for delegates to ask questions and gain knowledge from the experience of both professionals and families alike.

BOOK NOW - places are going fast. To avoid disappointment, you can book your place by clicking [HERE](#) and then returning the booking form (and round table choices) to Families Outside at admin@familiesoutside.org.uk



By Families, For Families

Families Outside National Conference 2015

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/fo>

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<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/fo>

Support Families Outside for free this Christmas when shopping online with over 600 retailers including Amazon, eBay, Tesco, Argos, Next, M&S, John Lewis, Debenhams, HMV, Vodaphone, The Body Shop, Interflora, Comet, DELL and many more...

2016 - YEAR OF THE DAD

In 2016, take part in a year of celebration, insight and collaboration to promote the importance of fathers in child development, supporting men to be the dads they want to be.

How will this be achieved? Foster understanding of the key contribution fathers make to child development, family and community life. Increase awareness of the organisational benefits in acknowledging men's family roles. Advance father friendly practice within organisations and their services.

Why is it important? Research shows that children, women and families benefit from the positive involvement of fathers. Valuing and supporting dads brings business benefits of increased engagement and a healthier work-life balance, which means more motivated and efficient workers. Recent legislation means that forward-thinking organisations are embracing new working patterns for men. Promoting equality for fathers as parents at work and at home simultaneously helps to advance equality for women by decreasing the pay gap and creating more options for women to work and care.

Join this new wave of mums, dads, practitioners and employers in driving a shift in 21st century parenting and work culture that will benefit business, families and communities alike. For more information on giving your support, visit www.yearofthedad.org



CALENDARS FOR 2016

With the year quickly coming to a close, are you in need of a calendar for 2016? Or could you do with a few more greetings cards for the coming years, plain cards with the emotional and touching drawings of children of prisoners from across Europe, cards that can be used all year round? If so, please think about donating to a good cause.

Calendars and greeting cards will be available to buy soon from our website and at our conference in Perth on Tuesday, 1 December.



STAFFING? WE WEREN'T LAUGHING

It has been a tumultuous few months at Families Outside, with the departure of four staff and the recruitment of five - those of you with a mathematics degree, may deduce that this means we have secured new staff for all those departing, while also establishing a brand new role. So, where to start:



The lovely **Sarah Roberts** has left Families Outside following a whirlwind romance and subsequent marriage. Yes, she got married, in case you didn't hear (which would be surprising considering she told everyone...colleagues, neighbours, Tesco delivery men, PPI Claim call centre staff...). We will miss Sarah and wish her all the best with her new life in Liverpool. And as one goes out, another comes in. We are delighted to welcome **Tim Haines** to the charity. Tim joins us in November with a diverse background in education, criminology and law.

We also say goodbye to **Jacky Close** who has been our Family Support Coordinator in Tayside for the last two years. Jacky is a truly inspirational person who has now taken up a promoted post with Faith in Community Scotland. Stepping into Jacky's boots, we have **Laura Scofield**, another newbie with a degree in criminology. Laura's other background is in home care and support for vulnerable people.

Jenny White, manager of our visitors' centre at HMP Addiewell has left for pastures new and a more sensible work-life balance - we wish her well. Coming in to take over the Visitors' Centre Manager role is **Gael Cochrane**. A long time friend of Families Outside, having been a member of our Helpline Advisory Group for a number of years, Gael comes to us from the NHS where she worked as a Youth Worker. Gael has also spent time working in local authority in areas such as children & young people, substance misuse and sexual health. All this experience is backed up with an education in religious studies, social anthropology and community education.

We also say goodbye to **Jacqui Lamont** who was only with us for a short period of time. She leaves us to relocate to another part of Scotland, and we wish Jacqui all the best for the future. Coming in to take over as Family Support Coordinator in the west is **Dermot Dooley**. Another law graduate, Dermot has worked in England and Wales. Now Scotland! One more and he gets a set of steak knives. During his working life in the UK, Dermot worked with PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust) as a Family Engagement Officer, while prior to this working as a Senior Paralegal. By his own admission, Dermot is still getting use to the Scottish twang, with a number of our colloquialisms yet to be fully understood or even comprehended!

That's four leavers and four newbies. Who, pray tell, have we missed out?

Nadine Sloan, come on down. Nadine will be taking on a newly established Family Support Coordinator post based with the Wise Group in Kilmarnock, helping to strengthen our service in the south west. Nadine previously worked for Aberlour Child Care Trust on family projects such as drug and alcohol residential services for women and children.

To our new starts, we say welcome!



CINEPHILE'S CORNER

***We Need to Talk About Kevin* (2011)**

Director: Lynne Ramsay

Certificate: 15

Eva Khatchadourian is trying to piece together her life following her teenage son Kevin's seriously violent offence. Once a successful travel writer, she now lives a solitary life as people who know about her situation openly shun her, even to the point of violent actions toward her. She, in turn, fosters this solitude, having become a meek and scared woman who seems to blame herself for her son's actions. This film is an extraordinary depiction of the complicated relationship between parent and child. It is excellent to stimulate conversation about how much we can 'blame' parents for the behaviour of their children; whether parents are justified in punishing themselves when their children do unthinkable things; and how we can support people in this type of situation.



FROM DON TO DUSK

We are delighted to report that our Chairman, Donald Millar, raised over **£2,000** for Families Outside in his walk from HMYOI Polmont to HMP Edinburgh. This well and truly exceeds the fundraising target he had set. On a sadder note, we also announce that Donald has stepped down from the Board of families Outside after seven years of service. It is with great regret that we see Donald leave us and wish him all the best for the future. Keep in touch Don - there's lots you can still do!!



SUPPORT & INFORMATION HELPLINE

The Families Outside Support & Information Helpline is an independent support service for families affected by imprisonment in Scotland.



As the only Scottish-based helpline for these vulnerable families, it is the gateway into a full range of bespoke local support as well as direct links into policy, practice, and training. Our fully trained staff can help and support families and the professionals working with them with any questions or concerns on a range of issues, including:

Housing **Money worries** **Social Welfare** **Travel**
Children **Emotional support** **Mental Health** **Visits**

--- FREEPHONE 0500 83 93 83 ---

Families Outside
Support & Information Helpline

Freephone 0500 83 93 83
answerphone if not available

support@familiesoutside.org.uk

SMS Text Service 60777

Text **Famout** followed by your message

