

In Touch

BAAF's supporter newsletter
Summer 2009

Dear friend

Welcome to this year's In Touch newsletter. You may notice that it's a little less glossy than before but it's still full of lots of fundraising ideas and updates about BAAF. We've got something for everyone in here – from armchair fundraisers to those who want to trek up a mountain!

There are nearly 80,000 children in care in the UK today, 4,000 of whom are waiting to be adopted by a new permanent and loving family. BAAF helps about 400 children every year to find their 'forever' family; our work is only possible thanks to our members and donors. People choose to support BAAF for a number of personal reasons and because they care about what we do. Read why Matt Clements of Soccer All Stars has chosen to support us on page 4.

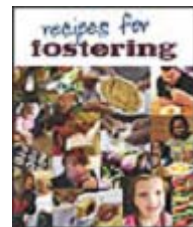
Thank you for your continued support of BAAF and wishing you a great summer,

Daisy & the Fundraising Team

News from BAAF

Hot off the press

Recipes for fostering explores the relationship between food and fostering through the stories of ten foster carers and their families. These carers share their favourite recipes as well as their experience of using shopping, cooking and eating together to build relationships with the children they look after. In powerful personal accounts the foster carers describe their motivation to foster and what it means to take on this role. *Recipes for fostering* is an ideal coffee table read and great to have in the kitchen as a family cookery book. Children and adults alike can enjoy cooking the many dishes while sharing real life experiences of foster carers. *You can order your copy now by calling 020 7421 2604.*



BAAF keeps you up to date through social networking

National Adoption Week 2009 runs from 9-15 November and this year you'll be able to follow campaign progress on Twitter. By signing up to the social networking site you'll get the latest news and we'll be sending out live tweets during the campaign week so you can share in the celebration as it happens. Our Facebook page gives details of our latest events, campaigns and conferences, as well as photos and videos. You can also find us on You Tube and Wikipedia.

First ever private fostering campaign launches

January saw the launch of Somebody Else's Child, the first ever private fostering campaign in England and Wales. Campaign posters ran on nearly 3000 bus stops and the campaign was also featured on a number of national TV and radio programmes.

BAAF Chief Executive, David Holmes, said, "In the same way that people know they have to put a seat belt on when they get in a car, we want everyone to know that local authorities need to be informed of private fostering arrangements."



Thank you to some of our amazing supporters....



London Marathon April 2009

A big thank you to all those who ran for BAAF in the London Marathon this year. Georgina Chahed, Caroline Elwen, Chris Holmes, Samm Postance, Catie Reed, Danielle Roberts, Matthew Sell, Daniel Smith, Mark Williams and Ben Wilson were superstars and all made it to the finish line on a very hot day. And they have raised over £12,000 between them! At time of writing BAAF has four places available for the Virgin London Marathon 2010 so if you're tempted we'd love to hear from you!

Ben and his dad; they ran the race of a lifetime!

Georgina tells us of her experience,

"Running the London Marathon was a fantastic experience and made for a really exhilarating day! I'm delighted to have been able to help BAAF because having a loving family is the most important thing any child can have and, using its expertise, BAAF successfully guides prospective parents through the adoption and fostering process in a responsible way."

Lunching with the literati

Guests flocked to this year's BAAF Literary Lunch to hear our guest speakers, Louis de Bernières, James Naughtie and Rose Tremain, talk about their work. Nearly 100 guests indulged in a wonderful lunch at the beautiful Stationers' Hall before listening to our fascinating authors. We are thrilled that the event raised nearly £17,000 for BAAF. We will be holding our next Literary Lunch in March 2010 so keep an eye out on our website for author news and how to buy your ticket!



Rose Tremain & Louis de Bernières at the Literary Lunch

Glorious time at Goodwood



Many staff and supporters volunteered to help raise funds for BAAF at the Goodwood Revival in September 2008. Everyone dressed up for the occasion in vintage fashion (see the Fundraising team in this pic!) and helped us to collect donations from the thousands of visitors at the renowned motoring three-day spectacular. We were thrilled to be further supported by Winton Capital Management, one of the event sponsors, which meant that nearly £115,000 was raised for BAAF. Many thanks to everyone who helped BAAF and particularly Nimmy March, BAAF patron, for all her support.

Eight men, two countries, 292 miles, three days...

Last summer saw eight keen cyclists take on the challenge of cycling from London to Paris for BAAF. Between them, Peter Spraggs, Stephen Compton, Spencer Jeffery, Simon Mace, John Bell, Marco Peduzzi, Matthew Sell and Jean-Marc Poulain raised over £10,000 - a fantastic achievement!

Thank you also to Yasir Farooqui who made the same journey a few months later and good luck to Smitesh Patel who will be trekking the Great Wall of China for BAAF in October. We'll be thinking of you!

Sarah gets back in the saddle for BAAF!



Every year people just like you decide to do an overseas challenge for BAAF. This May, Sarah Brooks did just that...

"At the ripe old age of 46 I decided I needed a new challenge, something to take me out of my comfort zone, and identified a five day charity horseride in Brazil. As an adopted adult and social worker I was drawn to support BAAF as I know what fantastic work they do in so many areas of adoption and fostering. The fundraising was tough but I had amazing help and even managed a quiz night which raised over £1,600. In May I flew to Rio with 14 others - supporting a wide range of charities. I was

given the smallest pony I have ridden since I was 10! Despite my initial anxiety she proved to be energetic, strong and full of character. 'Buena' had to be at the front of the ride at all times! The scenery was breathtaking and the riding challenging; we covered 150km and on the longest day spent nine hours in the saddle. We finished the ride in the beautiful coastal town of Parati and rode down the cobbled streets onto the beach. It was a wonderful experience. This challenge has helped me focus on what I can achieve and has inspired me to make some changes. I am already thinking of doing another challenge for BAAF."

BAAF has an exciting selection of overseas challenges on offer every year. Whether it's trekking the Inca Trail or cycling in Cuba, we can find the right trip for you.

Visit www.baaf.org.uk or call Daisy on 020 7421 2630 to find out more.

Egg-cellent school support!



St Christopher's School in Bromley chose to support BAAF over the Easter period this year and raised £650 through a range of fundraising activities, including decorating Easter eggs. Many thanks to all the students and teachers involved!

How you can help BAAF this year...

Calling all women runners...time to dust off those trainers!

If you're looking for a small running event in London then you could run for BAAF in the Adidas 5K, in Hyde Park on 6 September. We have ten places available - all you need to do is pay a £15 registration fee, then raise as much as you can for BAAF. You have the whole summer to train...

You'll believe you can fly...

It wouldn't be fair to ask our supporters to jump out of a plane if some of us hadn't done it ourselves - so that's what two of us did one sunny day last autumn! Daisy Powling and Abi Omotoso, both from BAAF Head Office in London, made the brave decision to do a tandem skydive for BAAF.



"Since we were both fundraising for BAAF we were able to join together and held a bring & buy sale at work. We set up pages on www.justgiving.com so it didn't take long to reach our target. The day itself was brilliant – we were both fairly nervous as we waited for the skies to clear and got into our jump suits but we got such a buzz falling through the sky. I even did a loop-the-loop mid air – it was amazing!" Skydives take place across the UK every weekend and you can choose a date and location that's best for you. We did it (and loved it) – now you can have a go! Email daisy.powling@baaf.org.uk, or call 020 7421 2630.

Giving regularly can spread the cost – and helps us so much

Maybe you've already done an event for BAAF or maybe you'd prefer to support us in a way that works in the background. If so, perhaps you might consider making a regular donation to BAAF, either through your salary or as a standing order? It's so easy to do and, if you qualify, all your donations can be Gift Aided which means every penny you give goes even further. Whether it's £5 a month or £75 a year, we would be so grateful for your commitment to supporting BAAF. Call us on 020 7421 2630 or visit the website.

Online support

Next time you visit the Fundraising page at www.baaf.org.uk, do find out more about raising money for BAAF online. Whether you're hosting a dinner party, shopping online or searching the internet, there are so many ways you can support BAAF just by being at your computer! Please log on to find the best way for you to help us continue our work with children in care. Every little bit really does make a huge difference.

Soccer All Stars support for BAAF

BAAF is thrilled to be being supported by Soccer All Stars. Here BAAF's Fundraising Officer, Daisy, speaks to Soccer All Stars Managing Director, Matthew Clements, about why he's supporting us.

Why did you choose to support BAAF?

Because of situations in my life and being adopted, I felt that with running my own company – and with it being so involved with children – I wanted to help as much as possible. I know from my own experiences how hard it can be for both children and parents in and around adoption and fostering. It's something close to me and I wanted to give something back.



What is it you're doing to raise awareness of BAAF?

Soccer All Stars has a professional team of coaches whose aim is to bring inclusion, fun, development and new experiences to young people through sport. All schools we work in have BAAF literature in them, our staff have the logo on their uniform, we run fundraisers in schools and proceedings are shared 50% to school and 50% to BAAF. As well as this, Soccer All Stars will help in any way through our media and sport to raise awareness and money for BAAF to use in the good work they do.

Are children keen to get involved?

Children love what we do and there has been a great response back from teachers and parents, all of whom I thank. The business is growing and our main aim is to promote children playing, excelling and enjoying all areas of sport - inclusion is key and "to be the best you can" is what we look for. Aiding BAAF means we can make sport accessible to children of all backgrounds - we are helping a local adoption office with their Summer Holiday Day by providing sports for children from fostering and adoption backgrounds.

How can people find out more about Soccer All Stars?

People can visit our website www.soccerallstars.co.uk or call us on 07961 992686. We are Suffolk and Cambridgeshire based but are always on hand to work with children, parents and schools when we can.

Thank you so much to Matt and Soccer All Stars for supporting BAAF. Keep an eye on the website for football fundraising events and ideas.

For more information on any of the events or activities in this newsletter please contact us on 020 7421 2630 or fundraising@baaf.org.uk

Thank you

Reply form

Help us keep in touch with you. Are your details correct? If not, please let us know:

Name _____
 Address _____
 _____ Postcode _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Help us continue our work finding families and supporting children in care:

Please send me further information about

I would like to make a donation of £ _____

I enclose a cheque made payable to BAAF

Please charge my Visa / MasterCard / Maestro / Solo card

Card number _____/_____/_____/_____

Start date ____/____/____ End date ____/____/____ Issue no (Maestro only) _____

Security code (last 3 digits on the back) _____

Please return this form to:

Fundraising

BAAF

Saffron House

6-10 Kirby Street

London

EC1N 8TS

Gift Aid

I am a UK taxpayer and this and all donations I make on or after this date are Gift Aid donations until further notice. My tax bill this year will be more than this gift.

Signature

Date

Your support makes a huge difference – thank you!

We will not pass your details on to any third party without your permission. If you would prefer not to be contacted by BAAF in future please email us at fundraising@baaf.org.uk or call 020 7421 2630