

DEVIZES CHILD CONTACT CENTRE is BACK on TRACK!

For 19 years we've been providing a comfortable, neutral venue for children of separated families to spend time with their absent parent.

We had to cancel just 2 sessions last March, due to a spate of resignations, but thanks to publicity from the Gazette and support from the wider community, we have an invigorated Management Committee and a new Co-Ordinator, Lesley. These were all re-elected at our AGM on 14th April.

DCCC offers a friendly, local, and cheap meeting place, where children can be relaxed and play with the parent who no longer lives in the family home. We do this throughout the year, twice monthly on Saturday afternoons, come rain or Bank Holiday: Teams of three trained Volunteers prepare and oversee each two-hour Session. There are only 15 Volunteers, only one man – more would be great as most of our visiting adults are men. New helpers are needed – to make drinks and help the child/ren and their visiting parent feel at ease and make the most of their time together.

We aim to get all the Teams and Management together 3 times a year to fine-tune our practices and polish our skills – another four would be great – many hands make light work!

Re-Accreditation means we are again eligible to take Referrals from The Children's and Family Courts Arbitration Service and to apply for their funding. We are all volunteers and DCCC has to raise its own money to offer this service, to cover rent, insurance, NACCC membership, etc. Donations are still needed quite urgently to meet this year's expenses.

The families who attend the Centre need time, while adults' feelings are still raw, and the child/ren may be uncertain and missing their absent parent. Our supportive, advice-free atmosphere can enable that relationship to continue whilst re-building trust and adapting to new circumstances. The parents need not meet up.

We currently have 3 families booked in, with 4 children aged between 2 – 13 years. Previous families using DCCC have commented on "this valuable service that provides a good, safe, neutral place".

For the visiting parent our Sessions offer a warm, welcoming space with toys, suitable activities and refreshments "with minimal effort and contention".

Please join, support and/or pray for this undertaking.

Kath Saunders
NACCC Co-ordinator

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