

## Welcome to Spring, 2015 Newsletter



Two big events are coming and it would be great if you could attend.

The Hon. Minister Jenny Mikakos will be speaking and launching our paper, *The Potential of Permanent Care 2015* written by Meredith Carter. This was a project in partnership with the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare and funded by the Sidney Myer Fund. Papers and research in the area of permanent care are rare, so launching our paper at the AGM will be an exciting event for us all. We need your registrations to organise catering and your show bags.

If you remember last year's legal forum; we were booked out and needed more question time. This year we have improvements with a larger venue catering for up to 200 people, and a wider audience. Our focus will be on the changes to the legal system; court process and considerations in decision-making; legal assistance and aid; and how the changes impact on children and families. Bookings are filling fast, so register to save your seat. Registration details are on the next page.

Don't forget to chat to your kids about the free acting classes on offer by Ra. This is a fantastic opportunity and I wish she were doing a class for adults. Maybe we could convince her.....

Look forward to seeing you in October.

Kind regards

Brenda Carmen, CEO

## AGM — Wednesday October 14, 6.00pm



Join us and The Honourable Jenny Mikakos, Minister for Families and Children and Minister for Youth Affairs to discuss how the government is supporting vulnerable children and families.

Our background paper on *The Potential of Permanent Care 2015* will be launched at our AGM.

- When** Wednesday October 14, 2015 at 6.00pm for 6.30 start  
**Where** Edinburgh Gardens, Community Room, Brunswick St, Fitzroy  
**RSVP** <http://www.trybooking.com/IWAU>  
**PT** Tram (112 or 11)  
**Parking** Freeman Street, Brunswick Street & surrounding streets  
Mel Ref Map 2C, C1, beside the Fitzroy Football Ground

## Dates for Your Diary

Thursday October 1  
8.00 – 9.30 pm  
**Journal Club, Fairfield**  
*formerly Collingwood*

Thursday October 8  
10.30—12.00pm  
**Peer support Ballarat—Beechworth bakery**

Wednesday October 14  
6.30—9.00pm  
**PCA Families AGM—Edinburgh Gardens, Fitzroy**

Thursday October 15  
9.30am—12.30pm  
**Changes to children's court orders— CBD**

Wednesday October 21  
10.30—12.00pm  
**Peer support Bendigo—Cornerstore**

Thursday October 29  
7.00—9.30pm  
**Peer support Peninsula**

Wednesday October 29  
7.30—9.00pm  
**Peer support for Parenting Plus! - Thornbury**

Thursday November 5  
8.00 – 9.30 pm  
**Journal Club, Fairfield**  
*formerly Collingwood*

Sunday November 15  
10.30 – 12.30 pm (age 10-13)  
1.30—5.00pm (age 14—18)  
**Drama Workshop, Caulfield South**

Thursday December 3  
8.00 – 9.30 pm  
**Journal Club, Fairfield**  
*formerly Collingwood*

Information including venues and how to RSVP, visit [www.pcafamilies.org.au/event-calendar-all](http://www.pcafamilies.org.au/event-calendar-all)



## Changes to Children's Court orders

Legal Forum  
October 15, 9.30am

Join PCA Families along with The Hon. Jenny Mikakos MP; Minister for Families and Children and Minister for Youth Affairs to hear about the changes for carers to the Children's Court system. We have guest speakers

- Beth Allen; Assistant Director, Child Protection, Department of Human Services;
- Her Honour Judge Amanda Chambers; Judge of the County Court of Victoria and President of the Children's Court of VIC;
- Andrea Staunton; Manager, Peninsula Community Legal Service; and,
- Dan Barron; Permanent Carer and Board Member of Permanent Care and Adoptive Families.

We have a panel of guests available to discuss

- ◆ Changes to existing court orders;
- ◆ Rights of carers under new orders; and
- ◆ Changes to access/contact visits.

You will have the opportunity to ask questions, mingle with permanent care, kinship care and foster care families and share morning tea.

We hope you can join us. For any queries, please contact Permanent Care and Adoptive Families on 03 9020 1833.

<b>When</b>	Thursday October 15 at 9.00am—12.30pm (9.30am sharp start)
<b>Venue</b>	DHHS, Room 1, Level 10, 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
<b>Bookings</b>	<a href="http://www.trybooking.com/ISVE">http://www.trybooking.com/ISVE</a> (bookings are essential as there is limited space)
<b>Transport</b>	Train - disembark at Parliament station, Corner of Lonsdale and Spring street



### ACTING 101 with Ra Chapman

**Expressions of interest are being accepted  
NOW for drama workshops with Ra**

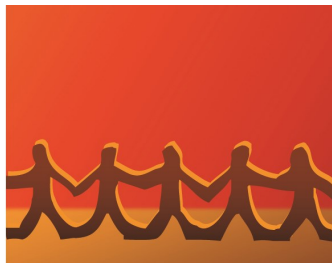
Ra is a Korean Adoptee who has been working in the entertainment industry for 10 years.

She is currently filming ongoing roles on television shows Wentworth Season 4 and Neighbours and received the Best Actress Award at the Newport Beach Film Festival in the U.S. Ra has also been nominated for an IF Australian best actress award for her work in the movie Face to Face.

We are taking expressions of interest for children and teens who would like to explore acting as a potential career or just want to build on their confidence and have some fun. This will be an amazing workshop where freedom of expression is celebrated and nurtured. The workshop will consist of an intro session and warm up, drama exercises and scene work.

It will be a safe space where students will be encouraged to contribute and share in any way they feel comfortable, but the main objective is for the participant to be able to express themselves in their own unique way without judgement.

<b>When</b>	Saturday November 15 between 10.30 and 5.00pm. The workshop will go for 3 or 4 hours dependent on numbers and age. Minimum age is 10, Maximum 18 y.o.
<b>Venue</b>	16th Street Theatre, 715 Glen Huntly Rd, Caulfield
<b>Cost</b>	Free—Ra and the 16th Street Theatre are kindly donating their time and space
<b>Expressions of interest</b>	email <a href="mailto:deborah@pcfamilies.org.au">deborah@pcfamilies.org.au</a> or call 9020 1833



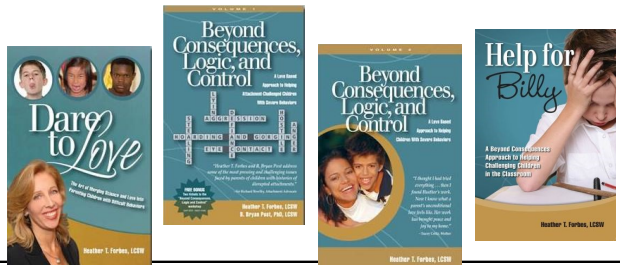
We have the following **Beyond Consequence Institute** books

written by Heather Forbes in stock

- **Help for Billy**
- **Dare to Love**
- **Beyond Consequences Logic and Control Vol I**
- **Beyond Consequences Logic and Control Vol II**

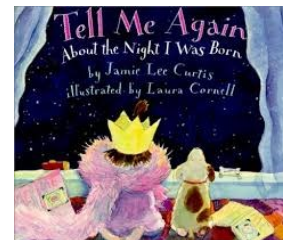
All are **RRP \$20.95** (not including postage)

Act swiftly to avoid disappointment... you can either go online to order from our bookstore <http://shop.pcafamilies.org.au/books-for-parents-carers> or call 9020 1833 to arrange purchase. *PCA Families is the sole Australian distributor.*



## Book review

### *Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born*



Jamie Lee Curtis

*Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born* is the story of the birth of a young girl, and the birth of a family. Very young children will understand and enjoy the simplistic and repetitive nature of the words, as well as Laura Cornell's bright illustrations. Extended family is mentioned, as well as the parents travelling to get their new baby, and these are concepts that can be expanded in many cases into meaningful conversations with children.

Infertility is mentioned, as well as birth parents, and both subjects are handled with sensitivity while still being very easy to understand by a young child. This book does not expand greatly on these themes, but discussion could certainly be borne from this material. The central tenant of this tale is the intense love that the family felt on the night the child was born to them; this idea of instant, unconditional love leads to discussions of family and belonging.

To order the book, simply click on the link. \$14.95 inc GST. <http://shop.pcafamilies.org.au/>

# KAIAN

한국호주

## Introducing KAIAN (Korean Adoptees in Australia Network)

Since the end of the Korean War, approximately 200,000 Korean children have been adopted to overseas countries. KAIAN is a newly established not-for-profit organisation formed for and by adult Korean adoptees in Australia, following in the footsteps of successful American and European "KAD" organisations.



The mission of KAIAN is to provide information, raise awareness, and build a supportive community for Korean adoptees nationwide. KAIAN seeks to connect adoptees not only with each other, but with the larger Korean Australian community and the international network of Korean adoptees. We currently hold regular social and cultural events, mainly in Melbourne, Sydney, and Perth, and hope to expand to Korean language classes and mentoring programs for younger adoptees depending on funding and interest.

To learn more about us:

Visit our website [www.kaian.org.au](http://www.kaian.org.au)

Ask us anything: [info@kaian.org.au](mailto:info@kaian.org.au)



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/KAIANAus](http://www.facebook.com/KAIANAus)



**extended  
families**  
australia

supporting families  
of children with a disability

## **WHO are Extended Families Australia?**

They are a not-for-profit incorporated association that provides positive connections, support and respite for children aged 0–17 with disabilities and their families in Melbourne and the Mornington Peninsula.

Extended Families seek to widen social networks, empower individuals, promote inclusion and strengthen the bonds people have within their local area.

Established in 1978 as the Foster Grandparents Scheme, the program pioneered volunteer visitor support and friendship to children with a disability living in Victorian residential institutions. As times and social policy have changed, so has Extended Families. They now support families caring for their children at home through a broad range of volunteers of all ages and cultures. The volunteer provides the child with caring friendship and inclusion whilst parents receive flexible respite, feel supported and enjoy having someone to share their experiences with.

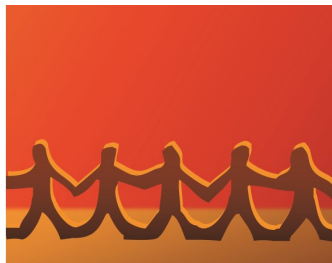
### **What they do**

Children and families who are supported by Extended Families have access to a number of flexible support options founded upon volunteering models including individualised volunteer matching for social, recreational and respite support, supported play groups, friendship groups and social events.

### **Family Match Program**

Individual volunteers (or volunteer families) provide long term companionship and flexible respite support to a child/young person and their family. Volunteers may spend regular time with a child, and sometimes the family either at the family's home, a community setting or the volunteer's home. Activities range from playing games or reading a book, to visiting the park, going swimming, seeing a football match or giving support to include the child in community activities and events. The focus is all about the child having fun, developing and extending life skills and experiencing positive social experiences. Help can also be provided for things like medical appointments. A flexible and sensitive child-focused, family centred approach means that arrangements may look different for different families. Our qualified Regional Coordinators work diligently to recruit, train and match a volunteer with a child and family and then foster and support the relationship.

To read more about Extended Families visit their website [www.extendedfamilies.org.au](http://www.extendedfamilies.org.au) or call 9355 8848.



## **Peer support**

### **Peer support for permanent care and adoptive parents in Fairfield**

Journal Club is a monthly facilitated discussion and support group where participants discuss an article relevant to parenting in home-based care and adoption. It allows confidential conversations around the challenges of parenting and is facilitated by skilled volunteers with lived experience in raising children through home-based care and adoption.



Journal Club will meet **Thursday October 1 from 8.00pm—9.30pm** at the **Fairfield Community Room, 121 Station St, Fairfield.**

**The topic is: Understanding Children's behaviour—what is expected of teachers?**

**Future dates for Journal Club are Thursdays November 5 and December 3 at the usual time of 8.00—9.30pm**

### **Peer support for permanent care and adoptive parents in Peninsula**

The peer support group meets bi-monthly basis at various venues as advertised.

**On Thursday October 29 at 7.00pm** we are meeting at **Afgani Marco Polo, 11 Main Street, Mornington**

Please join us for dinner in a relaxed environment to meet and chat to other parents who have a similar lived experience.



### **Peer support gathering for permanent care and adoptive parents in Bendigo**

The peer support group gets together on a bi-monthly basis and will be meeting at different venues to keep life more interesting. Next rendezvous we are meeting at

**Cornerstore, 305 View Street, Bendigo**

Our next catch up will be **Wednesday October 21 from 10.30am—12.00pm**. Please feel free to come along for a cuppa in a relaxed environment to chat to other parents.

Pre-schoolers are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you.



### **Peer support for permanent care and adoptive parents in Ballarat**

The peer support group meets on a bi-monthly basis and will meet in July at

**Beechworth Bakery, 6 Grenville Street, Ballarat**

Please join us on **Thursday October 8 from 10.30—12.30pm** for a cuppa in a relaxed environment to meet and chat to others who have a similar lived experience.

