



Local foster carers Amanda Waye (left) and Trudi Reilly presented their views about foster care to encourage more locals to take up the role during an information session with ACC recruitment, assessment and community worker Sharon Bruhn.

## Redford fails

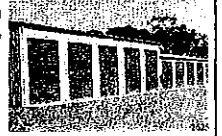
FORMER Kalangadoo resident. Angus Redford has failed in his comeback bid to State Parliament. The South Australian Liberal Party State Council recently met and decided its Legislative Council lineup for the 2010 poll. The ticket does not include Mr Redford. He previously served in the Legislative Council from 1993 until 2006. He resigned his seat in that year and made an unsuccessful bid to enter the House of Assembly as the member for the metropolitan seat of Bright.

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## Foster care drive

BY BRIOHNY ROBINSON

THE ANGLICAN Community Care Inc. (ACC), in collaboration with Baptist Community Services (BCS), Families SA and local foster carers, earlier this month held an information session to increase awareness about foster care.

The gathering stressed the urgent need for local foster carers in the region.

Around 25 locals attended the session at the Millicent and District Community Club where the service groups explained their foster care role.

ACC team leader Brooke Wilson said there always seems to be a need for foster carers and at the moment the South East only have 36.

Ms Wilson said there was also a need for respite care which provides care for children and single parents.

Ms Wilson said carers can nominate the age of the child they would like to care for, but this usually comes with negotiation and discussion.

"It is an involved process which takes into account the types of care ranging from emergency short term to long term. Emergency care can occur within 24 hours notice and the time involved can range between two weeks to two years, while long-term care is until the child turns 18 years of age.

"Generally it takes around six months from the initial enquiry about becoming a foster carer to receiving the first child."

Organisation of placement is conducted by Families SA who assess the child's situation to see if they are at risk to remain at home.

Families SA work with ACC regarding accessible and support arrangements, practical needs and social support for children and carers.

BCS case worker Jim Ranger and senior manager Curtis Richards said the model of care by their organisation is different as they provide care and support for young people aged 10 to 18 years of age through Individual Packages of Care (IPC) Program.

The organisations agreed it is vital for local children to remain within their community to prevent them from losing contact with established relationships.

Local foster carers, Trudi Reilly and Amanda Waye said although they have had many ups and downs caring for foster children they both agreed it has been a positive and worthwhile experience.

"My biggest fear was how it would affect my own children, but if you tell your children everything and let them be involved in the process then it doesn't take long for them to be proud of what the family is doing," Ms Reilly said.

For more information about foster care contact Anglican Community Care Inc on 8724 9211 or Baptist Community Services on 8724 7270.

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