

23 August 2010

Dear valued supporters of BUV Early Childhood ministries

**Maternity Leave for Louisa Raggatt and other matters**

Warm greetings to you as Spring beckons!

This letter has been sent to many friends of Baptist Early Childhood ministries in Victoria and you are welcome to pass it on in any circles that may occur to you. The shape of 'BECT' – our Baptist Early Childhood Team – has been evolving. The vision is to serve and partner our churches in all expressions of Early Childhood ministry. Together we all form BECT. We encourage you to view BECT in this broad way.

We are grateful for every one of you. Some have had long involvement in BECT as a Committee, some are more recently connected friends and advocates. Some reflect the wonderful reality that so much early childhood ministry support is now ecumenical. Some do a lot of early years work in their church for little recognition. We hope that all of you feel included in this communication.

For 18 months now, Louisa Raggatt has been our BUV Early Childhood & Families Facilitator, 3 days per week. Louisa and Mark are expecting their second child in September, a sibling for 2 year old Grace.

Louisa will take maternity leave, effectively from the end of August. Our hope together is that Louisa will make a gradual return to her role; re-engaging with some projects from February 2011. Louisa is not likely to return to her full 3 days per week during 2011.

From the beginning of October 2010, through, we anticipate, some if not all of 2011, Beth Barnett will be the point person for Early Childhood ministries. This expands Beth's current ministry of BUV Children & Families Facilitator : Resources & Advocacy. This does not mean that Beth will provide every aspect of advice or assistance; simply that she will lead the co-ordination.

Post August 2010, we encourage you, for all Children & Families needs, including Early Childhood, to contact Beth or our wonderful Assistant Vasti on 9880 6122 or [beth.barnett@buv.com.au](mailto:beth.barnett@buv.com.au) or [vasti.vanwyk@buv.com.au](mailto:vasti.vanwyk@buv.com.au). Mobile and email for Louisa will not be current during maternity leave.

I am also very open to any queries at any time – [trudy.skilbeck@buv.com.au](mailto:trudy.skilbeck@buv.com.au) or 9880 6122.

Peace to you as a busy term draws toward a close...

Trudy Skilbeck  
BUV Field and Promotions Manager