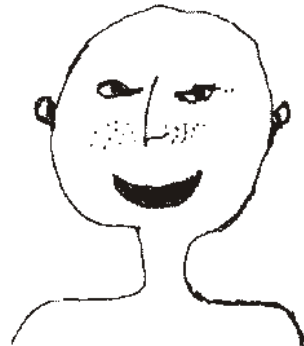
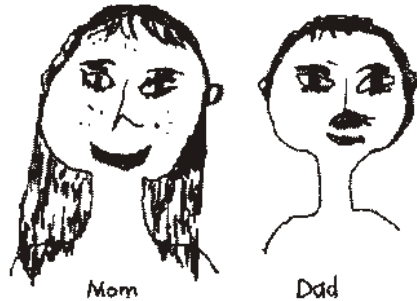


**WHAT POSITIVE  
CHANGES HAVE  
OCCURRED AS A RESULT OF  
HAVING ALOPECIA AREATA  
IN YOUR LIFE?**

- ☆ the new friends I've met with Alopecia Areata from all over the world
- ☆ becoming a stronger person because I know I am not my hair
- ☆ growing up faster
- ☆ understanding myself, not being afraid to be myself
- ☆ don't have to get haircuts
- ☆ don't have to comb my hair



Me with Alopecia Areata

**ALOPECIA  
AREATA**

**A CHILDREN'S  
PERSPECTIVE**

Alopecia Areata is a common condition which results in the loss of hair on the scalp and elsewhere. It usually starts with one or more small, round, smooth patches and can progress to total hair loss. It occurs in males and females of all ages, but young persons are affected most often.

**Alopecia Areata Support  
Association (Vic) Inc.**



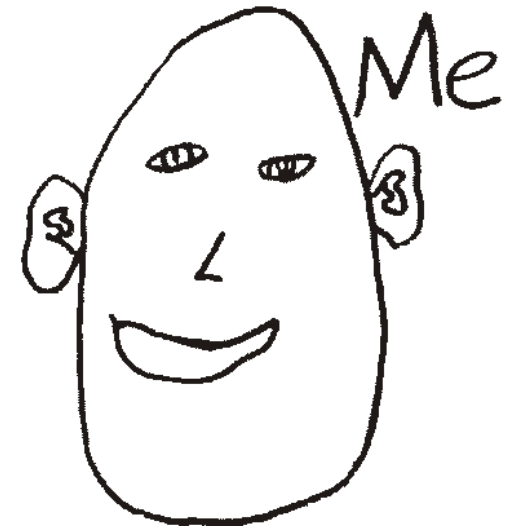
P.O. Box 89,  
Camberwell, 3124

Ph: (03) 9513 8580

**ALOPECIA  
AREATA:**

**A  
CHILDREN'S  
PERSPECTIVE**

(written and illustrated  
by children for children)



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**CHILDREN WITH ALOPECIA AREATA WERE ASKED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND THESE WERE THEIR RESPONSES:**

**HOW DO YOU SEE ALOPECIA AREATA?**

- ☆ One is bald

**WHAT COLOR WOULD YOU GIVE IT?**

- ☆ light brown, peach,
- ☆ blue, black, red, white

**HOW WOULD YOUR PARENTS DESCRIBE ALOPECIA AREATA?**

- ☆ you are bald
- ☆ just a way you lose your hair and there is no cure
- ☆ it's ok
- ☆ it's nothing to worry about and a lot of people have it
- ☆ they don't talk about it
- ☆ your immune system attacks your hair
- ☆ they keep taking me to the doctor and the doctor says I keep having Alopecia Areata and it won't go away
- ☆ something like a disease or a bad sickness

**HOW WOULD YOUR FRIENDS DESCRIBE ALOPECIA AREATA?**

- ☆ they never mention it
- ☆ my friends don't know
- ☆ they don't see it
- ☆ they don't know how it works
- ☆ they feel sorry for me
- ☆ they are afraid that Alopecia Areata is a bad thing and they will get it which is not true.

**HOW DO YOUR TEACHERS SEE ALOPECIA AREATA?**

- ☆ she is a friend to me
- ☆ my teacher doesn't know about Alopecia Areata
- ☆ they never ask or say anything about it
- ☆ they don't see it
- ☆ they don't know how it works
- ☆ my teacher worries and cares for me and tries to help me anyway she can

**HOW DO PEOPLE YOU MEET ON THE STREET SEE YOU?**

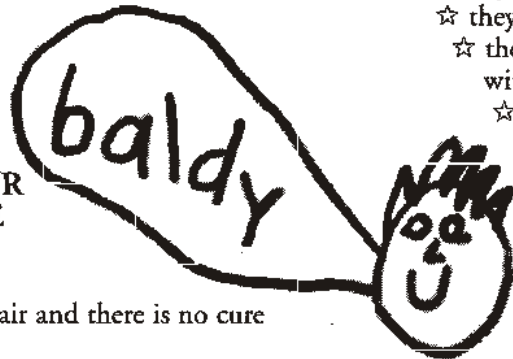
- ☆ they stare
- ☆ they look at me strangely
- ☆ they don't know, I wear a wig
- ☆ they don't see my baldness – a freak with a cool doo
- ☆ they think I'm weird so they point at me and start talking about me

**HOW DOES ALOPECIA AREATA MAKE YOU FEEL?**

- ☆ not part of something
- ☆ sad

**WHAT IS THE MOST FREQUENT PROBLEM?**

- ☆ that our culture is very appearance oriented
- ☆ being young and visibly different
- ☆ when someone takes my hat at school
- ☆ when someone pulls of my wig at school
- ☆ not going out for the swim team
- ☆ countless doctors, pills, shots, topical rubs and blood tests
- ☆ being a girl and being called young man or son when I wear a hat



**WHO ARE THE PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU FEEL THE MOST COMFORTABLE TALKING ABOUT ALOPECIA AREATA?**

- ☆ my mom and dad
- ☆ others with Alopecia Areata

**WHAT HELPS YOU DEAL WITH ALOPECIA AREATA?**

- ☆ thinking about when I'm happy
- ☆ thinking of the things I do well
- ☆ thinking about the positive parts of Alopecia Areata

