



Hello, and welcome to "Kidswork" – a newsletter for those working with children in the Anglican churches of Leeds.

My name is Clare MacLaren, and I work part-time as Children's Work Advisor to the Leeds Archdeaconry. This is a post funded by the 4 Leeds deaneries – Armley, Allerton, Headingley and Whitkirk.

I am also part-time parish priest of Whinmoor in the Seacroft Team Ministry - where we worship in St. Paul's C of E Primary School – and mother of teenage twins.

## "MAKING LINKS"

- Keen to build up links with your local primary school?
- Want to know more about the RE curriculum and how your Church can contribute?
- Wondering how "extended schools" might link in with "fresh expressions"?
- Looking for ideas and resources for sharing the Gospel in schools?
- Interested to find out more about innovative projects already taking place in Leeds?

"Making Links" is a training day suitable for teams of clergy, readers and lay people who want to build up work with schools. There will be plenary input from the Diocesan Education Team plus a choice of workshops.

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November  
10am – 3pm**

**at the new Diocesan Offices in Leeds.**

Booking leaflet available in October mailing and, shortly, from the Kidswork website:

[www.kidswork.org.uk](http://www.kidswork.org.uk)



## The Church Lads' and Girls' Brigade

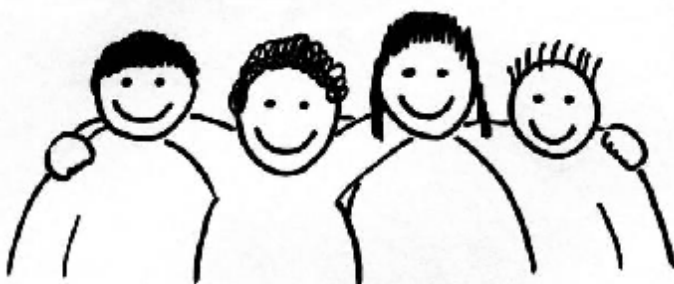
must be one of the Church of England's best kept secrets! I had no idea that the Brigade is officially a part of the C of E, and offers a really exciting programme of activities for 5 - 16's with the Christian message at its heart.

Weekly groups already meet in Armley Deanery, and children, leaders and parents find it great fun, with games, music and activities indoors and out. The youngsters are encouraged to work towards badges, with the highest honour being to receive the Archbishop's badge from the man himself!

If your church is looking for a youth ministry with a difference, why not find out more about the Brigade? If, like me, you can get beyond the "military" stereotype, to see the quality of its leaders' training materials, and its imaginative programme, you may well find yourself surprised! I could see it working very well in an after-school setting as well as in the traditional evening slot.

Why not contact Rev. James Turner, at St Cross Church, Middleton - 0113 277 2681

- or email: [JamesJturner@aol.com](mailto:JamesJturner@aol.com) ??



AND NOW, THESE THREE REMAIN:  
FAITH, HOPE, AND NICENESS.  
BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS NICENESS.

(NOT 1 CORINTHIANS 13:12)

rhwhip.m.p.uk



## A Training Event Near You!

On two Monday evenings in June, a dozen north Leeds folk got together to experience, share and learn more about "Godly Play". The sessions were led by Christine Jack from Thorner, and Isobel Rathbone from St John's, Moor Allerton, at the request of some people in Allerton Deanery. There was lots of time for discussion, and questions.

This kind of low-key training event can easily be offered in your neck of the woods! If there is something you would like explore locally, why not get in touch with me?

If you haven't heard Andrew Devis telling a bible story, you've really missed something! A huge talent, right on our doorstep, Andrew works for Leeds City Mission with any churches in Leeds who are keen to share bible stories in their local schools and communities. He recently held a baptism congregation at my church spellbound - young and old, church-goers and visitors. And he would be delighted to hear from you!



Andrew has just brought out a series of CD's of his stories, which can also be purchased as MP3 files, together with downloadable bible studies for children through his website: [www.tale2tell.com](http://www.tale2tell.com) The CD's are also available at Wesley Owen in Leeds - and you can listen to a sample story on the website before you decide to buy.



You can contact Andrew Devis on (0113) 288 7866.

### KEEPING IN TOUCH:

You are receiving this newsletter because you are on my contact list.

Please let me know if there are other folk I should send it to!

### CONTACT ME:

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a "Praise Party" for children (7 - 11)

from 6-8pm at  
St. George's Church, Leeds  
on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September  
(and then next on 18<sup>th</sup> November.)

Children and adults can find out more by visiting [www.xsite.uk.net](http://www.xsite.uk.net)

Cost: £2.50 per child

Why not bring a group of children to the next X:site?

You can stay and watch from the balcony if you wish.

If you want to get involved, we are keen to recruit more team members both behind the scenes and working in small groups with the children.  
(CRB check required)

Contact Mark Scrimshaw 01423 867761



### BOOK REVIEW

I think that "Flexible Kid" is a really good book for young people, because examples of racism, bullying and the problems of Asylum-Seekers are woven into the storyline. Even though Leyla, (the asylum seeker's) country is a fictional country, the problems that her country has and the attitude Leyla receives from her classmates is still true in this world today. Cassie has to juggle her life between friends at school, Gran at home, dad who works away and Yr 6 SAT's. Whose side should she be on?

I think that any age above Year 4 will enjoy reading it because it doesn't have a boring storyline and it is not immature. Younger readers might miss it, but I (as an older reader) came to realize the depth in a seemingly simple story.

Read and reviewed by Anna Sheppard (14)  
"Flexible Kid" by Kay Kinnear  
is published by Scripture Union 2006  
ISBN 1 84427 165 X