



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
RIPON & LEEDS

# Kidswork

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHURCH CHILDREN'S WORKERS IN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF LEEDS.

Issue 15

May - June 2006



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.

HAPPY EASTER one and all !!

Isn't it funny how a passage from the Bible that you've probably heard a dozen times, can leap out and grab you as you notice something for the very first time? It's probably very obvious, but I noticed for the first time this year after a friend pointed it out, how the children keep shouting!

Matthew's gospel (21:9-17) tells us how everyone cried out "Hosanna!" as Jesus arrived in Jerusalem; how he cleared the Temple of its grasping traders and spent the day there healing the sick... but as the day draws to a close, the religious leaders move in: "Won't you shut those children up? Can't you hear them, Jesus? They're still shouting Hosanna!" The crowds may have drifted off, but the kids are still praising God!

And isn't that just great? Here's to our noisy, persistent, insistent, faithful children – and to you, in your invaluable work !! with prayers, *Clare*

## CRB CHECKS – Round 2 ?

Those of you who are really on the ball, may have noticed that almost three years has passed since the first Deaneries in this Diocese (Whitkirk and Harrogate) began to CRB check all children's workers. Every parish ought by now to have completed the process, but – a bit like the painting of the Forth Road Bridge – the advice we received initially was that checks should be carried out every three years, so we have almost come full circle.

Since the Soham murders, and the Bichard Report which ensued, the CRB system has been undergoing a thorough review, and a number of changes to the system have been recommended.

Sue Booth – our Diocesan Child Protection Officer – tells me that while these changes are pending, Church House (C of E central office) has advised Dioceses to wait for **5 years** before re-doing existing CRB clearances.

So that's the good news! Your Parish's Child Protection Officer will be notified when the time comes. In the meantime, of course, every new worker with children – or vulnerable adults – must still be checked.

If you have any queries or concerns, Sue can be contacted on 0113 275 5266, and you will also find a number of helpful documents for downloading or reference on the Kidswork website: [www.kidswork.org.uk](http://www.kidswork.org.uk)

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(See 1Samuel 17)

03-19-2004

I WANT TO GO WITH "GOLIATH", BUT SHE IS STILL LOOKING FOR A NAME THAT MEANS "ARGH"

"A smack is people trying to hit you,  
but instead of calling it a hit they call it a smack"  
(a 7 year old)

If an adult is rude, or silly or selfish, we don't hit them do we? In fact, if we did, we'd probably be had up for assault! So why do so many of us still think it's OK to smack a child?

The Churches' Network for Non-Violence has just produced "Respecting Children" – a hand book for all those who want to move away from traditional physical methods of disciplining children, towards a more positive approach.

Based in the Christian conviction that children are made in the image of God, the handbook is available in print (£7) or on CD-ROM (£3), and could be used with a group in your church to encourage thought and action about the issues.

To order a copy, or for more information, contact the CNNV Co-ordinator on 0208 428 3275, or email [info@churchesfornon-violence.org](mailto:info@churchesfornon-violence.org)



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

from 6-8pm at St. George's  
Church, Leeds  
on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May

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



## Gospel Singing & Drumming, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 3-6pm

Fun workshops for 11-15's to build confidence, and learn skills  
they can offer back in their home church and community.

An ecumenical event, hosted at St Richard's Church, Seacroft.

Booking form in this mailing, and on the website soon:

[www.createleeds.me.uk](http://www.createleeds.me.uk)

### 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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## GODLY PLAY

If you're wondering what all the fuss is  
about, well, here's a chance to find out!

At the request of some folk in the Allerton  
Deanery, 2 "Godly Play" training evenings are  
to be offered:

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30-9pm

*Come and experience a full "Godly Play"  
session for yourself.*

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30-9pm

*A look at the theory and practice of Godly  
Play, with opportunity for you to have a go.*

These sessions would be ideal for any group  
to explore how Godly Play might be used in  
your context. Coming to the second session  
alone is not recommended unless you have  
had some experience of GP already.

Venue in Allerton Deanery (t.b.a.)

Please ring or email me  
for a booking form or more details.