

## I'm back again!!!

I'm back...again! I have been off on maternity leave for 9 months and although I have kept in the loop of the world of **SCAt** secondary I am looking forward to getting back into the full swing of it. I am currently meeting up with youth workers and arranging when I can get around to see all the things going on in the schools.

The youth workers have been hard at work making sure the work they do in the schools stays relevant to where the young people are at and also fits in with their aims in the school of sharing the amazing love and grace that they have been freely given.

I am excited about how we may be able to take the work of **SCAt** secondary further into the schools, how it may develop, but also how we may be challenged to simply tweak what is already going on. All I can say is watch this space as we give ourselves afresh to God's call for us in the schools.

**Chrissie**

## Even MORE ways to be part of the SCAt team:

Prayer meetings for the work of **SCAt** are held on the first Tuesday of each month (school holidays excepted). We meet in the Chapel at St Andrew's Church, Goldsworth Park, at 1.00 pm. Please join us!

If you want to know more, or want to introduce your friends to **SCAt**, why not start with the website? Visit <http://www.scat.org.uk/> for news, FAQ, diary dates and so much more.

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Being a part

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# SCATTER Summer 2011

News from the Schools Christian Action Team working in primary and secondary schools throughout Woking

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## Your starter for ten...

What does the 'T' in SCA<sup>t</sup> stand for? I'm sure you know that the answer is 'team'. Chrissie and Patrick are the more public faces of the team, but they will both tell you they couldn't do their jobs without the support of many other people. In this issue of Scatter we want to introduce you to a few of the many wonderful people who make up that team.

### Ruth Kirtley – St. Andrew's, Goldsworth Park

As a supply teacher in a local school I was always impressed by the SCA<sup>t</sup> assemblies so it was a great privilege to be asked to assist Karen Hodges in creating scripts for the assembly team. I had been involved in writing Bible stories for children through Scripture Union earlier in my career and it is such a great opportunity to be able to use my gift for writing in such a direct and enjoyable way.



Unlike writing alone, being part of the assembly team provides fellowship and inspiration. The Lord somehow always helps us to fill a blank page and to rise to the challenge of finding new and exciting ways to present some very familiar stories. In contrast to writing a book, I can see and hear immediately the way in which the children digest and recall the story.

The dialogue style we tend to use is very much enjoyed by the children. They (and the staff) all seem to have their favourite assemblies, mine would have to be the assembly last Christmas with the chocolate bar quiz as it came together so smoothly. Now, how do we follow that...?

### Roy Clare – St. Saviour's, Brookwood

About two years ago I had a feeling that the Lord was asking me to do something within our community to "spread the word", therefore it was rather timely that I saw a request in Scatter asking for volunteers to help with story-telling. Since I already went into the school to help with reading, it has been great to have an opportunity to extend that relationship. You can feel a bit like the Pied Piper when we go out into the playground to let the children know that it's "story club" time and it is rather a challenge remembering all of their names.

We don't read the stories from books, we just tell them using props. In fact, recently I have used a technique called "Godly Play" in which I have been fortunate enough to have had some training. As a team we agree a schedule with Patrick at the start of the term and then take it in turns to lead the sessions. The children react well to the different styles of the team members and the sessions can be quite interactive.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to use my creative gifts in such a worthwhile way.



### Enid Yaxley – Holy Trinity, Knaphill

It was in 2000 that Janice Vickers, who was then the Primary schools worker, asked me if I could help with creating a large boat in which the assembly team might stand. I have been creating props and scenery for the team ever since. I love working together as part of the assembly team and find it very rewarding being able to put into "visual" form all the thoughts and ideas that come out of the team's brainstorming sessions. I've created all the usual shepherds, angels and arks but also some more unusual scenery including a shop counter stacked with boxes and tins and complete with a freezer compartment!

The children remember and relate to a story more when there are visual aids to concentrate on rather than just words. Seeing Patrick and the team arriving in school with all these props usually sends a wave of anticipation through the playground. Patrick and I quite often have an 11th hour rush to finish painting or searching for cardboard but the Lord always provides the time and materials we need.



### Charles Cooke – Trinity Methodist Church

It was at the end of the year 2000 that Janice Vickers, one of Patrick's predecessors, uttered the fateful words 'Charles, SCA<sup>t</sup> would like to have a web site, would you like to set it up for us?'. It was not something I knew anything about – maybe that still shows! – but I bought a computer magazine with a primitive web authoring package on the cover disk and started from there.

I was not completely alone as Grant Harrison, the husband of Janice's predecessor, runs a web design business. Janice and I spent an afternoon with him, he sketched out a structure, registered a domain and arranged hosting, for which he still generously pays. He also deals with outages when they rarely occur. Janice and Emma provided lots of content that they wanted to include and by the following September we had a live site which we 'beta tested' using several computer savvy supporters. Bugs sorted and advice taken the site was publicised in the autumn issue of Scatter.

Since then there have been changes, data updated and technology modernised. Recently Julie started maintaining some of the pages thus ensuring that they are more up to date. I am turning my mind to the general appearance and operation which is starting to look a bit '20th century'. Any designers out there?

One of the other things that I am involved with is Scatter. It keeps my interest in typography alive though once again my skill in design is somewhat challenged but I hope we get by. It's great seeing how each edition comes together as Julie pulls in all the contributions working to her planned dates.

Oh, the picture. That shows me in one of my other modes recording the news with the Woking Talking Newspaper.



**If you have been inspired by these articles, why not consider becoming part of the team yourself? We have so many jobs which need doing and you could be just the person to fill that gap. Please contact the SCA<sup>t</sup> office for more details.**