



in association with  
**Scripture**  
union

## Christians and Sheffield Schools

connecting ● encouraging ● resourcing

**“You must be very careful not to forget the things you have seen God do for you. Keep reminding yourselves and tell your children.” (Deut. 4: 9)**

Hello! My name is Fiona. I started working part-time (20 hours a week) for CaSS in September, when Linda retired after 26 years. I also work in a school teaching RE to 4 - 11 year olds. A little bit more about myself - I grew up in Sheffield, became a Christian aged 12, studied Biblical Studies at Sheffield University and Theology at Durham. I have taught RE for almost 30 years and am a mother to three school age children (18, 14 & 9).

Linda did a fantastic job for CaSS and her leaving celebration-service in October reflected the high esteem in which she is held by so many. It was a wonderful occasion which included both moving and amusing tributes to her. It was lovely to meet some of you there. May I pass on the very grateful thanks of Linda, and the past and present management committees, for the generous contributions to Linda's leaving present.

I am excited about working for CaSS & I am passionate about continuing the work, and extending it in new directions. The majority of children and youth in our country have no connection with a church and 'unless we do something about it very few youngsters will find their way into the arms of a loving God.' (Lord Carey) We need to act now!

CaSS has a new office (within the same building) and a fresh new logo, which was designed by Dan Harris ([missing.graphics@gmail.com](mailto:missing.graphics@gmail.com)). We are very grateful for Dan's generous gift of his time and talent. I am working on a new look updated website.

I am enjoying the **connecting** & **encouraging** part of my role. (In case you are unfamiliar with the organisations I am about to mention I have included some information about them in with this mailing.) For example – I've attended parents-schools prayer meetings, met with representatives of the eight Methodist churches in Ecclesall, visited The Oakes and talked to the Eden Project workers in Fir Vale. I've learnt about Love2Last, helped at a Pray Day in a Walkley school and seen

Godly Play. In December I visited Totley Hall Farm's nativity play with a school. I displayed a CaSS tree in the Christmas Tree Festival at Millhouses Methodist Church and then visited the festival with a local school. I have met with the InspYre students and learnt about SACRE from a member of the council.

I have also spent time **resourcing** both myself and others. This has included travelling to three Scripture Union training events. I've helped with X-cite and I am involved with planning Lifepath, an RE day based on the life of Eric Liddell. Lindsey Beagles at Sheffield Christian Education Council and I have been working on a cross-curricular day for schools on Sheffield hero, James Montgomery. The day involves working with the Cathedral. I've been on a teachers' training session, learning about Fairtrade in schools and I've spent time offering suggestions of ways to make links with schools to children's and youth workers at St. Thomas' Church, Crookes.

I have visited St. John's School, Deepcar to watch an '**Open the Book**' assembly - a 10 minute dramatic retelling of the story of Noah, complete with sound effects! 'Open the Book' aims to offer all primary age children the opportunity to hear Bible stories through a 3 year programme of assemblies based on The Lion Storyteller Bible. After meeting the Head of All Saints School, Totley in January a new OTB team will start visiting in February! I am keen to see more new teams.

While at CaSS I have trained as an Open the Book trainer. Julie Jeffries, the OTB national trainer is coming to Sheffield to run taster sessions, alongside myself and Revd. Hilda Isaacson on Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. (Bents Green Methodist 7-9pm) with a repeat session on Wed. 29<sup>th</sup> Feb. (St. John's, Deepcar 10am – 12 noon) Please come, publicise it (details/posters available) & pray for more new teams to form as a result.

CaSS has a 'slot' at the SCEC Prayer & Praise evening (15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 - 9.30pm. Montgomery Hall) to thank God for his unfailing love and faithfulness to the people of Sheffield – do come and say hello!

Please pray for the work of CaSS and for new opportunities to connect, encourage and resource Sheffield schools and churches.

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CaSS is the work of the Sheffield Schools Christian Worker Trust

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