

CMS BIG TENT PRESENTS

INTERACTIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS FOR SCHOOL
CHILDREN IN YEARS 5-8
COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENARY OF THE ABOLITION
OF THE SLAVE TRADE

CATHEDRAL TOUR

FREE FOR ALL



*"A GREENBELT PERFORMANCE THAT BROUGHT
A LUMP TO THE THROAT."*

THE CHURCH TIMES

Celebrating 2007: A Landmark in History

You may well be aware of the significance of the year 2007 as schools and communities throughout the world seek to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the British Parliamentary Act abolishing the slave trade. Also, you will be all too aware of the need to convey the message of justice, freedom and equality in a world in which racism and exploitation are rife.

CMS (Church Mission Society) and Big Intent Theatre Company continue their strong partnership to mark the anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade through **free 4 all**, a theatre-workshop project. This will give children the opportunity to explore what freedom means today, as well as its importance for the future of our world.

CMS is rooted in the Anglican Communion with over 200 years' experience of working in many different situations throughout Africa, Asia and Europe (see www.cms-uk.org).

Big Intent Theatre Company (www.bigintent.com) has extensive experience of addressing challenging issues through drama, music, mime and dance, and is a regular contributor to the Greenbelt Christian Arts Festival.

We are inviting education centres, cathedrals and churches to work with us in offering local schools a programme of theatre workshops of up to a week's duration designed to enhance the citizenship curriculum during 2007.

We are very conscious that the cost of such projects can be off-putting to schools. However, CMS and Big Intent are very committed to this project and, thanks to external funding and the generosity of many CMS supporters, we are able to subsidise this venture.

We hope that you might be interested in partnering us in this venture, both as part of your commitment to education and as a reflection of the cathedral's mission to the world.





Practical details

LOCATION: The project will take place in the cathedral and there will be a performance on the Friday evening involving the participants. We would ask participants to bring packed lunches. The theatre workshops will cater for a group of around 100 children (from Years 5 to 8, using classes from different schools) each day of the week. We are keen to include a range of schools, including those whose pupils rarely have the opportunity to take part in the creative arts.

TIMES: Times will be arranged locally, but the usual duration will be approximately 10am – 3pm daily, with a performance in the cathedral on the Friday evening to parents, friends, family and the local community.

PROJECT COSTS: We believe that a project of this nature will attract external funding and we are committed to making this venture as affordable as possible for schools. Please see the accompanying letter for details.

PREPARATION AND FOLLOW-UP: Members of the **free 4 all** team would be prepared to visit participating schools before the workshops, and to provide written follow-up materials and resources.

We hope that you might be interested in joining us in an unforgettable experience which makes the issue of slavery relevant to our contemporary culture. Please don't hesitate to contact us about this by e-mail, telephone or letter.

In CMS we believe in mission – both local and global. As we travel around the UK, giving young people and children the opportunity to explore important issues, **free 4 all** will equip them to go and make positive changes in our world.

For more information about free 4 all, please contact:

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COMMENDATORY COMMENTS

“ALL 30 OF OUR CHILDREN HAD AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE.”
MRS CATHY BYRNE, THE PARKS PRIMARY SCHOOL, HULL

“AN AMAZING VARIETY OF SKILLS AND AN EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE.”
MRS CAMPION, HEADTEACHER, MADELEY COURT SECONDARY SCHOOL, TELFORD

“EXCELLENT WORK; A VERY INTERACTIVE SHOW. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THEM.”
MRS THOMPSON, SPRINGWELL JUNIOR SCHOOL, HOUNSLOW



www.cms-uk.org