

Messy Church Newsletter—January 2012

Hello Messy Church leaders,

Happy 2012, Messy Friends, and may it be a merry and messy one, though not in the mess that our friends in New Zealand have had again recently: Julie tells us they had to worship outside at Christmas because of the renewed earthquakes in Christchurch. Our prayers are with you. What will 2012 have in store for us, I wonder?

January

The slim but seething-with-information **Starting Your Messy Church** comes out. And our first **Messy Church Youth Voice Day** happens.

February

The fantastic **Hand-in-Hand Conference** in Eastbourne bursts into life with a **Messy Church stream** running alongside all the other brilliant seminars on offer. Book your place soon and join us.

March

Denmark brings out *Messy Church 2* in translation and Lucy gets to go and eat green cake (it's a long story) with the Danes to celebrate.

April

April sees the publication of the **Who Let The Dads Out?** book and **Family Fun for Summer**—both titles that Messy Churchers will find challenging and useful.

May

May brings the **Christian Resources Exhibition**, where Messy Church will have its own stand for the first time and needs friends to come and visit, so please get a ticket for it and don't leave me all alone in my messy lair.

June

Jane's *Messy Nativity* comes out. Get knitting sheep now! And Lucy is popping over to Germany on messy business, sadly missing the Messy celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee. Do keep an eye open for the imminent resources for this national event. Following on from our hugely fun and successful Messy Weekend in Derbyshire, we have our second **Messy Church Weekend** in Hertfordshire. Can't

wait. ***Messy Church Newsletter—January
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July

Messy Month! We celebrate BRF's 90th anniversary with a huge **Messy Church at beautiful Dorchester Abbey**. Come and join the Diocese of Oxford and us as we thank God for 90 years of ministry (and eat cake). A certain sporting event will take over our national consciousness and perhaps **Sports Fun for Messy Churches** will be well-thumbed by then.

August

Lucy may be popping over to Australia again in a desperate attempt to see wallabies and to cheer on Messy Churches in New South Wales.

September

Messy Christmas Crafts and *Messy Church 3* both hit the shelves in a cloud of glitter. Our annual Regional Coordinators' Round Table meets in Oxford.

October

The diaries look mercifully empty now, but will fill up with exciting possibilities, I'm sure.

November

Vague possibilities of a trip to the USA to encourage Messy Churches there.

December

Who knows what Christmas presents will God have in store for us by then? How many Messy Churches will there be? How many families will God have touched? Will we have had a Messy wedding? A Messy funeral? How will God have changed your Messy Church, your community, your church, your team, even you?

Jane had a happy dream about the excitement of 2012 and the good things in store for us. May her excitement be ours as we face the different sorts of mess 2012 will bring us.

With prayers for God's blessings in the good times and the bad,

Lucy, Jane and the BRF Messy Church team

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