



Safe & Sound - No. 17 - March 2009

Two items only.....

Issue no. 17 is a special single-sided issue, with two main items. The Parish Pack is still with the printers, but we do hope to issue it before Easter. Watch this space!

Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) - October deadline

The Independent Safeguarding Authority takes over the registration of people working with children and/or vulnerable adults in October 2009, and is already involved in the decision-making process. From that date it will be a criminal offence to work with children and/or vulnerable adults - either as an employee or as a volunteer - without a CRB Disclosure.

Our national body CSAS has pointed out that any volunteer (or employee) in a Church Ministry who does not have a CRB Disclosure must therefore stand down from their Ministry in October. We know that in some parishes there are many volunteers still without a Disclosure. CSAS has asked us to remind all Parish Reps and clergy of the approaching deadline.

For the latest news on ISA, contact the office in Leeds, or go to the ISA website at www.isa-gov.org.uk. The most up-to-date picture will be provided at a CSAS-ISA meeting to be held in central Leeds on the evening of Wednesday 1 July 2009. The meeting will be open to all clergy, parish reps and volunteers. Please note both **1 July** and that **October deadline** in your diaries.

CRB Disclosure applications

A large percentage of the CRB Disclosure application forms received in the office have mistakes that mean they cannot be processed without further work. The most common error is omitting to complete the middle page of the ID Verification Form, which needs two signatures - the volunteer signs at the top, the parish rep at the bottom, in the section marked 'Office Use Only'. Many forms are completed in blue, have used Tippex, or have critical information missing - which all adds to the time spent processing them. Guides on how to complete the forms are available - please do check against the guides **before** you send them in. And many thanks to those six reps - you know who you are - who always complete their forms very accurately!

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