

# 'Cebes towards 2000 and beyond'



Final report to Cebes National council  
including recommendations

Report completed 1999

## **'Cebbs towards 2000 and beyond'**

At the 1996 National Cebbs Council meeting, delegates embarked on a process of exploration as to where Cebbs was at and what is to be its future direction. Key areas were established and each State was given the task of expanding one of these areas. Each contribution was then forwarded to the National Secretary who then forwarded copies on to each other state for comments, additions or alterations. Once again these were returned and following much work considering the submissions and comments, the following report has been generated.

The overall feeling from delegates was that Cebbs still has an important place in the life and future of our Church. Even though we may not be as big as we once were, Cebbs continues to have a valid ministry within our Church and continues to carry out valuable work. One only needs to talk to past members of Cebbs who speak of the value and benefits that they received from this ministry. There is no less of a need today for ministry to males and Cebbs still achieves this in varying degrees around Australia.

You are therefore strongly encouraged to carefully consider the various issues covered in this report and to support those who seek to continue with this ministry which has been reaching out for well over 80 years.

## **Our overarching aim :**

*Developing strategies for key areas affecting the health and promotion of Cebes as a dynamic and attractive form of children's ministry.*

The key areas that were identified are listed below as follows

### **THE PRODUCT**

1. Develop a strategy for improving the distinctive elements of the Cebes ministry package; aimed at "Loving children into the kingdom".

### **PROMOTING THE PRODUCT**

2. Develop a clear and communicable statement of the biblical framework for Children's ministry.
3. Develop a clear and communicable strategy for envisioning Parish Clergy and the Parish family with respect to developing a children's ministry program within the Parish ministry
4. Develop a strategy for identifying and developing children's ministry leaders (*noting: we may need to help Parish Clergy and leaders identify, train, and develop people with gifts for children's ministry*) and provide ongoing support and nurture for them (also including ongoing support and nurture for existing leaders)

Develop a partnership approach that offers to support and encourage local children's work leaders. (Noting the need to resource parishes that are struggling with children's ministry.)

5. Develop a strategy for promoting Cebes within and beyond each diocese . (Note: through field workers and key leaders (Diocesan Executives), targeting key diocesan leaders and departments)

# 1. Develop a strategy for improving the distinctive elements of the Cebes ministry package; aimed at 'Loving children into the kingdom'.

SYDNEY/NEWCASTLE were asked to consider this area and their response is as follows:

Cebes is:

- 1.1 A local Church – based outreach activity.
  - Anglican/Christian
  - Local church based
  - Outreach activity
- 1.2 Cebes primary ministry target group is children and young people in the age range from kindergarten to the end of High school/Secondary college
- 1.3 We aim to provide an attractive and safe environment for children, with an opportunity for
  - a sense of belonging to a local church family
  - adventure and challenge to growth
  - discovering and growing in faith with Jesus Christ
  - developing leadership skills for use in CEBS and the wider church and community.
- 1.4 Through weekly programs, we seek to encompass the spiritual, physical, social and mental (intellectual) needs of the participants.
- 1.5 We train our leaders to be role models for our children, (boys) by setting an example of Christian living.
- 1.6 CEBS seeks to identify, nurture and train leaders, by offering a very good leader development program for leaders.
- 1.7 The Society offers an opportunity for positive, friendly and non threatening contact with the total family
  - Offering where possible support and ministry to parents
  - Aware of the needs of single parents and families
- 1.8 The above mentioned distinctive features of our society are clearly stated in our CEBS National Vision Statement and the aims of our Society.
- 1.9 There is a support network for the ministry of CEBS, at a Diocesan, State and National level.
- 1.10 CEBS has a prescribed standard National Uniform.

## STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING THESE DISTINCTIVES

1. We need to consider and answer honestly, the question:  
Is our package for children's ministry a dynamic form of Children's ministry?
  - Is our package attractive
    - to Parish leaders?
    - to Children and young people?
    - to Parents?
    - to Families?
2. To develop an "inclusive" ministry to boys and girls from all backgrounds – (not just boys and young men)
3. To produce, succinct, vital and modern advertising material. (This may mean updating existing promotional material or producing new material)
4. While we recognise CEBS has had and can have a powerful impact on children and youth, we need to acknowledge the decline in numbers of people involved in CEBS ministry over the last 30 years.
  - \* We recognise this as part of the overall decline of community involvement in Churches and Church life
  - \* We need to identify other social changes that are significant factors, contributing to this decline.
5. Encourage the active development of CEBS, in a way that targets the after School – Kids Club niche, as recommended in the "Growing Up Without God" report on children's ministry. (see page 6)
5. To look at and learn from effective children's ministries, from all kinds of backgrounds.
6. We recommend a change of the name of our society, to reflect the 'inclusive' agenda for Ministry to both boys and girls – children.  
  
Some suggested alternatives could be:
  - CEBS - AN ANGLICAN CHILDRENS MINISTRY
  - CEBS - AN ANGLICAN MINISTRY
  - CEBS - AN ANGLICAN MINISTRY TO OUR YOUNG
7. To recruit, dynamic and gifted leaders, to ensure the highest quality of outreach and ministry in the branches.
8. To clearly communicate to the Branch leaders the CEBS Vision and Aims.
9. The National standard uniform ought to be under continual review and improvement.
10. To improve COMMUNICATIONS at all levels.
  - From Diocesan Executive - to Parish Clergy and branch leaders
  - From Parish Clergy to - Diocesan Executive and branch leaders.
  - From branch leaders to - Parish Clergy and parish congregations.
  - To establish an effective system for accountability for all communication and to adopt a strategy for developing better communication and working relationships, with parish Clergy and congregation.
11. Plan for the employment of a part time and / or full time Field worker, in each Diocese.
12. To work towards including an elective on Children's ministry or a presentation session at Ordinand training colleges and future Courses.

The National Leadership Development Team was also asked to respond to item 1 of the Ceba towards 2000 document and their response is as follows.

Distinctive Elements	Response from LDC perspective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christian</li></ul>	<p>We need to nurture / extend leaders in their faith. Develop leaders as teachers / mentors of the faith</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local / Anglican Based</li></ul>	<p>Educate leaders re Diocesan / Parish structures Equip leaders to be part of Parish Ministry Teams Develop leaders within the parish context- as parish leaders, not "Ceba" leaders.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outreach</li></ul>	<p>Training in evangelism Equip leaders to cater for varying depths of faith Help leaders to understand their local community</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cross Age Group / Developmental</li></ul>	<p>Develop our ability to provide -Age specific programs -Intergenerational programs -Adult support programs -Family support We offer programs which develop from age group to age group and reflect our growth as people and the concept of family / generations</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For "Boys"/children</li></ul>	<p>We should develop an expertise in producing the type of program that will ensure that boys/children will develop fully taking account of the qualities of their being male. Programs providing:- -adventure and skills -arts and culture -teamwork and cooperation -servanthood -4 square development We need to encourage "Male" role models.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular Contact</li></ul>	<p>Our regular / weekly contact is a strength which needs to be built on, but must not lead to rigid structured programs that become institutionalised We need always to be contemporary and innovative We should look at different models of how to do this</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Network</li></ul>	<p>Support structures &amp; resources. We need to ensure that we have them and that we use them, and that they are a support to parish ministry not a threat or substitute, but rather a source of enrichment and widening of our horizons.</p>

## **2. Develop a clear and communicable statement of the biblical framework for Children's ministry.**

We believe CEBS ministry to children is important because it is based on and expresses God's love for children in a creative group setting.

The Bible provides us with a positive and important framework for our ministry to children and families. A full survey of the Bible's teaching in the following areas would provide an important basis for understanding the place of ministry to children in God's design.

- \* Children
- \* Families
- \* Making Disciples
- \* Educational principles
- \* Parents
- \* Christian Ministry
- \* Role Models
- \* The Christian gospel

We will seek to summarise the key points and principles which shape our values and our ministry.

***SEE APPENDIX A FOR VARIOUS BIBLICAL REFERENCES***

### **3. To develop a clear and communicable strategy for envisioning Parish Clergy and the Parish family with respect to developing a Children's ministry program within the Parish.**

Victoria's response to this issue is as follows

KEY ISSUES: PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

#### **Being Clear and passionate**

We need to be clear and passionate about what it is we are offering and to ensure we have the resources to back up what we offer. Appropriate promotional material must be available clearly showing what we can do and giving good reasons why this ministry should happen or be considered.

#### **Cebs relationships within Parishes**

Cebs needs to be seen and promoted as part of the overall Parish family or ministry. There is a strong need for re-education of Parishes, so as to make them aware of what is available and how Cebs can help. Perhaps groups such as Cebs/GFS could offer to go into Parishes and help educate. This could possibly be a job for retired Cebs persons of good standing amongst Church circles who no longer work with groups but have time to help and are good communicators. We need to promote the original concept of Cebs being a Parish based ministry run by parish people and therefore part of the parish and its overall ministry.

#### **Diocesan ownership**

The Diocese also needs to own and recognise the ministry of Cebs and to promote it as an option. Cebs has always worked under the Anglican umbrella having been formed by concerned Anglicans seeing the opportunity for ministry and outreach. Dioceses need to recognise this fact and promote Cebs to Priests and Parishes otherwise they will not see it as part of the ministry package. Again, this requires re-education and pointing out the facts.

#### **Parish ownership of its ministry opportunities**

Regardless of all else, if a Parish is not willing to really own its ministry then the work of Cebs or any other group for that matter will be almost impossible. Is the Parish welcoming to children? The people of a parish need to play their part in encouraging, promoting and supporting ministries to children such as Cebs/GFS and again there is the need for ongoing education in this area as to how they may do this. I'm sure many Parishioners are unaware as to how they may help outside of chasing kids around a hall.

#### **Proven Outreach Ministry**

Cebs must promote its proven history of and ongoing Outreach ministry into the community. We have a non threatening group which is open to any kids to belong to and this of course opens up many opportunities for outreach into the community as has been shown over the years.

#### **Being contemporary**

There is a real need for our Churches to contemporise the message we wish to share and to make it more appropriate to the people of today. We need to meet people where they are at just as Jesus did and show them we care and have something to offer which is worthwhile. In saying this, we need to be careful that we are not watering down God's message but rather pursue the concept of maintaining a solid core but with soft edges. We must be wary though of coming across in a threatening manner. Can we deal with family breakdown issues? Can we offer any help?

### **Children's Ministry focus**

Perhaps Cebbs along with GFS should push more of a Children's Ministry focus rather than just Cebbs and GFS groups only. These days we need to be more flexible in what we do however without watering down our message or what we believe in. Promoting various options for ministry might satisfy more needs.

### **Informing Parishes**

There needs to be a concerted effort by Cebbs to keep Parishes informed as to what we are up to (especially those not involved with Children's ministry) Inclusion in the Diocesan prayer diaries of our activities and or special needs etc. should be a must for each State.

### **Building good relationships**

Cebbs needs to be prepared to build and foster good relationships with Parishes, Clergy, Dioceses and other Anglican ministry groups including GFS. This is very important and to do this we need to be prepared to work alongside, encourage and support other ministries within our Churches. We should not have to compete against each other for success.

### **Cebbs Structure**

Cebbs needs to be presented as a network support structure rather than as a rigid set of organisational structures and programs etc.

### **Cross Generational**

Cebbs may need to make more of an emphasis on ministry extending through from young children to adults. In the past we have referred to ourselves more as a ministry to Children and yet in many cases our ministry goes further than this. Cebbs has offered age appropriate programming, it has parent involvement, it offers leader support/fellowship/growth and development, and encourages inter-generational activities (all of which complement and strengthen the concept of 'family')

## **COMMUNICABLE STRATEGY**

What are we trying to say? Our children will not be the Church of tomorrow if they are not made to feel part of the Church today

Families/Parents need to see the Parish as somewhere really good to belong to, a good place to be at, somewhere that meets their various needs

We need to greet new families AND their children!

Redeemed vision - look at in a new positive way, every issue has its place be it good or bad

Our approach needs to be positive with a sense of expectation

***For ideas and suggestions on how Parishes can support Children's ministry groups, see Appendix item B***

## Section 5 QLD now to follow No. 3

### ENVISIONING PARISH CLERGY AND LEADERS

QLD's response is as follows;

1. - Enlist the support of the Bishop/s (ie. speak to the Bishop/s and get his blessing)
- Get permission to speak to Synod to highlight developments and plans
- Get a motion passed at Synod and form a Children's Ministry Taskforce with Ceb's and GFS membership
- Ask the Bishop to 'advertise/promote' in ad clerum

*(These tasks are aimed at getting the Diocese to own the ministry)*

2. Produce a promotional package which sells Ceb's/GFS to Clergy and Parish council  
It should contain such items as
  - a. what Ceb's/GFS can offer **(see Appendix C)**
  - b. what kind of support can we give the parish/new branch
    - i) training
    - ii) programs
    - iii) in-service program
    - iv) 'buddy' system (experienced leaders working alongside new leaders)
    - v) resources
3. Give opportunities to Parishes to contact Ceb's/GFS and ask for information
4. Select Parishes, or choose 1 or 2 Deaneries and ring the Priest for an appointment to speak with him/her about Ceb's/GFS. Ask for an opportunity to address Parish councils.
5. When a Parish is considering Ceb's/GFS, bring an existing branch to the Parish and run a 'normal' night's program. Have children from the Parish attend and join in.
6. Introductory session of leader training for new leaders (vis a vis scouts stage 1) to be available as soon as parish priest/ parish council/ other, identifies prospective leaders. (In some States this includes Police checks and warrants)
7. In-service for new leaders. Whilst this on-the-job training is happening at an existing branch, the parish advertises for children to attend the new branch. The Priest and Parishioners etc could also personally invite some children to attend.
8. Start the branch when the new leader(s) has gone through the in-service program. Ensure experienced leaders are in attendance at the new branch for a least the first 4 weeks.
9. Set deadlines for this process and adhere strictly to them.

## **4. DEVELOP A STRATEGY FOR IDENTIFYING AND DEVELOPING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY LEADERS AND PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT AND NURTURE FOR THEM (also including ongoing nurture and support for existing leaders)**

### **A) Clergy have a part to play**

Talk to the Parish Priest to establish a possible list of persons deemed suitable for possible leadership positions.

Ideally the Priest would then need to contact the people nominated and to encourage them to attend a promotional meeting during which a Ceb's representative is present to meet with and speak to them about Ceb's ministry. *(NB Ceb's would need to have good promotional material on hand including videos, literature etc.)*

Towards the end of such a meeting the nominated person/s would need to be asked for a commitment or otherwise.

**NOTE \*** Each Diocese would need a promotional person or team who are available to visit Parishes on request. The person or persons would need to be good communicators with a positive approach.

At the end of the session candidates are to be asked for a commitment or otherwise

The responsibilities of the promotional person or team would be:

- To put together an exciting package for presentation (Package could be a National product adapted for local use)
- To build up an appropriate means to present the package
- To present in a clear, interesting, positive manner, and be enthusiastic about the product
- To visit Parishes, Parish council meetings, Deaneries, Children's ministry events or conferences, Ordination training colleges etc.

Perhaps those with past links with Ceb's who gained much or were inspired by the ministry of Ceb's need to be asked to write short statements or stories which could then be forwarded on to the National Secretary for collation or passed on to an appropriate committee for collation. The collection of material could then be used as promotional material available to each Diocese.

### **(B) Growing leaders from within**

Existing leaders have a roll to play in identifying and nurturing possible junior leader material amongst senior group members. Which of the current boys in each group/branch show leadership potential.

Ideally growing leaders from within the society is very beneficial and desirable.

Potential leaders need to be encouraged to seek some basic training from various groups locally eg. GFS, Ceb's, children's ministry.

Use promotional team to speak/present to possible leaders.

Perhaps a workbook could be developed for junior leaders to fill in containing, Ceb's History, programs, 4 nights could be spent at another branch, suggest having a mentor to work with them.

Make sure potential leaders are included in the program. Ongoing support and communication is a must.

Ask BG/group leader to speak to candidates and tell how and why they run things as they do.

Include a spot in the program where trainee leaders are given the opportunity to run a game or activity of their choice.

Details of this could be written in the workbook, implemented and then evaluated with the BG.

Certificate to be presented acknowledging the completion of inservice training – preferably done during a parish service.

A booklet is a way of helping a person to grow and develop confidence and develop a strategy to become a leader.

Leader/BG to approach parish to assist with some finance.

### **Support for existing Leaders**

Encourage each diocese to produce a prayer diary

Social functions for leaders eg Barbeques, dinners, regular leaders meetings/ information days.

Talk to parish clergy on how to support and encourage their leaders.

Eg. yearly dedication or thanksgiving services, encouraging words, interest shown

Ideally, senior leaders/priests/ BG's etc should make opportunities to get alongside leaders to find out what their needs and concerns are

Executive/board members must play a roll in supporting existing leaders eg visiting groups/ ringing leaders/ attending dinner nights/ social functions, keeping communication lines open.

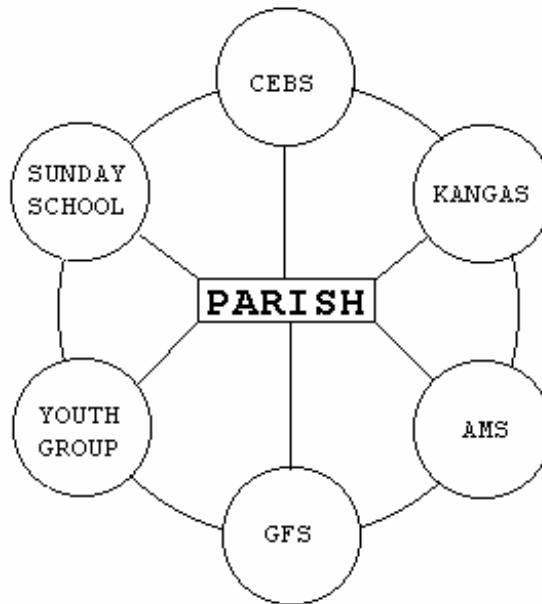
Parish to play a role

- ring a leader
- Pray for each leader
- Talk to leaders after church.
- encourage them in their ministry

Parishes should consider having a yearly dedication service to include all parish leaders and to encourage them in their various ministries.

**“Develop a partnership approach that offers to support and encourage leaders of local children’s work.”**

Tasmania’s response to this issue is as follows



Each parish establishes a **Children’s Ministry Team** consisting of interested persons from groups within the parish, meeting regularly to:

- discuss common issues
- encourage one another
- share ideas
- help in one another’s activities where and when possible
- share resources- equipment, people, materials, etc
- to identify and participate in leader training
- promote the work of children’s ministry within the parish

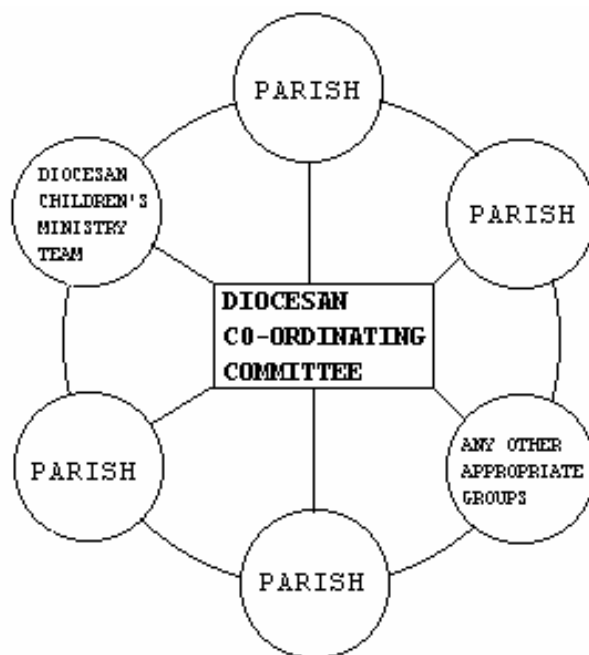
One person to co ordinate regular meetings.

(It should be noted that Parishes must seriously own their children’s ministries and not just expect someone else to come in and do it all for them while they sit and watch)

## 5. “Develop a strategy for promoting CEBS within and beyond each Diocese”

All States were asked to respond to this point

Tasmania response to this point is as follows



In each diocese a committee could be formed. This committee to consist of an elected representative from each parish with a children's ministry team and a representative from any diocesan organisation involved in children's ministry (ie Cebs).

This committee to meet regularly to co-ordinate all children's ministries that operate within the diocese.

Functions of this committee;

- Collate names of all groups in parishes
- Create and maintain a database of contact names, addresses and activities offered by each group
- Publish a calendar of parish events
- Initiate diocesan events and organise the running of same by the committee or other suitable people
- Offer and provide training opportunities for leaders of parish groups
- Encourage co-operation between groups and parishes
- Create and maintain a database of resources available to groups
- Promote the work of the various parish groups (ie Cebs) to parishes that do not have children's ministry in their parish
- Investigate and seek ongoing finance to fund a full or part time worker to carry out the work of the committee and to be available to all groups for assistance.
- Liaise with other diocesan committees
- Promote national events relevant to children's ministry.

(It should be noted that this concept would be good for smaller Dioceses but could prove difficult for larger Dioceses)

## Victoria's response

As in an earlier response, we need to be clear and passionate about what it is we are offering and to ensure we have the necessary resources to back up what it is we are offering. Appropriate promotional material must be available clearly showing what we can do and giving good reasons why this ministry should happen. We should make more noise about what we do.

## QLD's response

1. - Diocesan council could meet at a parish that has Cebbs. They could attend all or part of a 'normal' Cebbs program. This way they could see first hand the worth of Cebbs. The council could then continue its usual meeting in the parish centre or other nominated place.
2. - We need to provide a package of what we can offer (see **Appendix C**)
3. - Representatives from Cebbs attending National activities. Eg. Children's conferences, General Synod Children's Ministry Conference.
4. - Cebbs can belong to an association such as the Queensland Youth Alliance ( a group of many organisations across both the government and private sector) which deal with young people. (Note : Queensland Cebbs already a member)
5. - Invite other youth groups to Cebbs activities as observers.

## Sydney/Newcastle response

Section 1 PEOPLE AND GROUPS WE SHOULD TARGET IN ORDER TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE CEBBS.

### 1.1 Key Diocesan leaders to be targeted

- the Archbishop
- Regional/ Assistant Bishops
- Archdeacons
- Clergy
- Youth and Children's ministers/workers
- Representatives on Regional/Diocesan Children and Youth Ministry committees

### 1.2 Key Diocesan Departments to be targeted

- Christian education
- Youth and children's Ministry
- Evangelism Departments
- Diocesan Media departments
- Regional Youth and Children's ministry task forces
- Theological and Training Colleges
- After college training

### 1.3 **Other Diocese, Regions, or groups to be targeted**

- Archdeaconries in the country Dioceses.
- Parallel people and departments in other denominations
- Parishes – Key Ceps people available to speak at Parishes/services to sell Ceps and encourage Parish ownership

## Section 2 **HOW TO PROCEED AND APPROACH THESE PEOPLE**

### 2.1 **General strategy suggestions**

- Sharing relationships and knowledge with these people to increase awareness of and support for children's ministry in general and Ceps in particular.
- Attractive and informative information leaflets.
- To be continuously improving our ministry package for children's ministry, and our leader training.
- Ceps to assist at other Diocesan events especially those involving children.

### 2.2 **The role of the Fieldworker**

- To provide support and encouragement for the existing leaders,
- To keep the lines of communication open between the leaders and the society
- To act as an ambassador for Ceps
- To be a key 'development officer' in ongoing revision of the ministry of Ceps
- To foster and encourage leadership accountability in developing children's ministries.
- To identify and assist parishes with strong and active children's ministries to act as 'flagships' for ministry to children.

### 2.3 **The role of the Diocesan Executive committee**

- To lead, manage and help develop the Ceps ministry by providing organisational support, planning and publicity required to enable Ceps work to operate and grow.
- Develop strategic alliances and synergies with other influential Diocesan leaders and departments.
- To actively foster and develop the profile of Ceps and Children's ministry within and beyond the Diocesan structure
- Help keep or develop the lines of communication so that matters concerning the society are passed on to the leaders. This is important so that existing leaders do not have a feeling of lack of interest/support from the Executive. The Executive should avoid giving a closed shop mentality.

# Recommendations

- \* That an updated publicity package be produced including brochures, videos, posters etc.
- \* Compile a testimonial booklet of stories from past members on how being a Cebbs member has affected their life or inspired their faith journey (to be done on a National basis)
- \* Produce a Leaders manual / new branch resource kit incorporating the aims and principles of Cebbs and including such material as -
  - The history of Cebbs
  - How to program / sample copies of styles / resource sheets of ideas
  - Some proven programs that work / age specific material
  - Some understanding of the various age groups we might be working with
  - Contact list of Diocesan and National positions
  - A list of National Cebbs produced material or resources eg. workbooks, badges, promotional material etc.
  - Duty of care principles
  - Other matters to be aware of
- \* Develop and publish a leader in-service book detailing -
  - the structure of Cebbs
  - the aims and principles
  - record sheet for details of 4 weekly visits to another branch, attendance at leaders meeting at own branch and one other
  - record and evaluation sheets for successive parts of a program eg a game, a prayer, a teaching session plus one for running a whole program
- \* Send copies of reports to Diocesan Bishops
- \* Have appropriate certificates produced to mark completion of in service training
- \* Produce a short kit to give to clergy, with information about Cebbs and outlining what their role might be regarding input to the group and ongoing support and nurture.  
(See Melbourne's sheet on the role of clergy)
- \* Reintroduce and produce record books and/or produce on computer discs.

# APPENDIX A

## *Children, Parents & Families*

- \* When Jesus' disciples were arguing about greatness, our Lord 'knowing their thoughts took a little child and had him stand beside him. The he said to them, 'whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the greatest.' " Luke 9: 46-48
- \* So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1: 26-27
- \* Children are a gift from the LORD PSALM 127: 3
- \* ....(the LORD)... he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth. Malachi 2:15
- \* Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deuteronomy 6: 4-7
- \* ... choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.... But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:15

## *Educational Principles*

- \* Train up a child in the way he should go....and afterwards he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6
- \* Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching Proverbs 1:8
- \* "Fathers do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

## *Children in Jesus's Ministry*

- \* Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man. Luke 2:54
- \* Let the little children come to me. Matthew 19:14 / Mark 10:14 / Luke 18:16
- \* I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it. Luke 18:17 / Mark 10:15
- \* Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Matthew 11:25
- \* In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost. Matthew 18:14

## ***Partnership with Parents***

\* "Honour your father and mother" ....Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6: 2-4

\* Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. Colossians 3:20-21

## ***Making Disciples and Ministry Principles***

\* Then Jesus came to them and said, " ...go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" Matthew 28; 18-20

\* I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things to grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labour. For we are God's fellow-workers: you are God's field, God's building. 1 Corinthians 2: 5-9

\* For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

\* Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!... And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf : Be reconciled to God 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

## APPENDIX B

### **Following are some suggestions on how a parish can really own its children's ministry:**

- \* The Vicar or person leading the service may include a special welcome to the children at the beginning of the service
- \* Perhaps invite a child to sit with you during a service
- \* Pray for the leaders and the children
- \* Include the leaders and the group during the prayers at the Sunday services etc.
- \* Drop in and visit the club in operation
- \* You may decide to help out as a leader or assistant
- \* If you see the leaders at Church, ask them how they are and how the group is going.
- \* Ring each leader from time to time and encourage them or just ask how the club is going
- \* Offer to come along occasionally and make the cordial/supper
- \* Offer to come along on one occasion and share your hobby or teach a skill  
. Perhaps you may like to share a story from your childhood or a past experience
- \* Spread the word about the club to others
- \* Perhaps make a cake or some cookies for supper one night
- \* Ask the children about the club and what they are doing
- \* You may like to come along occasionally, sit in on the group and become known to the members (be someone who the kids can talk to)
- \* Take an interest in the children at Church and learn their names
- \* During the community announcements at the Sunday services, include mention of what the group is doing or planning to do
- \* If children arrive at church with their parents, make a point of welcoming the children personally also
- \* Perhaps have a special children's notice board or display area for work

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**Anglican Children's Ministry Centre**

## APPENDIX C

# WHAT CAN CEBS OFFER?

- \* A flexible curriculum – program outlines/resources
- \* A history or story of ministry
- \* A range of Models of ministry
  
- \* Build bridges/friendships – Clergy & lay
- \* A Network of opportunities and support
- \* Encouraging /empowering people into ministry
  
- \* Australia wide organisation
- \* Mid week ministry
- \* Training
  
- \* Camping activities/programs
- \* Pastoral care
- \* Family ministry
  
- \* Parish based
- \* Affordable fees
- \* Uniforms/badges/activity books
  
- \* Links to wider community
- \* Spiritual growth
- \* Own Camp sites
  
- \* Field craft
- \* Open to any children to join
- \* Ability to attract families
  
- \* Interested in the ‘whole person’ catering for the spiritual, physical, intellectual and social needs
- \* Sporting activities
- \* Links to other Christian organisations
  
- \* Opportunities for outreach ie. the proven ability to attract boys and families from outside the Church family
- \* Membership is open to any boys of the appropriate age
  
- \* Opportunities to meet with other leaders and groups outside of their own Parish at various Diocesan events throughout the year eg. sports days, swimming carnivals, fun days, special activities, bike rides, services, leader courses etc.