

An Olympic Programme for JP & Primary School students

presented by

Northern Suburbs
Primary Schools Group

Finding

Gold

**8-11 & 15-18
AUGUST 2000**



This year we will continue to hear stories of great athletes and then see them in action. Relatively few people will win a gold medal. What will it mean for the rest of us? We may not feel we're good at anything in particular and could never win a gold medal in a million years.

During the lead up to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, a number of Christian organisations and Churches have combined to produce the programme ***Finding Gold***.

Finding Gold aims to help students discover that:

- everyone is of unique value and is more precious than gold. All can make a special contribution in life.
- there is more to life than winning or losing. In discovering who they are, they can celebrate their achievements.

The desire of the organisers, in a Christian context, is to encourage students to grow as people who are positive, confident, generous, honest and caring in all they do and in their relationships with others. Whether we win or lose, are able bodied or disabled, no matter what colour our skin or which country we're from, we are all of great value.

We are offering 50-60 minute large group sessions (120-180 students) OR an ALL DAY programme which includes workshops and full school assembly.

See attached booking schedule for all programme details.

Enquiries Ph 8283 1851

Bookings Fax 8281 8296

Finding Gold was organised in association with the following groups and individuals:

- Northern Suburbs Primary Schools Group - representative of Playford and Salisbury Inter Church Councils
- Gerry Holmes - musician, singer & songwriter based in Adelaide.
- Georgina Nu, Rod Boucher - programming & artistic contributions.

- Scripture Union SA - a worldwide interdenominational Christian organisation with over 130 years experience in work with children.
- OAC Ministries - an organisation working with children with support from various Christian denominations.
- Gay Turland, Vikki Hart - Western Suburbs Primary Schools workers.

Northern Suburbs Primary Schools Group
92 Shepherdson Road, Parafield Gdns SA 5107
PO Box 531, Elizabeth SA 5112
Ph 8283 1851 Fax 8281 8296

Monday 8th May 2000

The Principal and/or
Performing Arts Coordinator

We are offering your school the opportunity to host
an innovative Olympic programme, **Finding Gold**.

We are offering two different programmes:

OPTION A ~ The 50-60 minute LARGE GROUP Sessions ~

These will involve groups of 120-180 students in a fast moving, fun-filled and interactive programme. We will be using music, songs, skits, stories and characters to develop our theme for **Finding Gold** (see enclosed A4 brochure for aim/goals).

Suggested donation \$1 per student.



OPTION B ~ The ALL DAY Programme ~

Catering for up to 300 students per day, this programme involves all students in a short school assembly first up to "set-the-scene". This is followed by 4 group sessions across the day involving 60-75 students per session. These sessions give students opportunity for more "hands on" activities (see "Booking Schedule" for details of these 45 minute sessions).

At the end of the school day, all students will then assemble for a mini Olympics. This session can involve the whole school community (students, teachers, families of students, grandparents etc.). It will include a procession, lighting of the flame, games, final address, theme song, medal presentation, extinguishing of flame and farewell.

If you choose this option, we will need to negotiate a time schedule for the day and find a suitable assembly area which suits the programme.

Suggested donation \$1.50 per student

The Northern Suburbs Primary Schools Group, acting on behalf of Christian Churches in Playford and Salisbury toured "Good Mates" (June 1999), "Out of the Box" (Dec. 1999), "Stargazing" (Dec. 1997) and various other productions since 1992. We are pleased to offer another quality performance to your school community. **Finding Gold** reinforces Christian values and suggests that God is present, real and cares for us.

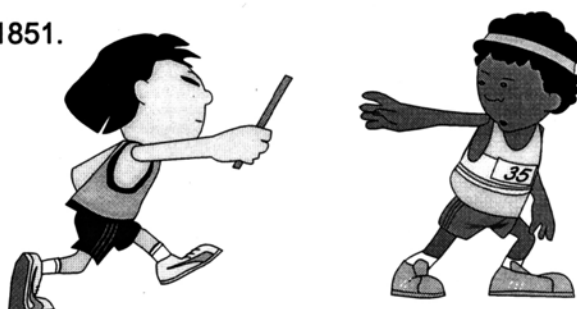
If your school is able to help cover the performance costs by giving a donation, that would be appreciated. Please note that we have a policy that no student should miss out because of lack of finances.

Please read the booking schedule which contains all the times and dates as well as other important information.

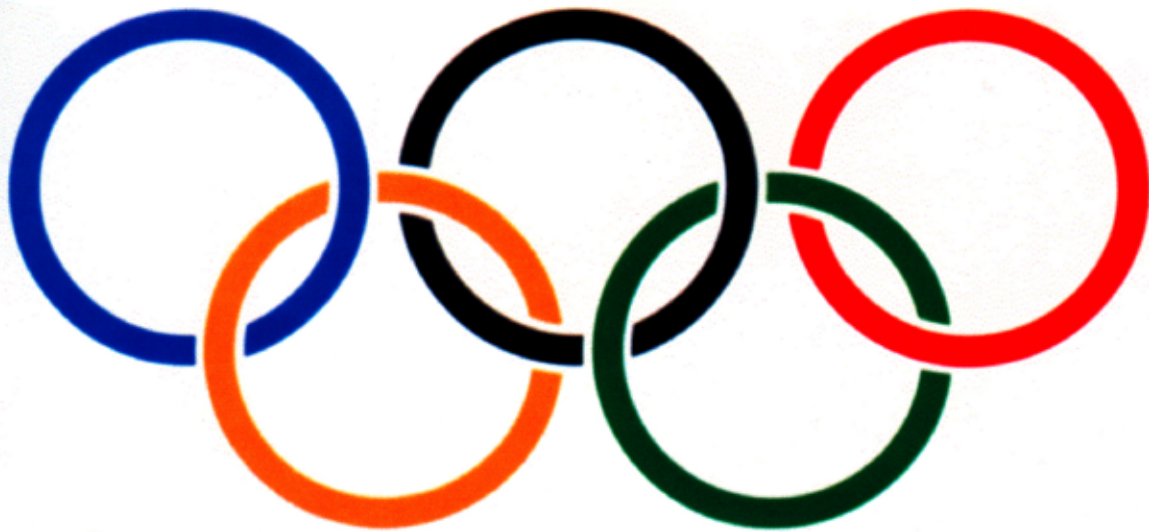
If you have any questions, please contact me on 8283 1851.
Looking forward to your response.

Mal Graetz

FINDING GOLD Coordinator
on behalf of the Inter Church
Primary Schools Planning Group



THE OLYMPIC FLAG



The **Olympic Rings** are a recognised symbol of the Olympic Games. A man named Pierre de Coubertin designed this emblem in 1913. The **Olympic Flag** contains the interlocking coloured rings on a white background. The flag was first used in 1920 at the Antwerp Games in Belgium.

The coloured rings are often said to represent the five parts of the world involved in the Olympic Games:

GREEN - Europe
YELLOW - Asia
OCEANIA - Blue (includes Australia)
AFRICA - Black
AMERICAS - Red

The **Olympic Ideals** are:

FAIR PLAY - the competition should be fair and equal
EXCELLENCE - competitors should be as good as they can
PARTICIPATION - important not only to win but to take part
COURAGE - to have great will to compete when things might be difficult
FRIENDSHIP - to enjoy peace and goodwill amongst the competitors.

The **Olympic Message** has been displayed at every modern Olympic Games:

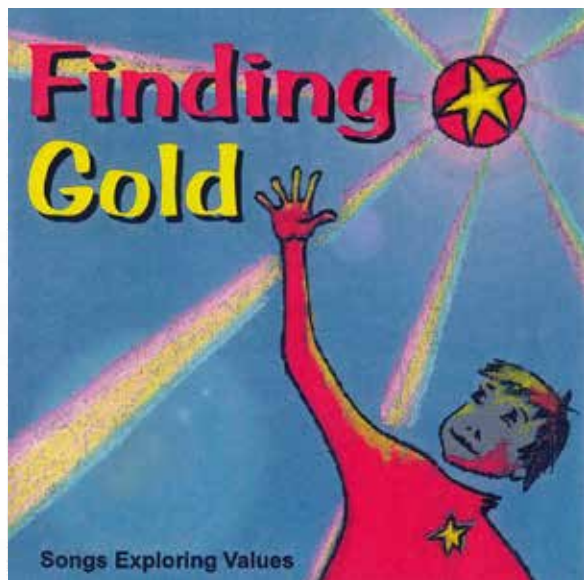
"The most important thing in the Olympic Games
is not to win but to take part.

Just as the most important thing in life is not
the triumph, but the struggle"

Now Available!

FINDING GOLD

CD & Music Song Book



The FINDING GOLD CD includes 10 songs and their backing tracks.

The songs are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Finding Gold | Gerry Holmes © 2000 |
| 2 I'm Diff'rent | Gerry Holmes © 1987 |
| 3 Special Kind of Story | Gerry Holmes © 1998 |
| 4 I'm Real Good | Gerry Holmes © 1993 |
| 5 Meant To Be That Way | Leigh Newton © 1993/2000 |
| 6 Being in a Team | Gerry Holmes © 2000 |
| 7 Grow With God | Gerry Holmes © 1998 |
| 8 Hidden Gifts | Gerry Holmes © 2000 |
| 9 Gods Great Adventure | Gerry Holmes © 1998 |
| 10 I Believe, I Believe, I Believe | Gerry Holmes © 2000 |

The FINDING GOLD Song Book includes sheet music with melody line & chords and masters to create O/H transparencies.

The songs were initially compiled to accompany an Olympic Primary Schools programme called "Finding Gold". This programme was taken to about 60 schools in South Australia in the lead up to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. However, the songs can be used as a means of exploring values aside from the Olympics.

The song *Finding Gold* looks inside of us to see what we are worth whether we win or lose or come somewhere in between. A good action song focussing on Australian athletes and sports people.

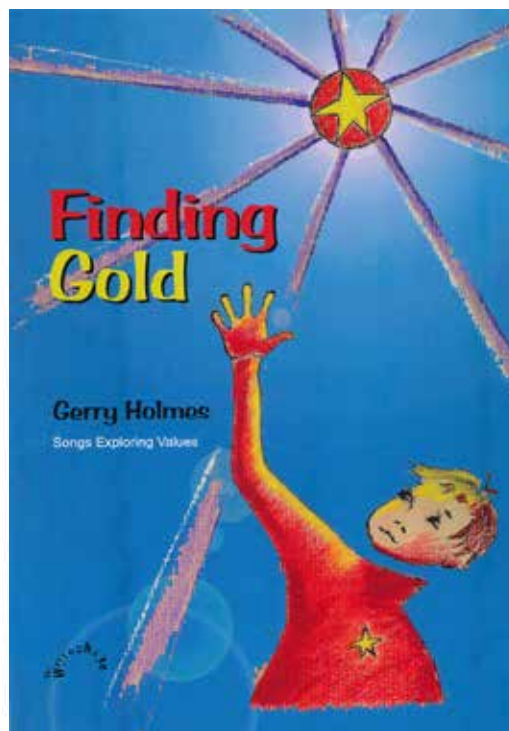
I'm diff'rent says that it is OK to be different to others ... "where there is love, then who I am is fine".

Special Kind of Story says that "everybody is important in the story of life". *I'm Real Good* is a sensitive participation song which allows children to verbalise something that they are good at. *Meant to be that Way* says that it is OK that I may not be as good as another in different things... but "I can still enjoy each day" - we were meant to be different.

Being in a Team is a great song to emphasize the importance of working together in a team with others and "helping each other".

Grow with God and *God's Great Adventure* are for children who acknowledge God in their lives and want to continue the journey.

Hidden Gifts encourages children to "uncover those hidden gifts" which can be shared around to enrich the lives of others. *I Believe...* is a song which says that God values each person in a special way and wants us to fulfil our full potential as human beings.



ORDER FORM Please forward to FINDING GOLD, PO Box 531, Elizabeth SA 5112
 FINDING GOLD CD's are \$17.60 per copy (inc. \$1.60 gst); FINDING GOLD Music Books are \$10.00 per copy (inc. \$1.00 gst)
 NB If you purchase FINDING GOLD CD & Music Book together, cost is \$25.00 (inc. \$2.50 gst)

Please send me copies of the FINDING GOLD CD @ \$17.60 each

TOTAL \$

Please send me copies of the FINDING GOLD Music Book @ \$10.00 each

TOTAL \$

Please send me sets of CD/Music Books @ \$25 per set

TOTAL \$

Please send me a TAX INVOICE for the FOLLOWING amount \$

SCHOOL:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

PERSON ORDERING:

POSITION:

STRIKE! a Miracle?

Does any one here today know what a miracle is?

One meaning is that a miracle is an amazing or wonderful event.
I'd like to tell you of one such event that happened right here in Adelaide.

About ten years ago, a group of about 50 young people from the northern suburbs of Adelaide were out on a "Daytrip". Some of the churches in Playford and Salisbury ran these monthly bus trips so that young people could meet other people, have a great time and find out a bit more about God.

This one Saturday the group was on a "Mystery Tour". This meant they didn't know where they were going until they arrived at the spot. Hopefully it going to be a big surprise. This group was eager to scramble from their buses as they arrived at the "Bayside Bowl" at Glenelg.

Unnoticed by most was an eleven year old girl who was the last person off the bus. Madeline was being helped by a few of her friends. Madeline was quite small for her age and rather skinny. She had a disease ...or a sickness in her body. When adults have it, we call it arthritis. It can be very painful as it affects the joints in your hands, wrists and knees. Madeline was very excited that they had finally arrived at their mystery place. She was even more excited that she would get a chance to try out ten-pin bowling.

The Daytrip group had use of all the alleys that afternoon and there was huge excitement as a few of the lucky ones got a strike. Wow! Fantastic! Great bowling! Fluke! Others were really happy to knock all the pins down with two shots of the heavy ball. And then there were the groans and sighs. Oh no! Not again! In the gutter.

Some groups finished early, especially some of the boys who thought they were "the best". But who really was the best at the end of the day?

This one group of 5 girls were playing in one of the end lanes. Their game seemed to drag on as they were the only ones left to finish. A small group had gathered around them to see what was happening. They soon discovered that one of the girls was really struggling to lift the ball. One of the leaders started encouraging this girl ... it was Madeline!as she stepped up for her next bowl. Madeline picked up the ball with two hands, just managed to swing it enough for the ball to so slowly head down the lane. Plonk! In the gutter again! She had bowled all gutters that afternoon!

It was now time for the last ball of the day. Each of the girls managed quite easily to get their last ball down the alley towards the pins at the other end. Then came a buzz of excitement as Madeline stepped up with her last ball of the game. The buzz grew to a loud chant, "Go Madeline Go!", "You can do it". By this time a larger group had come over to watch. The leader, Mal, who was getting the other people to cheer said later that he felt he should pray that Madeline would get a strike on her last ball. That seemed like a crazy thing to pray! After bowling 19 balls and getting all gutters, what were the chances of her last ball getting a strike. Maybe the ball wouldn't even make it to the other end!

The best Mal could do was to encourage everyone to cheer Madeline on, "Go Madeline Go!", "You can do it". The ball left Madeline's weak hands. It started rolling - so slowly, so slowly. It was going straight straight down the middle. Would it reach the other end? Even if it did reach the other end, would it have enough power to knock over a few pins?

The crowd was going wild, the cheering and shouting was almost deafening. At last the ball made it to the pins - Yes! A miracle! I don't believe it! Amazing! All the 10 pins fell over, ever so slowly. I reckon God must have been smiling, even cheering! What a celebration there was. This was a moment that Madeline will never forget. This was a moment that her friends and even those who never knew her before that day would remember for many years to come. This was a moment where even a gold medal would not have been enough for Madeline. Although she came last when it came to the final score, this was a huge achievement.

As Christians, we believe that God was interested in Madeline. We believe that the encouragement that comes from friends even in what seems an impossible situation, can help others to find their true value. Whether we are able bodied or disabled, whether we win or lose - we are more precious than gold in God's eyes.

Was this strike by Madeline a miracle? I'll let you decide.

FINDING GOLD

Olympic Primary Schools Programme

REPORT TO PLAYFORD & SALISBURY
INTER CHURCH COUNCILS

- prepared by Mal Graetz

FINDING GOLD BEGINNINGS

Churches across Adelaide and in country SA areas have had a unique opportunity to bring a Christian perspective of the Olympic theme to 56 state primary schools involving about 14,000 students in the lead up to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

The project titled FINDING GOLD was organised by Northern Suburbs Primary Schools Group in association with Scripture Union S.A., OAC Ministries, Western Suburbs Primary Schools workers and Christian artists including Gerry Holmes and Georgina Nu.

An attempt by Mal Graetz in July 1999 to mobilise children's workers to support an Olympic programme seemed to have attracted little support by the end of 1999. However, through a series of events during January 2000, a planning group convened at Scripture Union offices in Keswick. Over the next few months, the groups and artists mentioned above developed a "Finding Gold" leaders resource manual and produced a CD.

FINDING GOLD AIMS

FINDING GOLD aimed to help students explore what was important in life, especially the idea that it is how we value ourselves and others that really counts. Using stories of Olympians and other people, the programme illustrated that every person is of great value in God's eyes and can make a special contribution in life. FINDING GOLD reinforced the Olympic ideals of Fair Play, Excellence, Participation, Friendship and Courage, and, the Christian belief that every person is special and greatly loved by God.

REGIONAL APPROACH

The FINDING GOLD resources were distributed across the state and training sessions for leaders were facilitated by Scripture Union. The programme organisers encouraged participation of people from churches in various regions across S.A. The programme has been flexible so that the talents and gifts of local people could be utilised to the full.

The regional approach encouraged existing Inter Church Councils or Ministers Associations to take responsibility for the programme by recruiting team members, providing finances, preparing followup materials and encouraging prayer support.



Above: Some of the FINDING GOLD Team at Brahma Lodge Primary School

FINDING GOLD IN THE NORTHERN SUBURBS

The planning team of **Northern Suburbs Primary Schools Group** (NSPSG) took responsibility for the programme in the Cities of Playford and Salisbury. With the support of Playford & Salisbury Inter Church Councils, the FINDING GOLD programme was offered to state primary schools in Playford & Salisbury.

Two models were offered: the 60 minute "seminar style" programme and the "All Day" programme. Seven schools opted for the "All Day" programme and 4 for the "seminar" programme.

Just over 2,900 students attended over the 11 days during August/Sept. Over 100 teaching staff would have participated and as many parents came to observe the programme. The schools that hosted FINDING GOLD were: Elizabeth East JPS (130 students), Elizabeth Park JP & PS (330), Elizabeth Grove PS (285), Davoren Park JP & PS (310), South Downs PS (280), Craigmare South JP & PS (360), Broadmeadows PS (180), Parafield Gardens PS (450), Brahma Lodge PS (200), Karrendi PS (276) & Keller Road PS (120).

THE ALL DAY MODEL

It was exciting to present FINDING GOLD in this format. For several years, the planning group of NSPSG had explored the idea of presenting primary school programmes in this way.

The ALL DAY model allowed us to make contact with the students on 3 occasions during the day.

- the first was a 25 minute Opening Ceremony which all students attended. This created an atmosphere and expectancy for the day, establishing a rapport with students and staff through music/song and introductory activities.
- smaller groups involving 3-4 classes allowed students to learn another song, have an introduction to the Olympic ideals and then participate in 3 activities - a game, deco-

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FINDING GOLD Report cont.

rating biscuit medals and contributing to an Olympic sculpture. This allowed team to mix with students and encourage their creativity.

- a Closing Ceremony which allowed different groups to showcase their game and song and present the sculpture that had been worked on by all students. This assembly often generated heaps of enthusiasm and excitement amongst the students - a taste of the Olympic Games spirit.

The 5-6 sessions per day were often hectic for the team, but at the end of the day there was a great sense of contentment knowing that we were able to model a Christian community where all were included and valued. Feedback from teachers and students were mostly positive as they sensed this spirit of cooperation, participation and community.

THE FINDING GOLD TEAM

A total of 28 people from 11 churches in the northern suburbs participated as team members. The "seminar" programme needed 12 people each session and the ALL DAY programme required 16-18 team per day.

Another 7 musicians were recruited from across Adelaide. The musicians, coordinated by Gerry Holmes, provided a strong musical base for FINDING GOLD.

The musicians, storytellers and other performers rehearsed in the week before the programme commenced. This was under the encouraging directorship of Gerry Holmes. Gerry had the experience and expertise to blend "professionals" and others into an effective team. There was very positive feedback from our team at the conclusion of the programme.

A special thanks to 11 different churches who provided refreshments for the team - Holy Cross Anglican, Craigmore Christian Centre, Elizabeth Lutheran, Elizabeth Church of Christ, St. Catherine's Anglican, Cornerstone Uniting Church, Elizabeth South Catholic, Salisbury Lutheran, Parafield Gdns. Uniting, Salisbury Uniting Church and Salisbury East Church of Christ. This hospitality was hugely appreciated by the team.

Below: A group of students participating in FINDING GOLD



FINDING GOLD FINANCES

Our original budget was \$9,500. This was based on 2 teams presenting over 8 days (total 16 days). A decision several weeks before starting the programme resulted in us only using one team over 11 days. Our budget included income (up to \$2,000) from Council grants. We were unsuccessful with both grants this time.

A Summary of Finances

INCOME

School Donations	\$2,841.50
Playford ICC & Churches	1,300.00
Salisbury ICC & Churches	1,100.10
Individual donations	860.00
CD sales & other	<u>186.70</u>
Total	\$6,288.30

EXPENSES

CD production	\$1,092.50
Artists	4,000.00
Promotion, props, food etc	<u>1,139.45</u>
Total	\$6,231.95

GOODS-IN-KIND (estimate)

Donations of goods/equipment were received:	
Arnotts Biscuits Ltd. 100 pkts. Marie biscuits	\$120
Sugar Australia - Icing Sugar, sugar	50
Franklins Supermarkets - confectionery	50
Salisbury Uniting Church - PA system	150
Gardens Community Church - use halls for rehearsal & use PA accessories	250
Elizabeth Catholic South - materials for crafts	50
Provision of food/drinks by 11 churches	<u>400</u>
Total	\$1,070

Outstanding expenses are approx. \$50-\$100

A detailed Financial Report is available on request.

SUMMARY

On talking with the Team and gauging response from students and staff, I would rate the FINDING GOLD programme as highly successful.

It was a real joy to see local Christians getting involved in the presentation side of the programme as well as providing hospitality.

The programme gave opportunity for students to reflect on the true spirit of the Olympics. Hopefully this will get them to see that relationships are more important than winning a gold medal. We were able to share God's love with the students in a way that we hope will stir them to think more about the meaning and purpose of life.

The Planning Group thanks all those who contributed to the programme whether in prayer, financially, providing goods-in-kind or offering encouragement.

A special thanks to both Salisbury and Playford ICC's for their ongoing support.