

# Spotlight - April 2008



Girlguiding UK



The Methodist Church 

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday edition of the new Spotlight! I hope you have all enjoy reading the publication and value it as an excellent way to communicate news and experiences with members of the church family.

I welcome comments and criticisms from everyone who reads Spotlight as new ideas can be included which will benefit everyone and other less useful parts could be taken out, it's up to you! Let me know!

Don't forget that Spotlight is available for download from the 'Our Church - Wesley' section of the Boys' Brigade website, the address is: [www.5thwestbromwich.co.uk](http://www.5thwestbromwich.co.uk)

The deadline for items to be included in the June 2008 edition is Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008.

All items, as usual will be gratefully received.

Matthew.



## **Count your Blessings**

Count your blessings instead of your crosses.

Count your joys instead of your woes.

Count your gains instead of your losses.

Count your friends instead of your foes.

Count your smiles instead of your tears.

Count your courage instead of your fears.

Count your full years instead of your lean.

Count your deeds instead of your mean.

Count your health instead of your wealth.

Love your neighbour as much as yourself.

Contact the Editor: - Email: - [mattclive@advantagewm.co.uk](mailto:mattclive@advantagewm.co.uk) Tel: - 07773 280 876  
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## **Methodist Homes for the Aged - Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> 2008**

If you do have an MHA box could you please bring it to be emptied before the 1<sup>st</sup> June? The amount can then be included with the MHA Sunday total.

If you would like a box, I would be very happy to supply one. It doesn't matter how large or small the amount, Methodist Homes are VERY thankful, and they do wonderful work with the older people.

Very many thanks for your help and support in the past.

**Iris Reynolds.**



Methodist Homes Sunday is an opportunity for: -

- **Celebration** - of the work of MHA and the value of older people.
- **Awareness** - of future needs and ways to respond
- **Fundraising** - to make a difference to the quality of life for older people
- **Volunteers** - working together
- **Recognition** - of 'The Church in Action' for older people.

This year MHA celebrates 65 years of caring for the older and more vulnerable members of our communities. We shall continue to extend and develop our care to meet the changing needs of older people in the future.

### **Boys' Brigade - Junior Section**

The junior section would like to thank everyone who helped with the Blue Peter disc appeal. We managed to collect 2 large boxes full of CD's, so thank you again.

We have been busy since Christmas. We spent an evening at the malthouse stables having a go at archery and fencing (yes the one with the swords not fence posts as one of our lads thought). They all looked very good in their white suits and mesh masks.

We must say a great big thank you to one of our Dads who has filled in the holes in the institute walls and provided the paint for us to redecorate. So the other Friday night we had 16 little lads busy painting the walls. Hopefully by the time you read this it should be all finished, making a big improvement for anyone who uses the room.

We have just come back from a great weekend in the peak district where we had every weather imaginable. We all woke up to inches of snow on the Sunday! I don't know who had the most fun playing in it, the lads or the Staff (yes I do the staff)!

We have recently entered the battalion colouring competition with one of our Lads winning his class and another coming 2nd. Very well done Jack Forrest Sadler and Joshua Richards.

We are hoping to enter the Battalion Swimming gala and the figure marching in the next month.

So as you can see we are keeping busy.

**Andrew Henson & Julie Dixon**

### **Edinburgh City Marathon 2008**

I am running the 26.2 miles on the 25<sup>th</sup> May in aid of the RNLI. The RNLI is a charity whose aim is to save lives at sea around the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland. To find out exactly how they work you can visit their website: <http://www.rnli.org.uk/> I will be aiming to complete the marathon in less than 4 hrs so if you would like to sponsor me I will be leaving a sponsor form on the notice board at the front of Wesley.

**Thank you, Matthew Clive.**



### **Wesley Pantomime 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**

We all gathered as invited on 17 February to share many memories and reminisce of pantomimes gone by over the last 60 years. It was lovely that so many people had managed to attend, some travelling from a distance and those who had brought their families back to share the occasion. As you looked round the room it was as if time had stood by as you recognised so many faces from the past who had attended Wesley over the years. The photographs round the room proved to be a brain teaser as you started to recognise people from the early days, it was like a book of 'who's who' fitting names to faces and then it hit you where have all the years gone! Thanks to Graham for the speech he made and to Jane and Ian for their hard work in pulling the afternoon together. My memories were of being in the 1974 production of Sleeping Beauty which took place at Lyng Church that year and I played the Good Fairy. I had a lovely long blue dress with netting round the bottom which ended up a much shorter version by the end of the week due to Mac Wills keep treading on it! The Pantomime was always a time of hard work and some tense moments along the way but the end result was worth it and a time of building on friendships. Hopefully the Pantomime will remain a part of Wesley for many more years to come.

**Rachelle Gould**

### **Men's Weekend - 26/27<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

Tickets are available at a measly cost of £4.50 each for Saturday night entertainment where the men will be singing songs from around the world. From Waterloo to New York New York we're sure we'll keep you entertained not to mention fed with lovely food! Everyone is welcome to join us on Sunday in worship led by Gary Hopkins. See Beryl for tickets.

- If you know of anybody who should receive a copy of Spotlight in the post please inform Ian Collett.
- If anybody would like a copy emailed to them please inform the editor and it can be arranged.

### **Calendar of Events**

- **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April - The Harmonies from Warley Male Choir**
- **Saturday/Sunday 26/27<sup>th</sup> April - Men's Weekend (Around the World in 80 Songs)**
- **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May - SAFCO Evening (Content TBC)**
- **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Methodist Homes for the Aged Day**
- **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - SAFCO Evening (Content TBC)**
- **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July - SAFCO Evening (Content TBC)**
- **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> July - Boys' Brigade Camp at Deiniolen, N. Wales**
- **November - Ladies Weekend (TBC)**



### **Ongoing Fundraisers**

- **Fynns Adventures (Contact Jane/Ian on 0121 588 6877)**
- **Copper Collection (Hand full containers to Ian and empty ones available in concourse)**



We are proud to have had strong links with Wesley Methodist Church for many years

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Fax: 0121 500 5972  
Web Site: [www.ault.co.uk](http://www.ault.co.uk)  
E mail: [enquiries@ault.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ault.co.uk)

#### **Disposal of Rubbish**

Will you please ensure that only items that burn are placed in the fire bin, that is, NO plastic, steel or clothes.



Thank You.

#### **Family News**

##### **Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to Margaret Price who was 80 on the 9<sup>th</sup> March!

Happy Birthday to Rev. Carole Holden who celebrated being a year less young on the 6<sup>th</sup> April!

##### **Sympathy**

Our Love and prayers to Phyllis Ault on the death of her sister in law Margaret (Peggy)

#### **Christmas Come Early?!**

I know it is a little early to be thinking of the Christmas Fayre, but I am hoping to do a holiday stall this year again and since it's coming up to holiday season we need to start collecting! When you go off sunning yourself, think of Wesley and bring us a small present back that we can raise some money with on the holiday stall at Christmas please. Just a little something.

Thank you  
**Anita.**



#### **Wesley Pantomime 2008 - Puss in Boots**

I'm not a great fan of pantomimes, but do appreciate all the hard work that goes into a professional production such as was presented at Wesley during this February's half-term holiday. I came along on the Tuesday evening, to what was almost, it appeared, a full-house.

Although I am maybe a little biased, the chorus this year were excellent. Not only did they all know their dance steps, they also knew all the words to the songs and sang at the top of voices for all to hear. The cast weren't too bad either!

It's wonderful to see so many people coming together from all ages and groups of Wesley's community to carry on this great tradition.

Not only do the stars on stage enjoy themselves, but everyone seems to enjoy being involved, whether helping back-stage, in the dressing rooms, front of house or in the kitchen. I always try to get "on the rota" helping with refreshments for at least one night, as I always enjoy having a natter in the kitchen when the washing-up's done!

I don't know exactly how many people are actually involved throughout the whole week, but it must be a quite a lot, showing that Wesley is alive and great things can happen, and will continue to, I hope.

A lot of hard work goes into these productions, but as they say, if something's worth doing, it's worth doing properly, I think that can be said of Wesley's pantos, they seem to be getting better every year.

Just remember if you need something doing, ask a busy person! I hope all involved in the planning, preparation and performances enjoy their 6-month break before it all starts again!

He's behind you!  
**Helen Parker**



## Jerusalem Joy – Palm Sunday

The choir have resurrected a past tradition of leading Palm Sunday evening worship at Wesley with a performance of Roger Jones' Easter cantata "Jerusalem Joy", last performed in Wesley in 2003.

The choir and friends, mostly from Wesley along with David Woodman and Doreen Davies from other churches in the circuit, spent 6 hours on Saturday rehearsing and sharing fellowship together. An excellent day was had by all, from the feedback I've had, special thanks again to our catering staff, Liz Vaughan and Ruth Collett who ensured that we were all sufficiently fed and watered throughout the day. Thanks also to Evelyn and Ray for ensuring that the church was heated and we were all able to rehearse in comfort without being wrapped in coats, hats, scarves and gloves!

For a small charge (£2 to cover CD's and printing) CD's are available to order for anyone that's interested, please put your name on the list on the Wesley Noticeboard and I will get copies to those who request them in due course

Plans are underway for the presentation of another Roger Jones' cantata at Christmas, this time one that's not been done at Wesley before, "Simeon".

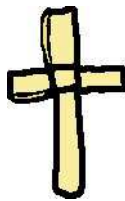
Simeon is a musical re-telling of the Christmas story from the perspective of Simeon, comprising ten songs and lasting approximately 45 minutes with narration and soloists (Mary, Joseph, Simeon and Anna - auditions to be held in the autumn! Only joking!)

It is likely that rehearsals will start in October through to November, with possibly a day's "Refresher workshop" nearer the performance! Watch this space for details!

Thanks again to everyone who supported us

Alleluia, he is risen!

**Helen Parker**



## Did you know? - Switch off the flow of junk mail

Is there anything worse than coming back from holiday, than finding that the postman has delivered a stack of junk mail that more often than not goes straight in the bin? Or to be having a meal or watching TV when the phone rings and it's someone wanting to sell you double glazing or insurance. This advice appeared in a National Newspaper and it really works.

Unaddressed Junk Mail - Stop it by contacting: The Door Marketing Association (UK) Ltd., DMA House, 70 Margaret Street, London, W1W 8SS or ring 01865 780 400. It will add your name to a list and the Royal Mail will stop delivering the stuff.

Address Junk Mail - To cut out junk mail specifically to your address contact: The Mailing Preference Service, Freepost 22, London, W1E 7EZ or telephone 0207 291 3310.

## Wesley Gift Day – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2008

I am sure that you will already be aware that it is the tradition in the Methodist Church to have an annual Gift Day, when the Church accepts monetary gifts towards the work of the Church. Our Gift Day this year will be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

Asking for money is always difficult and not something that anyone likes doing, but unfortunately it is very necessary if the Church is to survive and continue its work.



There is an awful lot of good work done at Wesley, and the provision of worship twice on a Sunday, although the kingpin of everything, is actually only the tip of the iceberg. For example, the youth organisations are growing in numbers and they perform an essential job with young people in a society where standards have dropped over the years and need to be raised again. The ladies and men's group provide fellowship and enjoyment, and although strictly speaking not a Church organised group, Wesley has for many years provided a meeting place for the Widows Group, who cater for ladies who find themselves on their own.

This work, and much more that has not been mentioned here, and the provision of a Methodist place of worship in the centre of a developing West Bromwich town centre needs to continue. Please help us to ensure that it does continue by making a donation to our Gift Day.

Any donation is gratefully accepted however big or small. Cheques should be made payable to Wesley Church and sent for the attention of the Church Treasurer to Wesley Church, 291 High Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B70 8ND. If you would like to make a regular donation in lieu of offertory, a standing order mandate form can be made available upon request.

Thank you in anticipation.

**Ian P Collett**  
Church Treasurer





### **The Anchor Boys, Moses and a donkey**

You can be forgiven for thinking from the title that this is a story from the Bible, but it's not. Our Anchor Boys have recently sponsored a donkey at the Elisabeth Svendsen Trust for Children and Donkeys, (EST) which is based in Sutton Park.

Dr Elizabeth Svendsen MBE was the founder of the trust which is a charity dedicated to providing riding therapy with donkeys to children with special needs and disabilities, not to mention giving them enjoyment and pleasure at the same time.

There are other centres in Sidmouth, Manchester, Leeds and Ivybridge as well as the one local to us in Sutton Park, and the centres are used every week by up to 150 children from local schools.

On the two weeks leading up to Easter at our Anchor Boy meetings, we looked at the Easter story from the point of view of the donkey that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on, and largely as a result of that we decided to sponsor one of the donkeys at the EST in Sutton and chose Moses, which we felt was an appropriate named donkey for a group attached to a Church.

We are hoping that at some time in the not too distant future we will be able to take the Anchor Boys on a visit to Sutton Park to see Moses and the other donkeys. In the meantime we know that he and the other donkeys continue to "bring happiness to special children".

#### **Jane Collett**

Officer in Charge

5<sup>th</sup> West Bromwich Company, Anchor Boys



### **Take a bear on holiday**



I'm sure that you will all know about taking Fynn on holiday with you and paying £5 to Wesley for the privilege, not to mention submitting a photograph of Fynn whilst on his holidays.

Originally the idea was that this would be just for the year of 2007, but he has proved to be very popular and in great demand and so SaFCo have decided to continue with the idea for the foreseeable future.

So, Fynn has his case packed again, his passport is in date and has plenty of spare pages in it and he would really like to visit some new exciting and exotic places that he hasn't that he hasn't been to before.



If you would like to take Fynn on holiday with you, contact Ian or Jane on 0121 588 6877 with the dates required and they can be put in his diary, if he is not already booked up of course.

### **Did you know? - Switch off the flow of junk mail (Continued, yes there's more!)**

If you are fed up with people calling to offer home improvements etc. you can stop them by registering with the Telephone Preference Service on 0207 291 3320).

Silent Calls - Most disturbing of all is when the phone rings but no one speaks when you answer. Some forms have machines that dial dozens of numbers at once and not enough staff to answer them all. You are left wondering what prankster has phone you. The answer it to ring 'The silent Phoneguard Service' on 0870 443 969.

**Iris Reynolds.**

**A couple of photos from the past: -**

Can you name them all?



Ted Griffiths (Organist and Choir Master twice) and Wyn Griffiths (longstanding member) outside Wesley with the Choir following their wedding at Wesley.



Rangers from Wesley outside the Girl Guiding World Centre "Our Chalet" in Adelboden, Bernese Oberland, Switzerland in August 1977.

**List of Church Contacts**

*Stewards: -*

Beryl Price - 01922 635 891      Iris Reynolds - 0121 553 4506      Anita Warner - 0121 553 5135  
Eric Fieldhouse - 01922 620 704      Michael Vaughan - 01922 643 199      Delroy Henry

*Caretaker & Room Booking: - Evelyn Gough. Tel: - 0121 588 4111*

*Minister of Wesley: - Rev Carol Holden. 0121 358 1423*

*Superintendent Minister:-*

Rev Alan Jenkins, 72 Dudley Street, West Bromwich. Tel: - 0121 553 2085 Email: [alandjenkins@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alandjenkins@yahoo.co.uk)



**Church Services are held every Sunday at 11:00 and 18:15**