



Junior Section

Junior section is going from strength to strength, we now have 26 lads in total with an average attendance of 24.

This session we are concentrating on David and Goliath as this is the theme for two of our battalion competitions (a bible quiz and a drawing competition).

We've been having great fun playing games and activities with 'big versus small' and 'how the mighty have fallen' as themes.

We came second in the bible quiz and received a trophy! Well done to Caleb Woodall, Stuart Kirk and Jordon Pritchard. You did really well lads.

We will be attending the pantomime on the Friday performance. After this our theme will be transport with various activities planned. Great fun and excitement is had by all on Friday nights.
(staff included who have grown older but have never grown up).

Julie and Andrew

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Hopefully this edition of Spotlight will be with you just before we are due to perform this year's pantomime, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, on Monday 21st to Saturday 26th February inclusive.

It is difficult to know what to say about the pantomime that's new and will catch your attention, so it's probably not worth me trying. So I will just say that the cast and chorus and others behind the scenes have been working very hard to make this year's production a success and I am sure that you will enjoy our offering. Please come along and support the pantomime it really is a bargain at just £4.00 for adults and £3.00 for children, and we're even planning on having ice creams for sale in the interval this year so how about that for progress!

We may not have Joan Collins (like the Birmingham Hippodrome had) or aerial flying (like Lichfield Garrick had) or a puppet and ventriloquist (like the Wolverhampton Grand had), but we have so very much more – what then you may say - well come along and find out for yourself !

Tickets are available from Liz Vaughan on 0121 553 3727 and we look forward to seeing you there ready to boo, hiss, cheer, clap, shout, and just have a really enjoyable evening.

Ian P Collett

Baby Pack Project

Thank you to everyone who contributed goods or money to enable Women's Network to support the appeal. We did extremely well and I had four letters from Val Bailey in South Africa thanking us for all the boxes we sent. I don't know how many boxes were sent altogether as some people sent their own but I must have sent over 50 boxes. As usual your generosity exceeded all expectations.

Linda Adams



The deadline for items to be included in the April 2011 edition of Spotlight is Sunday 3rd April 2011.

Dates for your Diary

Pantomime	21 st to 26 th February
Churches Together at Hallam Street	15 th February
Wesley 'After Pantomime' Service	27 th February (pm)
Circuit meeting at Wesley	1 st March
Mothering Sunday	3 rd April
Service to be led by Choir & Helen	10 th April (pm)
Sunday School Easter Anthology	19 th April (7.45pm)

New Record!

The Christmas Fayre raised a total of £1164.89 which is a new record!

Quotes

"Follow your bliss." -- Joseph Campbell

"The greatest thing in the world is to know how to be one's own self." -- Montaigne

Christmas donations to charity

We started in November when we sent 19 show boxes full of goodies to our soldiers in Afghanistan.

Then we answered the appeal from the West Bromwich Community church for toys, chocolate and food for families on low incomes.

We also collected sleeping bags, blankets, hats, gloves and scarves for Centrepont Christian Church who provided a soup kitchen for the homeless. These were received with much thanks in the cold weather.

Our Christingle service and Girl Guiding UK Christingle service raised £260 which went to Action for Children. Our Christmas Eve communion service was £22 which went to Shelter and finally the Christmas morning & post boy donations of £151.07 went to the Birmingham Children's hospital. Thank you for supporting these various charities.

Wesley Family Committee

The Family Committee meets three times a year and is made up of representatives from all of the Church organisations – the Church family.

The meeting hears reports from all of the organisations as to their current membership and leaders, and the organisations current up to date situation including any problems or difficulties and / or successes. It also discusses worship matters and considers forthcoming events and dates. The current high profile matter of making sure that our young people are 'Safe from Harm' is also a matter dealt with initially at Family Committee.

The meeting last met on Monday 10 January 2011 and was a very well attended meeting. According to the reports received we currently have 88 young people in our uniformed youth organisations, most of which are regular attendees, (the actual number will be more as not all of the organisations had sent reports in). Many of the groups are growing at present, some are actively recruiting, and if you know of any youngsters who want to join please get in touch with us.

The meeting on the 10th January also spent time getting the Churches 'Safe from Harm' issues more up to date, although this will take a bit of time to pull everything together and get to where it should be.

It came to light in the meeting that our Guide unit at Wesley is 80 years old in March this year. As a result of this it was agreed that the family service on the morning of Sunday 13th March should celebrate this achievement and it was agreed that Pat Greenhalgh as a long standing member of GirlGuiding UK be asked to preach and our guides be 'on duty' that morning.

Two of the recent positive and constructive things to come out of the Family Committee are the formulation and introduction of the song / hymn booklet for use at the Church Family service on the second Sunday in each month. All of the 80 plus songs have been chosen by our youth leaders as suitable for worship with our young people. The other is the rota for the various organisations to be 'on duty' at the family services, when our young people will contribute to the service which can be as little as taking the collection or welcoming you at the door, to in theory taking the service completely.

If there is any relevant news from future Family Committee meetings we will endeavour to inform you of it through the pages of Spotlight.

Ian and Jane Collett
Family Committee Joint Secretaries



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

**Contact us for all your insurance needs
Personal and Commercial**

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Fax: 0121 500 5972
Web Site: www.ault.co.uk
E mail: enquiries@ault.co.uk

**5TH West Bromwich Boys' Brigade
present**

Sandwell Youth Jazz Orchestra

**Saturday 5th March, Wesley Chapel,
High Street, West Bromwich at 19:30**

Cost: Adults £5:00 Concessions £3:00, includes refreshments. Ticket line 07943575158 or on the door

Thank You

I just want to say a huge thank-you to everyone for their lovely cards, gifts and best wishes following my stay in hospital and operation. To know that so many people have been thinking of me and praying for me has really helped my recovery no end. I am now feeling much better and recovering really well. I do want to send my special thanks and appreciation to my Mom, Tom, Matthew and Sarah who have done so much for me to help me and aid my recovery and without whom I wouldn't have got over it so quickly. They have been making sure that I "follow Doctors orders" and not letting me do too much! Once again, thank you all and very special thanks to Ann for all her love, support and advice!

Karen Wedgbury

Family News

Our thoughts and prayers for Jack Neale, Fred Wilkins, Phylis Ault and Terry Brown.

Birthday Wishes to Margaret Chambers, Liz Vaughan and Anita Warner!

Special Birthday Wishes to Eric Fieldhouse celebrating his 90th Birthday, Rev. Mike Claridge who is 50 and Matthew Vaughan on his 21st.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Hilary and Jonathon, daughter and grandson of Tom Turner who died on the 29th December.

SAFCO

It certainly was a Happy New Year at the SAFCO evening on Wednesday 19th January; with a popular Fish & Chip meal followed by games of bingo and Hoy! 2011 has got off to a fun start.

Look out for more fun nights to be organised by SAFCO each 3rd Wednesday of the month (except during February when Wesley is somewhat taken over by the Panto).

Please note that there is change of dates for April 2011, as the third Wednesday in April falls during Holy Week the committee felt it appropriate to move the social evening to the following week, 27th April, when we will have the opportunity for a pre-Royal wedding Hen & Stag party!

Contact the Editor: - Email: - mattclive@advantagewm.co.uk Tel: - 07773 280 876
Address: - 36 The Broadway, West Bromwich, B71 2QQ

- 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.

The Beginning of the Redevelopment of Wesley

It is three years since I last wrote to inform you of what is going on with regard to redevelopment.

Not much happened for a long time and now everything seems to be happening at once.

The new Police Station is well on the way with its construction and likewise the under-pass on the Expressway. Cronehills School has been replaced and the site cleared. All in readiness for Tesco starting work on its enormous store.

We are in an economic hole and yet all this is happening.

We at Wesley have been waiting for the last ten years for something to happen which would carry us along with it and do it for us. **IT AIN'T HAPPENED!**

The old saying "If you want something done, do it yourself" remains sound advice.

In October Church Council made the decision to upgrade and improve the community used area of the premises, namely the Akrill Hall, its ancillary rooms and its facilities at the rear of the premises, starting with improving the Men's Toilet and installing a Disabled Toilet. Further work to follow includes improving the heating system and extending work to the sloping roofs to include as many of our 23 flat roofs as possible. This further work required plans to be drawn and now requires Planning Approval which, when obtained, must be started within 3 years.

In December, in line with Church Council wishes, a Limited Company was registered as 291 Community Association Limited. This non-profit company will be working for the good of the Community by improving the facilities and thereby the mission work of the church.

Iris Reynolds, together with her team of helpers, has raised a third of the cost of the work for the disabled toilet, men's toilet, new windows and decoration to the passageway and rear lobby area. In addition, the money raised by Terry Price and others in the Redevelopment Fund will be used towards these improvements. The idea is that by carrying out these improvements to the rear of the premises we are starting and also preparing the way for the redevelopment of the church.

Whilst we have enough money to cover the cost of the initial work the following work will cost in excess of £70,000.

The Limited Company will be applying for grants but we will need to play our individual part in doing whatever we can to raise funds.

Four years ago the members of Wesley resolved that they wanted to stay on the High Street and redevelop.

Well we are now at the beginning of our redevelopment.

Friends, we are already a month into this New Year so did you make any resolutions? Have you kept them?

Can I ask you to strengthen your resolve of four years ago and help us to bring about God's Plan for Wesley?

Talk to one another, think what you could do.

Pray for inspiration but above all pray for the Limited Company and our mission for Wesley and how we can improve the lives of those around us.

helen@thepedals

Thanks to the brave 35 or so people who came along on a very snowy Saturday morning before Christmas for a special "helen@thepedals" coffee morning. The most appropriate Christmas Carols and Songs were certainly "In the Bleak Mid-Winter", "See amid the Winter's Snow" and "Winter Wonderland". There's a picture of the Wesley Carpark Winter Wonderland below (taken from the coffee lounge window while the coffee morning and organ recital were happening).

Another helen@thepedals coffee morning is being planned for the spring or summer, when hopefully the weather will be a little kinder.



4th West Bromwich Rainbows Unit

Since September we have had a very busy time. We started back to Rainbows by having our tea altogether, finding out what we had all been up to during our three week break. Five of our long standing girls moved up to Brownies, we were very sad to see them go, as we had had some really lovely times with them all. In October we went to our first Rainbow sleepover. The girls had a fantastic time, spending the evening with other Rainbows from the West Bromwich area - we even got 6 hours sleep, so that was definitely a bonus. Also during October we also attended the Centenary finale at Bescot stadium. It was a great night; we danced to an Abba tribute band, watched the colours being paraded, remade our promises and looked forward to the beginning of the next 100 years.

At Christmas we did all the usual activities, but this year we went to see Santa at Sandwell Valley Park Farm. It was very cold, but worth the wait as Santa was very kind to the girls. We ended the day by attending the Guiding Christingle.

We have started the New Year by beginning work on a new badge, called Happy Me, which is designed to help raise the girls self esteem and self worth whilst doing fun activities, being kind and helpful. We also celebrated the Chinese New Year last week, eating Chinese food, which the girls loved.

We have lots planned for the coming months, including; attending a Thinking Day event and watching the Pantomime at Church.

At present our numbers are lower than we would like, so if you know any girls between the ages 5 and 7 please let one of us know.

Thank you.

Rebecca Lilly and Jemma Anderson.

Finance matters

I'm sure that most if not all of you reading this will be aware that the church as a charity is able to claim back from the government tax paid by you on monetary gifts you make to the church. You may remember articles that we have put in past editions of Spotlight regarding this issue.

To take advantage of this, the giver must be paying UK tax at least equivalent to the amount of tax the church will claim back, and they must sign a gift aid declaration form giving the charity concerned, in this case Wesley Church, permission to claim the tax refund.

There are several reasons for raising this issue again now:-

- Gift Aid is a very easy source of income for the Church, and let's face it who wouldn't want the Church to take money off the government when it is perfectly entitled to and at no cost to anyone else.
- The amount of tax that the Charity can claim back is changing from 6th April 2011, and is reducing by 3p in the pound to fall in line with the current basic rate of tax. The Church will consequently get less tax refunded in future years for the same level of giving. It would be great if we could replace this shortfall with new additions to the current list of givers who have gift aided their gifts.
- Kath Homeshaw has for many years looked after our gift aid requirements and has made a very good job of it, but she is now handing over the reigns to Gill Willdig. We thank Kath for all her diligent work over many years, and thank Gill for taking over responsibility.

If you have any questions about Gift Aiding your monetary gifts to the church please do not hesitate to contact either me or Gill, Gift Aid Declaration forms are available from me should anyone need one.

Ian P Collett
Church Treasurer

giftaid it

Solution to the December Sudoku

5	9	1	6	2	3	4	8	7
2	4	8	9	7	1	6	5	3
3	6	7	4	8	5	2	9	1
1	7	4	8	5	6	9	3	2
6	5	3	7	9	2	8	1	4
8	2	9	3	1	4	5	7	6
7	1	5	2	4	8	3	6	9
9	3	2	5	6	7	1	4	8
4	8	6	1	3	9	7	2	5

Quotes

"If you have not often felt the joy of doing a kind act, you have neglected much, and most of all yourself." - **A. Neilen**

"Really big people are, above everything else, courteous, considerate and generous - not just to some people in some circumstances - but to everyone all the time." - **Thomas J. Watson**

"You have not lived a perfect day, unless you have done something for someone who will never be able to repay you." - **Ruth Smeltzer**

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile." - **Mother Teresa**

Ladies Circle – Speakers for 2011

SPEAKERS FOR 2011

January 5th  and Quiz

February 2nd Annual General Meeting
Games etc.
Coffee served by: Jean Spencer & Kath Fieldhouse

March 2nd Speaker: Mrs Pat Greenhalgh
Sailing away on a Cruise
Coffee served by: Clara Gibbons and Kath Homeshaw

April 6th Easter
Speaker: Margaret Bidnell
Coffee served by: Margaret Chambers & Ann Percival



May 4th Speaker: Mr John Linney
Wading through Scotland
Coffee served by: Joyce Pitt and Angela Hunt

June 1st Outing



SPEAKERS FOR 2011

July 6th Speaker: Mr Denzil Smith
A Prison Visitor



August 3rd Speaker: Mrs Moreen Wilkes
Working at the Black Country Museum

Coffee served by: Jean Brown and Carol Osborne

September 7th Speaker: Mr & Mrs Powell
Talk on Twins

Coffee served by: Margaret Harrison Lily Hodgetts

October 5th Speaker: Revd Pat Horton

My work as Hospital Chaplain



Coffee served by: Olive Brookes and Julia Wilkins

November 2nd Speaker: Mrs Leslie Sproston
A visit to Tanzania

Coffee served by: Beryl Price and Doris Thorne

December 7th Christmas Meal – to be arranged



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 Helen Parker

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

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

