



Girlguiding UK



The Methodist Church 

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank those of you who sponsored me to run the Edinburgh Marathon in May. I completed the 26.2 miles in 3:53.17 (target was 4 hrs) and came 2,308<sup>th</sup> out of 10,000 finishers and have had almost £450 pledged to the RNLI for my efforts! I am very pleased with my time and the amount raised so if you haven't paid your sponsorship money, can you please hand it to me or Joyce Pitt so that we can tick you off the list.

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 August 2008 edition is Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008.

All items, as usual will be gratefully received.



Matthew.

### Save your Shoeboxes!

I thought it would be a good idea if Wesley joined in with what is commonly known as 'The Shoe Box Appeal'. To that end, would you please save your shoe boxes up? Please collect as many as you can. I will be happy to store them until they need to be filled.

More details to follow later.

Thank you.



Linda Adams

### A WESLEY CLEAN UP

On the 28<sup>th</sup> June the Property Committee are having a 'clean up'. Help would be very much appreciated to do some of the jobs that are listed below.

Window cleaning inside/outside the Institute, Guild Room, Asbury Room and between the Church and Lounge. Clean fascia panels, litter pick, remove weeds etc. General sweep up.

The 'clean up' would start at 9.00am and finish at 1.00pm. If you can only spend one hour that would be most welcome. If you can help in any way please contact Derek or Mick O. Thanks.

### SO- WHERE IS GOD?

After nearly three months in hospital and having one more leg off, the thought of how it used to be makes me stop. I was 6ft tall and proud to walk with clothes that suited the occasion.

In 50 years of Local Preaching I spoke of God as though I knew him personally.

I found God in the African bush at dawn one morning just outside our Lodge when a group of Koreans also on Safari lifted hands and voices in harmony to God and sang "How great thou art" or a Palm Sunday in Sri Lanka when we saw and became involved in a procession of men, women and children in pouring rain carrying a wooden cross to their Church. Then I found Him in the Welsh mountains where I walked and climbed in the company of boys and girls, men and women; people of the Church and outside the Church, who gave comfort, courage, support when life was not going as we would have it go.

In Welsh sunset or distant sunrise with unusual sound or place He is there in word or expression, in continual love and fellowship.

Thank you for all your calls and enquires, cards and flowers to Me and Mollie. I cannot reply in gratitude to each one individually I can only say that God is with us all.

SO-THERE IS GOD.

Jack Neale



## **Men's Weekend**

This year's theme was 'Around the World in 80 Songs' although if it really had been we'd still be there now!

After many weeks of practice, the Saturday evening got off to a great start with a delicious meal starting with fresh melon followed by roast beef with trimmings, then Brian's homemade bread and butter pudding and custard and finally cheese and biscuits! A mighty feast fit for a queen (or king for those men not taking part in men's weekend).

Then there was the entertainment; many songs from around the world from 'Tulips from Amsterdam' to 'Waterloo' and 'Jerusalem' were all sung with gusto by the men.

The Sunday services were led by Gary Hopkins and the men sang an introit, anthem and vesper. I've heard comments such as 'It was the best one yet' so let's keep it up and do even better next time!

Thanks must go to Jenny and Helen for playing the piano, Brian and helpers for arranging the exquisite food, Ken and Michael for selecting the music and conducting, Gary Hopkins for leading the worship on both services on Sunday and finally thanks must go to all the men who took part and put the time and effort into learning the music, practicing and making the weekend the success it was.



- 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.

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

## **Calendar of Events**

- **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Methodist Homes for the Aged Day**
- **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - SAFCO Evening (Midsummer Madness!)**
- **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July - SAFCO Evening**
- **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)**



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**SAFCO.**

Our thanks to SAFCo for all their hard work throughout the year but especially for the super lunch they prepared for us on Sunday 1st June. The starter alone was a meal, followed by roast lamb, new potatoes, roast potatoes, carrots, peas and beans and the sweets, ah! the sweets were sheer indulgence. The lamb was so tender it fell off the bone - well except for the bits that were picked off by 'people' who shall remain nameless, although cameras were much in evidence. Tea and coffee followed and all for £4. Just in case you have forgotten, the next event is on June 25th, Midsummer Madness'. What is going to happen? Just come and find out.

**Mollie Neale**



**1<sup>st</sup> West Bromwich Brownies**

A few weeks ago we invited Diane and her dog 'Bruno' to come and talk to us about 'Hearing dogs for deaf People'. Diane showed us how Bruno was trained to listen out for sounds around the house that otherwise she would have been able to hear. The Brownies have been raising money by taking home collection boxes and have managed to raise £32.82 by simply collecting loose change. We are also planning our pack holiday for September and all the girls have just finished the 'friends to animals' badge which they enjoyed.

**Stacey Brookes**

**Welcome Meeting -**

There will be a welcome meeting for the new Superintendent Revd Philip Thomas and Deacon Sara Windsor-Hides on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> September at 7.00pm. Refreshments will be available from 6.00pm - all are welcome.



**A Poem of Direct Debit**

I've had a few funny looks in church of late  
It's about the time they pass the plate  
The plate is here, and then its gone  
And folks realise, I've put nothing on.

And then you see then think a bit  
And realise I've paid by direct debit!



So if I look uneasy and a bit smug  
Bear with me because I'm no mug  
I don't have to search for change or notes you see  
Because it's paid by my bank for me  
Now don't get it wrong, they use my money  
To pay my collection to the church for me.

**With apologies to proper poets by - Anon.**

**ADVERTISE HERE!**

**CONTACT EDITOR FOR  
DETAILS!**

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS READ  
BY OVER 100 PEOPLE AT  
WESLEY & IS AVAILABLE TO  
MILLIONS OF OTHERS ON  
THE INTERNET!**

**LOCAL BUSINESSES  
WELCOME!**

**Old Clothes**

Can anybody with spare clothes or textile materials please donate them to the empty textile cupboard in Alison Henson's classroom at Wodensborough High School? It is quite urgent and as it's looking really bare!

## Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys

The Anchor Boys have been very busy over the last few weeks.

On the morning of Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> May they took part in the Battalion Anchor Boy Fun Day at Walsall Wood, which involved games, a treasure hunt, a quiz, and sports. Our Anchor Boys won the Quiz, three of the relay races and the overall trophy for the morning, well done boys!

Then in the afternoon they went to RAF Cosford. A good time was had at both of these events.

They then went back to Wesley, for a meal, after which they went to Dartmouth Park and then back to Wesley for a sleep over.

Next morning after breakfast, they cleared up before attending the morning service at Wesley, and they were then deposited safely back to their parents.

A very good and busy weekend.

On the evening of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May the Anchor Boys took part, together with the other two sections of the Company, in their annual Awards Evening. This involved the anchor boys receiving awards where appropriate and performing a short item which was very well received. We would like to thank parents and friends from Wesley who came along and supported the evening.

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June they visited West Bromwich Fire Station and during the half term holiday went to Monkey Magic at Trentham.



This year they came runners up in the older section and won the youngest section of the Battalion Picture Competition. The subject this year was 'A portrait of a friend'. Bailey Carswell-Morris won the younger section and Thomas Harper came runner up in the older one, well done boys. The pictures can be viewed on the Mid Staffs and Sandwell Battalion Boys' Brigade web site.

## 'I'd love to be Eight Again' - courtesy of Iris Reynolds.

A man asked his wife what she'd like for her birthday.

'I'd love to be eight again' she replied.

On the morning of her birthday, he arose early and made her a bowl of Coco Pops and jammy toasties!

He took her to Alton Towers and put her on every ride in the park:

- The Death Slide
- The Wall of Fear
- The Screaming Monster roller coaster

Five hours later she staggered out of the theme park.

Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. Right away they went to a McDonalds where her loving husband ordered a happy meal with extra fries and a refreshing milkshake.

Then it was off to the movies: the latest kiddies three hour epic cartoon, a hot dog, popcorn, all the Coke she could drink, her favourite lolly and M&M's!

What a fabulous adventure!

Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed onto the bed exhausted. He leaned over his precious wife with a big smile and lovingly asked 'Well dear, what was it like to be eight again?'

Her eyes slowly opened and her expression changed to one of total realisation... 'I meant my dress size, you OLD FOOL!

The moral of this story: Even when a man is listening, he's still gonna get it wrong...

## Boys' Brigade Weekend at Warslow, Peak District

About 30 Junior Section, Company Section and staff spent an excellent weekend at the North Staffs Battalion activity centre at Warslow. The centre is very close to the manifold way in the Peak District.

As part of the ongoing badge work the older lads completed a map reading exercise which finished by camping out overnight in the centre grounds. Fortunately or unfortunately, it snowed during the night and the whole area was covered with 3 to 4 inches of snow! (Pictures available on the website: [www.5thwestbromwich.co.uk/warslowwknd.htm](http://www.5thwestbromwich.co.uk/warslowwknd.htm) - Ed)

The Junior Section lads also did a lot of walking during the weekend and got very muddy and wet but thought it was great. All of the lads did extremely well and completed the course. Other activities included football, assembling model gliders, painting them and trying to fly them. There were also other activities but I can't remember all of them.

The weather during the weekend was variable ranging from snow, hail, sleet, mist, wind, rain, and finally sunshine - All in one day!

### Summary:

The Spirit and Friendship was good  
The activities were enjoyed by all  
The food was excellent  
The lads were good  
Everyone worked together

Beautiful scenery and a super weekend  
When is the next one?!!!

**Mick O.**



## Guides

Just a quick update from us!

- We are working on our Go for It! programmes, so that we can all earn our next annual Challenge Badge!
- Most of us recently went to camp with another local unit – fun, but very rainy and cold.
- We joined in with the BB awards night and were unfairly defeated at our makeup challenge; the audience voted and went for the comedy value of the silly boy's makeup!!
- We also joined in with the BB road safety class where we have done several activities including designing a road safety poster and learning from a fire officer from West Midland Fire Service.
- After the May parade service we had a quiz that involved walking around West Bromwich and an initiative test back at Wesley.
- We now have permission for a Guide logo to be painted in the Guild Room which should be on the wall soon!

## Race for Life

Hi, on Sunday June 8th in Sandwell Valley, I'm running the 5 km Race for Life in support of Cancer Research UK.

I'm asking if you would please dig deep and sponsor me, either online or by contacting me.

Events like Race for Life are an important way in which Cancer Research UK is able to fund its life-saving work into preventing, diagnosing and treating cancer.

If you could spare a few bob, either contact me on 0121 530 0278 or go to my online donation page at:

[www.raceforlifesporsome.org/jenniferadamsbarrett](http://www.raceforlifesporsome.org/jenniferadamsbarrett)

Thank you, Jen.

**October Parade Service  
- Heads Up**

As most of you know, this year is the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boys' Brigade and to mark the occasion at Wesley we are planning to hold a special service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October and hope that you can all join us in worship at this special time for us.

**A prayer for the stressed! - Another peach from Iris!**

Grant me serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I cannot accept, and the wisdom to hide the bodies of those I had to kill today because they got on my nerves. And also help me to be careful of the toes I step on today as they may be connected to the feet I may have to kiss tomorrow.

Help me to always give 100% at work... 12% on Monday, 23% on Tuesday, 40% on Wednesday, 20% on Thursday and 5% on Friday and help me to remember ...

When I'm having a bad day and it seems that people are trying to wind me up, it takes 42 muscles to frown, 28 to smile and only 4 to extend my arm and smack someone in the mouth!

Amen.

**Fun and Games**

**Summer Fun**

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Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9.

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 A C B O A T I N G I R G  
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 SWIM  
 SWING  
 WADE



**List of Church Contacts**

*Stewards: -*

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 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**