



Girlguiding UK



The Methodist Church 

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the August edition of Spotlight! This time we are treated to a real piece of history, courtesy of Iris in the form of a leaflet published over 100 years ago! There are also pictures from both Guides and Boys Brigade events and the winner from the last editions picture competition.

Don't forget that the 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)

If you know of a local (or not so local) company who would like to advertise within these pages please let me know and I'll contact them with the necessary information.

The deadline for items to be included in the October edition is Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October. All items, as usual will be gratefully received.

Matthew.

## **Flower Festival - June 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2007**

What a beautiful sight greeted you on entering Wesley at the Flower Festival. There seemed to be more and more flowers than ever this year and there are no words to describe the colours and the perfume. A big thank you must be given to Iris for all the hard work not only on the weekend but all through the year.

I think Iris will agree that special thanks must be given to the flower arrangers, most of whom do not attend Wesley and without whom the festival would not be possible. The Sunday services were a fitting climax to the weekend all thanks to Carole and John. Looking forward to the next Flower Festival.



**Joyce Pitt.**

Contact the Editor: - Email: - [mattclive@advantagewm.co.uk](mailto:mattclive@advantagewm.co.uk) Tel: - 07773 280 876

## **Ladies Group Outing**

On June 6<sup>th</sup> our coach picked up 44 of us including friends from the circuit and set off promptly at 10am for the city of bath. The day was bright, the journey pleasant, and we reached the coach park just before 12noon. Everyone had their own ideas on how to fill the next few hour, and small groups of us set out in search of a cup of tea or coffee, or even an early lunch. There are so many places of interest to see and the open-topped tourist buses were a good way of getting around for a number of us.

The Abbey was very popular and also the Roman Bath close by, in a very pleasant square which had seating in the sunshine. Other attractions were the museum of costume the Jane Austen centre, the river Avon and Pulteney bridge, the Pump room and of course the shops. One or two bags were spotted on the coach as we returned to West Bromwich. The outstanding feature of Bath is the magnificent architecture of the Georgian period in warn sandstone, which has made it a World Heritage Site.

At 5pm we began our journey home, arriving at 7:15 all feeling pleasantly relaxed. Many thanks to Iris for arranging such a lovely day out once again.

**Gill Willdig**

## Guides

The girls in Sheffield supporting Laura at the Guiding Star competition on the 30<sup>th</sup> June, where she came second out of all the other girls from around the country! Well Done Laura!



This is our group photo of the movie themed fancy dress night that we had on the 20<sup>th</sup> July!

## Family News

### **Bereavement**

It is with much sadness that we learnt of the recent death of Margaret Hull who passed away on the morning of Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Margaret who was affectionately known as Terrie to most of us was a well respected member of the church. Our thoughts are with Carol, Brian and their family at this sad time.



### **Retirement**

I would like to thank everyone involved in making my "retirement do" such an enjoyable day. Our theme for the day was Alice in Wonderland which by coincidence was the theme of the very first pack holiday I ever went on and Anita While hadn't forgotten that I was "White Rabbit" and so as a memento gave me a lovely cuddly white rabbit as a reminder of all my years in Guiding.

The day started with a little of the Alice story being read to the Brownies then they made jam tarts, book marks, solved some puzzles and made shelters out of garden canes and black plastic bags by then it was time for lunch and after lunch the girls played croquet.

Thank you to all my Guiding friends who turned up later in the afternoon and an especially big thank you to Sharon, Stacey, Laura and Louise for the lovely buffet and beautiful cake, that was all a big surprise. Thank you also to everyone who contributed to my gifts.

**Maureen**

## Company Section

Wow, what a busy two months we've had! It started with a night of indoor climbing and archery at the Malthouse Stables in Tipton followed by our weekend camp at Hampton Loade (before the floods!) where we took our tents and camping stoves, cooked in the woods and walked along the river for 10 miles on the first day and climbed Brown Clee on the second. It was a very enjoyable weekend.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> June we took part in the Battalion sports day at Tamworth Athletics Stadium where Jake Henson won a medal for coming first in the 400m race. We entered virtually every event and did well in each of them, we came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall out of 7 companies. Well done to all the lads who made the effort and took part.



### **Company Section - Continued from previous page**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> July the big day had finally arrived and we set off for our annual camp to Llanllyfni in North Wales. We stayed in an old church building that has been refurbished over the last few years and is now the Tanrallt Mountain Centre. It is in an ideal location with the beach a 5 minute drive away, nice walks all around, Caernarfon is only 7 miles away and we had a fantastic view of Snowdon out of the kitchen window. We were lucky with the weather, with it mostly raining at night and made the most of every sunny opportunity to do many outdoor activities such as Go-Karting, Quad Biking, Archery, Paint-balling, many trips to the beach, nature walks and hikes across beautiful scenes with great mountainous views. You can read a day-by-day review of camp 2007 by downloading it from the website ([5thwestbromwich.co.uk](http://5thwestbromwich.co.uk)) or there are some already printed and have been left at the front of Wesley.

We have been very lucky this year with people showing their kindness and putting themselves out for us to make our week the best possible. We would like to thank everybody who gave us cakes to take; they were really nice and kept us going throughout the week! We would also like to thank Ken and Brian who spent a weekend each with us having driven the transit van to and from camp with all our kit and equipment in.

### **Reflections on Our visit to Iona**

Iona is a small island off the coast of the Isle of Mull off the west coast of Scotland. Margaret and John Chambers and Ann and myself joined with Alan Bidnell's group from Bromsgrove attending the Iona Community week's programme 'Just Church' led by Niall Cooper and Kathy Galloway.

The Iona Community was established in 1938 by Rev George MacLoud, a minister at the time in a poverty stricken area of Glasgow. The rebuilding of the Abbey and other buildings was designed to unite craftsmen and trainee ministers in the task of renovating the historic site. Experiencing the physical renewal of the Abbey was intended to prepare the young ministers to achieve spiritual renewal when they returned to their inner city parishes. The Abbey restoration took 20 years and was finally completed in 1965, from which time the Iona Community have run it as a residential centre and continued daily worship in the Abbey Church. As in its beginning, the Community seeks 'new ways to touch the hearts of all.' It now has members all over the world working for Justice and Peace.

On arrival we were warmly welcomed and settled into our accommodation within the Abbey, first built by St Columba in 600's AD.

When living at Iona you live within a community with the other visitors and small chores are carried out working together – you can imagine the fun this generates.

The food is excellent, mainly vegetarian and plenty of it. The hospitality of the Community Warden and his helpers is warm and friendly. The visiting people on the programme are all friendly which is conducive to building a loving atmosphere working together.

Worship takes place both morning and evening at 9.0'clock and is a wonderful experience.

Services for Welcome, Sacrament, Healing, and Justice & Peace were all thought provoking with lovely music. Music plays a very important role on Iona. On two afternoons there were a "Wee Sing" in which we sang various worship songs from all over the world. Kathy Galloway gave us different "Alleluia's" at the beginning of each session – wonderful. Some of us formed a choir to sing in the Abbey – a lovely experience.

Nothing on Iona is compulsory but you miss out on a very loving experience if you don't get involved. As with everything in this life what ever you put in you come out with far more.

The programme 'Just Church' was developed by Church Action on Poverty to enable local churches to integrate concern for poverty and social justice into their congregational and individual lives in an enduring and meaningful way. Talking to one another both in and out of the sessions made one aware that the problems are not just national but global. We learnt a lot about problems in Canada, Australia and different parts of America and how their churches are involved and how they are handling the problems - very humbling when you realise that we belong to a church that is ideally situated to do so much in helping with the problems of its community and is not yet involved.

There was a pilgrimage around the island on the Tuesday, which was a good experience in lovely sunshine. In fact, throughout the week the weather was kind to us, when the rest of the country were having terrible storms and floods.

A retired Scottish visitor, who had been visiting the Iona Community since he was eighteen, brought his guitar with him and on two evenings entertained us with songs in which we joined. A concert was held on Wednesday evening for an hour of entertainment performed by us, the visitors to the community. It was excellent and great fun.

All too soon it was Friday and time to leave, but we did not leave with regrets, we left renewed, revitalised with stronger convictions. This was our second visit to Iona and it will definitely not be our last.

In the true words of Kathy Galloway, the leader of the Iona Community, '**We arrive looking for peace and quiet and leave looking for Justice and Peace**'

**Ann and Derek Percival**

## Calendar of Events

### August

- 18-25<sup>th</sup> August - Sponsored Walk on the Isle of Wight (Please sponsor me! - Ed)

### September

- 19 September - Fish & Chip Supper & Entertainment
- 29 September - Wesley Recruitment Day (11:00-14:00)

### October

- TBC – Karaoke & Curry Night

### November

- 24<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Fair



### Ongoing Fundraisers

- The Bear Travels (Contact Jane/Ian on 0121 588 6877)
- Copper Collection (Hand full containers to Ian and empty ones available in concourse)

## What to do if you are having a Heart Attack

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack this might be useful. Without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by cough repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough and the cough must be deep and prolonged as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds, without let up, until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. Deep breathes get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital. Tell as many other people as possible about this, it could save their lives! (Reprinted from *The Mended Hearts, inc. publication, Heart Response*)



**Thanks to Maureen Llewellyn for the information.**

## Men's Weekend 2007

Again the men excelled with another great weekend of fellowship and fun. The Saturday, which was very well attended, began with a lovely four course meal served by our men folk. The entertainment then followed which included many songs, some of which the audience were invited to join in, and some the men sang on their own. There were a number of Monty Python songs which everyone enjoyed and the evening ended with the rendering of "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life". Our thanks go to all the men involved but special thanks to Michael Barratt, for leading the men and Jenny Barratt for accompanying them on the piano. All your hard work paid off.

The Sunday morning and evening worship was led by Sue Hoddinott. The men's choir, conducted by Ken Dunn and accompanied by Jenny, sang "The Lord's My Shepherd" and "Gwahoddiaid" both of which were very moving – a good choice of music Ken. Once again, thank you to all who took part to make the weekend such a great success. We look forward to the next one.

**Ann Percival**

## Junior Section

As some of you may be aware Kathleen Smith retired from Junior Section at the end of July after 45 years as a Boys' Brigade Officer.

So to mark the occasion, Junior Section & Company Section held a BBQ. on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July where all parents were invited, unfortunately the weather wasn't very kind to us so we had to have it indoors instead. We enjoyed an evening of skittles, good food and good company.

The evening ended with Junior Section presenting Mrs Smith with a bouquet of flowers and handmade cards from each of the lads, Company Section presented her with a cut glass engraved vase. Anchor boys sent a hand-made card to be presented by Jane Collett. A really good evening was had by all. A BIG THANK YOU TO KATHLEEN for all your hard work over the years and we hope that you won't be a stranger! Wishing you all the very best in the future.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

There will a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support in September at Wesley and **CAKES ARE NEEDED!** You can't have coffee without cake can you?! All donations of cakes are very welcome.

Please see Anita for further details.

## Souvenir of New Century's Day (1900)!

Thanks once again to Iris for this fantastic piece of history, the numbers certainly make for interesting reading. (The first months collection in the old Wesley was over £700 in 1835!) FYI; there are now around 330,000 members of the Methodist Church in Britain and there are around 6,000 churches.

### West Bromwich Wesley Circuit, 1901.

*Ministers :*

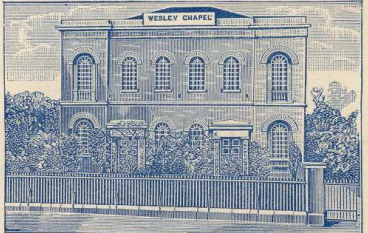
REV. JOSIAH MEE  
REV. W. A. BECKETT  
REV. JOSEPH NEWTON

*Circuit Stewards :*

MR. JAMES COUSE  
MR. H. J. ADCOCK

*Circuit Secretary :*

MR. JOSEPH BELCHER



BUILT 1834-5. COSTING OVER £5,000.

*Collections at Opening Services in June, 1835, over £700.*

Nine New Chapels erected since, costing over **£20,000**, and  
Eight Schools costing **£11,000**.

Circuit effort for Twentieth Century Fund, **1,500** guineas.

"God buries His workmen, but carries on His work."  
—Charles Wesley.

Joseph Bates, Printer, West Bromwich.

## SOUVENIR OF New Century's Day.



"The  
World  
is my  
Parish."

"The best of all is, God is with us."

WESLEY CHAPEL,  
January 1st, 1901.

### WESLEYAN METHODIST Twentieth Century Celebration.

*British Methodism.*

**1800.**

MEMBERS OF SOCIETY	...	...	92,948
MINISTERS	...	...	328
CHAPELS	...	...	500

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**1900.**

MEMBERS OF SOCIETY	...	...	481,061
ADHERENTS	...	...	2,000,000
MINISTERS	...	...	2,202
LOCAL PREACHERS	...	...	19,956
SUNDAY SCHOLARS	...	...	967,046
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS	...	...	131,052
CHAPELS	...	...	8,462

**"What hath God wrought."**  
—Wesley.

### Methodism in West Bromwich.

**1800.**

Only One Preaching Room.  
Two Society Classes.

One had been led by FRANCIS ASBURY, afterwards the Pioneer Bishop of American Methodism.

Another member about this time was WM. AULT, who entered the Ministry and was afterwards one of Dr. Coke's missionary party to Ceylon.

First Wesleyan Sunday School opened in 1803.  
St. George's Hall built in 1806.  
First Minister appointed to West Bromwich Circuit, REV. J. A. LOMAS, 1811.

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**1900. \***

10 Chapels, seating 6,000.  
1,200 Members of Society.  
300 Junior Members.  
40 Local Preachers.  
75 Class Leaders.  
2,500 Sunday Scholars.  
1,500 Day Scholars.  
1,500 Adult Bible Class Members.  
300 Guild Members.

\*Not including Primitive Methodists, who have two Circuits in the Borough.

## "The Flower Festival" by Linda Adams

There's tables on the front again,  
and out we go in sun and rain,  
flogging stuff for hours and hours,  
all for our festival of flowers.

You turn up on the Thursday morn,  
and some good soul has kindly bourne,  
buckets full of lovely blooms,  
enough to fill a dozen rooms.

The little "gofers" standing by,  
await to hear somebody cry,  
I need a stick, a leaf, a brick,  
we hurry off - we must be quick.

Then Doris starts to make a list,  
tea or coffee ? who've I missed,  
do have a little fairy cake,  
they took me days and days to make.

Iris says it's time for lunch,  
so come along you merry bunch,  
we only have to go next door,  
it's fish & chips we're waiting for.

But flowers don't arrange themselves,  
nor is it done by little elves,  
No! Willing hands work on and on,  
until at last the job is done.

This year as well as fragrant blooms,  
spreading perfume through the rooms,  
another lovely smell floats by,  
'there's bacon sarnies' rose the cry.

You know it's all been most worthwhile,  
when floods of people with a smile,  
tell of how it's made their day,  
and they didn't even have to pay.

So thank you one and thank you all,  
for the help you gave both great and small,  
we work together not for praise,  
but to celebrate God and the world he gave.



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

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"Only a life lived for others is worth living." - **Albert Einstein**

"Courage is fear that has said its prayers" - **Dorothy Bernard**

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"Any person capable of angering you becomes your master; he can anger you only when you permit yourself to be disturbed by him." -- **Epictetus**

## 5<sup>th</sup> WB BB COMPANY - HISTORY

The 5<sup>th</sup> having been started in 1924 and being the oldest BB Company in West Bromwich, we thought that it would be a shame if its history was totally lost in the future. So for some little time now, I have been trying to compile a history of the company by photographs. I currently have about 75 pages of photographs, stored digitally, representing all sorts of events and activities which are now beginning to tell a story.

If anyone has anyone photographs or slides of the company, particularly old ones, in fact the older the better, I would be grateful if I could borrow them to scan them.

If you can help, I can be contacted on 0121 588 6877 or 07748 642267.

**Ian P Collett**

# Wesley Open Day

## Saturday 29th September 2007

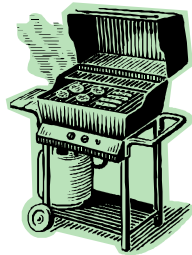
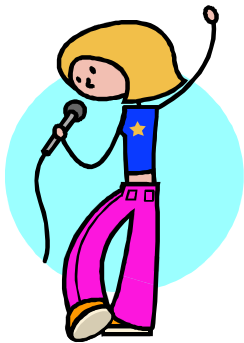
### 11am to 2pm



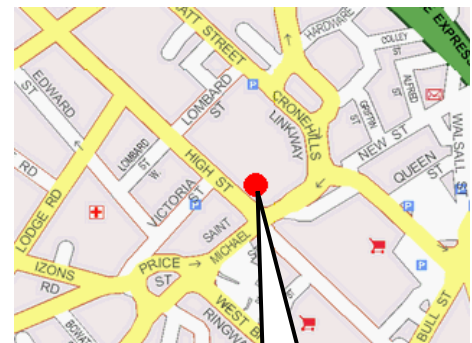
Come and have a go on our: -

- **FREE climbing wall!**
- **FREE Karaoke!**
- **FREE Football Shootout!**
- **FREE Bouncy Castle!**
- **Scrumptious BBQ!!!**

And see all the other great things that we do throughout the year!



Find us here on the High Street. West Bromwich: -



 The **Methodist Church**  
Girlguiding UK

**THE BOYS' BRIGADE**  
- the adventure begins here - 

The purpose of the Wesley Open Day is to raise the profile of our church in West Bromwich and every organisation within it. We hope that everybody will benefit from the day from BB and Guides to Ladies Group, Sunday school and the main church congregation itself. As you can see from the information above there will be a lot of things going on to promote our activities and 'get noticed' by passers by as well as invited people from local schools etc. The posters will be sent out in early September so if you know of a good place we can put a poster up please let Matthew Clive or Rory Green know. Also, all comments and ideas for the day will be gratefully received.

## Picture Competition

- This picture was taken on the 20<sup>th</sup> June 1976. There was only one entry for the competition; **Karen Wedgbury** who wins by guessing the correct year and the most names! Remember, you can only win if you enter!



Best Entry by Karen Wedgbury: -

Back row (L-R): Ken Dunn, Fred Wilkins, Maurice Pikett, Bill Ryder, Keith Llewellyn, ? and Jack Mason

2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Denise Newall, Rose Harris, ?, Julia Wilkins, Kath Fieldhouse, Phyllis Ault, Heather Rowley and Ruth Patience.

3<sup>rd</sup> Row: ?, Christine Alldritt, Carol Bradley, Julie Llewellyn, Elizabeth Fieldhouse, Jean Brown, Jean Spencer, Pat Alldritt, Kath Smith, Jean Smith, Joyce Wheway, Doris Mason, Karen Wheway, Lesley Wheway.

4<sup>th</sup> Row: ?, ?, Joanna Cumberbatch, Helen Dunn, Kay Turton, Dawn Gough, Sally Overton, Helen Osborne, Julia Brown, Alison Naylor.

Front Row: ?, ?, ?, ?, Dot Smith, Sue Spencer, Hayley Gough, Neil Spencer, Rebecca Naylor, Louise Phipps.

## 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

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

*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**