



Girlguiding UK



The Methodist Church

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the June edition of Spotlight which includes news from the organisations, a new competition, the solution to the Su-Doku set last time and lots more!

The new competition is easy, all you have to do is guess the year the photo was taken and name as many people as possible! The person with the correct year and the most correct names will win!

Just a quick reminder; Spotlight is available on the internet for download for people who need extra copies or people who don't visit Wesley very often. You can find it on 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 edition is Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August. All items will be gratefully received.

God Bless  
Matthew.



## Guides

We are having a lot of fun! Recently we have decorated our 'Patrol Corners' (our patrols are called Pandas and Roses), had a good old sing with a karaoke night and relaxed with a movie and pizza night.

We are also working towards 3 new badges; Film Lover, First Aid and Music Zone!

Laura has reached the National finals for Guiding Star to be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

If she wins she will get to sing at the 'Big Gig 2007'  
Good Luck Laura!

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

## Anchor Boys

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

On the morning of Saturday the 12<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!

Then in the afternoon they travelled to Kidderminster and to the Severn Valley Railway, "Thomas the Tank Engine Day", and went on a steam train to Bridgnorth and back. A good time was had at both of these events.

They then went back to Wesley, for a meal, after which they watched a video "Shrek 2" before sleeping over at Wesley for the night.

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 18<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.

We reported in the last Spotlite that the boys had been busy preparing pictures based on the subject of Lifeboats for the Battalion Picture Competition. We can now report that two of our boys, Jamie Soden and Joshua Gould, won both age group sections of the competition. Well done boys. The pictures can be viewed on the Mid Staffs and Sandwell Battalion Boys' Brigade web site.

## Willersley 2007 - 'Things ain't what they used to be!'

There are times in life when God's love pokes through and the stark reminder of just how deeply important the people around you are strikes once again. The weekend in Willersley was one of those times for me. A group of us trundled off to Willersley Castle for the circuit retreat. Willersley has one of the most wonderful settings, with hills, fields, trees and a beautiful river, there isn't much more you can ask for to spend time with friends and God. Though to top it all off the sun shone beautifully for the whole weekend.

Well, you'd think, could it get any better? Yes, it did. The food was gorgeous: delicious fry-ups for breakfast and beautiful three course meals for dinner. Yet, still this isn't what made it for me!

There was something about the atmosphere. Over the course of the weekend the people grew closer and closer together, as we discussed, shared, told stories, laughed, played games, ate together and lived together as a family - a family in Christ!

There was one thing in particular for me that will echo from the weekend for a long time. As always happens when people of the older end of the age spectrum gather, there is an element of remembering the past. Yet, something very special happened in this remembering. The realisation began to develop that the 'Golden Age' has never existed. The usual remembering about the large churches we had, overflowing, came forth. But there was also the recollection about some of the attitudes that went with that. Some joked about how you had to have a passport and visa to enter the vestry, others commented on how some preachers were never invited a second time if they wore something that people didn't like the look of. The list continued.

Over the weekend we remembered honestly what things were like, we didn't just wear the rose-tinted glasses. What I've learnt recently and what this weekend has highlighted for me, is that remembering is very important, however it must be honest and useful in shaping the future. Wishing to go back gets us no where, but using the past to inform our future is vital - this is where people in their senior years are so important because they can remember!

I suppose, every age has its great features; yet, every age also has its bad parts - although people have a habit of being positive about the past and negative about the present. In essence we've never had the perfect time, otherwise Christ's reign would be established and all would be complete.

The past and the present are not as black and white as we often make out, they're much more complex. I've joked over the weekend with many people about this, saying there's often a turning point in conversations where the people talking will hit the 'things ain't what they used to be' moment. Except, when you look at the whole picture you see things very differently, which is why I very often say, thank God 'things ain't what they used to be!'

Willersley was tremendous - such a time for fellowship and fun with the people you love. I will be going next time and would encourage you to seriously think about it. Everyone takes something different home from the weekend; I've shared something of my time but why not ask others what they took from it!

The only thing that I did miss was having Jack and Mollie there, but that didn't stop us from having their company in Spirit! We even sang 'How great thou art' dedicated to Jack. Put simply, the weekend was what Christian love should be and for that I thank God!

**Gary Hopkins**

## Tuesday Brownies

Recently the Brownies have been helping to get rid of some of the weeds in the wall garden and around the edge of the building and hope to plant up some flower pots in a few weeks time to go by the back door.

Five of the Brownies and myself are going on an exciting trip to Lapland in December with other Brownies from the West Bromwich Division and as part of the fund raising effort there will be a car wash and tabletop sale on Saturday 9th June 10am to 4pm so if your car needs cleaning please come along and see us.

Due to Guiding regulations I'm retiring from Brownies in July but I am very pleased to say that Stacey Brookes is going to take over from me and I know that along with the other Guiders in the Pack she will carry on the long tradition of the 1st West Bromwich Brownie Pack.

**Maureen Llewellyn**

P.S. The Pack is over 64 years old.

## Company Section

We had a great time at Dyffryn in April with 5 of us camping in our new lightweight tents in the field about 1 mile from the beach. We also had a good walk up the Cors y Geddl, through the woods, across fields of sheep and Cows and finally back through the village of Dyffryn Ardudwy. You can see pictures of our walk on the website.

We recently held our annual awards evening with many lads getting their hard earned badges and performing items for the 100 or so parents that were there. It was a great night that we shall all remember.

Ian is scanning all of his old BB photos and slides into an archive, so if you have any old BB pictures, Ian would like to borrow them to scan so that more people can share the memories.



## **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**

**"Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today" - James Dean**

## **Boys' Brigade Awards Night - 18<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

It was great to see so many parents, friends, Guides and members of Wesley supporting the lads and staff at the Company's Annual Awards Night. The previous session was obviously a very busy one with many varied activities going on including weekends away etc.

Each of the items performed by Anchor Boys, Junior Section and Company Section were very good and enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you to the staff for their hard work and commitment and wishing you a very successful summer and coming session.

Thank you to the Guides for their involvement and support. Well done.

**Mick O.**

- 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.

## **The Present**

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room.

One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation. Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and colour of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every colour and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance. As the man by the window described all this in exquisite details, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine this picturesque scene.

One warm afternoon, the man by the window described a parade passing. Although the other man could not hear the band - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words. Days, weeks and months passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep.

She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window besides the bed.

It faced a blank wall.

The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall.

She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Epilogue: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.



## Calendar of Events

### June

- 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June – Flower Festival (We are also hoping to hold a craft fair and refreshments will be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June – See plea for help)
- 27<sup>th</sup> June - Fish & Chip Supper "Oh I do like to be beside the Seaside" Tickets - £3.00

### July

- 18 July - Warley Choir - Harmonics - "Summer Melodies" Tickets - £3.00
- 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> - BB Camp to Llanllyfni

### August

- 18-25<sup>th</sup> August - Sponsored Walk on the Isle of Wight

### September

- 19 September - Fish & Chip Supper & Entertainment
- 29 September - BB Recruitment Drive

### October

- TBC – Karaoke & Curry Night

### November

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

### Ongoing Fundraisers

- The Bear Travels
- Copper Collection in Pringles Containers



## Volunteers Required!

If anyone doesn't already have a role at the flower festival and is bit 'crafty' then your help and expertise is needed!

As an add-on to the flower festival, refreshments (bacon sarnies etc.) will be served and a few stalls including home-made cakes (Please donate) and crafts will be on the car-park (Weather Permitting) to try and draw people into the flower festival on the Saturday.

If you would like your own stall to sell your hand crafted birthday cards, wood craft and other craft items or can help with serving refreshments please let Helen Parker know.

## Junior Section

We have been busy in the last few months. We were very lucky with the weather when we went away to Dyffryn. So much so that we were able to spend most of the time out side either on the beach or in the countryside. Lots of fun was had by young and old alike playing in the sand dunes, collecting sticks to make into walking sticks, games and sport. By the time we left on Sunday most if not all of us wished we could stay a little longer.

We have been brushing up our cooking skills by made hot cross buns for Easter and more recently pizza, they where both fun to make and yummy to eat.

We entered the battalion general knowledge quiz the other week with our team coming 6<sup>th</sup>. I think we all learnt something new that night. Well done team.

We were lucky enough to have two of our lifeboat pictures entered into the Battalion colouring competition being placed .1<sup>st</sup> place Jack Forrest- Saddler & 3<sup>rd</sup> place Liam Fearon; well done lads!

We also took part in the awards evening the other night with all of the lads gaining awards. Well done and keep up the good work. We had fun doing three items to entertain the parents and friends that came. A good night was had by all. It is nice when all 4 sections manage to get together. Yes there are 4. [Anchor boys, junior, company and senior section.] Thanks to all of you who came to support us, we really appreciate it.

We are currently practicing for the battalion sports and 5-aside so watch this space to see how we do.

### Humour - REAL NEWSPAPER ADS

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER.  
8 years old. Hateful little dog. Bites.



FOUND DIRTY WHITE DOG.  
Looks like a rat ... been out a while.  
Better be a reward.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY!  
Must sell washer and dryer £300.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE.  
WORN ONCE BY MISTAKE.  
Call Stephanie.

AND THE BEST ONE...  
FOR SALE BY OWNER:  
Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes  
Excellent condition  
£1,000 or best offer  
No longer needed, got married last month.  
Wife knows everything.

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

Help is needed for the coffee lounge on both days, we need help from 10 AM until 7 PM.

Help is also needed to welcome people into the church, give out programmes, introducing people to the way around, making people feel welcome and at home. If you can help the list is on the notice board in the concourse, could you please state the time that you could help.

We shall also have a garden of remembrance at the flower festival. If you would like an arrangement in memory of a loved one the cost will be £3, these can be taken home after the evening service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June. To order arrangements please see Iris.

Preachers for the flower festival - AM - Rev. Carole Holden - PM - Rev. John Proudman

**Iris Reynolds**

### Family News

*Birthdays:* Rory Green was 40 on the 21<sup>st</sup> May and Dorothy Smith (Aunty Dot) is going to be 80 on the 5<sup>th</sup> July!  
Happy Birthday to you both!

#### *Elizabeth Johnson*

It is with much sadness that we learnt of the recent death of Elizabeth Johnson who passed away on the evening of Monday 21 May. Elizabeth who was probably better known as Betty to some of us was one of 6 brothers and sisters who when they were growing up, regularly came to Wesley with their mother. Elizabeth attended Sunday School and was in the Brownies, Guides and Rangers. Elizabeth still attended worship at Wesley from time to time until she became ill at the beginning of the year.

### Fynn's Adventures

Fynn has his case packed and would like to come on holiday with you!  
It will cost you £5 to take Fynn on holiday (all money raised goes to Wesley Church), and while you are away, you must take a photograph of him, with you on the photo as well, and also include on the photo something like a name place sign or a well know place of interest, (eg., the Eiffel Tower), to prove he has been there. At the end of 2007 the photographs will be judged and the holiday makers of the winning photograph will have the bear to keep.  
So far he has been to Lapland, Cornwall, Wales, Italy and Thailand!

Since he can't write very well, Ian and Jane are keeping his diary for him.

**Ian & Jane: 0121 588 6877**



### Wesley Pantomime 2007 - Aladdin

What a delight! I have been connected with Wesley Pantomime from the very beginning and so I know the planning and hard work that goes into each production. However, I have never before sat back and let it all happen so that on the Monday evening I was totally unprepared for the pleasure that was to come. I will not mention anyone by name as, in their own way, each actor was excellent (one little criticism which is all of the cast will know what is coming - smile please and show that you are enjoying it). I think the children in the chorus were the best we have had for some years both vocally and from a dance point of view and visually, both scenery and costumes were stunning.

When I say I will not single out anyone for praise this must except Ian and Jane who, together with all their many duties at Wesley took on a mammoth task and more than fulfilled it. Thank you both, and I hope you will continue with this work which brings together all ages and talents of people within the church family and gives so much pleasure to so many people.

Well done everyone who played a part in any way to make the Pantomime a success and may you go from strength to strength for many years to come.



**Miss E.D.Smith (AKA Auntie Dot)**

## Fun and Games

### Su-Doku (Solution from Last Time)

You had to 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. If you used logic you could have solved the puzzle without guesswork. Here is the solution from last time:

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

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

**Picture Competition** - The person who correctly names the most people and the year this photo was taken will win a prize!



### 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**