

Wesley Methodist Church Spotlight - August 2018



Wesley Methodist Church

291 High Street, West Bromwich, B70 8ND

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

8th and 9th December 2018

Concert and Christmas Stalls

Decorated Trees
Music

Gifts
Tombola

Decorations
Refreshments

Carols
Cakes

Raffle



FREE ADMISSION

A date for your diary...

WESLEY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2018



After the success of the Christmas Tree Festival last year it has been decided to hold another one for 2018. It will be over the weekend of Saturday 8th December 2018.



We hope to fill the Church again with Christmas Trees that have been provided and then decorated by organisations within Wesley, other churches within the Circuit and other local groups and businesses in West Bromwich. Entry to the Festival will be free but donations will be welcome.

The planning of the Christmas Tree Festival is in the early stages but we will keep you informed but there will be a "Your Favourite Carol" concert on the Saturday evening.



The Christmas Trees will be able to be viewed on the Sunday following the Annual Christmas Family Service and before the evening service.

The "Memory Tree" will take centre stage in the Church, giving the opportunity for visitors to remember a loved one, a memorable event or occasion on a Christmas decoration for a donation that will be then be given to a chosen charity.



The competition for the "Favourite Christmas Tree" will be held again, giving the opportunity for all visitors to vote for their favourite tree.

**So, please put the Christmas Tree Festival
on the 8th December 2018 into
your diary now.**

Christmas Tree Festival Group



West Bromwich Christmas Tree Festival 2018 Application Form

Please complete and submit the form below either by email to xmastree@wesleywestbrom.co.uk
Or by post to Wesley Methodist Church, 291 High Street, West Bromwich B70 8ND

Name:

Entered by Organisation/Individual:

Address:

.....

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Title of Tree:

Size of your tree (please tick appropriate box)

2ft 3ft 4ft 5ft 6ft (Maximum)

Type of tree (please tick appropriate box)

Real Christmas tree Artificial Christmas tree Alternative
Please specify

Please note that only battery operated lights will be allowed on trees.

I will bring the tree on: Thursday 6 December between 6.30pm and 9pm or
 Friday 7 December between 6.30pm and 9pm

I will collect the tree on: Monday 11 December between 7pm and 9pm
 (Unless arrangements have been made with the organisers for alternative collection)

Alternatively: I will be leaving the Christmas tree in the church for the Christmas Period and will
 make arrangements to collect it before Saturday 5 January 2019

Please use this box to add any relevant information regarding your entry.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM BY 30 SEPTEMBER 2018 – THANK YOU



Company Section



Since the last article for Spotlight we have held our Annual Awards Night. The boys' of all sections have worked hard throughout the session and they were awarded with their badges in front of family and friends. The awards were presented this year by Jamie Haden Walker, the Mid Staffs and Sandwell Battalion Chaplin.

Following the award presentations each section performed an item which was well received by all that were present. The evening ended with the Annual Drill-Down Competition that was won again this year by Joshua. For those who don't know what a Drill-Down is then you must come to see it next year. Thank you to all who attended the evening.



We have also entered the Battalion Colour Party Competition, the new Drill-Down Competition and the Swimming Gala. The boys' did extremely well and won the Colour Party Competition and Joshua was runner up in the Drill-Down Competition. Well done to them all.

Over the May Bank Holiday weekend we went camping and walked up to Brown Clee Hill. The weather was really sunny and warm and the lads had a great weekend and did really well.



On Friday evenings, even though we have been few in numbers we have been very active.



We have now finished for the summer holidays and start back in September. If you want to follow the Company there are a number of ways using social media.

We have our own website at <http://5thwestbromwich.co.uk> or you can follow us on: Facebook @5th West Bromwich Boys Brigade and on Twitter @5thwestbromwichbb



Anchor Boys

Over the past few weeks we have been doing activities based around the World Cup. These have included flag pair game, jigsaw flag relay, making super hero Russian dolls and a shoebox football game. In June the boys took part in the annual Battalion Sports day, which they won, well done boys!

Our winning team with the Sports Day shield



Jane Collett
Officer in charge of Anchor Boys



Cool as a Cucumber.....

Extremely calm, relaxed and in control of your emotions. This phrase may have originated from the fact that even in hot weather, the inside of **cucumbers** are approximately 20 degrees cooler than the outside air.

Cucumbers contain Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B5, Vitamin B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc. Who needs a multivitamin?

Do you have a problem with your bathroom mirror fogging up after your morning shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror. It will eliminate the fog and provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.

Using a pen and made a mistake? Move over, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser! Take the outside waxy coating of the cucumber and slowly use it to erase the pen writing.

Congratulations

Congratulations to :

Rebecca Lilley - 20 years service award to Girlguiding

Jane Collett - 30 years service award to Girlguiding

Janet Linney - 50 years service award to Girlguiding

Dawn Davey - West Mercia County Award, presented to an Adult member who has shown exceptional service at a local level.

Well Done Ladies

Family Service

A photograph taken at the Family service in July, where we all made a foil mask of our partners face!





SAFCO – Bostin’ Black Country Night

On Wednesday 20th June SAFCO held a Bostin’ Black Country evening.

The evening consisted of a quiz that celebrated all those famous faces from the Black Country, translating sentences written in Black Country dialect into “proper” English and a quick fire cryptic round with each table competing to be crowned overall quiz winners.

The winning team was Fower and Wun (Four and One) and they all received **winner’s trophies. We hope that they are taking pride of place in your home!!!**

This was only our 2nd meeting of the year and it was wonderful to have such a great turnout, with over 50 people in attendance again.



It was a fun evening and it was great to see everyone again but there is always room for more so please help spread the word. If you have never been before please think about coming along. This is a great social evening providing an opportunity to make new friends and have a few laughs along the way and you are guaranteed a warm welcome.

Below are the details of upcoming SAFCO events and we are hoping that there is something for everyone. These events not only give us a chance to meet up and have a laugh but also help to raise much needed funds for Wesley.

What's coming up?

Saturday 15th September - Day trip to Weston Super Mare

Cost £15



Saturday 1st December – Christmas Party 2.30 – 4-30pm

Cost £8

Time to start the festivities for this special time of year. Everyone attending will receive a Christmas gift



April 2019 – Easter Egg-stravanganza

Cost £3



June 2019 – Night of Live Music

Cost £3.50



August 2019 - Proposed holiday (Mon-Fri) on the Isle of Wight

Cost £250 per person (Based on 20 people, the more people that go the cheaper the cost). Includes coach pick up and drop off from Wesley, Ferry crossings, Half Board at hotel (Bed, Breakfast & evening meal), 2 scheduled day trips.



The Medehamstede Hotel Shanklin

The Medehamstede Hotel is situated in attractive gardens, within easy walking distance of Shanklin Old Village and Town Centre. Close by is the Cliff Lift giving easy access to the Esplanade and Beach.

The 52 bedrooms are comfortably finished with en-suite bathrooms, tea and coffee making facilities plus free-view televisions. Although there is no lift service, there are 9 ground floor bedrooms available, although some have a few stairs to negotiate.

The dining room is spacious, light and airy and has a good reputation for its food. The menu is varied and generous, they provide a choice of vegetarian dishes or special diets if requested.

The bar is the heart of the hotel in the evenings, offering regular live entertainment, bingo and fun quizzes.

WiFi is available throughout the hotel.



Medehamstead Hotel

September 2019 – Day trip to either Blenheim Palace or Shugborough Hall

Cost - TBC



OR



December 2019 – Christmas Market trip

Cost TBC



All of these events are open to everyone and you are more than welcome to bring along friends and family.

If you have any questions or would like more details please contact Lucy on 07814 744804
We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Lucy & Jen

Following Bob Brown's fascinating article 'Panto Past and Present', it would be interesting to know how many of the original participants are still in touch with Wesley in any way. Names I can recall in addition to those mentioned regularly in 'Spotlite' are:

Helen Burton
Gillian Hancox
Gillian Wharton
Gladys and Denis Slater
Carol and Susan Whitehouse
Alan Hawkes
John (Dame for several years) *
Linda Neale
Kaye ??

I am in touch with the lovely 'Ryder' girls through dear Anne who telephones me regularly. Similarly I have news of Graham Quinn, Janet and Graham Cooper, Eric Fieldhouse, Ken Dunn, and others through the medium of 'Spotlite'.

Additionally, we must not forget Harold Wheway who initiated the first 'Show' in which my beloved sister played Wishey Washey, regularly losing her trousers which refused to stay up!

Elle Knight (aka 'Midge' Smith)

* Hockley

A Note from Midge

Circuit Retreat Day

On Saturday 28th July, a number of us across the Circuit visited Holland House in the village of Cropthorne, near Pershore for a Circuit Retreat day led by Rev Carole Holden. We had a wonderful day of discussion, and reflection in the beautiful retreat centre and grounds.

Before lunch, Helen and I had a wander down to a small jetty by the riverside for an hour and I found the inspiration to write this short poem. We have so much to give thanks to God for, and sometimes we need to find time to stop, listen and reflect;

**Sitting here at the water's edge,
I gaze upon the river beds;
Sun shining brightly on the lilies and the reeds,
dragonflies hovering gently in the breeze.**

**All is peaceful except for the wind,
blowing quite intently on the water and through the trees;
Clouds moving fast over perfect blue sky,
river flowing, waters lapping against the boat beneath my feet.**

**Such beauty beholds the images I see,
a sense of calm and yet so free;
A scene full of life from the Creator above,
living and breathing, the wonder of God's love.**

**Nothing stands still and yet there is peace,
giving time for reflection to think and to breathe;
Some plants right beside me look withered and torn,
yet there's a beauty of new growth, and new flowers are born.**

**I thank the Lord for all I can see,
for the beauty of creation and for sharing it with me;
May the roots of your love be grounded in me,
Your spiritual nourishment is all that I need.**

(c) Stephen Allen

Shaping Faith & Worship at Wesley

A few of us met together in the coffee lounge on a warm Sunday afternoon in June to discuss ideas about how we could enhance worship at Wesley; it was a thought provoking session and a chance for everyone to have input, if they wanted to, into how our worship on a Sunday can develop. The idea is not to make radical changes, but to express ideas about how we can grow in faith, feel uplifted in worship together and move forward in our mission to spread the good news.



Some of the ideas put forward include:

- using the talents that God has given us
- reading, not necessarily from the lectern
- inviting more people to be involved, maybe reading poems
- use of a screen to better engage with the youth of the church
- singing a verse/worship song to enable better preparation for worship
- use of Taize responses to prayers
- "percussion instruments" so that the youngest members of youth organisations can get involved in hymns
- singing The Lords Prayer sometimes
- inviting other churches that use Wesley to join/help to lead a service

You will have seen some of these things used over recent weeks; please let us have feedback.

There are notice boards with post-it notes on in the concourse, please look at the ideas that were put forward, and if you have anything that would enhance worship for you, please write it on one of the blank post-its.

We hope to meet together quarterly to discuss worship and our next gathering will be on Sunday 23rd September at 4:30pm in the coffee lounge; All are welcome.

Helen & Steve



Asda Community Board

For anyone who shops at Asda Great Bridge, **please ask for a Green token** when you're at the checkouts paying for your shopping!

Following Asda's support of our "Big Brekkie" event, they have nominated Wesley for a community award. If we collect the most green tokens then we will get £500, so please support us, ask for a Green Token and place it in the Wesley box near the café. Thank-you

Bible Study

The very name Bible Study puts fear into many people's hearts, they think they don't know enough about the Bible to contribute to a discussion but you don't need to be an expert which was very clear as a few weeks ago I joined Helen & Steve to have a deeper look at the story of Jonah, which I must admit, I only remember from Sunday School as an adventure story. However, it was amazing how much more we learned just by reading the short book again and listening to each other's ideas on how God was trying to lead Jonah to follow the path He had mapped out for him.

The sessions lasted approximately an hour and a half and were very relaxed. I am sure Helen & Steve will be arranging another one soon so look out for notices and join them, you will enjoy it.

Linda Adams

Family News

Our Thoughts and Prayers for:

Olive and Frank Brookes, Terry Price, Win Thomas, Julia Wilkins

Birthday Wishes to: Maureen Llewellyn (Sept)

Congratulations to: Terry Price on his award of the British Empire Metal

Harvest Festival: Sunday September 9th at 11.0am.

This year we are having a Harvest Festival with a difference, a challenge to fill a shopping trolley full of tins, packets, boxes. It will all go to the Food Bank

Table Top: Saturday September 15th. If you have any items for the Table Top or can help on the day, please see Beryl.

Christmas at Chatsworth: Monday November 26th, visiting a garden centre, coach and entrance to the house £33.00. Leaving Wesley at 10.0am and returning at 6.30pm. To book your place please see Beryl.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone at Wesley Church for their prayers and good wishes during the last twelve months of my illness. I am grateful for the support and kindness that you have always given me over the years, while in recent months it has shown just how special you all are.

My thanks are also extended to all members of the Black Country Methodist Circuit for their messages of encouragement at this difficult time.

On a joyous note, thank you all for your letters and cards of congratulations after I have been **awarded the British Empire Metal in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List.**

God Bless

Terry Price.



NEWSLETTER MINISTERS THOUGHTS

It had been a hard day, and I was more than a little fatigued. I threw the car keys on the table made tea and went to bed. Next morning I woke up and there was a bottle of milk by the side of the bed, "Odd, I said to myself, but thought no more of it. I was soon washed and dressed and ready for the off but couldn't find the car keys. A frantic search began. Max by now had now put the milk back in the fridge and wanted to know why my car keys were on the milk shelf!



Sometimes we get to the point of exhaustion, when we frankly don't know what we are doing or why we are doing it. This can happen in church life, and we need to heed the warnings. I don't think I'm the only one who has too much to do and never enough time. Indeed, we are a generation of busy people—working hard but hardly living. Getting enough rest, replenishing rest, is often at the bottom of our priority lists.

But why?

We all have our reasons why we don't make rest a priority. Some are self-imposed. Some people stay continually busy in order to avoid pain and disappointment. Others live a life of constant activity because they're trying to please others or keep up appearances. Others can't see the importance of rest until it is too late.

In the midst of this Jesus says

"Come to me all you who are weary and I will give you rest"

Jesus is neither inviting us to sleep in late nor neglect our responsibilities. This "rest" is reminding you that you did not create the world nor do you sustain it. The Church's future is not ultimately your responsibility. Your first responsibility is to worship God and enjoy him forever. Everything else flows from that relationship. Less frantic activity, more prayer. Less words more silence. Less of being a control freak and more a child of God.

Think of Sabbath rest, the instruction to rest on the seventh day. Sabbath keeps us mindful of the Creator who rested, allowing all of creation to live into its God-given purpose and potential without constant meddling. Sabbath rest also reminds us that our Creator is continually at work among us even as we confront our limits, as we encounter situations over which we are truly powerless. That is the power of rest: the recognition that some of the weight we carry comes from trying to do things on our own that God would invite us to do in partnership with him.

Happy August

Blessings and peace and love

Phil

Wesley goes surfing

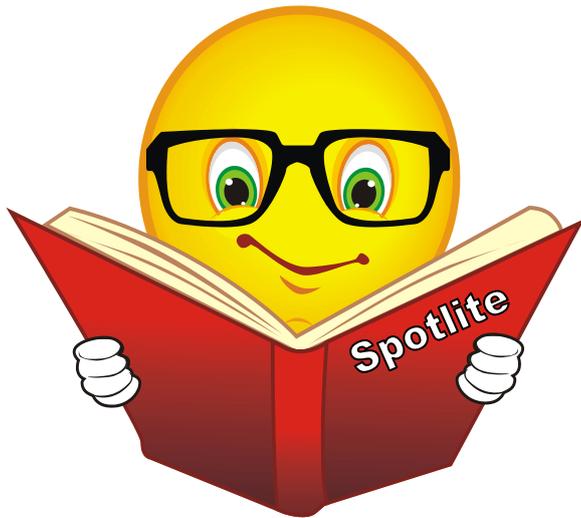
Wesley has finally made it onto the world-wide web!
The following two websites are now live and will include information about Wesley and all that happens here

www.wesleywestbrom.co.uk
www.291communityassociation.co.uk

THURSDAY MORNING COFFEE

10.00am - 12 noon

Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat with friends on Thursday mornings at Wesley.
Coffee/Tea and biscuits 25p.



**Next Edition
October**

If you have any items you would like published in Spotlite, please send to me :

patxthompson@btinternet.com

Thank You

**ALL ITEMS TO ME BY
MONDAY 8TH OCTOBER
PLEASE**

A Note From Sara (sent after receiving the June edition of Spotlite).

It is always good to hear news of Wesley and the circuit.....I do miss you all.....can't believe that it's been almost 5 years since We moved to Aberystwyth. Roger has just started a sabbatical. He flew to South Korea today...in fact as I write...for a month. We have 30 plus South Korean students in our congregation and he wants to understand the culture and language better. I would have been due a sabbatical at the same time had I been in a diaconal appointment, but hey-ho !! I'm still chaplain at MHA Hafan-y-Waun in Aberystwyth. It is very challenging but very rewarding too working for 90 people who happen to have dementia. I'm just recovering from Shingles. Still get tired quickly, but back at work now. Sending love and best wishes to you all, Sara, also proud grandma to Jemimah Hope who will be 2 at the end of September...London is a good trek from Aber but FaceTime is wonderful !

Sara

Rooms for Hire Rooms for Hire

Contact Details

For bookings and general enquiries for the use of the building please contact:

By telephone Dawn Davey 0121 553 2085

Email: d.davey619@virginmedia.com

The websites:

www.291communityassociation.co.uk

www.wesleywestbrom.co.uk

Wesley – www.wesleywestbrom.co.uk

291 – www.291communityassociation.co.uk

Email Circulation

If anybody who currently receives Spotlite by post would prefer to save paper and save us postage costs, you could get it by email instead. Simply send an email to patxthompson@btinternet.com and request that you be added to the email circulation list.

The next issue of Spotlite will be October if you have anything to go into this issue please let me have your notices by Monday 8th October LATEST Thank you.

Contact the Editor: Email: - patxthompson@btinternet.com
Address: - 5 Broadfield Close, West Bromwich, B71 3EU or

Tel: - 07811291334
via Linda and Keith Adams

- If you know of anybody who should receive a copy of Spotlite in the post please inform Ian Collett.
- If anybody would like a copy emailed to them please inform the editor.

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