



Girlguiding UK



The Methodist Church

Jack and the Beanstalk 2013

By the time you get this edition of Spotlight the pantomime should only be a week or so away and I would encourage you to come along and support the production which promises to be very entertaining. There six performances, Monday 18th to Saturday 23rd February inclusive,



Jane Collett as Jack in rehearsal for the pantomime

Jack and the Beanstalk is of course one of the all time favourite pantomime stories and tells of Jack who gives the families cow, Daisy, away for some magic beans which then grow into a beanstalk. Meantime Jack falls in love with a princess who is captured by the Giant. Jack climbs the beanstalk, rescues the princesses, becomes rich and ends up marrying the princess. There is a bit more meat on our story than that, but you will have to come along and see it to find out what else happens in our version of the story.

Once again everyone concerned has worked very hard and in recent weeks the cast and chorus have carried on rehearsals during the cold spell with no heating on at Wesley due to the breakdown of the boiler. It has been no joke rehearsing at temperatures of -1° and -2° and credit is due to the young people and older ones for that matter for their commitment and dedication.

It's at this time of the year that we inevitably think of Aunty Dot who for so many years was the driving force behind the pantomime and of course is sadly no longer with us. We have once again used one of her old scripts, albeit with quite a lot of updates and changes to the narrative and mostly new songs. If she is watching we hope that she will approve of our efforts again.

At the bargain low price of £4 and £3 it really is a great "value for money" night out. Much better than the tele ! We haven't been to see Wolverhampton Grand's production of the same pantomime but we understand from people who have seen it that they've pinched some of our ideas. Tickets are available from Liz Vaughan (0121 553 3727).

All profits from the pantomime go to Wesley and so contribute to our current efforts to upgrade the building and so are much needed. Please come along and support the pantomime and Wesley, bring your children, grannies and friends – they will have a good time.



Ian P Collett

History - Past, Present and Future

You may know the title from a Michael Jackson album, but good as it is, it's got nothing whatsoever to do with this article ! So please read on

Our Boys' Brigade Company at Wesley has a long history and tradition having been formed in 1924, some 41 year after the Boys' Brigade itself was founded in Glasgow. William Smith identified a need back in 1883 and found an answer to it that has continued to be appropriate and relevant into the 21st century, and presumably will continue for many years to come.

We are proud of our BB Company, the "5th", and we have had and still do have a very loyal and hard working group of leaders, but at a recent meeting we got chatting and shared our views that although we have a great **past**, a very good, active and full **present**, none of us are sure about the **future**. The reason being that over the years the number of active staff has reduced and we cannot see how we will be able to continue offering all of the activities and events that we currently do as our existing staff numbers decrease even more.

The conversation may have been fuelled by me pointing that I have one of those "special" birthdays soon, you know, one with a "0" on the end, and I would really like to do a little less and perhaps not have to be depended on quite as much.

We have had few new staff in recent years, but if we are to continue into the foreseeable future we need new leaders who care about the work the BB does and are prepared to give some of their valuable time to see that the work carries on. Even helpers who are not sure that they want to be fully committed or have restrictions on their time would be a move in the right direction and a big help.

On Michael Jackson's album "History, Past, Present and Future" he sings a track which I have no doubt you are familiar with called "Heal the World". I'd like to think that at the 5th we are doing our bit, however small, to help heal the world. I really want the 5th to continue its work in the local community, but neither I nor the rest of the existing staff can go on forever. Next year the company celebrates its 90th anniversary, we plan to celebrate it somehow, (still to be decided), but wouldn't it be great if we could celebrate it with some new enthusiastic leaders.

Despite Wesley's current building difficulties and problems, I am confident that we shall soon have a building and rooms which are fit for purpose and much more friendly, useable and comfortable. It would be such a shame if there were no organisations to use them !

Ian P Collett

BB Officer since 1970(ish)

5th West Bromwich Anchor Boys

At present Anchor Boy numbers are low with only 10 boys, as we have recently sent some boys to Junior Section, we wish them all the best and hope they have a great time.

On 1st December we joined with the rest of the Battalion at an Anchor Boy Christmas Fun morning. The boys made hand puppets, Christmas pudding cakes, played games, followed a trail to Father Christmas and had lunch together. A great morning was had by all.

At our last meeting before Christmas we had tea together and then took the boys and some girls from the pantomime chorus carol singing, which was received well by the people we went to see.

We have a fun programme of activities planned over the forth coming weeks including entering the battalion picture competition which this year has a them of Motor racing. If you know of any boys who would like to join us on a Friday night then please tell them to give me a call on 0121 588 6877 as we would like to increase our numbers.

Junior section

We have been busy since Christmas with our theme being motor racing, as this is the theme for the battalion colouring competition. We have made finishing flag biscuits, played games such as pit stop challenge and slalom racing all relating back to the theme. Not only this but the boys have been spending time drawing, shading and colouring there competition pictures which are all looking exceptionally good.

We would also like to congratulate Miles, Gillis and Vishal who representing the 5th boys brigade in the battalion Bible Quiz and won. Well Done Lads!



LENT SERVICES

Every Wednesday from February 27th to March 27th
12.30 Holy Communion, led by Rev Carol Holden
followed by Soup and Cheese lunch.

DONATION TO CHARITIES OVER CHRISTMAS

Christingle Service : To Children in Action £110.00

Midnight Communion : To West Bromwich Food Bank £26.00 + Christmas Puddings, Cakes, Chocolates

Christmas Day and Post Bags : To Red Alert Appeal for Lukemia £145,55

Wanted

The Company Section are building a scalextric circuit as part of a class on a Friday night but we are short on track pieces. If you have any old bits of track or cars that you would like to donate, even if its old and worn because we can clean it up and make it usable again, we would be very grateful

Thanks
Matt

I received this email in December and thought I would share it with you all :

I am always pleased to receive the issues of Spotlight. Thank you for all your hard work in putting this together and to all those who make a contributions. I'm so glad I was put on the e mail circulation list. It sort of keeps me in touch with West Bromwich. Keep up the good work.

Each time you mention an event, print a photo, mention a name I know, it brings back so many memories of my era at Wesley (1952/53 to 1966/67) particularly the pantomime, plays, Boys' Brigade and indirectly the Sunday School. The photograph in this Decembers Spotlite of "Mens Sunday" is a good example were despite the years I see six very recognisable faces Mick Osborn, Ian Collett, Ken Dunn, Derek Percival, Keith Llewelyn, and Eric Fieldhouse (apologies if there are others I should recognise but haven't)

After ten years of spasmodic writing, I have recently, as far as I want and can, completed my family history. On the maternal side of my family the surname was Brookes. A family who I find were for several generations, very much a part of West Bromwich. In the part of the story I have written about my Mother there are tenuous links with Wesley though as a girl she was associated with Queen St Methodist church. This is where she was married. In my own memoirs I have covered the people, places and events of the 25 years I lived in West Bromwich. In reading this back to myself I realise that the 15 years of involvement at Wesley were very important and influential. They have had a great bearing on my life. Some of the names, organisations and events appearing in Spotlite now, were part of my story back then. I must admit that the majority of my thoughts centre on people and the social aspects rather than the spiritual side of church life. Of great significance were the leaders who clearly shaped things for me, though I didn't realise it at the time. My only regret is that so many are no longer there for me to thank. However, the fact that their work goes on through others is maybe the only thanks they would have wished for.

I wish all of my old friends at Wesley a Happy and prosperous New Year. I look forward to receiving further copies of Spotlite.

All the very best.

Bob Brown

Update on Wesley

I cannot believe that the last time I gave you an update on Wesley was last July!!

Well! We have almost finished the work on the second project (you will remember the disabled and men's toilets were the first project) – just one or two snags to be finalised and then its complete.

What has been achieved?

This work has removed the need to maintain 13 flat roofs and included a temporary repair to another flat roof but unfortunately there are still a further 9 flat roofs remaining which will need to be maintained and/or replaced eventually.

We have upgraded and improved the Community areas at the rear of the Church, thanks to the grant from BIF-FAWARDS which has helped enormously towards the cost of the work.

You will remember that before the work could start it was necessary to remove all of the reportable asbestos from the premises. This and the need to comply with other Regulations proved to be an expense that we could have done without.

Rear Entrance: Now the original Akrill Memorial Hall Stone has been resited over the door and installed into the gable end of the new pitched roof over the entrance.

The Institute: The roof has been re-slatted and extended over the existing multi level flat roof into the Akrill Hall roof.

The high level window which previously looked over the flat roof is now an access hatch to the newly extended part of the roof.

The Akrill Hall: The roofs have been re-slatted and extended over the walls to remove the damp that has been a problem for some years. It has also been altered to accommodate the extension of the Institute roof and raised dormer roofs over the raised windows.

The dormer roofs over the new double glazed windows have been insulated and covered in a long life fibre glass covering.

The windows have been raised and replaced with double glazing in keeping with the original style. These raised windows have allowed a new sloping roof to be installed over the existing triangular flat roof.

The three small high level windows in the end wall adjacent to the Guild Room have been bricked up to accommodate the installation of a mono pitched roof over the Guild Room.

The damaged parquet floor repaired and resealed with Badminton and Volleyball Court re-marked out.

Passageway: The passageway sky-light, between the partition doors, has been removed and the ceiling re-plastered.

The Guild Room: A new mono pitch roof has been installed over the existing two different level flat roofs. The ceiling damage, caused by leaks, repaired and re-plastered.

Insulation has been installed in all the above roofs to keep down heating bills.

The Electricians: After having had numerous problems which I will not dwell on here, I am now pleased to state that all the electricians throughout the building now comply with the 17th Electrical Regulations and we have a certificate to prove it.

This work finished well over budget because of the need to remove the asbestos, upgrade the electricians and comply with other regulations, and for that reason if no other, **FUND RAISING REMAINS AND CONTINUES TO BE A PRIORITY**. There will be events to raise funds later this year which need your support.

There are in relative terms many smaller jobs which haven't formed part of the projects to date but which need addressing and fund raising to enable them to be done. For example, replacement windows in the Institute and Guild Room and new floor covering at the entrance, in the corridor leading to the Institute and passageway leading to the Crush Hall.

The work took twice as long as anticipated; the weather was the wettest summer on record and therefore became a very difficult trial for us all. On behalf of all involved and particularly 291 Community Association thank you all for your patience and support throughout.

We can now move on to the next (and third) project of the first Phase – The new Heating system. Obviously this will require another grant which we are working on at present.

Please think of what YOU could do to help with fund raising. God Bless **Derek**

5th West Bromwich Boys' Brigade – Company Section

We currently have 15 boys in Company Section. We started the 2012/2013 session in September with the boys' undertaking a variety of classes on Friday evenings. One of the classes we are trying is a Scalextric class. If anyone has any old track, cars or other items of Scalextric we would be pleased to accept them.

We have had a very successful start in the Battalion competitions coming runners up in the ten pin bowling, Masterteam and Cross Country competitions. We will be taking part in other Battalion competitions during the session including the Drill Competition and 5-a-side football.

We also entered the National table tennis, badminton, Masterteam and 5 a side football competitions but despite great efforts from the boys, we did not get through to the next rounds.

Jack Forrest Saddler continues to make good progress and joins us as and when he feels up to it.

If anyone wants to see what the company is doing or read more about us then check out our website at 5thwestbromwich.co.uk

Funding Support Reaps Capital Dividend

Wesley Methodist Church in the High Street West Bromwich is home to many local community groups including a Boys' Brigade Company with around 50 members, Girl Guide units, again with combined numbers of around 50 and many other groups such as Weight Watchers and a Widows support group.

Since the building was in need of refurbishment and renovation in order for the rooms to carry on being used into the future, the first port of call back in late 2010 was to the SCVO to find possible routes of finance.

SCVO's Funding Officer, Steve Baylis, visited the building in late 2010 and agreed that there should be funding available for the work that was being planned. He subsequently suggested

several avenues of possible finance and the Church chose Biffa Awards as the preferred route. Steve then helped with the completion of the extensive grant application process, supporting the group through the stage one application and the subsequent full application. The full grant application was successful with Biffa Awards agreeing a grant of £50,000 in late 2011 towards the



overall cost of the work.

In June this year, work started on several new roofs and new windows in order to make the building more energy efficient and sustainable. As I write this, work is well under way although delayed somewhat by the excessive rain during the summer. The invaluable help and advice from SCVO means that when this work is finished the Church will be more able to ensure that their work within the local community can continue into the foreseeable future, having also refurbished community rooms, installed a number of energy efficient measures, both of which will also support the long term sustainability of the churches community activities.

Written by Ian P Collett, Wesley Methodist Church

SAFCO ended the year with our own church choir providing some of the entertainment for our Christmas themed evening, followed by Jen Adams-Barrett leading us all for some favourite carols. The choir certainly look the part in their robes which they usually use to keep themselves warm in church on cold Sundays.

2013 started with a lovely Fish & Chip supper in the Guild Room; there were certainly no complaints of being cold as the tables were very cleverly laid out so that everyone could be seated comfortably, in the warm, in the guild room. The delicious supper was followed by high spirited games of Bingo and Hoy led by our resident caller, Ann. An thoroughly enjoyable evening of fellowship and fun all round.

The pantomime takes over Wesley for the month of February, but SAFCO will be back on Wednesday 20th March when we will have the pleasure of being entertained by the Harmonics (Barber Shop Group) from Warley Male Choir. Please book, as always, with Liz Vaughan on 0121 553 3727.



helen@thepedals

Thank-you to everyone who supported “**helen@thepedals**” organ recital and coffee morning on Saturday 8th December. A total of £175 was received in donations, and this was divided equally between our own redevelopment funds and Warley Male Choir 2012/13 charity, St Mary’s Hospice. Hopefully some of your favourite carols were included.

Helen announced that she will be holding these mornings again in 2013 and the first date has now been confirmed to be Saturday 29th June from 10:30am til noon. Any donations will again be divided between our Redevelopment funds and Warley Male Choir charity for 2013/14.



Rooms for Hire

We have rooms for Hire for all occasions. For further information please contact Mrs Evelyn Gough. Telephone 07769 786855



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April Edition

As the next issue will need to be printed during the school's Easter break, could I ask for all notices to be with me by the 25th March Latest

Thanks for your cooperation
Pat



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**

Phone: 0121 553 4791

Fax: 0121 500 5972

Web Site: www.ault.co.uk

E mail: enquiries@ault.co.uk

Wanted

Old suitcases for the storage of
Pantomime costumes
(without wheels please).
If you have any cases to donate
please see Liz Vaughan

Look on the Bright Side

Some short smiles

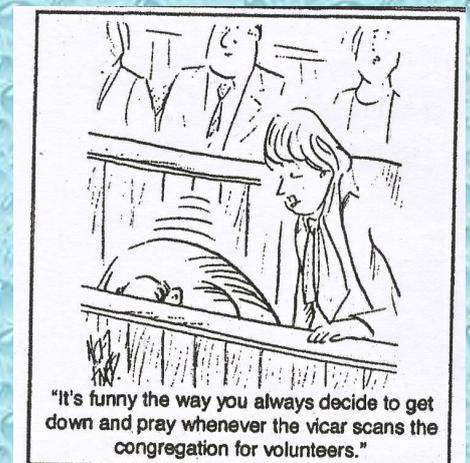
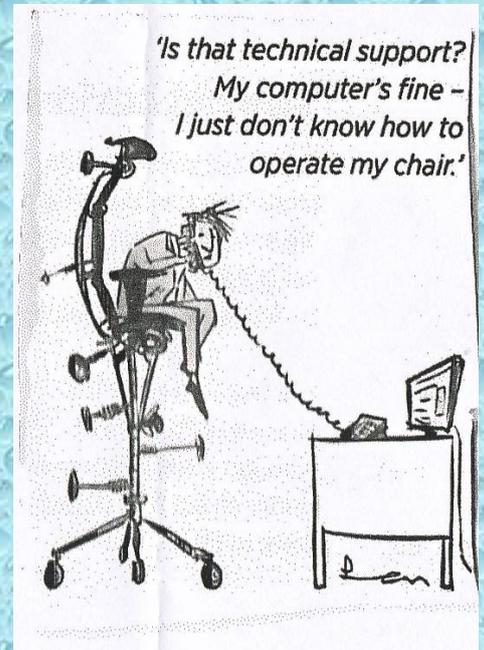


◆ The Bifocals:

A preacher went into the pulpit one Sunday morning wearing a pair of new bifocals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them. He explained to the congregation that the new glasses were causing problems. "I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses," he said. "You see when I look down I can see fine, but when I look at you, it makes me feel sick."

◆ Blackmail:

One Sunday the minister announced to his congregation, "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons..... a £100 sermon that lasts five minutes; a £50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes; and a £20 sermon that lasts a full hour. Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."



Smith climbs to the top of Mount Sinai to talk to God.

Looking up, he asks the Lord. "God, what does a million years mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A minute."

Smith asks, "And what does a million pounds mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A penny."

Smith asks, "Can I have a penny?" The Lord replies, "In a minute."



Family News

Our Prayers and Thoughts for

Phyllis Ault, Jack and Shelia Staphnill, Linda Warner, Ann Taylor,
The family of Molly Pritchard

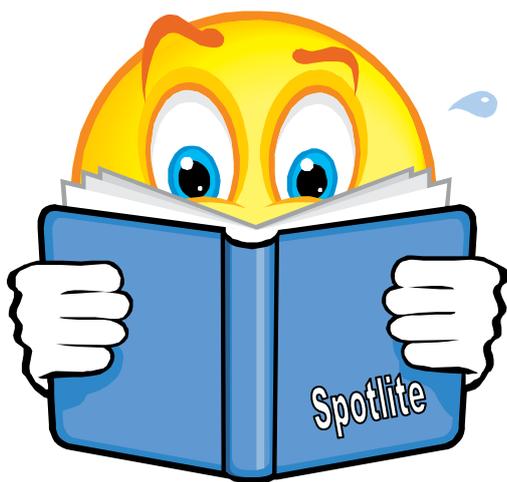
Birthday Congratulations to:

Eric Fieldhouse, Margaret Chambers, Liz Vaughan, Anita Warner,
Hayley Machin, Keith Llewellyn, Derek Percival, Jessica, Bethany and
Rebecca Lilley.

Special Congratulations to :

Joyce Pitt who celebrates her 80th Birthday and Margaret Price on her
85th.

Next Edition
April



Notices in early please

by Monday 25th March

Please

Concert by Warley Male Choir

Saturday 6th July 2013 at 7pm

Tickets available from Liz or Helen

£4.00 including refreshments

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.
The cheapest in town!



All welcome

Wesley Puzzler

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

Connect the dots from 1 to 38 and color the picture when you have finished!



Colour Chart

M	E	R	V	Y	X	O	J	A	D	E	T
N	G	S	T	X	R	Q	D	W	T	W	S
V	A	H	O	U	J	O	H	Y	E	Q	U
J	D	V	G	R	R	X	V	S	A	V	R
N	Q	D	Y	F	D	H	I	I	L	F	C
M	F	O	D	V	I	O	E	U	J	F	T
G	A	G	W	K	U	D	O	N	E	U	E
R	R	Q	A	Q	N	A	L	J	O	B	K
E	J	H	R	A	P	D	I	G	U	T	Z
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| APRICOT | PUCE |
| BUFF | ROSE |
| FERN | RUBY |
| FLESH | RUST |
| GOLD | SAND |
| GREEN | STEEL |
| GREY | STONE |
| IVORY | TEAL |
| JADE | TOPAZ |
| KHAKI | TURQUOISE |
| NAVY | WHITE |
| OLIVE | |



Solutions

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



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 **April**, if you have anything to go into this issue please let me have your notices by **25th March, 2013 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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Email: - philthomas82@hotmail.com

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