

SPOTLITE- JUNE 2020



In case you have forgotten what Wesley looks like!

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Coronavirus and the churches finances

I have toyed with the thought of writing this article for Spotlight for the last few weeks as I have been concerned that it might seem a little insensitive given the current crisis and the difficulties that many people will be suffering. However, I think that on balance it is very necessary, so here it is.

I'm sure that when we return to some kind of normality we would all want Wesley to still be there for us and all that goes with it. I'm sure that we are all missing the worship, the organisations, the fellowship and friendship and whatever else we normally gain and take away with us by being involved with Wesley.

Many organisations, companies and churches will not survive this current crisis because of a sustained lack of income and we don't want Wesley to be one of those, we want and need it to be here when all this is over to continue its valuable work in the local community and a Methodist presence in the town centre.

Since the middle of March the offertory has of course dried up except for the handful of members (me included) who give their offertory monthly by standing order directly to the churches bank account. This has been something of a life line under the circumstances and has at least guaranteed us some income. But we are still missing the biggest proportion of our usual offertory income.

Our usual rental income from the letting of rooms has also stopped since the lockdown began. This loss of income will amount to several thousands of pounds and as such will have a big effect on the church's finances.

There will also be other areas of income missing such as our annual Gift Day which will have come and gone without happening. I'm sure you are getting the picture.

I know that some of you will have been putting your offertory to one side ready for the return to normality but we still don't know how far ahead that will be.

So in order to keep on top of our finances and the churches outgoings, if any of you are prepared to let us have what amounts to your missing offertory or any other monies that would normally have been given for whatever reason, it would be greatly appreciated, and would be very helpful in our quest to keep Wesley financially viable during this crisis so that we come out afterwards in one piece, alive and kicking. This of course also applies to Gift Day donations and if any of you, individuals and / or organisations are able to let me have your Gift Day donation it would be a great help and much appreciated.

If you are able to pay by bank transfer, I can let you have the bank details on request, cheques can be posted to me or pushed through our door if you are venturing out and about. I'm sure I could also accommodate cash (yes – actual money) if necessary and the only alternative.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you again soon, and in the meantime more than anything else - STAY SAFE.

Ian P Collett
Church Treasurer (sad through lack of money to count !)
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Terry Price

Gary Hopkins

Terry Price, an exceptional local historian, passed away earlier this week. I have very fond memories of my dad buying his books and the two of us looking through the photos, looking for places relating to my grand parents



who were born in Tipton and lived on the Yew Tree. It's one of the things that connected me and my dad to history and to each other and I know it did the same for so many other people. Having been such a remarkable figure in the community, doing such good work, it is no surprise that there have been numerous Facebook posts about how people appreciated what he did. Just one of those posts has over 500 likes and nearly 300 comments. Here's just a few of the many hundreds.



Ruth Cherrington ▶ West Bromwich People

10 May at 10:21

Yesterday I was informed of the death of Terry Price. He would have been known to many of you for his books of old Photographs of West Bromwich. He was a dear friend of my late Mom. Terry had a real love for West Bromwich and Great Bridge and has left a legacy for us all with his books. Thank you Terry for all you did for our town. God bless and RIP 🙏

Vicky Murphy Oh no 😞 a lovely lady on here was kind enough to send my Father one of his books he treasured it until he passed away I have it now , may Terry Rest In Peace and thank you so much for the pleasure you brought to us xxx

Julie Anne Garnczarek That's such sad news I have all the Terry Price books which I inherited from my dad when he passed away Terry used to go visit my dad and see him and take him a new book when they came out he signed them inside for my dad x years ago he had some old photos and visited my dad as my dad could name all the others on the photos they became friends x lovely man

Chris Adams So sad but what a lovely legacy he has left us in the form of his books!

Terry was an amazing historian, and I have fond memories of waiting in line at Wesley to get his latest books personally signed by him and Carl Chinn to give to my grandparents. Terry was a huge part of Wesley and the local community, and I know that all our thoughts and prayers are with Beryl and her family at this time.

In case anybody missed the announcement. We all understand this isn't the funeral that would have been expected, but when gatherings are allowed a memorial service will be held.

Obitus

Service order for
TERRY PRICE

Service Date	12-Jun-20 at 2:00
Service Chapel	Chapel - Sandwell Valley
Website	www.obitus.com
Username	sandwell1934
Password	658684

Please send this username and password exactly as above to family and friends. You can login to our website at any time to view a test connection (and we strongly recommend you do this) but you'll only be able to view the Live Webcast between approx. 13:56 and 14:35 on Friday 12 June. Once the service has finished, it will take us up to 3 working days to get the 28-day Watch Again onto the website.

Anchor Boys

After Christmas the Anchor Boys were very busy working on a piece of artwork for the annual Battalion Picture Competition. This year the topic was 'A Railway Scene'. To help with this we completed many activities involving games, stories, crafts and cooking all with the 'railway' theme. All the pictures were of a very high standard. It was very hard to choose only two, but eventually we decided upon Thomas Fisher for the younger section and Charlie Smith for the older one. I am pleased to report that Charlie won his and Thomas came third, well done boys!



Charlie Smith - aged 7



Thomas Fisher - aged 5

For Mother's Day the boys made a card and a fairy decoration. Although both of these had to be completed at home as by then we had stopped meeting due to the coronavirus outbreak. The boys were also delivered a heart shaped biscuit for them to decorated for their mom's. We have continued to deliver the BB programme through our Facebook page and WhatsApp. Each week Boys' Brigade produce resources for us to share with our members, #BBatHOME, which we do alongside some additional activities of our own. It has been great to see how the boys have taken part, all of this will go towards their achievement badges.

There are also #BBatHOME medals which we will also be presenting when we are able to meet again.

May saw us introduce our first Zoom Anchor Boy meeting, these go really well. We are competing activities around the alphabet, starting with 'A' for Anchor Boys. Each week we do things such as play games, make a craft, sing a silly song and have a bible story. It is great to see the boys each week. As the boys have taken part in some VE Day activities they will also be awarded their BB VE Day badge.

I am pleased to say that we have maintained contact with all our boys during this difficult period.



291 Creative Hub

During this difficult time 291 Creative Hub Groups are unable to physically meet together. However, this has not stopped the community from staying in regular contact. A number of Whatsapp groups have been created which include a general chat in which the exercise tutor June uploads videos to keep groups active. A Walking football group has been created, and finally an Art Class which every Thursday engage in a virtual class.

Not only have chats been created, but the hub are in regular contact with all regular members via calls, emails etc.

In addition to all this a Facebook group has been started which you can find under '291 Creative Hub rear of Wesley Church' to keep up to date with activity from this group.



A grant has been given to the 291 Creative Hub

Just a quick update to let you know that during this lockdown 291 Community Association CIO has been fortunate enough to be given a grant from the National Lottery Emergency Community Fund to enable the 291 Creative Hub to survive this awful lockdown. This grant will enable the Hub to pay rent for 3 months up to 31st August and a further 3 months to be paid to 30th November.

Rainbow jewellery in aid of the NHS

As many of you will know my daughter Ruth started making jewellery a few years ago, at the time to raise some money to help pay for her attendance at the Scout World Jamboree in Japan.

Since then she has continued, off and on, to make jewellery.

A few weeks ago after we had started the lockdown I said to her that it would be good if she could make some jewellery with a rainbow theme (reason is obvious) to raise some money for the local NHS.

So she set to and has been furiously making rainbow badges and bag charms (can also be key rings) and has been selling the badges for £3 and the bag charms for £5. See photos attached.

To date she has raised the amount of **£783** from these sales.

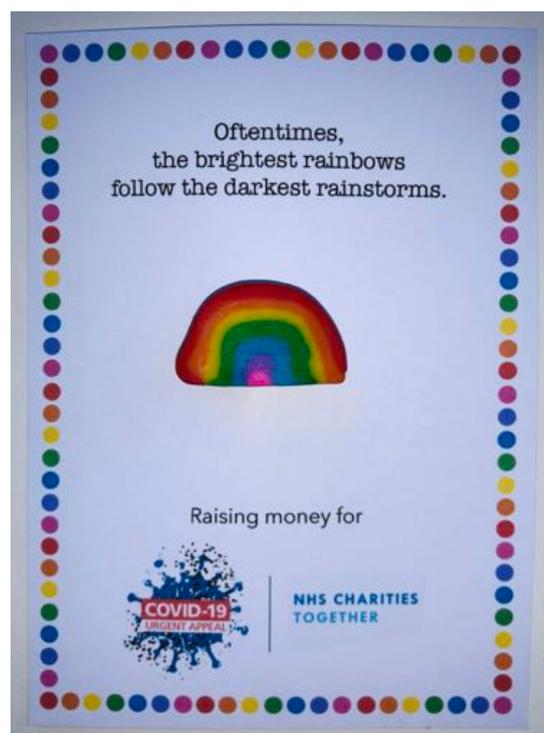
If anyone would like to purchase anything and thereby contribute to the cause, orders are accepted by e mail, phone, word of mouth, carrier pigeon etc., etc.

Local orders can be delivered, if postage is necessary most seem to be able to be sent for 88p.

Payment can be made by cash, paypal or bank transfer to Ruth's account, details can be supplied on request. Only stipulation is that payment must be in sterling, since foreign holidays are not possible at the moment we can't spend foreign currency!

We look forward to hearing from you.

Ian P Collett





HAPPY GOLDEN WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY LINDA AND KEITH
ADAMS! (13TH JUNE)





ZOOM Services

As many of you already know, every Sunday at 6:15pm there is an online service held in which members of our usual congregation can join in and have a short service, and also have a catch up with everyone. Helen and Steve Allen, and Gary Hopkins have been incredible with all the hard work they have provided to ensure these services have been successful.

If you wish to join in there are multiple avenues to choose from:

Use the internet through a smartphone, tablet or computer by using the address:
zoom.us/join

Meeting ID: 824 9242 5263 Password: 719938 (These are the same for each week)

If you would prefer to join via the telephone this can be done also:

Dial number (landline or mobile) 0131 460 1196

Meeting ID (when prompted): 824 9242 5263 #

You will be asked for a participant ID, but you do not need one so press #

You will then need to wait, and the host of the service will let you in, you'll then hear a bunch of voices, and enjoy the service!

I have also been asked to include a note that if people are unable to access this service in the means that have been mentioned above, and want to join could you please call either Derek Percival on 07752307799 or Gary Hopkins on 07894980596 so that there can be a better picture of congregation services for future reference.



Lockdown Projects

I am sure that many of you will have been taking the opportunity of spending more time at home to have a bit of a "clear-out"? Steve and I are both working from home, so we don't actually have much extra time on our hands, however some while ago, Maggie gave me a carrier bag full of my Dad's sermons; I am slowly working my way through them and came across the following poem which he had written and presumably read out to all those present at the Saturday evening entertainment of Men's Weekend some years ago. I thought you'd like to read it, and think back on some very happy Men's Weekends at Wesley over the years:

Men's Weekend

So folks, this is Men's Weekend
We hope you have some fun
And when, at last, we close the show
You'll holler out "Well Done".

For many weeks we've practised,
Not always the same night,
We've sung and sung and sung and sung
And tried to get it right.

And now that we are ready,
Rehearsals long gone by.
Some notes and words still missing
Never mind, we can but try.

Mike Barrett is our leader
For this offering tonight.
They've set him free from "Diamond"
And we'll aim to get it right.

He stands up there in front of us
His hands wave to and fro
We look at him in puzzlement
As he shows us where to go.

Our group's made up of different folk
Some talented and bright;
Brian Powney for example,
He's outstanding light

Ken Dunn is our leader
For tomorrow's choral songs.
He's done the job for years and years
And sorts out all the wrongs.

Every year he says the same
As the evening service ends,
"Well that's my very last weekend"

It drives us round the bend.

One thing I must tell you
Before I close this rhyme,
Concerning sheets of music
It happens all the time.

When Ken stands up and says
“Let’s now try the Blessing”
A voice cries out from in the choir
“My music sheet is missing”

“But I gave you one Frank, last week
Why do you do this to me?
Music sheets must fill your house
We’ll have to come and see”.

There’s someone I haven’t mentioned
About tomorrow’s special day,
Our organist Mick Osborne
Who’ll play and play and play

Mick is very pedantic
About the sounds that we both make;
Is it much too soft or far too loud
And will keep us all awake?

We think at last we’ve got it right
The blend is quite sublime,
A mix of voice and organ
So smooth, so rich, so fine.

And so I wrote this poem
Its simple, but it’s true
I could go on for hours and hours
But I think that this will do.

Michael D Vaughan



Puzzles



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

Lockdown? ...or retreat?

N	O	I	T	A	R	I	P	S	N	I	D	A	H
U	L	T	L	T	Y	D	R	E	A	M	C	A	H
O	I	T	U	F	P	S	P	O	D	C	A	S	T
M	M	N	H	O	N	R	E	L	B	B	U	B	E
R	E	A	B	G	E	C	E	E	U	E	A	G	C
C	I	S	U	M	U	M	H	S	R	F	S	A	U
L	E	P	A	U	L	A	I	T	E	U	I	R	U
U	M	H	A	I	A	I	L	T	M	N	I	D	I
F	A	O	H	I	U	T	O	O	N	R	T	E	C
D	I	N	M	T	T	P	F	T	S	E	A	N	A
N	L	E	T	T	R	O	F	M	O	C	F	W	L
I	E	R	E	N	I	H	S	N	U	S	S	L	M
M	T	N	O	L	V	E	B	U	T	U	O	Y	T
U	A	T	O	R	E	S	I	L	I	E	N	T	R

FUN
PRESENT
PODCAST
RESILIENT
VIRTUAL
EMAIL
MINDFUL
GARDEN
DREAM
SUNSHINE

BUBBLE
INSPIRATION
LAUGH
CALM
WARMTH
TIME OUT
PHONE
COMFORT
MUSIC
YOUTUBE

Solutions

In the last edition of Spotlight Helen provided an emoji challenge, and she has kindly sent me the answers!

1. Shine Jesus Shine
2. Holy Holy Holy
3. Be thou my vision
4. One more step along the world I go
5. Come down O love divine
6. Lord of the dance
7. Crown him with many crowns
8. Hills of the North rejoice
9. The King of love my shepherd is
10. Lo, he comes with clouds descending



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

Lockdown? ..or retreat?

U	A	T	O	R	E	S	I	L	I	E	N	T	R
M	T	N	O	L	V	E	B	U	T	U	O	Y	T
I	E	R	E	N	I	H	S	N	S	U	S	L	M
N	L	E	T	T	R	O	F	M	O	C	F	M	L
D	I	N	M	T	T	P	F	T	S	E	A	N	A
F	A	O	H	I	U	T	O	O	N	R	T	E	C
U	M	H	A	I	A	I	L	T	M	N	I	D	I
L	E	P	A	U	L	A	I	T	E	U	I	R	U
C	I	S	U	M	U	M	H	S	R	F	S	A	U
R	E	A	B	G	E	C	E	E	U	E	A	G	C
M	M	N	H	O	N	R	E	L	B	B	U	B	E
O	I	T	U	F	P	S	P	O	D	C	A	S	T
U	L	T	L	T	Y	D	R	E	A	M	C	A	H
N	O	I	T	A	R	I	P	S	N	I	D	A	H

Information regarding all things Wesley can be found below.

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

Connect

Connecting members and friends

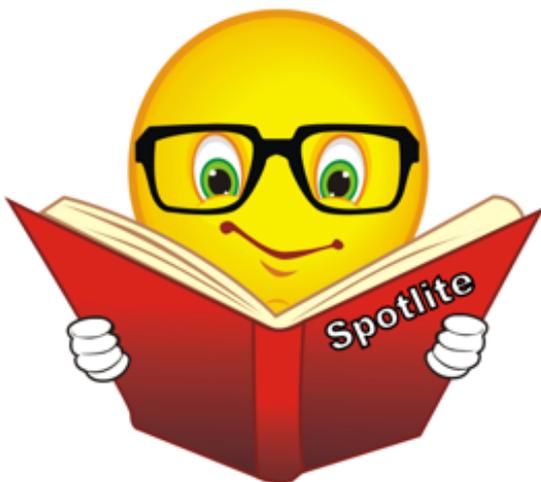
Connect Magazine is a brilliant resource created by Gary Hopkins which includes short services and much more!
If you don't already receive a copy and would like to email me jasmine.whatmore@yahoo.co.uk

Family News

Thoughts and Prayers:
Beryl Price, Alison, Ann.



Next Edition August



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

Jasmine.whatmore@yahoo.co.uk

**ALL ITEMS TO ME BY MONDAY 3RD
AUGUST PLEASE**

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.wesleywestbrom.co.uk
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 jasmine.whatmore@yahoo.co.uk and request that you be added to the email circulation list.

The next issue of Spotlite will be AUGUST if you have anything to go into this issue please let me have your notices by Monday 3rd AUGUST LATEST Thank you.

Contact the editor: jasmine.whatmore@yahoo.co.uk

- 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.

List of Church Contacts

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Minister of Wesley: - Rev. Philip Thomas Manse Tel: - 0121 588 3373 Circuit Office Tel: - 0121 553 208 Email: - philthomas82@hotmail.com

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