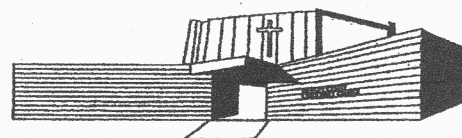


Weoley Castle Community Church

Newsletter

JANUARY 2015



117 Quarry Road, Weoley Castle
Birmingham B29 5LE

Tel. 0121 475 3841



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

With the festivities of Christmas now gone you may find time goes more slowly. Well, there's still a number of things going on here at Weoley Castle Community Church.

On Wednesday and Friday mornings we have a playgroup for parents and babies or toddlers, with songs, toys, craft, refreshments, in fact, all that's needed for you and your little ones to keep busy for the morning. Drop in and speak to Christine Hopkins for more details.



On Tuesday evenings we run a weekly children's club, TFC, for 7—11 yr olds. With cooking, craft, sports, games, karaoke, and a whole lot more, there's sure to be something for everyone.

We run from 6—7.30pm each Tues-

day during term time. Call Mark for more information. This relies very much on our parent helpers, who do a great job, so if you would like to be part of the team please tell Mark. We can organise all the necessary DBS checks and offer training.

Also, on Monday and Friday mornings we offer a Day Centre for the older generations. With activities from bingo to trips out, plus we provide a meal, you won't be left feeling bored. If you or someone you know feel this could be just what you're looking for contact Anne Izzard on 475 3841. For this and much more just drop in at the church.



Share your story

Hi all, at a recent church meeting I suggested that we share our faith / church stories as a way of encouraging us. I have had some stories given to me and it would be great if others could add to this. It doesn't have to be a literary masterpiece, or even very long, just a few sentences is fine. If you could send them to me via email or any other media you find easy then I'll collate them so we can share with one another as we look to the future and what it may hold. Thanks very much, Mark

ELDERS ELECTIONS

At the recent Elder's Elections all six of the nominated persons have accepted and have received sufficient votes so they will all be inducted , and ordained where necessary, during the service on January 11th, thanks for your support, and we pray for wisdom and guidance as the Elders take the church forward in 2015.

"Gift Aid" can add 25% to your donations to Charities

Gordon Brown, way back when he first was chancellor, introduced "Gift Aid". This means that gifts to the Church, and to "Commitment for Life" from taxpayers who have signed a simple form, get 25% added to them by the taxman. Now the present Government has extended this extra 25% to "small gifts" from **anyone**. There are two conditions on these small gifts (but **no conditions** on Gift Aid):

- no cheques

- nothing above £20 on any one day from any particular person.

[So, if you don't pay tax, or you haven't signed a Gift Aid form, but you want to make a donation of £30 to a charity, do it in **two** goes – and in notes or coins!].

Our work in Weoley Castle Community Church costs a lot to keep going, and we rely on many voluntary donations to support this. Gift Aid and the new "small gifts" scheme make your support much more valuable. Our treasurer has received Gift Aid cheques

from the taxman for more than £3,700 this autumn. This **doesn't** mean that the Church is rich, but it is an essential part of maintaining the building and all the activities that happen around it. Thanks for your support!

Ted Forgan



CONTACTS

CHURCH NUMBER :0121 475 3841.....weoleycastlecommunitychurch50@gmail.com
COMMUNITY MINISTER : Mark Tubby.....07505521302...crew4wccc@talktalk.net
HALL BOOKINGS : Mark Tubby.....475 3841.....crew4wccc@talktalk.net

AGE UK OFFICE : Tues—Thurs 9.00 am—2.00 pm.....437 0479 (24 hours)

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	11.00am	Family Worship—everyone welcome Holy Communion - 2nd Sunday each month
MONDAY	10.00am 12.00 noon 1.30pm 6.00pm	Day Centre Lunch Club Over 60's Keep Fit Karate
TUESDAY	6.00pm	Children's Club (TFC) 7-11yrs (Term time)
WEDNESDAY	9.15am 6.00pm	Parent & Toddler Group (Term time) Karate
THURSDAY	Mornings 6.00pm	Foot Health Practitioner (Monthly) Karate
FRIDAY	9.15am 10.00am 12.00 noon 1.30pm 3.30pm	Parent & Toddler Group (Term time) Day Centre Lunch Club Cardiac Club Messy Church (once each half term)
SATURDAY	OCCASIONAL COFFEE MORNINGS	

Marriages and Baptisms by Arrangement

OTHER EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

June Walton

As you will be aware, June Walton passed away peacefully on Sunday 21st December. The arrangements for her funeral service are as follows: 12.30pm on Monday 19th January, there will be a Service at Lodge Hill Crematorium, conducted by Ernest Cruchley. This will be a double slot to allow time for people to pay tribute to June. Folk that wish to add thoughts and recollections about June are welcome to speak to Ernest. A collection for St. Mary's Hospice, whom Edwin said were a great support, will be taken on the day, though flowers are welcomed too.

It is hoped that people can then meet afterwards at the Old Farm Hotel in Bournville, though this is yet to be confirmed as definite. Please remember Edwin and the rest of the family in your thoughts and prayers.

John Rutherford,

You may have already heard that , John Rutherford, who was the Minister here during the rebuilding project and who oversaw the work, passed away on 26th December 2014 . He died peacefully a few weeks before his 96th birthday. Thoughts are with the family and those who knew him well.

Cards for all occasions

Frances, one of the members of the Church, design and makes greetings cards. Folk in the church have benefitted from this passion. So, if you know of an upcoming occasion that you would like to buy a card for, one that is unique, then let Frances know Sunday, and she will produce a selection of homemade designs for you.



**The church halls are available to hire for parties and events -
contact Mark on 0121 475 3841 for more details**

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 4th January	11.00am	Christine Miles
Sunday 11th January (Communion & Elders Induction)	11.00am	Rev Pat Nimmo
Sunday 18th January (Joint Service here with Weoley Hill)	11.00am	Rev John Marsh
Sunday 25th January	11.00am	Rev Brian Brown
Sunday 1st February	11.0am	Bruce Harvey

**Morning Prayers take place on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from
9.15—9.45am All welcome**

**On Wednesday morning at 10am we are welcome to join our friends at
St Gabriel's for Communion and Prayers**

Elders Meeting	7.45pm	Wed 14th January
-----------------------	---------------	-------------------------

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Anne Izzard has been undergoing a second course of chemotherapy so please pray for her recovery.

Another church member Joan Bradnick, moved into Oakview Care Home on 22nd December. We pray all goes well there for her.

Audrey Stables has had a fall at home recently and was taken to the Queen Elizabeth hospital to recover. She is currently in Ward 411, bed 35, for visitors, though it is possible she will be moving to Kendrick House to further aide her rehabilitation, so please pray for her and the family.

ALSO IN THE NEWS

What's happening?

With so many things going on during the week, it's hard to always know just what is happening and when. Our Lunch Club, which runs on a Monday and Friday is the subject of change at present. It is not to finish, as some rumours have said. We are working through funding cuts and looking for a long term solution so that we can cater for the clientele that find this an invaluable part of their week. We thank you for your patience while we seek a resolution.

Age UK still have an office in the building and have not gone, as some people are concerned has happened. They have suffered cuts as everyone else but still offer a great service to those over 50, often in vulnerable positions. Eddie is a fantastic source of information and guidance on so many matters, so drop in and see him Tues—Thurs between 9.30am and 2.00pm.

FORGAN'S FUNNIES

In the bleak mid-winter.... – it's time to think of jokes about holidays in warm places. You all know the old chestnut: My wife's gone to the West Indies. - Jamaica? – No: she went of her own accord...

Now for some newly-roasted chestnuts:

My wife's gone to Indonesia. - Jakarta? – No: she went by aeroplane...

My wife's gone on a singing tour in South Korea. - Seoul? – No: Rhythm & Blues...

My wife's having a crazy time in Venezuela. - Caracas? – Yes: absolutely mad...

My wife went on a boat trip to Egypt. – Port Said? – Yes: but starboard on the way home...

My wife went to stay at a hotel in Poole. – In Dorset? – Yes: she's given it 5 stars on Trip Advisor...

Find out more about Weoley Castle and its people:

www.weoleycastle.net

weoleycastlechurch.co.uk

www.stonehousegang.co.uk

www.shenleyacademy.org.uk

weoleycastlecommunitychurch.urc.org.uk

Messy Church takes place once each half term—It is a family friendly opportunity to explore your creative side using bible themes and stories, and to make lots of mess in a safe environment, and to then enjoy a shared meal.

All families are welcome with or without children— just come prepared to join in and have fun.



They generally take place on a Friday at 3.30pm and the next event is **in February**, watch out for it!

For more details on what happens or to get involved contact

Mark on 07505521302

or 475 3841

FROM WEOLEY HILL CHURCH

Our sister church Weoley Hill also has events and activities to join in:

There is a monthly Lunch Club, if you wish to join then please give your name to Nancy Nicholls. A planning meeting takes place on Wednesday 7th January at 10.30am.

Friendship Group —12.15pm on Wednesday 14th January

There is also a Community Choir which meets weekly and next on Fri 9th Jan at 6.30pm.

A book group also takes place on Tuesday 13th January at 7.30pm

Contact Cheryl Thornett on email **cherylthornett@hotmail.com**

THE WORLD OF CRCW

Hi and a Happy New Year to you all. Another year gone with events and activities seen and more exciting challenges this new one!

In the lead up to Christmas there were many events taking place, and each seemed to go well.

The Carols on the Square was attended by the local schools and parents turned up to support them, despite the very cold conditions. Well done to all the children, and teachers, you made it a lovely occasion.

The Playgroup and Children's Club had their annual Christmas Parties and each went very well, Playgroup even having a visit from a guy dressed in red, and it wasn't Ted.

The Lunch Club and Day Centres had an annual Christmas Lunch and this too went well, thanks to Diane and Tracy and the numerous volunteers who made it all happen. We have also now said goodbye to Diane and Gillian and we would like to thank them for the dedicated hard work and service they have given



over the time they have been here. God Bless you both!



I will be attending the URC Youth Assembly this month to deliver some workshops on Community and Diversity, and am looking forward to this. The young people tend to be full of energy and enthusiasm and it's always a challenge to present them with thought provoking ideas in ways that stimu-

late them. It should be fun!

We are also getting together with St. Gabriel's, the local C of E church to discuss possibilities of working links, especially in the light of Kate leaving soon. This could bring fresh new ideas and ways of working as churches together, and if you would like to be part of it please come along on Sunday 11th January.

Come March, we will be welcoming Vicky Longbone, a CRCW student, who will be on placement with us for about 15 months. It will be fun!

We are also due to meet as a steering group, probably on February 2nd, though this will be confirmed later.

Mark Tubby, Community Minister



Creating Change in Communities and the Church