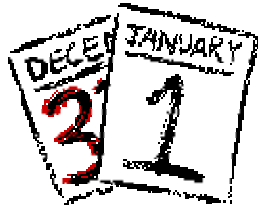


15th Birthday Celebrations



Throughout 2007 we hope to hold fundraising events to enable us to continue in our mission to expand and enlarge the activities of Woodside Bereavement Service. We feel that in 15 years we have achieved much, but there is still a lot to be done. The widening of our work with children & young people is just the beginning. We propose to raise money by:-

**Walking
Bouncing &
Swimming**

and—as always—having fun!
other events are also
planned throughout the year

Want to know more?

Watch this space

Children & Young People's Project Worker

Angie Henley began her 3 year project with WBS in October 2006. Her brief is to take forward the Children's and Young People's work of W.B.S. Angie has been beavering away at making contacts with the local pupil referral units, schools, health and education departments in an effort to find out what would be the most effective way to use her time and to develop a strategic policy for this work. Her work has already proved that there is an even bigger need than we had anticipated for counsellors to help the bereaved children of Croydon. WBS will be holding a specialist training session for their counsellors in March in order that the Service can develop a dedicated team to progress this work.

WBS Annual General Meeting

You are invited to join us at our AGM to learn more about our work and possibly meet a representative from Investors in Volunteers who will present our award. Woodside Baptist church on Tuesday 27th February at 7.30 pm.

The Listening Ear,
W.B.S.

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Woodside Bereavement Service Newsletter

January 2007

Silent Night, Holy Night

Through the busyness of Christmas and the New Year celebrations it is often difficult to find time to seek out a quiet place to be able to give thought to the real meaning of the Christmas season.

The birth of a new born baby who was to change the world. Silent Night, Holy Night is one of the nation's favourite carols, and of all the Christmas songs this one brings home more closely the need for reflection on the Nativity Story. God's greatest gift to mankind, His own son, born into an imperfect world, sent to redeem the world, to reconcile God and man.

We enter a New Year with all the unresolved strifes and conflicts of 2006 baying at our heels begging for closure. There are no instant answers, just as grief has no instant conclusion. Time and space must be given to work through to a positive place where closure is possible.

Please find time to pray for our 25 counsellors and management committee who seek to serve those in the community who are bereaved. Theirs is a difficult and thought provoking job which needs prayer backing in order to give clients the support which they need.



Birthday Celebrations



D.I.Y Craft Day & Bangers 'N Mash Quiz Nite.

Thank you to everyone involved in our fundraising day on 21st November. The whole day raised £300. This was a fun day but sadly was not well supported—everyone who came along enjoyed it tremendously. We hope to hold another quiz night as part of our birthday celebrations next year.

WBS cards

Our fundraising hand made Christmas cards sold really well. We have a good selection of birthday and celebration cards too. These are available throughout the year and we will be pleased to take commissions for any special occasions.

Birthday Celebrations

Thanksgiving Service

W.B.S would like to invite everyone to their 15th birthday thanksgiving service to be held on Sunday 22nd July. The Bishop of Croydon, the Rt. Rev. Nicholas Baines will be presiding and the mayor has been invited. Come along and share in the celebrations—whether you **are** or **have been** a client or a counsellor, member of the management committee or a Friend of WBS, we would like everybody to come! Further information on the venue for this event will appear in our next newsletter.

Investors in Volunteers Award.

Last year WBS with a grant from CVA applied for the IiV Award. Our assessor interviewed some members of WBS, poured over our paperwork and submitted her report to the board for their consideration in November. We have heard that we have been granted our award and can now display the logo on our headed notepaper and put the plaque up in the office. We are hoping that a presentation of the Award will be given at our AGM in February.

From Darkness to Light

Our annual Christmas Memorial Service was held on December 5th. A choir from Woodside Junior School sang to over 70 appreciative visitors. Later stars were hung on the Christmas tree as a tangible remembrance of loved ones.

THANK YOU

WBS wants to say **A BIG THANK YOU** to the shoppers at Addiscombe Co-op, and to the store for kindly allowing us to collect outside their shop on the Saturday before Christmas. A total of £585 was raised even though it was in the bleak mid-winter!

Birthday Celebrations



Faithworks

As you will know from our last newsletter, WBS was one of 7 organisations short listed for a community excellence award with Faithworks. Sadly we did not win our class but received a splendid letter of congratulation from the leader of the organising team and have a framed certificate in the office.

THANK YOU

Webb Ivory this year has once again helped to raise funds. Our thanks to Eddie for all his hard work on the administration side of the project and to everyone who bought their Christmas cards and gifts.