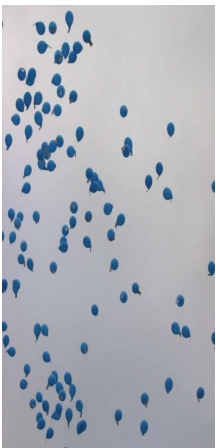


## BALLOON RACE & CHRISTMAS CARD COFFEE MORNING

A big **thank you** to everyone who took part in our balloon race which was held in conjunction with our Card & Coffee morning in November.

The balloons took off over the



church roof and headed towards the south coast. The furthest balloon travelled down to Hastings and the winner was Anna Davies who

won a high street shopping voucher. The coffee morning itself was very successful and together the balloon race and the card coffee morning raised £200 towards our funds.

The Listening Ear  
W.B.S.

Looking for something different to do?

Join us on our sponsored **Monopoly Marathon**.

Spend an interesting day in London on Saturday 26th April exploring the sights and visit spots which you have heard about but never had the time (or inclination) to visit.

All you need is a one day travel ticket, a disposable camera, the list of places to visit and off you go. There's a prize for the person or team which completes the course in the fastest time but why not take a packed lunch and simply enjoy London and get your friends to sponsor your trip for W.B.S.

Woodside Bereavement Service  
143 Tennyson Road  
South Norwood  
SE25 5NF

Tel No 020 8662 1648  
[www.thelisteningear.org.uk](http://www.thelisteningear.org.uk)

# Woodside Bereavement Service Newsletter

## New beginnings for 2008

All too soon the Christmas decorations are packed away in their boxes and banished to the loft or garage and the New Year Celebrations have faded into a memory when Epiphany has only just begun. What ever happened to the 12 days of Christmas?

New year for WBS brings new activities and new opportunities. For our clients new beginnings may be very difficult. Moving out into a new kind of world without that special person who has shared their life until death parted them is often a daunting thought and a step which can only be taken falteringly. Our counsellors give their time to come alongside those who need to talk through their loss. They help them to put their experience into perspective and accompany them on their journey of grief. WBS often says "We hope you may never need us but we are here when you do"



## Supper Quiz

Yes, our popular Supper Quizzes are back! Eddie will be our host as usual with his wonderful compilation of questions to stimulate our grey matter. Saturday 9th February at 7.15 pm is the day. Adults £6, children and concessionary rates £3. Why not gather a team around you and come along to join us?

## Hurry!

There is quite a bit of interest in our 2008 Training Course already. If you are interested in seeing whether this kind of ministry is for you—why not contact Margaret or Bobby and talk it over. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Contact them at the office—020 8662 1648



## Annual General Meeting

We invite everyone to join us at our AGM on Tuesday March 11th at 7.45 pm in Woodside Baptist church lounge and meet our new patron the Bishop of Croydon who will be speaking. This year he has rewritten and reissued his own book on grief and bereavement “Hungry for Hope” Why not consider coming to hear this entertaining and thought provoking speaker?

## Christmas Carols at the Co-op

Another big thank you to the people of Addiscombe and the Co-op for allowing us to collect outside their store on the Saturday before Christmas. Not only did we collect the amazing sum of £549 because of the exceptional generosity of the shoppers but we also experienced many appreciative conversations with people who had heard of our Service or who had benefited from it themselves.

## Our 15th Birthday Celebrations

2007 was our 15th Birthday. We planned many events during the year and all have been very successful. Our theme was “Walk, Bounce & Swim” and we achieved the walk and swim but not the bounce. Highlights of the year included our Thanksgiving Service on 22nd July, presided over by the Bishop of Croydon and the Bishop's agreement to become our new patron.



## From Darkness to Light

Our annual memorial service was held in Woodside Baptist Church on Tuesday 11th December at 7 pm. Again this year we had the privilege of having a children's choir from Woodside Junior school. After the service mince pies and coffee were served in the lounge. Feedback over the years has indicated that this time has been a great help to those who attended.

## Webb Ivory

Thank you to our fundraiser Eddie who once again battled with the Christmas post making sure that all our orders of Webb Ivory Cards and gifts were filled in time for Christmas. With all your orders and efforts from Eddie, the Service raised £120 for our funds.

## Good News

### WBS Training Course going for accreditation.

WBS has been awarded £1,000 by the Alexandra Rose Day organisation towards applying for our training course to be officially accredited. Many possible trainees have asked us if the course is ‘recognised’ so now we hope to be able to offer a fully accredited course. Bobby & Margaret are looking at two organisations who give recognised qualifications to students on successful completion of courses. This will mean some changes in the course delivery and a formal assessment of work done by learners who undertake the course. At the end of this course learners will have a certificate which will allow them to build up a portfolio of work leading on to greater things.

For the Green  
Space Walk—  
watch this space

