

Chairperson
Margaret Surrey

Treasurer:
Angela Fisher

Secretary:
Jean Clark

IT & Web design
Jason Coleman

Fundraiser
Danuta Plummer

Other committee members
Lyn Barnett
Richard Chatterjee
Phil Jones

Co-ordinator
Bobby Jones

Children & YP
project worker
Angie Henley



ANNOUNCING

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday February 26th in Woodside Baptist church lounge. Everyone is welcome to come. 2009 will be an eventful year for WBS, so why not come along and hear about the progress of the Service.

We are on the look out for new committee members and also for officers, if you think you might be able to spare some time (it's not a lot, honest!) why not contact Margaret our Chairperson, or Bobby.

Become a Friend of W.B.S.

We need people like you to become a "Friend of W.B.S." These are people who support us in prayer, attend our AGM 's and other functions and do innumerable other small jobs which need doing within the Service.



Woodside Bereavement Service
The Listening Ear
Registered Charity No 1041666

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Woodside Bereavement Service Newsletter

January 2009

See amid the winter snow

Winter time heralds the possibility of snow and cold winds blowing through our land. Winter can be difficult for those who have been bereaved, whether it was a recent bereavement or one which happened many years ago; often meaning that long hours are spent at home alone. Most people have family and friends to talk to about their loved one, but some have no-one at all. Whether family understand or whether you feel that no-one understands what you are going through, W.B.S. is there to serve the people of Croydon who have experienced all kinds of losses.

We have a motto which says "we hope that you never need us but we are here when you do" so if you know someone who would benefit from talking with one of our counsellors or maybe you, yourself would like to talk to someone we are only a phone call away.

Ring us on 020 8662 1648



THANK YOU

Christmas Carols

The Saturday before Christmas saw WBS volunteers standing in the very windy doors of Addiscombe Co-op and their brand new High Street entrance collecting. We had Christmas carols and music which attracted many compliments. As we have been doing this for a number of years now there are often people who know of our work and who are willing to contribute. The collection raised a £419.00. A big **THANK YOU** to all those who contributed.

Christmas 'From Darkness to Light' Memorial Service

Once again our annual memorial service was held in December. Christmas time is a very difficult time for those who are bereaved, as families all over the country draw together to celebrate the festive season. As has now become a welcome tradition a choir from Woodside Junior School sang carols and Christmas songs which added to the peaceful atmosphere of the occasion. The whole evening was very much appreciated by those who attended.

Webb Ivory

Another **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone for investing in the Webb Ivory catalogue over Christmas. We hope that you are all pleased with your cards and gifts. Our thanks to Eddie Parsons who dealt with all the administrative side of the work. The final invoices have not yet been paid so we are not able to give you the figure for the profits to WBS. Eddie is wondering whether the time has come to change to another supplier for a wider and more varied selection next year.

Training Course 2009

We are hoping to pilot our 50 hours training course in a different format running during the day after Easter. If this idea appeals to you and you are free during the day time — why not give us a ring to see if it might be a viable option? The usual course runs over 12 weeks and includes 3 weekends. If one evening a week and weekends are better for you then this course will run in September too.

We have had excellent feed back from volunteers who have taken part in the course and they have said that they learnt a great deal and enjoyed the course very much. If you feel that the Lord has been speaking to you about working with bereaved people then we would like to hear from you. The dates for either of the courses have not yet been decided but we are always looking for volunteer counsellors to join our team. We would urge everyone who is interested to register with the office as soon as possible in order that we can keep you up to date with the latest developments on the course. The office number is 020 8662 1648



Eddie's famous Quiz Night

Our next Quiz & Supper Night is to be held in Woodside Baptist Outreach hall on Saturday 7th February at 7 pm. The programme will include a light Pizza supper – tickets will be available soon £6 per person.

John Flear

It was with mixed emotions that we heard of the home call of John on Boxing Day. He was the Chairman of WBS from 2003 to 2005. He gave sound guidance and direction to the work during that time, and even after relinquishing the post still supported us in many ways right up until his death. He will be sadly missed and we commend Rene and the family to you at this time.