

Mike's message

Sure and Steadfast

There's a very special Family Service in July!

On Sunday 3rd July at our 9.30am service we'll be holding our Annual Awards Presentation for our Boys Brigade and Girls Association (BBGA).

The BBGA Company at St Andrew's, who are the 4th West Bromwich, is now over 30 years old.

You'll remember we had a wonderful 30th

Anniversary Service a couple of years ago. 'The 4th' started life down the road at Swan Village Methodist Church when the Minister at the time said to Margaret Morgan "we need to start something for the youth" or words to that effect. So it was that the 4th West Bromwich came into being. The Company moved to St Andrew's with the Swan Village Congregation a few years later. Many young people have passed through it's ranks. I've had conversations with 'bridegrooms to be' who've mentioned they used to enjoy coming to St Andrew's 'for BB'.

Over all these years Margaret Morgan has been Company Captain and, together with her hard working team of leaders, continues to lead an excellent organisation for young people at St Andrew's. The activities enjoyed by our BBGA include an annual Weekend Away, competitions - from athletics to Bible knowledge - and day trips for rock climbing, archery or other fun activities. The weekly BBGA evening (Tuesday at St Andrew's) also has a variety of activities each week from indoor football, crafts, knowledge building exercises and even rocket making and test firing on The Jesson!

The Boys Brigade and Girls Association is a specifically Christian organisation with, "discipline, reverence, discipline and self-respect" being among it's objectives. It's motto "Sure and Steadfast" is taken from Hebrews, Chapter 6, verse 19 where faith is described as being "a sure and certain anchor for the soul". That's represented in both the BBGA badge and it's hymn "Will your anchor hold in the storms of life". We'll be singing the latter on Sunday 3rd July of course.

There'll be plenty of awards to give out this year. Recently our BBGA has won the Mid-Staffs and Sandwell Battalion's Orienteering competition and been runners up in the athletics tournament. So come along and celebrate on 3rd July.

It you know any young people who might be interested in the BBGA and it's activities they would be very welcome to come along on Tuesdays. New members are always welcome. Our times are:

Anchors (5 - 7 yr olds): Tuesdays 6pm - 7.15pm

Juniors and Company (8 - 16 yr olds): Tuesdays 7pm - 8.30pm.

