

TODAY SUNDAY 3rd December

9.45am	Meetings for toddlers, children & teenagers
10.00am	Senior Band at Manor Cottage Residential Home
11.00am	Toy Service with Colin & Nicola
5.00pm	Light up a Life with St Peter's Hospice

Monday 4th December

All Day	Gardening Club Christmas Trip & Dinner
6.00pm	Rainbows

Tuesday 5th December

9.30am	Toddlers Carol Service
10.00am	Cell Group with Pat & Arnold
7.30pm	Songsters at Badminton Gardens Residential Home

Wednesday 6th December

9.30am	Baby Song Christmas Party
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm	Slimming World

Thursday 7th December

10.30am	"Meet & Greet"
12.30pm	Lunch Club
2.00pm	Friendship Club Christmas Lunch Trip
6.00-7.30pm	Young People's Band carolling at Tesco's Extra Yate
6.00-9.00pm	Senior Band carolling at The Mall

Friday 8th December

9.30 & 11.30am	Slimming World
5.00pm	Band Ensemble at the Tynings School Christmas Fair
7.30pm	Christmas with the Salvation Army

Saturday 9th December

10am-12pm	Coffee Morning
10.30am-12.00pm	Young People's Band carolling at Tesco's Extra Yate
11.00am-3.00pm	Senior Band carolling at The Mall

Sunday 10th December

9.45am	Meetings for toddlers, children & teenagers
10.00am	Senior Band at Beaufort Court & Cossham Gardens
11.00am	Worship with Colin & Nicola
5.00pm	Family Carol Service – featuring all our young people



THE SALVATION ARMY STAPLE HILL

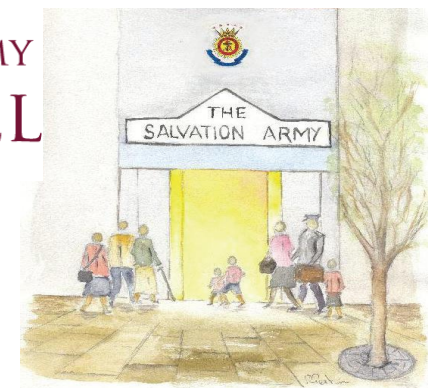
Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones

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Weekly Bulletin for Sunday 3rd December 2017

The musings of Corps Treasurer Gary Matthews: Standing for two hours at the Mall with a collecting tin may not appeal to everyone, but you do experience such joy from the public. Last week we started our annual carolling at the Mall with the band. The shoppers were out in force, the band set up & the collectors put on their fluorescent vests and stood with a smile. As the band played, so the tins started to fill up - young children, teenagers, middle aged and elderly all willingly gave from pennies to the promise of sending in a cheque for over £200. But it's not all about collecting money, it's about spreading the true meaning of Christmas.

As I looked around, I saw a group of families stood or sitting in front of the band; I saw a young waitress from McDonalds pop some coins in a collection tin, and then later came back to buy a band CD; I saw eight teenagers sat on a bench daring each other to put some money in our tins (which they did); a little boy aged about 5-6 came over to me, put his money in the tin and said 'thank you for the nice music'; six Welsh ladies dressed in their Christmas jumpers gave and said 'now it feels like Christmas is near having heard the band'; a baby in a pushchair with its mother and grandmother came over to give, and after persuading the baby to let go of the £1 it was holding while trying to stare me out, also said it was lovely music to hear. Many people gave with a smile, some had a quick chat and others commented on '*how nice it was to hear the band*' '*the Salvation Army do great work*', '*thanks for what you do*' and '*when are you here again?*' One lady commented that when she hears Silent Night by the band she cries, (I nearly said so does the Bandmaster!!) because when her daughter gave birth at Southmead hospital a few years back the band were there and they were playing Silent Night when she walked past.

I wonder what our presence meant to those people? The families, the teenagers, the baby in the pram, the Welsh ladies, those who purchased our band CD. Where in the world have all those Facebook and social media photos & videos been viewed? **How far will our message spread when they go home, to school or work?**

Marc Willetts. Corps Sergeant Major (07808 730706) marckay83@gmail.com



A great day yesterday at Christmas on the Hill. Even without the parade, there were still lots of people around and many of them came into our suite of buildings. A great day for everyone who supported our effort. The day capped off in great style around the Christmas Tree in The Square.

Day One of ***"The One True Gift"***, reminds us in Philippians 2 v4, that we should not be looking to our own interests but each of us to the interests of others. As I prepare this Bulletin, I'm wearing my Ben Sherman Father Christmas Jumper visualising you all in your Christmas Jumpers this morning bringing your gifts to join with the many donated toys through the Christmas Angel. I know, that tonight we will welcome our friends linked with St Peter's Hospice as they come to Light up a Life and remember those whom they miss. Both occasions offer us the chance to think of the interests of others

We really need your help: Many hands make light work! ***Thank You.***

- At the end of every Carol Services over the next few weeks (including tonight) serving refreshments or tidying up the Hall & the Bradbury Hall
- Collecting whilst both our bands are playing Christmas carols. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer - please see Linda Hall and Debbie Hatcliffe
- Monday evening 11th December preparing the food parcels & sorting all many toys that have been donated.

Internal Christmas Post: To ensure people can collect their cards before Christmas, **the last post will be Sunday 10th December.** Donations to the Youth for their hard work as the Staple Hill Postal Service can be put into the box or given to Tash or Phil. First name and last name may be necessary – e.g. M. Dickens (Mark or Mike?!?!)



December at the Staple Hill Salvation Army is a *"Journey to Bethlehem"*. Join us for as much of the journey as you can – we're already on it!

There are still some tickets available for Christmas with the Salvation Army on Friday 8th December at 7.30pm. Of course, there are our usual Carol Services on Sundays 10th & 17th December at 5pm. But this year, uniquely, we will be meeting out in the Square for Carols on Christmas Eve at 4pm.

I know it's easy for me to print it & to say it, but these are all perfect opportunities to invite your family, friends and those whom you meet. **They really are!**

Go on, take hold of the opportunity, invite someone & bring them this year!

GIVE TO GROW BULLETIN:

The new giving period is about to begin. Just a gentle reminder in case you have to adjust your bankers order to reflect your change in giving.

FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN: Reaching Wider to love each other

Congratulations to **HILTON BAKER!** 70 years young on 6th December

Christine Kleinschmidt would like to thank everyone for their support as she has once again made & sold her cards to support our Youth.

As Malcolm & Fiona Janes have felt the support of your prayers, so we pray for Barry & Brenda Bray as her father passed away last evening. Brenda & Paul Cook & their family would also appreciate our prayerful support

Frank Mills funeral will take place on Monday 11th December, 1.45pm in our own Hall followed at 2.45pm at Westerleigh Crematorium.

Pray for those who are unable to attend & worship with us: Molly Angle, Cath Brown, Mary Brown, Doreen Butland, Ruth & Tom Cable, Nancy Cryer, Brenda & Geoffrey Driscoll, Margaret Hatton, Light Jatto, Gwen & Joyce Lear, Shirley Nokes, Catherine Read, Valerie & Peter Scott, Francis & Ruth Shepherd, John & Olive Sheppard.

