



Local ... Lively ... Loving

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Monarchy

Well, friends, some people have been fortunate to be invited to the coronation celebrations, and thousands more have lined the Mall enjoying the atmosphere of it all.

On the other hand, how sad it is that so many British people show no interest – yet I'm glad I can honour it all. Out of curiosity I tell you our family should be called unique because all 3 of us share birthdays with Kings: Geoff shares his with King Charles III on November 14th, Hank (my husband) was on the late King Edward VIII's birthday on June 23rd, and my birthday is the same as the late King George II – 10th November. I find it amusing and unbelievable, although we get no recognition of any kind. Yet, we are precious in God's sight, whoever we are. I always call my Army uniform my Royal Robe, and I'm proud to belong to His Kingdom. The scripture says 'And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away' 1 Peter 5v4. I trust this privilege will be yours too.

How great is our God, and all will see how great, how great is our God [The Song Book of The Salvation Army, No. 64]

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PAGE PARK CORONATION BIG LUNCH:

The Friends of Page Park are organising a Big Lunch on Sunday 7th May to celebrate the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. This is a great opportunity to share fellowship.

We'd like to invite you to take a picnic and join in with the rest of the community! We will be making our way to the park as soon as our Sunday activities are over.



The 'Big Lunch' in Page Park - whatever the weather!

DOWNEND VOICE:

Concert was an Easter treat

YOUR recent edition (Voice, April) was popped through my letterbox in time for me to read about the Salvation Army Easter Music Evening at their premises in Staple Hill that very night.

Well, what an uplift that was for me!

The power of the band and songsters was like attending an expensive stage concert, with an added annotation of beautiful biblical moments by its theme 'Come As You Are'.

What a surprising Easter treat!

A Downend local

For those of you living in the local area, you might have noticed this article on the letters page in the May edition of the Downend Voice.

It is great to be appreciated, but even better to hear that the concert was every bit as uplifting as we hoped.

Thank you to whoever may have taken the time to write in to our local paper.

PAGE PARK PRAISE - HELP NEEDED:

Next Sunday (14th May) will be our first Page Park Praise of 2023!

We need lots of help to ensure this is a success, so some of us will be staying at the hall after the morning meeting to prepare – please feel free to join us (bring your own lunch)!

From 2pm we will be loading the cars with the equipment, so even if you don't stay for lunch but are able to help, please come to the hall for 2pm.

We will also need helpers at the park from around 2:15pm to set-up and dust off cobwebs from the deck chairs (bring your own brush!) and obviously to help packing down afterwards too.

As this is the first Page Park Praise of the year, there will be a quick debrief meeting at the hall afterwards. Page Park Praise is only a success if we have people available to talk to members of the public, give out leaflets, goody bags, etc. - so if you're able to help in any way, please see Myriam.

It is also important that we pray for this venture and the opportunities it brings to engage with our local community. Thank you.

CANDIDATE'S FUND:

Thank you to everyone who gave in the retiring collection last week towards the candidate's fund, supporting those entering training to become Salvation Army Officers. We raised £528.87.

FLOWERS:

Thank you to Helen Stone for the flowers today, in memory of Mavis's birthday.

AT THE CORONATION:



It was great to hear that two young men that we all know were taking part in the coronation of King Charles III. Andrew Campbell was working at the Coronation service on Saturday in his role as a verger at the Abbey. (At the funeral of the Queen he was on camera at one point!). You may have also noticed an article within the Salvationist last week featuring Andrew discussing how his faith and his work are combined.

Josh Dickens was also taking part, marching in the RAF band as part of the Coronation procession.

How great that two of the lads that have grown up in the corps were taking part on this historic day.

CONGRATULATIONS:

The following people have recently completed Safeguarding training - congratulations. On the noticeboard there is now a list of everyone who has received full Safeguarding training - hopefully this will be helpful to leaders.

John Alcock
Sue Alcock
Naomi Blowers
Marcus Brown
Joshua Chow
Beth Ewins
Pauline Ewins

Becky Gardner
Mary Hitchcock
David James
Esther Kasumba
Yolanda Kukia
Karen Lo
Helen Lyons

Karen Parkes
Louise Parkes
Marion Richardson
Jo Risdale
Rachel Wallis
Keith Williams

WELCOME TO THE HIGH COUNCIL:

You are invited to join the international Salvation Army world to welcome the High Council (the group that elects the next General of The Salvation Army) and say farewell to General Brian Peddle and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle as they enter This will take place on retirement. Saturday 20th Mav at Central Hall Westminster, London. Details of the event, including how to book your free tickets and access the livestream, can be found on the following page.



www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/high-council-2023-welcome

PEOPLE:

We were sorry to learn of three bereavements this week: Louise was bereaved of her Nan, Brenda of her sister, and we have recently learnt that Ted Barber has also passed away. Please continue remember our friends in your prayers at this time. In addition, we are preparing for the funeral of Leon Jenner, the details of which are: Thursday, 25th May 2023 at 2pm at Westerleigh Crematorium. Please remember his daughter, Davina, along with his brothers Russell and Barry in your prayers.

Roy remains very poorly and Raymond Crew is in hospital, but on a more positive note, John Wordley is making good progress following his hip replacement last week, as is Margaret following her knee operation - both have the joy of physiotherapy, so we pray that God will give them both strength and patience. If I have not mentioned you, I am sorry, but please take care.

Congratulations to Mike Dickens this week, as he reaches 80 on May $10^{\text{th}}!$

ARMED FORCES DAY:

We were due to participate in the Armed Forces Event in Page Park on Saturday 17th June, but the committee has had to cancel the event. They hope to organise this for 2024.

THY KINGDOM COME:



The Salvation Army are participating in this ecumenical event. Here's how you can join in:

Join us for an evening of ecumenical prayer and worship to launch the *Thy*

Kingdom Come 11 days of prayer from Ascension day to Pentecost. With worship led by the Salvation Army band and choir and The Spirituals, we'll be kicking off TKC 23 together at Regent Hall Corps with an evening of ecumenical prayer and worship. If you are unable to join us in person, we'll be livestreaming the service on YouTube and Facebook. Please just select the ONLINE ticket using the link below and we'll send you the details of how to watch from home.

TKC 23 - Ascension Day prayer and worship Tickets, Thu 18 May 2023 at 19:00 | Eventbrite

THANKS:

Margaret Bessex would like to thank everyone who has sent cards, messages and flowers following her recent stay in hospital. Thankfully, she is now home and making slow progress back to health once again.

IN THE MONTH AHEAD:

Sunday 21st May Messy Church

Sunday 22nd May Mission Council Meeting

Sunday 4th **June** Page Park Praise

Saturday 10th June Coffee Morning

SOME MORE KEY DATES THIS YEAR:

Sunday 2nd July Page Park Praise

Sunday 6th August Page Park Praise

Sunday 10th September Divisional Celebration

Sunday 17th September Page Park Praise

30th Sept / 1st Oct Harvest Weekend

14th / 15th October YP Prizegiving Weekend



THE WEEK AHEAD:

TODAY 7th May:

10am All Age Worship

11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities

11:30am-12:30pm Kay's Sunday Group

Following the meeting: 'Big Lunch' at Page Park – Bring a picnic and a chair and join with everyone celebrating the Coronation

Tuesday 9th May:

11am-12noon Extra Slice Group at the Hall (leader: Kelvin)

6:30pm YP Band Practice

7:15pm Singing Company Practice

8pm Songster Practice

Wednesday 10th May:

9:30am-11am Tots on the Hill

3:30pm-4:30pm Extra Slice Group online (leader: Gerry)

7:45pm-9pm Extra Slice Group at Linda's house

8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leader: Beth)

Thursday 11th May:

12.30pm Lunch Club

6:45pm Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house

8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel)

Friday 12th May:

7pm Divisional Youth rehearsals in our hall

Saturday 13th May:

10am-12noon Coffee Morning (coordinated by Pauline Ewins)

Sunday 14th May:

10am All Age Worship - 'Three in One'

11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities

11:30am-12:30pm Kay's Sunday Group

3pm Page Park Praise (weather permitting)