

SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023

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 **Staple  
Hill  
Bulletin**



**Local ...  
Lively ...  
Loving**

[staplehillbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:staplehillbulletin@gmail.com)

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## A Little Friend



In the summer of last year, my daughter Olivia decided that she wanted a pet and so she adopted a little rabbit. He was joined earlier this year by a second one. All of this sounds good, until you learn that I have an acute allergy to rabbits (and everything else furry for that matter)! So the rabbits live in a mansion built especially for them in the garden. They are totally adorable balls of fluff and full of character! I have grown to love them very much, even though touching them or getting too close to them causes my eyes to stream and my airways to close.

The symbiotic relationship between mankind and animals is a wonderful gift. They provide us with companionship and unconditional love. They calm us when we are stressed, patiently listen to our musings and rantings without comment, and entertain us with their antics. And all they want in return is a little care and attention. God has blessed us greatly through the animals he has put around us. We thank you, Lord, for all the furry and feathered friends that bring us such joy each and every day.

*Paul Heath*

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## THINKING OF UKRAINE:

A few years ago, a number of our corps folk visited Ukraine as part of a mission to help with various projects in the poorest regions of that country, and were financially and prayerfully supported by our corps. Although COVID and the war have prevented any further trips for the time being, the need of the Ukrainian people is greater than it's ever been. Last week, Margaret Boxell received this from Major Vera, Divisional Secretary of Ukraine, relaying the situation on the ground in that country:

*There was a massive attack on Kyiv by drones. There were few hits, thank God. There are worries every day. This night I slept for 2 hours and 30 minutes. Here, the main thing is to pray that our armed forces shoot them down and that they do not fly to the city. But in Kherson, which the Russians have now left, they mercilessly hit every day with rockets and mortars. And Bakhmut is another city that is simply erased from the face of the earth. House after house, school after school, hospital after hospital, museums, churches - everything around is black and destroyed. Yesterday we drove from the Carpathians along the Zhytomyr highway. There is no longer any manufactured machinery, and shops and houses are broken down.*

*All officers were in the Carpathians in the village of Tatarov for three days. What is the nature there? Flowers bloom below, and white snow lies above. The air is clean, the water is good, and the most important thing is incredible silence all around.*

*This message has almost moved me to tears. Ukraine is no longer headline news on a daily basis and in our daily conversation yet the ravage of war has not ceased. Praying that soon the war will end and that our friends will once again experience clean air, good water and incredible silence all around.*

Please continue to remember Vera and the other officers and soldiers as they continue to serve the people throughout the country.



## LONDON TO BRIGHTON CHARITY BIKE RIDE 2023

The Salvation Army is more than just a church and as part of its belief, is very active in helping those in society who need support. There are many activities that the corps in Staple Hill undertake to try and make a difference including; luncheon clubs, youth activities, warm space in this energy crisis and provision of emergency food parcels.

These activities don't happen on their own and many volunteers give up their time to assist with the running and collation of the phenomenal generosity of the public and suppliers.

To this end, two of our Bandsmen from the Tuba section, Deputy Bandmaster Steve Seife and Mark Hatcliffe, have decided to embark on a fund-raising project in aid of The Salvation Army in Staple Hill. So, they have registered to participate in this year's **London to Brighton** Charity Bike ride. In addition to this, Shaun Cronin, a prominent member of the Southwest Fellowship Band and bike enthusiast, is going to support Mark & Steve throughout the journey as the support vehicle.

**When:** The event takes place on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023** and will run throughout the day starting at Clapham common running the 59 miles to Brighton.

### The Route

Once out of London they will predominantly cycle along quiet lanes passing through Mitcham, Carshalton, Chipstead, Banstead and Haywards Heath before taking on the challenge that is Ditchling Beacon - a mile long climb to the top of the South Downs where they will be rewarded with amazing views and a water break! From there it's downhill for the last few miles onto Brighton Sea front! If you're nearby, come out and support all those on this tremendous journey.

### How you can support

**There are a few ways you can support, either through direct payment to Steve or Mark or through the Just Giving Page link below;**

[www.justgiving.com/SalvationArmy-Steve-Mark](http://www.justgiving.com/SalvationArmy-Steve-Mark)

(cut & paste into your browser)

*In aid of The Salvation Army: Registered Charity No. 214779, Scotland SC009359 and Republic of Ireland: Registered Charity No. CHY6399*



## **PEOPLE:**

We continue to support those who have recently been bereaved. In particular we remember the families of Jill Welling, Ted Barber and Leon Jenner, whose funeral is on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 2pm at Westerleigh Crematorium. We also remember Louise and her family as they prepare for the funeral of Louise' nan.

Roy remains very poorly, but on a more positive note Ray is now home. He would like to attend the meeting, but is not currently able to drive. If you would be able to offer him a lift (Fishponds), then please speak to Colin. Elsie remains in hospital so please uphold her in your prayers. As mentioned last week, this is exam time, so please remember those in our fellowship who are preparing for and taking exams at the moment.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Donald this week as he flies home to Hong Kong. It has been great to share with you and get to know you over the past few weeks.

Just to let you know that Nicola and myself are away from Monday - Wednesday this week at divisional officers' meetings. Then from Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June we are on holiday returning to lead worship and Page Park Praise on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup>. We then have a further time away from Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June, to celebrate with Yvonne and Carys who are reaching milestone ages. It is unfortunate that these three events come so quickly on each other, but we have tried to minimise the impact by only taking one Sunday. We hope you understand.

## **FLOWERS:**

We would like to thank both Viv Wallington for the flowers at the front of the hall today - in memory of Mary Wallington, who would have celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

## **THANK YOU:**

We would all like to say a big thank you to Hilary for the beautiful and thought provoking displays she has provided over the years to brighten our corridor. Hundreds of people have stopped and taken time to reflect as they have entered or left the building and it has truly been an effective form of outreach. Thank you Hilary (and all your helpers!).

## **BIG CLEAR OUT DAY:**

**Saturday 17th June**

The property project is moving at quite a pace, many areas of the building are being tidied and cleared, and this will need to be ramped up from Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. On this day we will be in the building morning and afternoon - many hands make light work - so please put this date in your diary. In the days following this we will continue to clear areas as needed and as our activities move to other venues. We hope to give you more details next week. On 17<sup>th</sup> June we will also have our final coffee morning before we move out - so come and have a cake and then stay to help! (Please note this coffee morning has been postponed from 10<sup>th</sup> June).

## **WELCOME TO THE HIGH COUNCIL & FAREWELL TO THE GENERAL AND COMMISSIONER:**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 3.15pm, Central Hall Westminster**

Join The Salvation Army in a worship and celebration event, welcoming the 2023 High Council and honouring General Brian Peddle and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle (World President of Women's Ministries) as they prepare for retirement.

For more information, free tickets or details of the livestream, go to:

<https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/high-council-2023-welcome>

Read more on [Salvationist.org.uk](http://Salvationist.org.uk).

## THY KINGDOM COME:

Don't miss out on a free evening of prayer and worship to launch Thy Kingdom Come's 11 days of global prayer from Ascension to Pentecost. Thursday's event will include worship led by The Spirituals choir and Regent Hall music sections, and a sermon from His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, the Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London.

[Click the link here](#) to book your free ticket to join in person or online. Share the [TKC YouTube video and](#) invitation (attached) to encourage others to attend.



### Thy Kingdom Come Ascension Day Prayer & Worship Service

18<sup>th</sup> May • 7-8:30pm  
Regent Hall, 275 Oxford Street, London W1S 2DJ



The Salvation Army  
Band and Choir



His Eminence  
Archbishop Angaelos



The  
Spirituals

#### Join us for the launch of Thy Kingdom Come 2023!

Worship will be led by **The Spirituals and Salvation Army Band and Choir**. The event will include prayers led by **Bishop Nicholas Hudson** (Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales), **Bishop Mike Royal** (Churches Together in England), **Reverend Canon Helen Cameron** (Methodist Church of Great Britain / Free Churches Group), **Bishop David Urquhart** (Church of England). With a short sermon from **His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos** (Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London).

**Book your tickets now**  
<https://bit.ly/43PSkvZ>



The Spirituals: Photo credit: Neil Turner for the Lambeth Conference.

## **IN THE MONTH AHEAD:**

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Page Park Praise
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Coffee Morning Big Clear Out Day
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Senior Band Concert Westbury-on-Trym Methodist Church
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Coffee Morning
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Fathers' Day
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Pastoral Care Council Meeting

## **SOME MORE KEY DATES THIS YEAR:**

<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	Page Park Praise
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Page Park Praise
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Divisional Celebration
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Page Park Praise
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sept / 1<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>	Harvest Weekend
<b>14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	YP Prizegiving Weekend

## THE WEEK AHEAD:

### TODAY 21<sup>st</sup> May:

10am	All Age Worship <i>'Three in One: Jesus with the Father'</i> <a href="#">Acts 1: 1-11</a>
11.30am-12:15pm	Children & Youth Activities
11:30am-12:30pm	Kay's Membership Group
4pm-6pm	Messy Church

### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May:

8pm	Mission Council Meeting
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### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> May:

12.30pm	Lunch Club
2pm	Funeral of Leon Jenner at Westerleigh
6:45pm	Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house
8pm	Senior Band Practice
8:15pm-9:15pm	Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel)

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May:

10am	<b>PENTECOST</b> All Age Worship <i>'Three in One: The Holy Spirit with us'</i> <a href="#">Acts 2: 1-13</a>
11.30am-12:15pm	Children & Youth Activities
4pm-6pm	Messy Church