

SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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Local ...  
Lively ...  
Loving

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

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## Remember, Remember

As bonfires are lit across the country, and the evening sky fills with the flashes and bangs of fireworks, we are all forced to remember the events of over 400 years ago as a group of conspirators plotted to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Our 'celebrations' date back to January 1606 when Parliament passed 'An Act for a Public Thanksgiving to Almighty God every Year on the Fifth Day of November', making it mandatory for every church in England to hold a special service to commemorate the foiling of this plot. The act was eventually repealed in 1859, but our bonfire night traditions still continue.

I find it a very strange and somewhat macabre thing to celebrate. However, giving thanks to God for major events affecting our lives has to be a good idea. Thanking God for lives being saved has to be the right thing to do. Thanking God for the democracy and liberty that we continue to enjoy is totally justified.

And we can also thank God for all the whizzes, fizzes, pops, bangs, sparkles, colours and fun that this night brings! Just make sure you remain safe.

*Paul Heath*

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## **Celebration Weekend**

We are all looking forward to returning to our building, hopefully by the end of November, but it would be good to celebrate our return and also the fact that The Salvation Army has been in Staple Hill for 140 years. With this in mind, we will be organising a Celebration Weekend on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024 so put the date in your diaries now! There are no firm plans yet, although lots of ideas, so if you have any ideas about how we should celebrate please let Colin or Nicola know.

## **Building Update**

There's been real progress in our building this week as the steel structure for the gallery arrived! We are having discussions with the contractors about the exact procedure and timing for moving back in. We hope to have more news in the next few days so please keep an eye on your emails. In the meantime, there are some up-to-date photos attached to the bulletin email or on the screen after the meeting. Please do speak to Colin or Nicola if you have any questions. It will be great to get back home again, won't it?!

## **Christmas Day**

We're all set to welcome people on Christmas Day again this year. The day is for anyone who would appreciate sharing Christmas dinner around the table with others in the community. The day includes a Christmas dinner, entertainment, lots of laughs and all sorts of goodies to take home. If you want to share with us or know of anyone who would like an invitation, then please ask Nicola or Deb.

We are also looking for people to help us on the day. We need people to help all day as Table Hosts - making people welcome, serving food and chatting with guests and helping in the kitchen. We're also looking for people to pick up guests to arrive by 10.30am and people to take them home again at 3pm. Please see Nicola if you can help in any way. Thank you!

## People

We continue to uphold those families in and attached to our fellowship who are grieving the loss of a loved one. In particular we remember Brenda Hussey's family this week as they prepare for Brenda's funeral, the arrangements of which are:

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - Staple Hill Methodist Church @ 12.30pm and then at Westerleigh Crematorium @ 2.00pm, followed by a reception in the hospitality suite.

We were also sad to learn with week that Beryl Garnder has been bereaved of her brother, who passed away on the morning of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We continue to remember Elsie who is making good progress and Sally, Marion's daughter, who is far from well. If you need our support at this time, please let us know.

Congratulations to Yanni who took part in a Table Tennis competition, run by the Table Tennis Academy in Birmingham and won 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in the under 19 girls.



## Harvest Collection

This year's Harvest collection amounted to a grand total of **£3286.89**

This is only £20.00 down from last year. Considering we only had the envelopes at short notice and we are not in our own building, this is a marvellous sum! These funds are used to support the mission of the Salvation Army – funding initiatives to help spread the gospel message. 75% of the money raised is retained within our corps, whilst the other 25% gets paid into the Mission Innovation Fund for our division.

## Flowers

Our thanks to Jenny Andrew for the flowers at the front of the hall today, remembering family and friends.

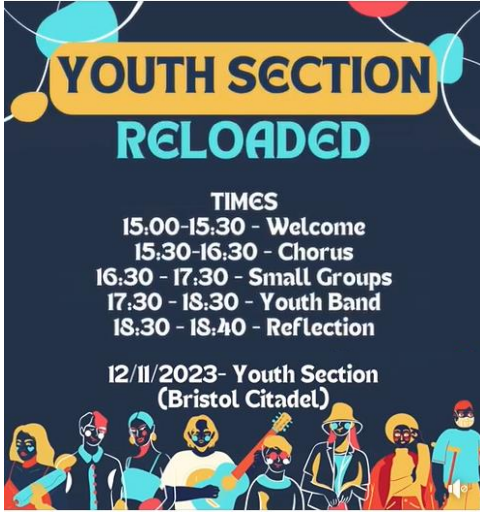
## Be a Star Christmas Appeal

It's that time of the year again. Last year we supported about 2,000 people across South Gloucestershire and Bristol. But we can only do that with your help. This year we're asking you to 'Be a Star', pick up a postcard (instead of an angel tag) and buy a gift for the person as indicated on the back. Gifts can be anything you choose. All gifts need to be brand new and unwrapped, please.



Sunday morning 3<sup>rd</sup> December, will be our Toy Service when you can bring your gifts and place them under our tree or you can bring them to the hall at any other time before Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December (once we are finally back in the hall, of course). On behalf of the families we represent, thank you so much for your generosity - if you need any further information please don't hesitate to ask.

# Upcoming Events



**YOUTH SECTION  
RELOADED**

**TIMES**  
 15:00-15:30 - Welcome  
 15:30-16:30 - Chorus  
 16:30 - 17:30 - Small Groups  
 17:30 - 18:30 - Youth Band  
 18:30 - 18:40 - Reflection

12/11/2023- Youth Section  
(Bristol Citadel)

The poster features a dark blue background with colorful circles and a row of stylized, colorful figures at the bottom representing different youth members.



Enjoy the music of the Staple Hill Band  
of The Salvation Army

**Christmas  
with the  
Salvation Army**

Friday 1 December 7.30pm

St Michael's Centre  
The Green  
Stoke Gifford, BS34 8PD

Tickets £5

stmichaelsbristol.org/salvationarmyband

The poster has a festive red background with green pine branches and white lights at the top and bottom. It includes a QR code and two circular images: one of a band performing and another of a group of people.

# Dates for the Diary

Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	4pm-6pm Messy Church
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	4-6pm Christmas Messy Church
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas on the Hill
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Light up a Life with St Peter's Hospice
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	10am Family Carol Service
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Toy and Food Hamper sorting (all day)
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	5pm Main Carol Service
Christmas Eve	5pm Carols in the Square
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Celebration Weekend

# The Week Ahead

## TODAY Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November:

- 9:20am Time of Prayer *at Page Hall*  
10am All Age Worship *at Page Hall*  
Fruitfulness on the Frontline: Mouthpiece for truth and justice - [2 Samuel 12:1-13](#)  
11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities *at Page Hall*



## Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November:

- 8pm Mission Council *at Colin & Nicola's house*

## Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November:

- 10am Keep Fit Class *at Downend Baptist Church*  
11am-12noon Extra Slice Group *at Downend Baptist Church*  
- (leader: Kelvin) – *10:30am for coffee*  
6:30pm YP Band Practice *at Kingswood Salvation Army*  
7:15pm Singing Co Practice *at Kingswood Salvation Army*  
8pm Songster Practice *at Kingswood Salvation Army*

## Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November:

- 9:30am-11am Tots on the Hill *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*  
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 9<sup>th</sup> November:

- 12.30pm Lunch Club *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*  
**6:45pm** **Colin & Nicola's Extra Slice Group**  
- *at Kingswood Salvation Army*  
8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel)  
**8pm** **Senior Band Practice** *at Kingswood Salvation Army*

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November: **Remembrance Sunday**

- 9:20am Time of Prayer *at Page Hall*  
10am All Age Worship *at Page Hall*  
**10am** **Parade to form up on Page Road to leave at 10:20am**  
**3pm** **Youth Section at Bristol Citadel – see advert**  
*Due to Remembrance Day activities, there will be no Children's & Youth Activities during the morning on this day*