

SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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Local ...  
Lively ...  
Loving

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

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## Sayings

How often we quote sayings from generations ago, and how true they remain today:

- Time waits for no man
- A rolling stone gathers no moss
- A stitch in time saves nine
- A still tongue has a wise head

The bible, of course, is full of sound truths too:

- The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace [James 3 v 18](#)
- Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only [James 1 v 22](#)

How often we say “Actions speak louder than words”

Many people around us still don't know the good news of Christ, but they know us! May God help us to reflect and reveal His message in attractive ways daily.

*Doris Pearce*

*Today's theme - Fruitfulness on our frontline: Messenger of the Gospel.*

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# Timetable for our return

The work on our building is progressing well and so we are making plans for the next few weeks:

## Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

The building will be handed back to us – everything will be complete except topside of gallery, partition doors and Audio-Visual fittings.

## Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

CHRISTMAS ON THE HILL – outside on Broad Street from 10am to 4pm we will have bands, collectors, goody bags and hot drinks. Whilst this is happening it will be ‘all hands on deck’ inside to put most of the building back together and ready for the next day...

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

- 10AM TOY SERVICE – Our first opportunity to worship together in the new space.
- 5PM LIGHT UP A LIFE – our annual carol service in partnership with St Peter’s Hospice

## From Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December

All our groups and activities will move back to our own building - the builders will continue and hopefully complete the gallery by Christmas. We will still have access to the whole building, so everything that normally happens at Christmas will take place, including:

- FAMILY CAROL SERVICE Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 10am
- TOY APPEAL – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>
- CAROL SERVICE Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 5pm
- CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATIONS

We will also be sharing in worship every Sunday morning at 10am as usual – but back at ‘home’!

## **Christmas Cards**

Each year we have a Christmas post box for members of our 'in-person' congregation. This year the post box will only be available on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December and the cards will be distributed on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure you address the cards with the person's full name. If you want to use this service, a donation in lieu of postage would be brilliant – all proceeds to the building fund.

There's also an opportunity to send a virtual Christmas card, please see information in the bulletin email. Thank you!

## **Christmas Programme**

Christmas is fast approaching, so please take a copy of the Christmas calendar available from the back of the hall today so you can keep track of everything. If you are receiving this bulletin by email, please see the link.

## **Carolling Collectors Rota**

If you are able to collect at any of the carolling events, please sign up on the rota that is now available too. Thank you.

## **Thanks**

Beryl and Becky would sincerely thank everyone for their kind thoughts, cards, flowers and prayers following the loss of Trevor. This has been deeply appreciated by ourselves and our family.

## **Flowers**

Our thanks to Morag and Linda for providing the flowers at the front of the hall today.

## People

As of writing Tom is still in Southmead Hospital, so please continue to remember him in your prayers. Francis has also been in hospital this week following a stroke, but has been moved to Hengrove to continue his recovery. Unfortunately, Elsie has been taken back into Southmead hospital, so please continue to continue to support her in prayer. Sally, Marion's daughter, is far from well. Please remember our friends, along with those who are not mentioned, but who are living with illness, and uphold them in your prayers. Thank you

Our congratulations to Major Steve Smith who reaches a half century of birthdays on Thursday this week!



## 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!

## 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.

## Reception rota

During the Christmas period, many people want to donate to our Christmas Appeal so from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December our 'Christmas Reception' will be open from 9am to 12noon each day. If you are able to help, please put your name on the rota (speak to Nicola). The receptionists are there to welcome anyone who comes into our building, accepting and recording donations (toys, food and money) and answering any questions people may have (full training will be given!) There are always lots of other jobs to do if it's quiet too! We always need 2 people 'on duty' - so grab a friend and sign up. If you want to know more, please ask Nicola. (Please note that especially the first week it may be very cold so come prepared for that!

## Upcoming Events



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](http://stmichaelsbristol.org/salvationarmyband)

## Dates for the Diary

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Move back into our own hall! 7:30pm Christmas with the Salvation Army at Stoke Gifford (see advert)
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas on the Hill 10:30am–4:30pm Christmas Carolling in Staple Hill – <i>collectors required</i>
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Light up a Life with St Peter's Hospice
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	10am–2pm Christmas Carolling at Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Tesco's – <i>collectors required</i>
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)
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	10am–2pm Christmas Carolling at Sainsbury's and Tesco's – <i>collectors required</i>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	5pm Main Carol Service
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	10am–2pm Christmas Carolling at Sainsbury's and Tesco's – <i>collectors required</i>
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 19<sup>th</sup> November:

- 9:20am Time of Prayer *at Page Hall*  
10am All Age Worship *at Page Hall*  
Fruitfulness on the Frontline:  
Messenger of the Gospel ([1 Peter 3:15-16](#))  
11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities *at Page Hall*



## Tuesday 21<sup>st</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 22<sup>nd</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 23<sup>rd</sup> November:

- 12.30pm Lunch Club *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*  
7:45pm-9pm Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house  
8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel)

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November:

- 9:20am Time of Prayer *at Page Hall*  
10am All Age Worship *at Page Hall*  
Fruitfulness on the Frontline:  
The journey On ([2 Kings 6: 15-17](#))  
11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities *at Page Hall*  
11:45am Church 2 U  
4pm – 6pm Messy Church Club *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*

