

SUNDAY 14th January 2024



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

staplehillbulletin@gmail.com

The Light of the Cross

Over the past few weeks, we have started to become familiar to the look and feel of our newly refurbished hall. There is, of course, still things to complete and it will take some time before we have worked out the optimum way to arrange and use our buildings.

One of the things I really like about our new hall is the cross on the wall. It dominates the front of the hall (depending on which way we are facing!). For me, this symbol of the Christian faith transforms our building from just another meeting venue into a place of worship. Much as I loved the old salvation army crest with all its symbolism, I always felt that the cross was somewhat lost within the design. Now this cross, with its backlight, provides a focus whilst we worship, and a constant reminder of the 'Light of the World' whom we serve.



*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,
And the burden of my heart rolled away;
It was there, by faith, I received my sight,
And now I am happy all the day.*

[The Songbook of The Salvation Army, No. 908]

Paul Heath

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People

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with those of our fellowship who have recently been bereaved. In particular we remember:

Marion, and her family, following the loss of her daughter, Sally - as details of Sally's funeral are arranged, we will let you know.

Barry Jenner's family, whose funeral is on: Monday, 22nd January 2024 @ 11.30 at Westleigh Crematorium, Woodland Chapel.

Elsie is still far from well, and we uphold Elise, Mike and their family in prayer.

Refurbishment Progress

It's been another busy week with the Audio/Visual equipment being installed, the internet being wired-in throughout the building and blinds being fitted. Work on the balcony continues and we are hoping that this will be completed to be used from Sunday 21st. As a result of all this work, we continue to be in a state of flux so your patience is appreciated. Also, a massive thank you to everyone who is giving of their time to ensure that we are able to worship each Sunday. It is very much appreciated. This Sunday we need to pack down again, along with cleaning and setting up on Friday, 19th at 4pm. If you can help, please let us know.

Heating

We have been experiencing problems with the heating and at one point during the week it stopped working completely. We have acquired some electric heaters should we need them, but given how cold it has been, it might be worth wearing an extra layer!

Celebration Weekend (9th – 11th February)

We are looking forward to celebrating our new facilities and 140 years of the Salvation Army in the Staple Hill community at our Celebration Weekend. We are so grateful to God and to the many people who have participated in, or supported, our corps in this part of Bristol. Hopefully you have already prioritised this in your calendar, here's some more details of the programme:

Celebration Meal – Friday 9th (7pm)

A chance for our congregation to begin the celebrations with a meal together (invitation only)

Celebration Day @ The Salvation Army – Saturday 10th (10am-2pm)

Everyone is welcome to join in the celebrations which will include a café, table-top sale, art & craft activities, children's activities, live music, exhibitions, interactive activities, guided tours of our refurbished building and more.

Celebration Concert – Saturday 10th (7pm)

Our bands and singing groups are providing a musical concert, giving us an opportunity to celebrate 140 years and our newly refurbished building and thank those who have made it all possible.

Celebration Worship – Sunday 11th (10am)

A very special worship meeting for all ages led by Colin & Nicola.

Celebration March – Sunday 11th (11.45am)

Our band will lead us on a march through Staple Hill.

Celebration Lunch – Sunday 11th (12.30pm)

An opportunity to join together at lunchtime – please bring food to share, everyone welcome.

It's not too far away now – so if you haven't already, invite your friends and family to join us. For those of you who receive our bulletin, but don't usually attend or live far away – we'd love to see you – why not plan a visit?

Please pray for this event, that it will be a time of celebration but also an opportunity to reach out to our community.

Messy Church is back in our building!

Next Sunday sees the return of Messy Church to our building. Dates for most of 2024 have now been confirmed – make sure you have them in your calendar:

21st January, 25th February, 24th March (Palm Sunday), 21st April

12th May, 9th June, 7th July, 22nd September, 20th October



**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

The poster features a dark blue background with colorful abstract shapes (circles and lines) in shades of blue, red, and yellow. At the bottom, there is a row of stylized, colorful human figures in various poses and outfits.



**YOUTH SECTION
RELOADED**

14/01/2024 - Youth Section
(Bristol Citadel)

11/02/2024 - Youth Section
(Bristol Citadel)

03/03/2024 - Youth Section on tour
"Bridgwater Timing TBC"

The poster features a dark blue background with colorful abstract shapes (circles and lines) in shades of blue, red, and yellow. At the bottom, there is a row of stylized, colorful human figures in various poses and outfits.

Band League

We thank our Band League members for their support in the last year. It is now time to renew your membership, or join, and we suggest at least £5.

The Band League concert which you will have a ticket to as part of your membership will be on Saturday June 8th - there will be a separate concert for the 140 year celebrations on Saturday February 10th and details will follow shortly.

I am away for a few weeks so please give your money to my Mum, Beryl or Jon Dickens - thank you for your support to our Band.

Becky Gardner, Band League Secretary

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Monday 30 th January	CAMEO
Friday 9 th – Sunday 11 th February	Celebration Weekend (Please see more details elsewhere in bulletin)
Sunday 11 th February	Divisional Youth Section
Sunday 25 th February	Messy Church
Monday 26 th February	Mission Council Meeting CAMEO

The Week Ahead

TODAY Sunday 14th January:

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| 10am | All Age Worship
NEW SERIES: <i>Shaped for a Purpose: Shaping Up!</i> |
| 11.30am-12:15pm | Children & Youth Activities |
| From 3pm | Divisional Youth Section <i>at Bristol Citadel (see advert)</i> |

Monday 15th January:

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| 8pm | Mission Council Meeting <i>at the hall</i> |
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Tuesday 16th January:

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| 10am | Keep Fit Class |
| 11am-12noon | Extra Slice Group
- (leader: Kelvin) – <i>10:30am for coffee</i> |
| 6:30pm | YP Band Practice |
| 7:15pm | Singing Company Practice |
| 8pm | Songster Practice |

Wednesday 17th January:

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| 9:30am-11am | Tots on the Hill |
| 3:30pm-4:30pm | Extra Slice Group online (leader: Gerry) |
| 7:45pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group at Kelvin & Linda's house |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group online (leader: Beth) |

Thursday 18th January:

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

Friday 19th January:

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| 4pm-6pm | Cleaning and Setting up hall ready for Sunday |
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Sunday 21st January: *Christian Unity Sunday*

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| 10am | All Age Worship
<i>Pulpit exchange – Gareth Matthews from Life Church to preach</i> |
| 11.30am-12:15pm | Children & Youth Activities |
| 4pm-6pm | Messy Church |