

SUNDAY 31st March 2024



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

He is Risen

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." [Matthew 28 v 5](#).

On Easter Sunday morning, I always feel a bit of a thrill when I hear those words read out – it is no less exciting and unbelievable now as it must have been to those first told of the miraculous events on that first Easter morning when confronted by the empty tomb and we already know the story!

It is a wonderful story that should excite us all. It is the reason why Christianity exists. It is something we should be shouting from the rooftops. Just as the angel announced the news to the women outside the tomb, we need to be announcing the news to the everyone we meet.

The Lord is risen.
He is risen indeed!

Paul Heath

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People

There are a number of families connected to the corps who have experienced the loss of a loved one in recent days.

- Aubrey Chappel. Aubrey's funeral will take place at Westerleigh Crematorium on Monday, 15th April at 1pm.
- Tegwydd Jenkins. Our thoughts are with Les (who marked his 90th birthday this week), Hywel, Delyth and their respective families.

We have also heard that:

- Diane Tapscott (maiden name Davidge) (sister of Fay Mallet) passed away on 19th March (a previous Singing Company Leader in Staple Hill). Her funeral is at Westerleigh 17th April 1pm.

Andy and Hilary have sent the following message:

As a family we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to our friends at Staple Hill for all the messages, cards and prayers we have received following the loss of Paul. We have been overwhelmed by the love we have felt and would ask for continued prayers as the family adjust to a new life without Paul. God bless you all.

Hilary, Andy, Heidi, Blake and Brandon.

At the time of writing, Emily is in hospital and we pray for her and her family. We are also aware that Jen and Les are travelling home this week and we pray for them, especially following Jen's ill-health

We (Nicola & Colin) are way over the coming week, so please look after each other in our absence.

General Farewell

There will be a paper copy of the list of officer moves available on Sunday should you be interested.

Cleaning

We continue to clean the hall at 4pm on a Friday. In our absence, Gary has agreed to open up and lend a hand. A big thank you for everyone who helps keep our house of God clean and tidy. Thank you.

Self-Denial Appeal

This year's Self-Denial Appeal raised just shy of £5,700 and we still have a few late envelopes to come in, and excluding any amounts donated using the QR code on the envelopes. Thank you.

Welcome!

It is great to formally welcome Kiran, Manjit and Manna who have recently transferred from Ilford corps – we hope you're settling in and gradually getting to know everyone!

Flowers

Our thanks to Hilary Dickens for providing flowers at the front of the hall this Easter Sunday morning.

Angels

Did anyone else notice our very own angel hiding behind the words to the last hymn at the end of the recording of our service last Sunday?

It may have just been a trick of the camera angle, but many people actually view members of the Salvation Army in a similar way to angels ... people who live to serve God and embody the very essence of godly living. It is an image that we are all expected to live up to every time we pull on our uniforms. It is, I am sure, a view that also persists as our services are watched online.

We are not angels (at least not yet), so we all are destined to fall short of that expectation. We can but do our best, and perhaps, one day, earn a place in God's kingdom.

Although we are just normal people like everyone else, we are sworn to "Save souls, grow saints and serve suffering humanity". Just as the angels were the first to announce the good news of Jesus' resurrection to the women at the tomb, so we, as 'angels' within God's congregation in Staple Hill, are called to announce that good news to all those we meet.

We don't just have one angel – we are a heavenly host!



Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Saturday 13 th April	Coffee Morning First Aid Course (all day) Youth Art Fest
Monday 15 th April	Mission Council Meeting
Sunday 21 st April	Messy Church
Sunday 12 th May	Majors Mel and Steve Smith Divisional Youth Section



**A DISNEY
SPECTACULAR
CONCERT**

19 APRIL | 7.30PM

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The Week Ahead

TODAY Sunday 31st March: **Easter Sunday**

Please note: Clocks have gone forward 1 hour

8:30am

Easter Breakfast

10am

Easter Sunday All Age Worship

No Children's & Youth Activities today

Tuesday 2nd April:

All day

Employment Plus with Tyrone

10am

Fitness Club

12:30pm-2:30pm

Open Doors

No youth practices

8pm

Songster Practice

Wednesday 3rd April:

No Tots on the Hill

Thursday 4th April

12.30pm

Lunch Club

Friday 5th April:

10am-12:30pm

Open Doors

4pm

Cleaning Hall

Sunday 7th April:

10am

All Age Worship led by Major Nicky Watson

No Children's & Youth Activities today

Please check with your Extra Slice Group leader about when your group is meeting this week.

