

SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024

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Local ...  
Lively ...  
Loving

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## The Plans of Man

So the general election has been called and the race to number 10 has begun!

Over the next six weeks, we will see politicians canvassing for our votes – holding rallies, knocking on doors, kissing babies, making speeches, shaking hands, getting into as many photos as they possibly can.

Manifestos will be launched making all sorts of promises and trying to convince us that one party has all the answers whilst all the other parties' plans will just lead the country to ruin. And then there are all the posters and pamphlets that will land on our doorsteps giving facts and figures that support the particular claims of our local candidates and reinforcing the key messages of their national leaders.

Who do you believe?

*Many are the plans in the mind of a man,  
but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.*  
[Proverbs 19 v21](#)

*Paul Heath*

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## People

As of writing we are unaware of any funerals being planned nor people in hospital. Pearl is still in Skylark, Yate recovering following her fall. Please continue to pray for one another and where possible keep in contact with each other - especially those who are unable to attend worship due to ill-health.

## Conversations with the General

Grab a coffee and tune into the first episode of a new series of Conversations with the General, featuring Commissioner Ted Horwood, International Secretary for Programme Resources at International Headquarters. In this episode, they will explore two crucial questions:

- Are we still salvation people?
- Is there a risk of us drifting towards being a humanitarian organisation?

These are essential questions to consider as we navigate the ever-changing landscape of our world and the role of The Salvation Army within it. Watch the video here:

<https://youtu.be/DNEOtFKix-s>

## Flowers

Today's flowers are from Olive with love and appreciation shown and to celebrate Freda & Bill Milsom's birthdays.

## Captain Rob for PM?

Did you see this in the War Cry?



## Half Term Meet-up

As it's half term week, we thought it might be good to meet up for a social time of fellowship. We will be meeting on Weston-Super-Mare beach (sand dune end) between 7pm and 9pm this Wednesday (29<sup>th</sup> May). Anyone is welcome, stay for as long as you like and why not grab some chips on the way? If the weather is not kind to us, we'll get a message out if we have to cancel. Thank you Naomi for having the idea!

# Everyone has a part to play

As we focus on Stephen in our worship today we think about how the early church needed to make sure that everyone was playing their part – 7 people were chosen to manage the more practical elements of their ministry and [Acts 6:7](#) says “so the word of God spread”. The same is still true today. Everyone has a part to play and our ministry is less effective if just a few are trying to do everything! Following on from the recent SHAPE series, it is our priority to make sure everyone has an opportunity to play their part using their own unique SHAPE. In the recent Mission Council meeting, we spent the whole evening thinking, praying and planning how our church can do this better. It’s exciting to think about the potential that we have and we look forward to seeing this develop in the coming months.

One thing we will be implementing is something to replace the regular ‘mission weeks’ that used to take place before the pandemic. Mission weeks enabled different teams to hold open meetings so that everyone could participate, help to set goals and get them done. This worked well for several years but haven’t taken place recently. Moving forward, we would like to focus on each of our Mission Priorities one at a time with an open meeting followed by a designated Mission Council meeting to discuss, evaluate, plan and set goals for the future. The first one of these is planned for the Autumn, and we intend to cover each of the 5 priorities once a year. So look out for these opportunities. In the meantime, keep an eye out for other initiatives planned to encourage us all to use our SHAPE (and if you still haven’t handed in your profile we would still love to have it please!).

## Candidate Collection

A total of £466.69 was raised by the Corps in the recent Candidate Sunday retiring collection.

## Come & Sing Songsters Coffee Morning

This was another excellent fund-raising coffee morning which raised £369.40. Thank you to everyone involved. The funds raised will go towards the Big Collection 2024 Appeal.

## Gift Aid

Further to my reminder at the end of March, please be advised that the Gift Aid report has been received for the 2023/24 financial year. If you have any concerns about the amount that will be claimed against your name, please speak to the Corps finance team ASAP. Thank you to those who have already spoken to me (Gary).

The poster features a central image of a silver chalice with light rays emanating from it. On the left is a circular portrait of a woman singing into a microphone. On the right is a circular portrait of a man in a light blue shirt. The text is arranged around these elements, including the Salvation Army logo, the event title, date, time, and ticket price.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**

# SALT & LIGHT

AN EVENING OF CONTRASTING MUSIC  
FEATURING

**SATURDAY 8TH JUNE | 7PM**

**TICKETS £5**

**VOCALIST  
LOULITA GILL**

**COMPOSER &  
CONDUCTOR  
MARK FELTWELL**

**SHB**  
STAPLE HILL BAND  
OF THE SALVATION ARMY

THE SALVATION ARMY IS A CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND REGISTERED CHARITY IN ENGLAND (294779)

# Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> / Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Band Weekend (Salt & Light concert on Saturday evening)
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Fathers' Day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Mission Council Meeting
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June (note change of date)	Armed Forces Day <i>(we will not be taking part this year)</i>
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Page Park Praise
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	CAMEO Craft Group
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Coffee Morning



**ON THE HILL**  
**JUNE**  
**SATURDAY 1ST**  
2024

**HARDWARE STORE**      **CAKES**  
**GIFTS**      **JEWELLERY**  
**CRAFTS**

**FOUNTAIN SQUARE**  
**10-4PM**



**Staple Hill**  
Local...Lively...Loving  
Love God...Love Others

**Page Park Praise**

**INCLUDING LIVE MUSIC AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FROM STAPLE HILL SALVATION ARMY**

**3pm on the following Sundays**  
19th May | 23rd June  
14th July | 18th August  
15th September

The Salvation Army is a Christian Church & Registered Charity in England (No. 214779)

# Week Ahead

## TODAY Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May:

10am All Age Worship  
Transformed by Pentecost 2: Stephen  
[Acts 6: 8-15](#) & [Acts 7: 54-60](#)  
*No Children's & Youth Activities today*

12noon Church 2U - *in Keynsham*

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

All day Employment Plus with Tyrone  
10am Keep Fit Class  
12pm-2:30pm Open Doors  
*No YP Band Practice & Singing Company Practice*  
8pm Songster Practice

## Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May:

7pm-9pm *No Tots on the Hill*  
Meet up on Weston Beach – anyone welcome  
– please see note

## Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May:

12.30pm Lunch Club  
7pm Staple Hill & Mangotsfield Parish Council meeting in  
our building

## Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May:

10am-12:30pm Open Doors  
4pm Cleaning Hall

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June:

10am All Age Worship  
Transformed by Pentecost 3: Lydia  
[Acts 16:13-15](#)

11.30am-12:15pm Children's & Youth Activities

*Our worship on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June will include the enrolment of Naomi Blowers  
as a Soldier (note: meeting will be finishing a little later)*

*It is school half term this week, so please check with your Extra  
Slice group leader about whether your group is meeting*