

SUNDAY 24th November 2024



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

D.C.

At the end of a piece of music - particularly one of the old march book favourites - we sometimes find the letters D.C. written, signifying that we need to return to the top of the page to start again. I can't actually remember the last time we followed that instruction, but it is a reminder that sometimes we might need to make that fresh start.

In the Salvation Army, we also use the D.C. abbreviation to mean Divisional Commander – and today we welcome our Divisional Commanders, Majors Paul and Gill Billard, into our midst to lead our worship, encourage us in our spiritual journeys and, I'm sure, demonstrate the measure of their own faith.

In [Matthew 8 vs 5-13](#), we read the account of another army commander who demonstrated unswerving faith – a centurion - who came to Jesus with a request. His servant was unwell and in need of healing. Jesus was willing to go with him, but the centurion said “no, just say the word and he will be healed”. And of course, it happened just as the centurion knew it would. He was a leader of men who both knew the power of command and fully understood the power and nature of Jesus. What faith! What an example to us all!

Therefore, let us approach worship today with a freshness in our hearts and minds, and learn from the faith of our divisional leaders.

Corps Officers:	Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones	Tel: 0117 9565232
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People

Please pray for Francis Sheppard who is currently in Southmead Hospital, along with those recuperating for illness and surgery. With the weather turning much colder this week, please be safe and remember to offer to help those around who may not be able to get out.

Thursday Church and Extra Slice Group

You will be pleased to learn that our monthly Thursday Church is going well as is the weekly Thursday Extra Slice Group (ESG). This week's ESG saw 18 people come and share, which was and is amazing. We just need to source some more print Bibles! The next Thursday Church is on Thursday, 5th December 2024.

Christmas Decorations

We will be starting to decorate the hall, community halls, etc. this week. If you have 10 minutes after the meeting on Sunday (once most people have left), we could do with some help bringing the decorations down from upstairs and from 'lock-up' no. 2!

2025 Calendar

Available today are copies of next year's calendar or if you get this bulletin by email click on the link. Please put all the dates in your calendar so you don't miss a thing!

Flowers

Our hall will be full of colour today, as we have 3 different flower arrangements on display:

- Gerry Wiltshire has given flowers in memory of Malcolm
- Liz Brewer has given flowers as a thank you to everyone for their kindness during her recent illness
- Yvonne Willetts has given flowers in memory of Ken on his birthday

We are indebted to you all.

Christmas Cards

We are encouraging everyone to 'Care for Creation' this year and instead of sending physical cards add a message to the Staple Hill Salvation Army card – there is a link in your bulletin email, or just write down a message and give it to Mark Dickens to add to the card. The messages will be shown on the screen near the end of December. For those of you who can't give up your paper cards, the post box will be available from next Sunday (1st December) until Sunday 15th December – make sure you address the cards with the full name please. Donations for the use of the post box, or the electronic card will go towards the building fund. Thank you.

Collectors needed please

The rotas for carolling are on the noticeboard – if you are able to collect, please sign up.

*Be a Star
and donate
a gift*



Christmas with

Staple Hill Salvation Army 2024

Broad Street, Staple Hill, BS16 5LN

Sunday 1st December

10am Family Carol Service

5pm Light up a Life Service

Sunday 8th December

10am Toy Service

Sunday 15th December

4pm Messy Church

Sunday 22nd December

5pm Community Carol Service

Christmas Eve

5pm Carols in Fountain Square

Christmas Day

11am All Age Christmas Worship

Christmas Promises

The Week Ahead

TODAY - Sunday 24th November:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 10am | All Age Worship
<i>led by our Divisional Leaders, Majors Paul & Gill Billard</i> |
| 11.30am-12:15pm | Children's & Youth Activities |

Every Day from Monday 25th November (except Saturday's):

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| 10am-12noon | Christmas Reception |
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Monday 25th November:

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| 8pm | CAMEO Craft Group |
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Tuesday 26th November:

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| All day | Employment Plus with Tyrone |
| 10am | Fitness Club |
| 11am-12noon | Extra Slice Group (leader: Kelvin) <i>at the hall</i> |
| 10am-2pm | Open Doors <i>(homemade soup available at 12:30pm)</i> |
| From 6:30pm | Last YP Band Practice and Singing Company Practice |
| 8pm | Last Songster Practice |

Wednesday 27th November:

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| 9:30am | Tots on the Hill |
| 3:30pm-4:30pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Gerry) <i>online</i> |
| 8pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Linda) <i>at Kelvin & Linda's</i> |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Beth) <i>online</i> |

Thursday 28th November:

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|---------------|---|
| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 11:15am-12pm | Thursday morning Extra Slice group <i>at the hall</i> |
| 12.30pm | Lunch Club |
| 8pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group <i>at Colin & Nicola's</i> |
| 8pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Bethany) <i>at Bev & Jon's</i> |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group (leaders: Ian & Rachel) <i>online</i> |

Friday 29th November:

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| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 4pm | Cleaning Hall |

Next Weekend

Saturday 30th November:

- 9:30am Young People's Rehearsal at the hall
10am-12noon Carolling *at Sainsbury's, Emersons Green*
10am-2pm Carolling *at Tesco, Yate*

Sunday 1st December:

- 10am Family Carol Service *led by Majors Colin & Nicola*
11.30am-12:15pm Children's & Youth Activities
5pm Light Up a Life Service *with St Peter's Hospice*

Christmas Card Box available from 1st December

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Tuesday 3 rd December	Last Senior Band Practice
Thursday 5 th December	11:15am Thursday Church Carol Service 12:30pm Lunch Club Christmas Dinner
Saturday 7 th December	Christmas on the Hill
Sunday 8 th December	10am Toy Service (last day to bring gifts) 1pm Toy sorting
Saturday 14 th December	Carolling
Sunday 15 th December	10am All Age Worship 4pm-6pm Messy Church
Wednesday 18 th Dec.	9:30am Tots on the Hill Christmas Party
Saturday 21 st December	Carolling
Sunday 22 nd December	10am All Age Worship 5pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve	5pm Carols in the Square
Christmas Day	11am Christmas Day Worship