

SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

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Local ...  
Lively ...  
Loving

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## Covenant Sunday

The New Year is always about new beginnings and new resolutions. Mostly, our promises are just to ourselves – lose weight, get fit, phone friends, learn a new skill. And by this point in the year, we have almost always forgotten all about those resolutions made just a couple of weeks ago. You may feel a bit guilty about it, but there are no repercussions – you can always make the same promise next year!

A covenant is a special kind of resolution ... *“a written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action”*. It is something that cannot be broken without consequence.

As soldiers within the Salvation Army, we have already made a covenant with God to serve him faithfully every day. Today, we remind ourselves of those promises made in the past and renew that covenant for the year ahead.

Covenants with God are a huge responsibility. It is not something to enter into lightly, for we will surely be held accountable for our actions. But we don't need to bear the full weight of that responsibility on our own – for Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to help share that burden. So, in prayer be bold in renewing those vows this morning and know that God will richly reward your faithfulness.

*Paul Heath*

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## People

Francis has been readmitted to hospital, so our thoughts are with him. There are number of people in our fellowship how are poorly, have family members in hospital and/or are living with long term health conditions. Please uphold our friends in prayer.

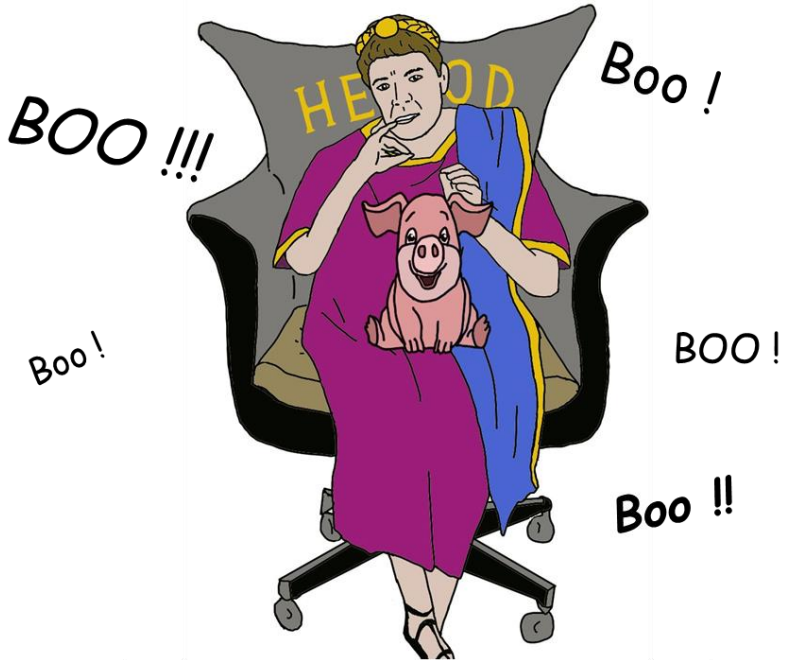
## Annual Appointments Conference

Next week, the National and Divisional leaders of the UK will be meeting at William Booth College to discuss officer appointments for later this year. We have been asked to support these discussions with prayer, not only as the South West Division, but also as a Corps. This can be done in your own home, but you will know that there are others praying at the same time. Ideas for prayer focus will be on the notice board in the foyer. There will be corps and individuals praying throughout the territory from 1pm to 9pm on Sunday, and then 9am in the morning until 9pm in the evening on Monday till Wednesday, and from 9pm until 1pm on the Thursday. The South West Division have allocated Corps one-hour slots for individual corps, and ours is on **Wednesday at 6-7pm**. Obviously it would be ideal to pray for this conference at any time, but please make sure that we cover that particular hour.

*“Thank you in anticipation for your response to this call to prayer. May God richly bless the time you spend with him in this way, and may our prayers help to inspire the recommendations that are made at the conference.”*

*Majors Alan & Carol Young*

A reflection from last week's meeting ....



**“It Is Better to Be  
Herod’s Pig Than Son”**

## Care and Repair week

We are so grateful to those who gave of their time and talent to support and help in our care and repair initiative. To all those who painted, cleaned, repaired, made refreshments ... a massive thank you. Our building is looking loved and cared for and is a welcoming place for those who enter during the week.

Whilst not everyone was able to help, we can all play our part by continuing to keep things clean and tidy. Please put rubbish in the bin, clean up any spills or droppages and if you use anything then put it away in the place you found. Thank you.

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Over the last two years, churches in the areas have supported the week of prayer for Christian Unity through a 'pulpit exchange'. Next Sunday, I (Colin) will be leading worship at the United Reform Church, and Mike Waine from the Resound Church will come and preach here at the Salvation Army. Please make Mike welcome when he visits next week.

## The General's New Year message

International Salvation Army leader General Lyndon Buckingham's new year video message offers an inspirational look ahead to what we can accomplish working together in 2025, the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Salvation Army – click on the link to watch:

[https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/news/030125-generals-new-year-message?dm\\_i=7D92,88PM,109L8F,11FJ7,1](https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/news/030125-generals-new-year-message?dm_i=7D92,88PM,109L8F,11FJ7,1)

## Dates to Remember

If you haven't already done so - please pick up a 2025 calendar or click on the link in your email for all the dates this year. This week sees our first Coffee Morning of the year. These are an excellent way to build relationships within our community and also raise money for our building fund. Thank you to all those people who volunteer to coordinate, help and just chat with people who come – we really do appreciate it. The dates of all the **coffee mornings** this year are as follows:

- 18<sup>th</sup> January
- 15<sup>th</sup> February
- 22<sup>nd</sup> March
- 12<sup>th</sup> April
- 24<sup>th</sup> May
- 28<sup>th</sup> June
- 26<sup>th</sup> July
- 23<sup>rd</sup> August
- 20<sup>th</sup> September
- 11<sup>th</sup> October
- 15<sup>th</sup> November
- 6<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas on the Hill, TBC)

## Flowers

Our sincere thanks to Helen Stone for the flowers at the front of the hall this week. They are placed in memory of Mavis who was promoted to glory 5 years ago today.

The Salvation Army  
South West Division



# ONE VOICE

## Rehearsal dates 2025

🎵 Are you over the age of 25?

🎵 Are you connected to a Salvation Army expression or Christian fellowship?

🎵 Do you have a recommendation from your Church Leader or Corps Officer?

7:45pm - 9:45pm

### Location:

Bath Citadel Corps  
Green Park Road,  
BA1 1XE

January 13th

February 10th

March 24th

April 7th

May 12th

June 23rd

July 21st

September 8th

October 6th

November 10th

November 24th

### More Information:

[swd-dhq@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:swd-dhq@salvationarmy.org.uk)

Serve the Lord with gladness:  
come before His presence with singing

Psalm 100:2

# The Week Ahead

## TODAY - 12<sup>th</sup> January: *Covenant Sunday*

10am All Age Worship *led by Majors Colin & Nicola*  
11.30am-12:15pm Children's & Youth Activities  
4pm-6pm Messy Church

## Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January:

9:30am-2:30pm Employment Plus with Tyrone *-appointment needed*  
10am-2pm Open Doors *(soup lunch available at 12:30pm)*  
10am-11am Fitness Club  
11am-12noon Extra Slice Group (leader: Kelvin) *at the hall*  
From 6:30pm YP Band Practice and Singing Company Practice  
8pm Songster Practice

## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January:

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

## Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January:

10am-12noon Open Doors  
11:15am Thursday Church  
12.30pm Lunch Club - *booking essential*  
8pm-9pm Extra Slice Group *at Colin & Nicola's*  
8pm-9pm Extra Slice Group (leader: Bethany) *at Bev & Jon's*  
8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group (leaders: Ian & Rachel) *online*

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January:

7:30am-12noon Slimming World Groups  
10am-12noon Open Doors  
4pm Cleaning Hall

## Next Weekend

### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January:

10am-12noon Coffee Morning (*coordinated by Linda James*)

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January: **Unity Sunday**

10am All Age Worship

*Vising speaker: Mike Waine from Resound Church*

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

*TBC*

Pulse Youth Event

## Dates for the Diary

Here are some other dates that are coming up soon:

24 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Growing Young Leaders
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	CAMEO Craft Group
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Messy Church
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Coffee Morning
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Pulse Youth Event
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	CAMEO Craft Group

