



# *Staple Diet January 2014*



## **Staple Hill Corps**

– A Good NEWSS Corps for all people

(Nurture, Evangelism, Worship, Service to Corps, Service to Community)

Our Purpose is:

- To be a vibrant, worshipping Christian community actively introducing Jesus to the people of our area.
- To be a place where all can belong and grow in their relationship with Jesus.
- To serve the local community.

## **Major's Musings**

Dear friends,

The Salvation Army, like most organisations likes to keep statistics for almost every thing that happens within a corps. These are now gathered over a 2 month period usually during March and April of every year. Whilst these are of some value to the leadership of the organisation, merely Counting the numbers of people attending sheds little if any light on how the corps is doing spiritually. Thinking about it what are the qualities and markers that should reveal the spiritual health of a corps?

The corps leadership team met with Major Richard Mingay a few months ago to start the process of focussing in on the corps mission and establishing the criteria around which all activities should be based. One of the additional outcomes of this will be that we will be able to rate the spiritual impact of our activities. This process is to be carries further as the whole corps are now to be included in the conversation around what the cross of Christ says to us in 2014. What does the cross speak of to you in one word answers.

2014 promises to be a year of adventure, where we will be putting meat on to the bones of the corps mission and purpose statements. I encourage every member of the corps to walk the road with us and join the adventure of discovery that will lead to spiritual growth and wellbeing.

Major Ian.

## Corps Family

If you have any special celebrations or something you would like to share please let me know so that we can print this in our monthly staple Diet.

Thank you to those people who kindly sent me Christmas Cards and gifts during the Christmas season, your kindness was much appreciated. I am kept up to date with corps news via phone calls received. I wish you all a happy new year for 2014 and God's blessings to you  
Madge Rickards

A special thank you to Major Ian Urmston or maybe 'Chef Ian' for preparing and cooking a lovely Christmas meal we shared as a corps in December. It was a time of fellowship and an opportunity to speak with people who perhaps we don't always have the chance to say 'hello' to.

Those currently on the Wish you were here prayer list are:

Madge Rickards; Edie Phillips; Marion Davis; Mrs Irene Ackerman; Francis & Ruth Shepherd; Gladys Shellard; Frank Snell; Edna Heath; Pam Henderson; Gordon Stone;. Valerie Scott, Tom and Ruth Cable Joyce Lear, Gwen Lear

### THOSE AT COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY

Natasha Bennett (Bristol Uni); Esther Kasumba (U.W.E. Bristol); Esther Dickens (U.W.E. Hartpury, Glos); Andrew Campbell (Plymouth); Paige Hassard (U.W.E.)

**Viv Wallington**

## Corps Diary

A full diary of events for 2014 will be printed in next month's Staple Diet but to help you with your planning here are some of the vents coming up this year:

### Sunday Celebration

26<sup>th</sup> January 2014

5pm

Gill McCredie – vocal (Wrexham)  
Mark Dickens – Euphonium (Staple Hill)

Supported by Staple Hill Musical Sections

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Divisional Youth Band leading worship 11am  
- Youth Band – Sunday Celebration 4pm

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Band visit to Reading Central Corps

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Divisional Youth Councils

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Divisional Celebration at Staple Hill 4pm

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October - Songsters visit to Reading Central Corps

Thank you ever so much for all the toys given in this year's Toy Service. I picked them up in Ruth's red Volkswagen to take over to Knowle West. All I needed was Mike Dyer's santa outfit and the picture would have been complete! If there's one thing we get right at Staple Hill, it's generous giving. Thank you once again!

Peter Belcher

#### Icthus Under 15s

We're still alive and kicking (sometimes literally) and top of the division. The season is all boiling up nicely to our match with Ingleside, currently second, on Saturday 11th January. Want to come and cheer on the boys? Queensholm Crescent Playing Fields, Bromley Heath, 10.30am kick off. Hopefully you'll see lots of amazing goal celebrations - from the manager! We will be the team in orange shirts and blue shorts, so that you know. Gates open 10am.

Peter Belcher



New Year's quotes and sayings for 2014: Make of them what you will

"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties," – Helen Keller

"The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made New Year resolutions, he would make no resolutions. Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective," – G.K. Chesterton, English poet and writer

"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one," - Brad Paisley

"New Year's Resolution: To tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time," – James Agate, British critic and diarist

"First you take a drink, then the drink takes a drink, then the drink takes you," – F. Scott Fitzgerald, author of "The Great Gatsby"

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbours, and let each new year find you a better man," – Benjamin Franklin

"New Year's Day: Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual," – Mark Twain

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right," – Oprah Winfrey

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. If you're making mistakes, you're doing something," – Neil Gaiman, author



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