



Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps
Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

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7th June 2020

Remember you can join our Virtual Sunday Worship by connecting www.chathamsa.org.uk and then click on the 'Youtube' button.

Well we are at week ten of the lockdown regarding this pandemic. There are a lot of conversations around; what will the 'New Normal' be, how will we engage the gospel, when will we be able to gather, what will that look like? Questions that I do not have answers for, but in this crisis there has been a lot on innovation and creativity. For example, I have had a weekly Rotary meeting on Zoom! And we have been very productive, meeting many projects in the community including delivering 'Bags of Hope' on Mondays (for which I am extremely grateful).

Also on Sundays, whilst it is strange to be sitting at home and joining in the 'meeting', there have been some beautiful messages and stories from many people as to how God has engaged with them; many re-commitments to God and some asking the Lord into their lives for the first time, (Hallelujah). There are some who have not attended the Army for decades (former Salvationists known to Judith and I) have connected with Chatham and one saying 'It's like going back 30 years and hearing you speaking directly to me, Captain'. God is on the move. I have used Psalm 91:4 throughout this crisis, prayed it every day, *'He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge. His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart'*

He, God, has got it, the situation, you, your family, your life, in the palm of his hands and he holds you.

Sunday Morning I am looking at Philippians 3:14 'But one thing I do' – what is that one thing in your life?

I look forward to sharing with you all again this Sunday. We are having a large congregation each Sunday with over 140 households linking in and by the end of the week over 800 views are recorded, which is well over 2,000 people. We are reaching more people weekly than we have ever done in the history of the Corps. Thank you Lord!

God bless Chatham Corps

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please pray this prayer:

Father God, I pray for my church today, that you will fill each of us with your joy and peace, and that, in our worship online and at home, our fellowship and mission, we will overflow with hope, by the power of your Holy Spirit, in the name of your Son,

Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please continue to remember in your prayers those who have been recently bereaved: Alan Myners and family and Cathy Wood and family.

Our prayers are needed for those people in the Corps who are suffering with health problems just now. Especially pray for Mike & Lilian (our prayers are answered for Mike in that he is back home) and Alma & Jim for God's healing touch.

Even though restrictions are being relaxed, this is still a time for us to be cautious and keep aware of the need to keep safe. Let us ask God to help us not to forget the importance of protecting ourselves and others. We pray God's protection for those working on our behalf in many different situations.

In this time when people are beginning to come out of isolation, let us pray that people will discover each day something to thank God for as he has given us so much.

Bless our Salvation Army and the volunteers who are serving communities in all parts of the world.

Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on jeanmjones86@yahoo.co.uk or text on 07787718273.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL

Hopefully there will be no Zoom issues and all will be well this week. Sunday School materials are on the Corps website. [https://www.chathamsa.org.uk/](https://www.chathamsa.org.uk) Exciting material for the young people in your house to engage in. Also, look out for further details of 'Zoom Sunday School' 11:30. Details have been sent out on email. We will print out sheets for those who do not have the equipment at home or have issues in printing, please do ask.

Promotion To Glory of Sister Joy Myners



Joy Myners was Promoted To Glory on Monday 19th May. A Faithful Servant of God and one who will be missed by many. I ask you to continue to pray for Alan at this sad time, also for Carole & Adrian, Glen & Lisa, Mark & Rachel, Carole's brothers Neil & Russ and their respective families, that they may know God's sustaining strength and love.

The funeral service will be taking place on Monday 15th June 2020 at Medway Crematorium Bluebell Hill Chatham, at 1.45pm. Carole writes *'Thank you for the flowers and cards we have received over the past couple of weeks - people have been so kind and we appreciate it'*

Due to current situation the funeral Service can only be attended by family members – you will be able to watch the service via live feed.

Service Date: 15 June 2020 at 1.45

Service Chapel: East - Medway

Website: www.obitus.com

Username: Seva8017 Password: 820784

You can login to the website at any time to view a test connection (and we strongly recommend you do this) but you'll only be able to view the Live Webcast between approx. 13:40 and 14:20 on Monday 15 June. **Corps members would be welcome to form a guard of honour from 1:35.**

FROM AROUND THE UKT

Watch a report from **Booth House Swindon**, an interview with three residents <https://youtu.be/eHTTQntLw4c>

The Malachi Project in Ilford, a new pop up independent living for the homeless. <https://youtu.be/88ounhVIPbA>

In case you missed it, **Pentecost Meeting** brought to us by our territorial Leaders. <https://youtu.be/rAVOdLvefKE>

Adams Story -Adam was helped by Housing First and The Salvation Army, after struggling with his mental health. <https://youtu.be/q00KCifCA14>

Emergency Vehicle and the NHS - Our own Southeast Team in action <https://youtu.be/x8gel7UNVKI>

Watford SA and Covid19 response. <https://youtu.be/P4ys8AtM1LY>

It is worth sharing the above YouTube films with friends, neighbours etc: Get the message out there.

Follow General Brian



General Brian Peddle is on Facebook and Twitter and gives very encouraging updates daily of what is going on around the SA world including thoughts and prayers.

Facebook & Twitter @GeneralBPeddle

Also Twitter @SalvArmyIHQ

LIVE STREAMING EACH SUNDAY

I am aware that there are some of the Corps family who do not have access to our live stream each Sunday morning. Therefore, can you please let me know who they are and I shall arrange for an audio CD of the meeting to be sent. Lisa will be glad to send these.

CORPS OFFERINGS, DONATIONS

We have set up a Just-Giving page to enable you to give your weekly collections and donations. This is directly linked to the Corps and the link will be published on the screen during our Sunday services. You can go directly from here to the page now:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chatham-citadel>

If members of the public, your neighbours, friends etc wish to donate to the Corps please direct them to this link or they can send in donations using a cheque and posting to the Hall for the attention of the CO.

NOTE FROM THE CORPS TREASURER

Following the successful launch of our Just-Giving page for general offerings and donations, we are mindful that you have not been able to give your cartridges to the Corps. We are not in a position to accept cash for a number of reasons and expect that to remain the case for some time. However, you can give your cartridge by cheque or preferably via standing order, forms for which can be prepared and issued to you on request. Let Major Ian know if you would like to do this. Cheques should be made payable to The Salvation Army and posted to the hall (Church Street, Chatham, ME4 4BT). Please remember to write your cartridge number on the reverse of the cheque. Kindly note that there is likely to be a delay in banking of cheques. You will be given cartridge envelopes for the new financial year in due course once our activities return to something approaching normal.

Finally, a number who have weekly SA Papers have asked how they are to pay for them, we will be contacting you shortly on how you will be able to pay.

VIRTUAL FLOWERS

Virtual Flowers this week are for the following:
Majors Peter & Estelle Clack – 51st Wedding Anniversary
Majors Mark & Linda Herbert – 33rd Wedding Anniversary
Congratulations to them both and thanks for the donation for the Virtual Flowers, seen on the screen Sunday Morning!

'BAGS OF HOPE'

We commenced '**Bags of Hope**' April 27th and in those six weeks we have given out in excess of 1,500 '**Bags of Hope**' referrals are people presenting themselves at the door on a Monday or Friday, Corps family letting us have names of people. The Medway Sunlight Rotary Club give us referrals and are helping with delivery each Monday for those unable to leave the house, due to shielding, age or infirmity. Can you think of someone that could do with a little 'pick me up'? **Thank you for your support in this way – Let's make a difference - Chatham SA 'Bags of Hope'**.



(NB No one should be going into the Corps Building without the knowledge of the CO – this is stipulated by THQ as all SA buildings are closed and there is a H&S & insurance (Public Liability) element to this directive. If you do need to go into the Hall please contact Major Ian first)

MEALS FOR THE VULNERABLE AND HOMELESS

We continue to supply an evening meal to the Homeless that are being housed in a local hotel, Monday to Friday and supply a take away every Tuesday from the front door of the Hall. We commenced this on 24th March and as at this week, being our 11th week, we have provided in excess of 1,900 meals. Very grateful to the support of many companies that are donating food, which is helping our budget greatly and also my thanks to the volunteers helping each week. It is not just appreciated by me but those receiving the food.

CANDLE OF HOPE

Keep the Candle of Hope in our windows showing love and support to our communities, making a difference and a stand about being a praying house in your location.

ON YOUR DAILY JOURNEY

As part of your daily devotions let's pray the **A to Z prayer**. Each day I will give you a letter from the Alphabet. Please use this letter to pray for members of the Corps with this initial, friends, family and neighbours and why not let them know that they have been prayed for, an email, note through the door letter. Let's make a difference by praying for each other. Can you imagine the difference that will make.

MONDAY PSALMS 68:4-5

Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides on the clouds -- his name is the Lord -- and rejoice before him. A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

I can't help but think of what James, Jesus' brothers said: "Pure religion, undefiled before God the Father is this: keep oneself undefiled and care for orphans and widows in their distress." Jesus showed clearly this was the Father's heart in his ministry. Now it is up to us to continue it!

L - MY PRAYER...

Father, may my life, my compassion, and my ministry reflect your heart for those who need care and protection and love. Give me eyes to see this need more clearly and a heart to responded more certainly so that your love may be demonstrated through me. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

TUESDAY EPHESIANS 6:4

Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Mothers have such an inside road with children that it is interesting that God commands fathers to be about the work of spiritual nurture. I don't believe he means to exclude mothers. No, I think he assumes they'll do their part but the father's influence and intentional training is so essential.

M - MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, may my children come to find you in me. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EPHESIANS 5:25-26

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

For husbands, there is sacrificial love in our purpose and purpose in our sacrifice. We give up ourselves to love our wives. But Jesus is the example here, and he gave up everything. His purpose? Simply to make us holy. Our motives are to be equally as sacrificial and pure in surrendering our rights to bless and love our wives.

N - MY PRAYER...

Holy God, help our families to be full of love and may it begin with me, today. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

THURSDAY MARK 8:36

What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his very soul?

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

We chase after so many different things. Only one thing is needed. Having a fist full of dollars, a great estate, and lots of prestige doesn't mean a whole lot if you've gone to your ultimate address without the Lord. Even worse, is to find that in the middle of your busy-ness, you awake to find yourself in the barren land where Christ does not dwell and life is not found.

O - MY PRAYER...

Father, help me to keep my priorities right and my life holy and my heart open to your will rather than being blinded with my own self-seeking. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

FRIDAY PSALMS 91:1

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

How good it is to be as close to God as his shadow and share in the comfort of his shelter. He is not far away if our hearts choose to draw near him.

P - MY PRAYER...

O great Almighty God, tender Shepherd and Abba Father, make known to me your nearness. I long to live in your presence and reflect your holiness and grace. By Jesus' blood I draw near to you in full assurance of your love and grace. Amen.

SATURDAY PSALMS 121:7-8

The Lord will keep you from all harm -- he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Our lives are not lived alone. The Lord is with us personally. He holds each of our futures and our safety in his hands. We live to serve him and go to be with him when we die. The Lord will keep us from all harm!

Q - MY PRAYER...

Mighty Protector, Rock of my salvation. Thank you that my future is secure with you. Make this assurance the convicting power in my life to turn over my future and my life to you. Through Jesus I ask this. Amen.

SUNDAY ISAIAH 40:31

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and will not be faint.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

It is easy for us to live victoriously for the Lord when we soar on eagles' wings. It can be exciting when we run and don't grow weary in the work of the Lord, buoyed by his power and presence. But it often takes heroes to keep walking and not faint when trying times come. Keep on walking, brother and sister. The Lord is there when you most fear he has forgotten you!

R - MY PRAYER...

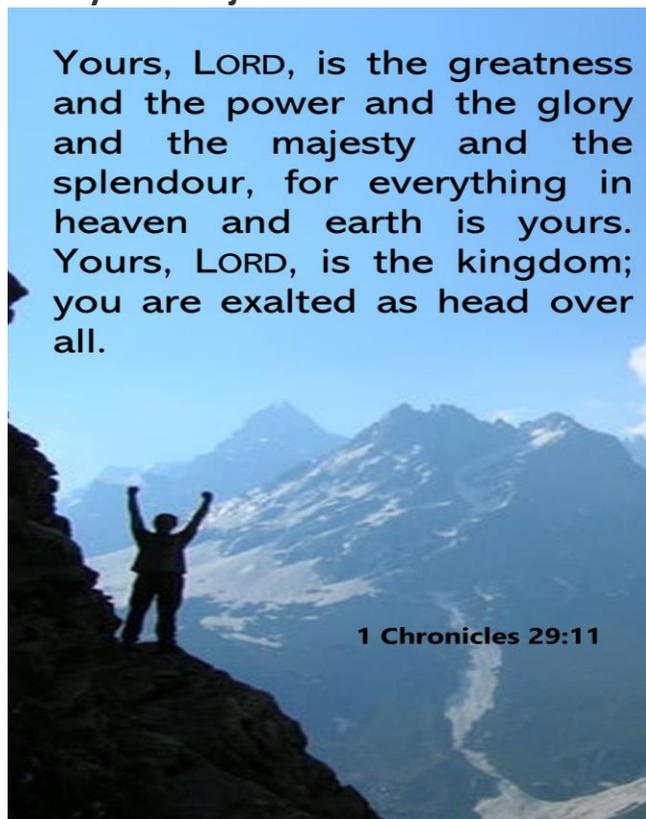
Majestic God, whose voice holds together our universe, give those who can barely walk under the stress and assault the strength to continue. I specifically want to pray for those I know personally who are facing trying times. Please, dear LORD, give them strength and meet their most pressings needs. Through the intercession of Jesus I ask it. Amen.



God bless you as you journey
with God
Please be safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian F Payne'.

Ian F Payne – Major



**Yours, LORD, is the greatness
and the power and the glory
and the majesty and the
splendour, for everything in
heaven and earth is yours.
Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over
all.**

1 Chronicles 29:11