



# Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps  
Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

[ian.payne@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:ian.payne@salvationarmy.org.uk) 07813949773 Corps website: [www.chathamsa.org.uk](http://www.chathamsa.org.uk)

26<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Welcome to Chatham Chatter, we are at a time when the schools would be breaking up, all exams finished and families setting off on holiday and a break from work – but how much has changed over the past four months that has changed our perspective on all we do. Totally different way of worship and yet a lot more people are being reached and hearing the gospel (and responding). Thousands of people have received food and bags of hope in and around Chatham – we have reached more people in the past four months than in the whole of last year – bears thinking about. What next in the history of Chatham Citadel? I think it is quite exciting, God has not only got us all in the hands he also holds the future of our Corps. I hope you share that excitement and hope.

We continue to support our immediate community and so many lovely stories of thanks coming back with gratitude.

This week to welcome Joseph to the Corps family and congratulate Vanessa & Ryan on the safe arrival of a Son and brother for Joel - Welcome and God bless the Cripps – more exciting days ahead.

This Sunday my thoughts are around 'Conversation with God', how is yours, how's your ongoing relationship with God going in these days. We will have time to engage with God and have 'that conversation' – its time to change the dialogue or is it? To know what God wants of us we have to talk, get to know, be in relationship through conversation, sometimes not easy, but gets easier the more we get to know Him.

May this week be one of joy and fulfillment for us all and a greater understanding of God's will for our lives.

God bless you all.

## 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.*

Pray for Rita Broomfield, Geoff Groom and Peter Cole for whom life is a struggle. Continue to pray for Doreen Scott as she settles in to her new home at Pembroke House Care Home, Gillingham. Pray for those who are having problems at work and some who may be facing redundancy.

Please remember in your prayers those who have been bereaved: the family of Irene Rogers, Alan Myners and family and Cathy Wood and family.

Pray for Mike and Lillian Cordner, Mike had heart surgery on Wednesday all went well and he is not in ITU recovering – prayer for Lillian and Family.

There are others in the Corps who are suffering with health problems just now. We especially pray for Audrey & David and Alma & Jim for God's healing touch.

Remember the children asking God to keep them safe during the summer recess. Bless each family who usually worship with us and who must be missing the personal contacts and love shown to them

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](mailto:jeanmjones86@yahoo.co.uk) or text on 07787718273.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL

Sunday School materials are on the Corps website. <https://www.chathamsa.org.uk/> Exciting material for the young people in your house to engage in. Those connecting will receive further details of 'Zoom Sunday School' 11:30. We can print out sheets for those who do not have the equipment at home or have issues in printing, please do ask.

## FROM AROUND THE UKT

### REGENT HALL

Many will know, and have known Joy Sewell who was Promoted to Glory recently – Regent Hall, her Corps, gave her a thanksgiving on Wednesday last - to view, clip the link below;

<https://youtu.be/bws7HD62Jy4>

### THQ

To keep up with The Salvation Army throughout the territory - click the link;

<https://www.youtube.com/user/salvationarmyvideo>

The Salvation Army Youtube Channel

<https://youtu.be/Nv4OsGF8Ah4>



### WATCH AGAIN: COMMISSIONING SERVICE & TERRITORIAL COMMANDER'S VIDEO MESSAGE

Commissioner Anthony Cotterill delivered the Bible message at this weekend's Commissioning as officers of the Messengers of the Kingdom

session of cadets. If you missed the event, you can catch up on YouTube or watch the Commissioner's message at <https://youtu.be/MLuw6RvAdOM>

**ALSO** Find his latest message to us about moving, here

<https://youtu.be/eS4W0HrR8BE>

Also see Commissioner Gillian Cotterill's message to the Territory

<https://youtu.be/a0I7vRA3ZMw>

### GENERAL BRIAN PEDDLE

**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



Watch the Generals message regarding The SA's response to covid19 across the world;

<https://www.facebook.com/GeneralBPeddle/videos/605290223705985/>

### 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

Don't forget the Just-Giving page to enable you to give your weekly collections and donations. 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.

### CORPS TREASURER

If you have outstanding cartridges, collections, donations etc: please send a cheque (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, or call the CO and arrangements will be made to pick up the same. We apologise that present circumstances mean there is a delay in presenting cheques to the bank.



### 'BAGS OF HOPE' & Meals

People presenting themselves at the door on a Monday or Friday, have receive Bags of Hope also on Mondays 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 a Bag of Hope?**

Meals are now only on a Tuesday night but over 68 are being served each week. This is from 6:45pm till 7:15pm. We are also providing starter bags for those being sent home from hospital, with pasta, rice, milk beans, just a token from Chatham Salvation Army of 'Bags of Hope' can you think of anyone who could benefit from a starter bag? Let Major Ian know - could be a replacement or support to families who are on school holidays and need help – just ask.

**PLEASE NOTE: AT THE HALL THERE ARE OVER 40 TRAYS OF FRESH VEGETABLES, PLEASE COME DOWN TO THE HALL ON MONDAY MORNING BETWEEN 10:30AM & 12 NOON (BRING A BAG) AND RECIEVE THESE VEGETABLES, YOU COULD GET SOME FOR A NEIGHBOUR - THE GOODS WILL BE DISPENCED FROM THE MAIN DOOR ONLY - PLEASE REMEMBER TO OBSERVE ALL THE GUIDELINES LAID DOWN.**



### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Welcome to Joseph Alistair Cripps born this week. As you can see a very happy Brother – Joel – congratulations to Vanessa & Ryan

### **CHATHAM RESPONDING TO LOCKDOWN**

After a lot of thought and discussion we will not be gathering for worship until the Autumn (if that is allowed under the guidelines) but whilst the hall is not in use there is a programme of decoration being carried out throughout the building. If you are under 70 and would wish to help with this programme, please contact Paul Scoulding in the first instance.

**We are also looking at ways that we can meet but observing all the restrictions that are laid down, especially social distancing.**

**We suggest that small groups, no more than 6/8, could meet in a garden** with strict observance of social distancing. Again, if you are interested in this activity and have a garden large enough, please contact Major Ian. But be aware if you are over 70 and have underlying health issues, under the Covid19 legislation you cannot participate; if you are over 70 and are well, you can choose whether to take part.

We are wanting to look at ways we can engage with each other in fellowship and information. It is good to know that many of you are keeping in touch via phone conversations but please let Major Ian know if there is anyone who has not been contacted, is not receiving the meeting CD or Chatham Chatter. We want to keep as many people connected as possible.

Finally, any suggestions you may have about engaging on Zoom etc, no matter how wacky, please do share them with Major Ian.

### **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 or letter. Let's make a difference by praying for each other. Can you imagine the difference that will make.

### **Monday Psalms 119:130**

*The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Sometimes the right path is not so difficult to find, we just need to know where to begin our search -- the reading of God's words. The right way is very seldom just the property of the bright, wise, and scholarly. It is very clear if we will but look for it!

### **O - MY PRAYER...**

Holy Father, thank you for making your will known through your words in Scripture. Bless me today as I open your word. May I find not only the answer to my questions, but may I find you and your precious will. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

### **Tuesday Psalms 119:160**

*All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

The requirements of morality and holiness are not temporary or fleeting because they reflect the nature of our Holy God who is eternal. They don't shift with the wishes of culture, but are true across cultures and times and wishes.

### **P - MY PRAYER...**

Righteous God Almighty, may my life reflect your character and nature in compassion, holiness, and justice. I know you are forever, and I want to invest my life in what lasts. Give me wisdom to see through the fleeting temptations of today and do what honours you beyond my lifetime. In Jesus name. Amen.

### **Wednesday Isaiah 33:22**

*The Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

When we think about God being our judge, we normally think of falling into judgment. Isaiah reminds us that God

being our judge means that he will be there to judge us based on his will, his rule and his grace. He is on our side and is looking to save, not condemn. Using the New Testament idiom, when we stand before our Judge we see instead our Father.

### **Q R - MY PRAYER...**

Holy and Righteous Judge, I am glad that my fate, my future, and my life are in your hands. I know your love for me because of the gift of Jesus. I know your desire to save me because of your loving grace. I know your demand for holiness is met by the sacrifice of your Son. So God, I gladly and willingly trust my life, my soul, to you. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

### **Thursday Psalms 149:4**

*For the Lord takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with salvation.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Jesus, who left heaven and made himself a servant, did so to enable the last to be first, the servant to be greatest, and the least to be best. For ages, the arrogant, abusive and the powerful have found it easy to reject the call of Christ. But those who are humble find him to not only be Saviour, but also Conqueror.

### **S - MY PRAYER...**

Precious Servant, Almighty King, thank you for coming to our world and serving us at great cost and showing us that we can reign with you. I look forward to the day every other knee will join mine as I bow before you as my Lord. Until that day, I pray that you will use me to bless those so often forgotten by our busy and glamour-intoxicated world. Amen.

### **Friday Luke 12:6-7**

*Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

In a universe so vast, what is our little planet? In a planet so diverse and so full of life, what are people? Among all the billions of people alive and who have lived and already died, what significance do I have? Jesus reminds us that our significance is great -- not because we are so important but because we are known personally by God. We don't have to be afraid, we are known and loved by the One who is and was and is to come!

### **T - MY PRAYER...**

Eternal God, Almighty Father, Tender Shepherd, you already know my heart. You know where I struggle with sin, so please empower and forgive. You know my fears, so please encourage and strengthen. You know my immaturity, so please nurture and grow. You know my weakness and disease, so please comfort and heal. But even if none of these are answered, I am still awed by the fact that you choose to know me. Thank you! In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

### **Saturday Psalms 46:1**

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Where can we go when all the walls fall and all the armies crumble and all hope is lost? To the eternal God, who is our Father. He preserved Israel through the most difficult of times, protected the Bible from those who would eradicate it, and has led his Church through troubles and triumphs through the centuries. He will do the same with us until he brings us home to himself.

### **U V W - MY PRAYER...**

My Rock, My Hope, and My Protector, I thank you for preserving my life. I thank you for hearing my cries for help and healing. I thank you for guiding my feet into ways that have been a blessing. Please, O God, stay close by as I face the stresses and challenges in my life. Through your Spirit, enable me to grow and be an example to others as I pass through life's storm. Through Jesus I ask it. Amen.

### **Sunday Psalms 119:14**

*I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.*

### **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...**

Our treasure and our truth come from Scripture, God's guidance to avoid Satan's harmful traps and live in God's blessed life.

### **X Y Z - MY PRAYER...**

Holy God, thank you for your written word, the Scriptures. May they come alive in my life just as they do in my heart and mind. Through Jesus I pray. Amen

## **CONVERSATION WITH GOD**

On Sunday Live I will be introducing thoughts about how to engage each days with God – having the conversation. Below are the headings and words that will be used and can be helpful for you in your daily engagement with God:

### **The Presence of God**

As I sit here, the beating of my heart,  
the ebb and flow of my breathing,  
the movements of my mind  
are all signs of God's ongoing creation of me.  
I pause for a moment and become aware of this  
presence of God within me.

### **Freedom**

I will ask God's help  
to be free from my own preoccupations,  
to be open to God in this time of prayer,  
to come to know, love, and serve God more.

### **Consciousness**

At this moment, Lord, I turn my thoughts to you.  
I will leave aside my chores and preoccupations.  
I will take rest and refreshments in your presence.  
The word  
Now I turned to the scripture set out for me this day.  
I read slowly over the words and see if  
any sentence or sentiment appeals to me.

### **Conversation**

Begin to talk to Jesus about the scripture  
you have just read.  
What part of it strikes a chord in you?  
Perhaps the words of a friend - or some story  
you have heard recently - will slowly rise to the surface  
of your consciousness.  
If so, does the story throw light on what the scripture  
passage may be saying to you?

### **Conclusion**

Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be,  
world without end. Amen

May you find this helpful as you journey with God.



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**