



Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps
Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

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22th November 2020

Hello and welcome to our weekly Chatham Chatter. I do hope that you find this way of communication useful as I send it out each week and hope that it is read and used in many ways; for prayer, thought and instruction.

What a busy week. Still in a further lock-down but there is still much to do in preparing for what Christmas will look like and how we can develop new ways of sharing the greatest story the world has ever had. The band is recording items for live streaming and considering what can be done as regards carolling. You might have an idea. If so, let Adrian know!

There are many programmes for Christmas being created. One I advertised in the Chatter last week when our band will be taking part (virtually). There will be a prayer meeting this week, (see chatter for further details). Let's soak Christmas in prayer like never before. We will have a 'Christmas Praise Celebration' on Sunday Morning 20th December.

There is much to think about and prepare; toys, parcels, meals. This is all going on in the background.

Territorial Envoy Tony is leading us in worship this morning. His theme is 'Amazing Grace' – we look forward to hearing from and sharing with Tony on Sunday.

I will be away next week, just for a break, charging up the batteries ready for Christmas. I am aware of how much I need to 'retreat' with God.

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 will overflow with hope, by the

power of your Holy Spirit, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We pray that during this time of lockdown we may feel God's presence and allow Him to guide us each day, remembering that He promises to be with us and that we are all special to Him.

Pray for those who will find the next three weeks to be difficult to cope with, for whatever reason, but pray that these actions will be effective in bringing down the numbers of people affected by Covid19.

We know of at least one of our members who is suffering from Covid19 just now and there may be others. There are others with health problems who need our prayers.

We all need encouragement to make the most of every day and to live the life that God inspires us to live. God is answering our prayers in amazing ways so keep talking to Him and let us know if you would like some prayer support.

Let us ask God to guide our Government in these difficult days that they may have wisdom to make good decisions for the future of our country.

Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on jeanm1938mail.com or text on 07787718273.



God bless you as you seek Him and His direction with all your hearts

Ian F Payne Major



Territorial Envoy Tony McClure

What do you think you look like?

This was a question I often asked myself. In the 1970s I was a plump teenager. The fashions of the 1970s were cruel and questionable. One of my favourite outfits involved tan coloured platform shoes, flared trousers and a paisley tie and shirt combination. Handsome I thought, other people may have thought differently.

My only defence was “It was the fashion” and my outfits were as outrageous as other peoples.

As I got older my style became more conservative. My jobs in HMSO and the Reliance Trust meant a shirt and tie were the order of the day.

Wearing a more conservative outfit involved a change I hadn't expected.

The ‘change’ became apparent one day at Victoria Railway station. I was waiting for my train, minding my own business when a complete stranger approaches me and asked if I knew which platform they needed for their train.

Not being a British Rail employee, or particularly interested in relevant platforms I told the person that I had no idea which platform they needed. The person looked rather offended and asked why I didn't know. I said why should I as I don't work for British Rail. The reply of “Are you sure? You look like you do.”

I never asked the person what it was about my appearance that spoke ‘British Rail’ to them. I wonder what it was?

Now that I have reached the grand old age of 60 I find my ‘look’ hasn't changed and I

get asked where the nearest bus stop is; where is the taxi rank and if I am at one of the big London railway stations if I know what platform they should go to.

I have often asked myself the question “What do you look like?” Do I look like the sort of person who knows about all forms of transport? Or am I just the sort of person who people feel they can ask.

I have learnt to be more careful how I answer a request for transport information. A flippant “No idea” will often get you a scowling glare and once I thought a punch in the face was coming my way.

How you look and are often can create an impression that isn't true. I obviously create a knowledgeable ‘transport’ look, but have no idea.

Church can often create a ‘look’ too. Church PR develop a caring, loving picture of what it is. Sadly the projected image doesn't always live up to the reality of the situation.

Jesus was aware of this, I am sure. The hype and excitement of the disciples may not always live up to the standard required of them. Jesus says, in John 13, that He was going to leave the disciples and that He was going somewhere that they couldn't go.

In verse 35 of John chapter 13 Jesus tells the disciples that “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

The look will match the truth.

Early Christians were often misunderstood and accused of the most scandalous things. One accusation which confounded many was “The Christians love each other.” Jesus' command still stands. May our look match the truth of our declaration.

DVD/AUDIO RECORDINGS OF THE MEETING

There are a number who receive an Audio disc of the meeting – we now have the facility to produce a Disc of the meeting that you can play in a DVD player, you then can experience the meeting in all its glory on your TV - If you would like one of these DVD's please do let Major Ian know, the details are on the top of the Chatham Chatter, you then will be put on the circulation list.

You could also use these discs to introduce a friends to 'the Army'. Please pray for this ministry.

NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

We are re-commencing our Bible Study under the leadership of TE Tony McClure on Wednesday 25th November on Zoom. We hope to have the further studies at the hall if the Covid rules change on the 2nd Dec. It will start at 8pm for one hour

The Zoom Link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5972909541?pwd=MzFIWUpEUDd0K0ErQ0ZSTWM0Z0J3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 597 290 9541

Passcode: Hope2020

Watch the Chatham Chatter for further details.

Sunday 22nd Nov Bible reading

Ephesians 2:1-8

COMING SUNDAY's at CHATHAM

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 10AM

SOUTH EAST DIVISIONAL ADVENT PRAISE

Will be streamed live from ChathamSA YouTube. See Advert at the end of this Chatter.

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER

10am Major Ian with 'Advent of Hope'
3pm Junior Soldier Making

SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER

10am Major's Mark & Linda Herbert
Divisional Leaders leading Worship

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER 10am – 11:30am

Christmas Praise 'Share the Gift'

Major Ian and Guests

Bring a coffee and Mince pie, put on your Christmas jumper and enjoy some of your favourite Christmas Carols and items by members of the Corps – send a picture of you in your jumper

CHRISTMAS DAY

10am Major Ian with 'Unwrap Hope'

SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER

10am Major Ian

Reflective post-Christmas Worship

Sunday January 3rd 2021

10am Major Ian **Readings and Reflections in the Psalms to begin the Year.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Zoom Sunday this morning – please ask Tracy for details to join in. They are working very hard in making sure that our YP have all the training and fun in discovering more about Jesus.

THANK YOU



Chris Broughton writes:

'thank you' to Corps folk/friends that supported me in my recent running challenge. I completed just over 139k in the month of October as part of the Breast Cancer Now 100k challenge for Breast Cancer month. I managed to raise £750 (at present) for the Charity Breast Cancer Now. A big Thank You to everyone who has supported and encouraged me along the way. Chris

AN EMAIL FROM CLLR VINCE MAPLE REGARDING REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

'I just wanted to take a moment to say a huge thank you for everyone's collective efforts to make sure we could proceed with Chatham's Remembrance Sunday albeit very different to other years.

Thanks to everyone who took time to lay a wreath, to the teams from A1 and Kent Media Group for making sure thousands of people could see the service at home, more than 16,000 that had viewed it, you can find it here;

<https://www.facebook.com/lovechathamUK/videos/278922773430537>

Thanks to Copper Rivet for providing hand sanitiser for the service, to Chatham Salvation Army for their wonderful music, Martyn for delivering a very poignant service, Charlie for the wonderful bugle playing, David for production of the brilliant Medway Remembers video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fu_SZtOZxqU

and, as always, the ongoing support of Medway Council, Kent Police and Chatham Town Centre Forum.

KMTV produced a great report of the event which you can see here. It was also covered in the Medway Messenger.

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/kmtv/video/virtual-celebrations-to-mark-remembrance-sunday-across-kent-32696/>

Vince Maple'

(nb The KMTV is just over 2 minutes long and shows good coverage of Chatham SA – IFP)

CONGRATULATIONS

To Katelyn who passed with merit her **Grade 4 baritone exam** which is a very good result given the difficulty of teaching via FaceTime and not in person since February.

WELL DONE KATELYN.



CHRISTMAS BAGS OF HOPE

Again, this year we are asking you to bring hope to many people this Christmas – collect the items on the list, put them in a Bag for Life and bring them to the Hall on the times shown. If you are unable to shop (each bag costs £25), why not make a donation on our Just Giving page with the reference 'Hope' and someone will go and buy the bag on your behalf – or you can send a cheque to the hall. Last year we gave out over 130 bags – there are many in our community struggling due to Covid19. Help us make Christmas a little easier for them.

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

if you require any further details please contact Sam.

Splinter9@blueyonder.co.uk

CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

We will be having a Christmas Toy Appeal this year. Between now and 4th December, why not buy a gift for a child, between 1 to 18 and bring it to the hall after 10.30 am on either Friday 4th or Monday 7th December, unwrapped. Again, this year we can make a big difference to many children's lives on Christmas Day. If you would sooner give a donation, again, please make this on the Justgiving page or send to the Hall and a toy will be bought to give. If you require any further information please contact Wendy 07368 629792 or paulscoulding@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS DAY AT CHATHAM SA

We will not be able to have guests in the hall for lunch as has been customary, run so successfully by the Medway Sunlight Rotary Club. So, this year we will be providing a full Christmas Day Lunch in a Hamper plus a tea and surprise for each person. All the recipients will have to do is heat the food in an oven or microwave. They will be delivered by volunteers. Do you have the name of a person who would welcome a hamper? Please let Major Ian know.

COULD YOU BE A VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER A COUPLE OF HAMPERS ON CHRISTMAS DAY (BETWEEN 9AM & 2PM)?

CHATHAM CORPS VIRTUAL CHOIR

The Songsters are putting together a virtual choir video of the song "Under His Wings" and would like to extend the opportunity to anyone from the corps who would like to join in. You will receive the music/words, and a conducting video to sing along to, and can then record yourself singing your part on a phone/tablet. We will then be putting all the video recordings together to create a virtual choir! A great way to enjoy music and bring us together during this second lockdown.

If you'd like to take part please contact David Lockwood on dave4724@btinternet.com.

SONGSTERS DESERT ISLAND DISCS

If you go to www.chatham.org.uk and click on the Chatham Chatter button, then 'Other news' you will find the 'Songsters Desert Island Discs' which is a weekly choice of music by individual members of the Songster Brigade - get clicking.

INFORMATION FROM MEDWAY COUNCIL

Please be advised that as per previous years, Medway Council-run car parks in the town centres will offer free parking in the run up to Christmas.

This year, there will be 4 free Christmas parking days running from 17th December to 20th December 2020.

CORPS TREASURER

All personal 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 you can pay by BACS ask the CT for details.

CORPS FUNDRAISING DONATIONS

Don't forget the Just-Giving page is available to enable members of the public to give donations.

<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.

NHS COVID QR CODE



ANYONE COMING INTO THE HALL MUST USE THE QR CODE (EXAMPLE ON LEFT) AS A PART OF THE NHS APP TRACK AND TRACE - THESE WILL BE LOCATED BY ALL DOORWAYS

INTO THE BUILDING. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE APP ON A PHONE YOU MUST CONTACT MAJOR IAN TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO COME TO THE HALL.



WATCHOUT FOR THE **Virtual Christmas Connect Carol** **Service**

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER

Chatham Band will be making an appearance

FOR FURTHER DETAILS GO TO:

<https://christmasconnect.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Christmas-Connect-104428934346190/?ti=as>

PRAYER

A prayer meeting for this Christmas Connect project is on Thursday 26th November.

This is for **all members of our congregations and leadership**, and all those who have a heart for prayer.

Let's join together beforehand to pray for this wonderful opportunity **via Zoom and YouTube...**

Thursday 26th November from 7.30 pm

Meeting ID: 82484876614

Passcode: 966586

or

Phone: 02034815237 or 02039017895

YOUTH ALPHA

Mike Dare the Church Army Youth Worker for Chatham – part of the Churches Together in Chatham is offering a Youth Alpha Course for those who wish to be involved, start on Sunday 8th November 5pm – 6pm - the link is

<https://protect->

[eu.mimecast.com/s/EWD_C2Rj9uE653xHn5K1W?domain=eventbrite.co.uk](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/EWD_C2Rj9uE653xHn5K1W?domain=eventbrite.co.uk)

or for further details please contact mike on mike.dare@churcharmy.org

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>



TERRITORIAL LEADER **VIDEO MESSAGE**

'Keep the faith and keep praying!' is the challenge

from Commissioner Anthony Cotterill in his video message this week. Watch on YouTube <https://youtu.be/hUnS1tF71Tg>

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

INTERVIEW WITH THE GENERAL

International leader General Brian Peddle kicks off season two of the All Terrain podcast, the monthly interview series created by The Salvation Army Youth & Children's Ministries Unit.

Listen on [Apple](#) [podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) and [Podbean](#) or see more details on [Salvation Army website](#).

RAH CAROL CONCERT

The Royal Albert Hall has agreed to move TSA booking for the Territorial Carol Concert to the new date next year of Wednesday 8 December 2021. For this Christmas, there will be a virtual Territorial Carol Concert, to be available online via YouTube, comprising highlight features from previous years' concerts, alongside new pieces and celebrity readings. This is currently in production and a time and date for the launch will be advertised and announced in due course.

BOOK YOUR PLACE: ROYAL PARKS HALF MARATHON 2021

The ballot for this event in April 2021 is now open. Run for a reason and join Team Sally Army as you take in four of London's stunning eight Royal Parks. Go to <https://royalparkshalf.com/>

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 Hebrews 12:28

Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

We are receiving the triumphant and glorious victory of God in his Kingdom. We will join with the angels and the saints of old and live with the Father forever in victorious and never-ending joy. But this Kingdom doesn't begin just when Jesus returns. This Kingdom has started now in his Church, his people, those in whom God's will is cherished and obeyed. So, our worship should be filled with awe that the holy God of Israel is also the lowly God in Jesus who has redeemed us and made us to be a holy people unto himself. What else can we do but worship with heartfelt thanksgiving and wonder-struck awe?

A - MY PRAYER...

Holy and Righteous Father, all things are yours. Thank you for sharing your blessings, your promises, your hope, and your victory with us in Jesus. Please help me to live a more thankful, victorious life before my unbelieving friends and as an example to my children so they may come to share your glorious Kingdom and ultimate victory. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Tuesday Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

We sing when we are happy. We sing when we are heartbroken. Today we sing out of gratitude. God is not only worthy of all of our praise, he is worthy of all of our thankfulness. But the basis of all our songs is Jesus, and the proclamation of the good news that brings life to us through him. As that message, that word of Christ fills our hearts, we are tuned to be thankful children of the Most High.

B - MY PRAYER...

I am so thankful today, Lord, for all the many blessings you have poured into my life. Your love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness give me hope for the future. Your gift of Jesus gives me life today and promises life tomorrow. The incredible physical blessings, as well as the blessings of family and friends, are wonderful. But the greatest of all blessings is the assur-

ance that I will one day see you face-to-face and share your glorious presence forever. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Wednesday 1 Chronicles 16:8

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Giving thanks is more than being thankful to God, it is letting others know of his gracious works so they too can come to know him as Father, Redeemer, and Victorious Lord.

C - MY PRAYER...

Holy God, Almighty King, bless all those who serve you in difficult places today. I especially am thankful for all the missionaries in other cultures sharing the grace of Jesus with people who need to know you as Abba Father. Empower their words, protect their lives and families, and bless their efforts with fruit. Please help me to understand that true thankfulness involves sharing your grace with others. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Thursday Psalms 136

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Our thanks arise from the nature of God and his glory and goodness. The steadfast reason we give thanks is because God is

good and his love is inexhaustible, beyond decay, and never ending.

D - MY PRAYER...

O great Lover of my soul, thank you for sending Jesus as the demonstration of your love. I love you Father. I love you for who you are and what you have done. I love you for what you have promised. I love you for the blessings you shower upon me. I love you for giving me hope. I love you because you first loved me. I love you because you are worthy of all love. But I confess that my love is not as strong as yours, so please, fill me with your love by the power of the [Holy Spirit](#). Through Jesus I lift my heart to you. Amen.

Friday 2 Peter 3:10-11

The day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Holiness is that forgotten character virtue that is the Christian's reflection of God, his or her holy and righteous Father. In a day of cheap grace, when anything goes just as long as we want to be buddies with Jesus, Peter's words should shock us into reverence - the commitment in life to set our lives apart from the evil and sludge that defiles our hearts and to offer our

bodies, hearts, and minds to do his will and reflect his character.

E - MY PRAYER...

Holy and Righteous Father, teach me to do your will and reflect your character while offering your grace. May the movements of my heart, the thoughts of my mind, and the actions of my life be pleasing to you and reflect your holiness and grace. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Saturday John 1:1-2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

All true ministry is "incarnational" - it involves people to people contact, human touch, and genuine physical care. While Heartlight is an Internet ministry, it will never live in cyberspace. It must be carried into the daily life of believers who are committed to share the grace of Jesus with their FRANS (Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances, Neighbours). Just as God purposely sent Jesus at the right time to the right place, he did so with us. We are here to bless others, "not just in word, but in deed and truth!"

F - MY PRAYER...

Glorious Father, thank you for putting me where I am. I know I am here to do your work and carry on Jesus' ministry. Help me seize the opportunities you give me today to bless others in the name of Jesus. Through him I pray. Amen.

Sunday Hebrews 1:1-2

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

God is a speaking God. He loves us and has chosen to get his message to us in words. First there were the patriarchs and great prophets. Then there was the written record in the Scriptures. But God's greatest message, his most powerful words, were not really words at all, but a person named Jesus of Nazareth, who is Christ and Lord of all. For us, his Church, to be what he wants us to be, we must not just look at Scripture, we must also look at him. He is the key to understanding what Scripture means and how it is to be lived.

G - MY PRAYER...

Holy Father, help me to see Jesus and his work and purpose more clearly as I open your Book and seek to understand your will. Fill me with your Spirit, so that I may greet each decision awakened to the answer to "What would Jesus do?" Through Jesus, my Lord and Saviour I pray. Amen.



Advent Praise

LET'S CELEBRATE THE COMING OF JESUS TOGETHER

Join us to mark the commencement of the Advent Season
with readings, prayers, drama, song and The Word
led by people from all around the division

Available on 'The Salvation Army South East Division' Facebook Page

Sunday 29 November 2020

10am



The South East Division

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