



# Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps  
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**10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**

Hello Friends,

My first words to you all who are reading this is a Happy New Year to you all. We are in strange times, new year, new challenges and new outcomes, of that I am sure.

From the last time you received a Chatham Chatter from me, I, with Judith, have had to isolate, twice, as we came into contact with someone who tested positive for Coronavirus. Thankfully nothing developed in either of us.

With this new fast-spreading variant, we now need to be more aware of keeping each other, and ourselves, safe. I am asking anyone who has to come to the hall to abide by the Health and Safety plans we have put in place, i.e.

- ✚ Always wear a face cover
- ✚ Use hand gel made available
- ✚ Register with the NHS track & trace App
- ✚ Be aware & maintain Social Distancing
- ✚ Wear gloves that are provided

If you have a temperature or show any signs of Covid symptoms do not leave your home and if it persists contact 111.

If we all abide by the rules we can and will be kept safe. If any of you need anything and are unable to find any one to help, please do contact me and I shall attempt to help and support you.

It is comforting that a number of you have been invited to take the vaccination.

I do need to say that it will be a while before we will be able to meet physically, but I promise that when we can, we will. Please do continue to pray for all those in the front line of serving, with all the dangers they are putting themselves in, to keep us safe.

We start back with the Bible Study this coming Wednesday, under the leadership of TE Tony. For details of how you can join with us, please see the information further in the Chatter.

I have been grateful for the past two Sundays with worship led by our Divisional Leaders and then last week by our Territorial Leadership - what a blessing.

This Sunday I am looking at the phrase 'What Next'? We have celebrated the birth of Jesus, welcomed the shepherds, the wise men, but we need to step out of the stable and enter the world, so what's next? Well, join me on Sunday as we explore that thought, we worship and engage with God and ask for His renewed blessing on our lives. May you know that this week.

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

Ian F Payne Major

## **PRAYER REQUEST**



### **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 God will guide you, comfort you with His presence and give you joy in your heart. Remember and pray for those of our members who are suffering health problems and who need our prayers. We bring them to God asking Him to bring comfort and healing to their lives.

There are important situations in our country with changes that people are having to deal with. Pray for all those in positions of responsibility that they will be guided to make good decisions.

Pray for our Corps, each section whether it be the children's work, Mummy & Me, the BP sections and Youth, as well as the musical sections and community work. It is by talking to Him and being guided by Him that we can be sure that all things will be under His control. Do let us know if you would like some prayer support.

*Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on [jeanm1938@gmail.com](mailto:jeanm1938@gmail.com) or text on 07787718273.*

## **PROMOTION TO GLORY**

A former soldier of Chatham Citadel, Frankie Kember, was Promoted to Glory on Sunday night. Please remember her Husband, Derek and family in your prayers, also she was the sister of Audrey Holder.



## **Territorial Envoy**

### **Tony McClure**

Happy New Year everyone. I hope you all had a good and happy Christmas and that 2021 is proving to be as interesting as we all anticipated it would be.

My Christmas Day was very different to any that I could remember. I was helping with the Christmas day lunch hampers at Chatham Hall.

Ian suggested I help with this and I was happy to do so...to say that it was different to what I expected was an understatement. 550 Christmas dinners had been requested and these were delivered. I seemed to be the man who provided refreshments and kept smiling.

At times, it seemed like organised chaos...but it was all sorted out in the end.

I do remember thinking at one stage in the morning that things seemed to be going a little awry. People were trying to find that which couldn't be found, custard wouldn't thicken, delivery people were turning up at the wrong times...hysteria seemed to be lurking around the corner. In the midst of what was happening it struck me that the point of this venture was to spread some Christmas cheer and, hopefully, share with people that Christmas Day is the day most people remember, Jesus' birthday. We know Jesus wasn't born into a world of calm and tranquillity. Census causing journeys, no room at the inn. Angelic visits and so forth. An angst-filled, disturbed Herod and jumpy Roman officials.

Yet into the midst of a world of turmoil and sin God entered the world in human form.

Why?

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' John 3:16. God bless each of you and as we are encouraged to - Stay safe.

## **NB :CHATHAM CHATTER**

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE THE CHATHAM CHATTER PLEASE DO LET ME KNOW VIA EMAIL. LAST WEEK SOMEONE (I AM SURE BY MISTAKE) REPORTED MY EMAIL AS SPAM AND BLOCKED ME - WHICH IN TURN BLOCKED MY COMPLETE ACCESS TO SENDING EMAILS TO ANYONE! OUTLOOK DID EVENTUALLY SORT IT OUT. SO, IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE IT I WILL TAKE YOU OFF THE CIRCULATION LIST – THANK YOU

## **BIBLE READING SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup>**

2 Timothy chapter 1 verses 1-12

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study will recommence on Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup> under the leadership of TE Tony McClure. Come and join us on Zoom. We start at 8pm for one hour.

The Zoom Link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5972909541?pwd=MzFIWUpEUDd0K0ErQOZSTWM0Z0J3Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 597 290 9541**

**Passcode: Hope2020**

## **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.

## **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**

Watch again on YouTube as the Territorial Leaders explore the 2021 theme of Going Forward Together – Living in God's Covenant. The meeting included the installation and welcome of Colonels Paul and Jenine Main as our new Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Leader Development. You can view this meeting on the Chathamsa Youtube area.

Also, a New Year Message from Commissioner Gillian. Watch now on youtube: <https://youtu.be/sQKkv0Y9OKo>



## **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

### **GENERAL'S BIBLE MESSAGE**

International leader General Brian Peddle asks 'What's Next?' in an online Bible message that will be released on Sunday 10 January.

Watch the advert for this message at <https://vimeo.com/490683722/d403412675>

The full message link will be shared on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **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 DEUTERONOMY 7:9**

*The Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments*

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

God is faithful and his covenant is a covenant of love. He will not forsake us and will treat us better than we deserve just as a loving parent treats a rebellious child better than s/he deserves. But our hearts must be tuned to honour God as God, not as just a good luck charm or a weekly guest into our otherwise busy lives. What we do must be done in awareness that it is done before and for him!

#### **H - MY PRAYER...**

Faithful God, thank you for loving me so sacrificially and steadfastly. Thank you for the way you preserved your promises to the Israelites and brought Jesus just as you promised. I trust your promise to send him back to bring me home to you. Please receive the deeds and words of this day as my thanks to you for your covenant of love with me and those I love. Through Jesus, your gift of love, I pray. Amen.

### **TUESDAY 2 PETER 1:4**

*He has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

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

God made us to be like him in character and holiness. We are called to participate in the divine nature and are assured that we will be made ready when Jesus comes again. His promise is sure if we will follow wholeheartedly!

#### **I - MY PRAYER...**

Almighty God, my Everlasting Fortress, thank you for giving me your great promises. I long to know you more fully and be able to see your face today, just as I believe I will one day. Please protect me and my heart from corruption. In all love and appreciation I pray. Amen.

### WEDNESDAY ROMANS 8:28

*We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

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

God is in our lives. He is at work right now, undoing Satan's destructive messes and leading us to places he wants us to go. This is true in everything we do and everywhere we go. The key is for us to seek his purpose, to live his will. If that is our goal, then we can be sure our God is with us every step of our way.

### **J - MY PRAYER...**

Thank you, God, for being at work in my life. Thank you for not leaving me alone to my best effort, insight, and choice. Thank you for having a plan for me and being the assurance that I can't mess that plan up if I seek your will. Thank you for being my God, my Father, and my Partner through all of life. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

### THURSDAY 2 PETER 1:5-8

*Make every effort to add to your [faith](#) goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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

Wow! What a message. God wants us to be productive in our lives. He wants us to have more than just head knowledge. He wants us to put it to work in our lives and be effective and productive with it. But, I've got to put out some effort and try to grow in these qualities. Peter is saying, "Okay folks, God wants you to get after it and make a difference through your life!" I'm ready! Let's begin today.

### **K - MY PRAYER...**

Holy God, I am going to put out the effort to grow in your grace. Please bless my efforts and receive them as my heartfelt appreciation for loving me when I was unlovable and redeeming me when I was lost. I want to be productive to your glory in my life with Jesus, through whom I pray. Amen.

### FRIDAY ACTS 4:12

*The name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.*

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

"Jesus, there's just something about that name!" The words to the song are right. Salvation from what is warped and broken in our world is found in no one else. He is our Saviour because he was willing to come to this world, bear our limitations, shame, and sin, and then triumph over them.

### **L - MY PRAYER...**

Through the precious name of Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, my Lord, I thank and praise you God, Most High. Your love has given the sacrifice for my sin and your power has given me the assurance of my resurrection from the dead. Your Son's willingness to spend a lifetime with us has given me a Great High Priest who intercedes with empathy for my struggles. His example lets me know of your great love. Thank You O God, for being so gracious and giving me such a wonderful Saviour. Amen.

### SATURDAY COLOSSIANS 3:12

*As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.*

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

"Wonder what I'll need to wear to that meeting?" Paul reminds us that there is a set of clothing that is always in style. We wear this clothing because we are special. This clothing is from the

Ultimate Designer's collection called character and is best worn when with other people. These qualities are hard to wear, but always a blessing to those who meet us when we're decked out in this wardrobe.

#### **M - MY PRAYER...**

Abba Father, thank you for bringing me into your family. May I never disappoint you in the way I treat others. May they see in me the qualities of character that can only be attributed to your presence in my life. To you be the glory and the honour, forever and ever, through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

#### **SUNDAY PSALMS 23:1-3**

*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.*

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

He restores my soul. My, that sounds so good. But it is more than talk. When we've reached a point that we can't go on, God blesses us with strength to just keep on walking. When we're in a struggle and things are tough, his power upholds us and we run to victory. When we're winning victories in his name, we can soar on wings like eagles. He is a shepherd and more. He is the Rock and Sustainer of our lives!

#### **N - MY PRAYER...**

O Gentle Shepherd, help me rest tonight in your grace and in the confidence that you are nearby. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

**Having asked for articles to add to the Chatham Chatter – below is the contribution from Jan Ambrose, a Sunday Morning attendee on Chatham Live...enjoy**

### **Where's God in all this?**

Jan Ambrose discusses how The Salvation Army has adapted to deal with the pandemic COVID-19 was declared a pandemic on 11 March 2020. Twelve days later, the UK was put in total lockdown.

A stunned nation was totally unprepared for what this would entail. Schools, leisure centres, restaurants, businesses and places of worship closed. Deserted high streets and shuttered shops were an eerie reminder of the freedom we had all taken for granted. Only essential shops could remain open.

The Salvation Army does not recognise the word 'retreat'. Although public meetings were a casualty of lockdown, corps found new ways to minister to the community. Meetings were delivered online in a variety of ways. People from all over the world, former Salvationists and those from other corps could join in worship.

Music is an essential part of Salvation Army worship. Restrictions on singing and playing by brass bands are ongoing and could continue for some time. Imaginative use of recordings made in pre-COVID times meant worshippers could be inspired not only by the music of the International Staff Band and International Staff Songsters, but footage of their own corps sections.

Working with the Government, the health service and local authorities, the Army is providing expertise and resources. It is especially concerned about those who are experiencing homelessness and has opened up spaces for rough sleepers to self-isolate.

Many corps are maintaining food banks, helped by major organisations and supermarkets. The Army is working with other churches to pool resources and advise people where they can get food; many supermarkets have food bank donation points. Volun-

teers have given their time to combat the joint crisis of a deadly virus and sudden unprecedented levels of high unemployment.

This year's London Marathon was cancelled. Disappointed runners who had been sponsored to raise funds for the Army's work were encouraged to use the delay to raise further money for such projects as anti-human trafficking, homelessness services and work supporting local corps and centres.

The Salvation Army has always been there for the most vulnerable but thousands more have suddenly fallen into that category. It has transformed its response to ensure that it is directly reaching those hit the hardest by the coronavirus by:

- Expanding its food banks and using its local networks to reach people who can no longer feed themselves or their families
- Offering doorstep health advice and food parcels at its homeless day centres. Night-time soup runs deliver hot food at a safe distance from its emergency response vehicles
- Continuing to offer support through its employability service, Employment Plus ([www.salvationarmy.org.uk/employment-plus](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/employment-plus)), to thousands of people who have lost their jobs overnight
- Helping people with financial problems through its Debt Advice Service
- Urging the Government to address delays in Universal Credit payments. This could now affect thousands more people as the job market shrinks
- Maintaining its extensive network of safe houses for the victims of modern slavery; providing emotional support for those who have escaped slavery and now have to self-isolate
- Offering help to communities, ranging from phoning lonely people to making prescription runs and food deliveries

'Challenging' and 'difficult' are adjectives that have been used to describe 2020. They don't describe the anguish of the bereaved, those who have lost their jobs, grandparents who have been unable to see their grandchildren for months on end, those

who have suffered from loneliness and depression and so many more heartbreaking conditions.

But conversely, the lockdown meant families could spend more time together. People rediscovered the joy of nature on their one permitted walk a day; volunteers and generous donations ensured that it was a happy season for many who would otherwise not had a Christmas dinner (adapted to comply with COVID-19 restrictions) and there were toys for needy children. An anti-COVID vaccine has been produced in record time.

In years gone by, the Army's mission statement was: 'Where there's a need, there is The Salvation Army.' Although this article concentrates on The Salvation Army's UK territory, the Army is present in 131 countries, which to a greater or lesser extent are carrying out similar activities.

The pandemic has brought out the best and sometimes the worst in people and organisations. In early December, the Queen met the Territorial Commanders, Commissioners Anthony and Gillian Cotterill and Regent Hall Bandmaster Paul Sharman to thank the Army and other voluntary organisations for their hard work. A composite band, comprised of Regent Hall and Maidenhead members, played carols in the upper quadrangle of Windsor Castle and later met senior members of the Royal Family.

So where was God in 2020 and why did He let this happen? In Joy Webb's words, 'In the pain, in the doubt, in the loneliness, in the struggle of right against wrong, somewhere amidst the confusion, there will be hope, there will be love, there will be God.'

He was by our side the whole time.



**Chatham**



**Only Enter this Building...**



**with a face cover or mask**



**Scan NHS Track & Trace App**



**Use Hand Gel**



**Social Distancing**



**Wear gloves**