



# Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps  
Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

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15<sup>th</sup> May 2022

It's great to be back. Judith and I had a wonderful holiday - great location, great food, great company and great weather. What more was needed? We went to rest and recuperate and certainly feel that we achieved that.

I am very grateful to CSM Paul and Majors Mark and Linda for leading worship whilst I have been away - it was lovely to be able to join in, lying in the sunshine next to the pool!!

This week we will be looking at 'Listening to the voice of God'. What a challenge that is to us when we give time to those occasions and understand the direction of God in our lives and work that through. Often so much, legitimately, gets in the way and we miss what God wants to say and how He wants to direct us. When was the last time you felt and heard God's voice? When was the last time that you had the time to sit and wait on God, unrushed and not interrupted? Well hopefully we will make that space and time together on Sunday morning. 'Master, speak for I am listening'.

I am also delighted that next Sunday (22<sup>nd</sup>), Pam will be enrolled as a Senior Soldier at Chatham. This will be conducted by TE Tony. Pam has been on an amazing journey of faith, discovering Jesus as her personal friend and Saviour and we have seen her develop and grow in faith over the past years, which has been a joy and delight. So we look forward to sharing in this new part of Pam's journey. What a great day for Chatham Citadel!



I look forward to sharing with many of you on Sunday in the Hall or on the screen.

God Bless You

Ian F Payne Major

## BOOK THESE DATES



**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
11th & 12th MARCH 2023**

**WE HAVE THE VISIT OF GENERAL BRIAN  
AND COMMISSIONER ROSALIE PEDDLE.**

To commence our 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations, we will be in Rochester Cathedral on the 11<sup>th</sup> for a Service of Celebration at 5:30pm.



**SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

**WE HAVE THE VISIT OF OUR  
TERRITORIAL LEADERS,  
COMMISSIONERS ANTHONY  
& GILLIAN COTTERILL**

## PRAYER REMINDERS



Please pray this prayer:

*Father God, I pray that today you will inspire us and fill each of us with your joy and peace that as we worship in fellowship we will be guided and inspired by your love. By the power of your Holy Spirit, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

- Pray for those who have been bereaved recently and for those who are still coming to terms with the loss of a family member.
- Pray for all those who are unwell, some with chronic long term health problems, some who will be undergoing hospital treatment soon and others suffering from Covid-type symptoms which are very debilitating.
- Pray for our Corps that we will be fully engaged in worship and sharing the Gospel.
- Pray for all those impacted by the situation in the Ukraine and other war-torn places.
- Pray for those who are experiencing financial problems to cover day-to-day living costs that they will not be overwhelmed and will seek help.
- Pray for all those who need our prayers in a special way: the lonely, the bereft, the anxious, the lost.
- Pray for those in positions of authority: in the Corps, in local government, in business, in national government.
- Pray that we will listen to God's call upon our lives and find joy in responding.

*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. If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, please let Jean know.*

## HOLY LAND TOUR 2023

Major Ian & Lt Col Judith, will be leading a Holy Land Tour from **15<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023**. If you are interested, please do let Major Ian know so your names can be added to the list. More details and costs will be shared fairly soon.

## COMMISSIONER GILLIAN COTTERILL

Please can you please remember Gillian Cotterill and the family in your prayers, as Major Ian conducts the Funeral service of Gill's Mum, Maureen, on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> at Ruislip crematorium, 11am. Maureen was a Salvationist at the Regent Hall and a regular attendee to Chatham online. May God comfort and bless Gillian, Michele, Ian and all their respective families.

## NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE - NEW BABY

Amy Smith, who was a member of our Sunday School, and partner Shane are thankful for the safe arrival of their baby son, Ashton, on 26 March. He is also the source of joy to Amy's mum, Lilian Cordner. We give thanks to God for this wonderful gift.

## BAGS OF HOPE

We are giving out 'Bags of Hope' which are very popular. We are requesting donations of **Tinned Potatoes, Tins of Carrots Coffee, Tinned Luncheon Meat Tinned Macaroni**  
Please drop them in the basket in the foyer.  
THANK YOU

## THE SUMMER SCHOOL 2022 APPLICATION

<https://forms.gle/87hjPrm3RL3CCzy67>

A new venue for Summer School 22 is at Kingswood in Ashford, Kent. All those aged between 12-21 can apply. There will also be a Young Leaders' stream for those aged 18+. Grants are available.

For more details contact Anita 07341864278

## TOGETHER 2022 SEE POSTER AT THE HALL

Save the date 15-17 July 2022 for 'Together 2022' in Birmingham at the ICC. This is an opportunity to gather for worship, teaching and celebration encompassing the Commissioning of the Messengers of Reconciliation session, Territorial Congress, Sports Mission and Symphony Sounds. **Details & Ticket info are on the poster at the Hall.**

## **COMMONWEALTH GAMES, BIRMINGHAM** **28<sup>TH</sup> JULY - 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022**

The Commonwealth Games, sometimes referred to as the friendly games, takes place every four years and takes place this year in Birmingham. The games are an international sporting event involving athletes from the Commonwealth of Nations.

Information on how you can join the World Prayer Centre in praying for this event.

Do you sometimes wonder what and how to pray for our world? The world prayer centre is a prayer network who work with a range of people and organisations, bringing together leaders who have a heart for prayer to worship and pray together. Like the prayer network, they believe prayer enables mission and have a desire to support and enable prayer for local, national, and international issues.

Why not visit their website to find information on upcoming prayer events?

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

## **BOOK TICKETS NOW: RIVERBANK CONFERENCE**

Join 'Just imagine!' The Riverbank 2022 Women's Conference (formerly Women and God weekend) is on 10-12 June at a new venue, The Slate Conference Centre at Warwick University, Coventry.

Use the link below to book your places;

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/riverbank-womens-conference>

## **RIDE LONDON:**

### **NEW LOOK, NEW ROUTE, NEW DATE**

Calling all cyclists! Ride London Essex and take on a 100-mile cycle through London and neighbouring Essex with an iconic finish at Tower Bridge. Join Team Sally Army and raise funds for a Salvation Army programme of your choice. [www.salvationarmy.org.uk/cycle/ride-london](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/cycle/ride-london)

## **SA FILM - SURVIVORS OF MODERN SLAVERY**

Check out a new video from our Video Production Unit which explains how The Salvation Army delivers support to survivors of modern slavery through the Government's Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract. 'Sanu' shares his story of exploitation, how he's been helped since police rescued him and what he now hopes for his future. Watch on youtube

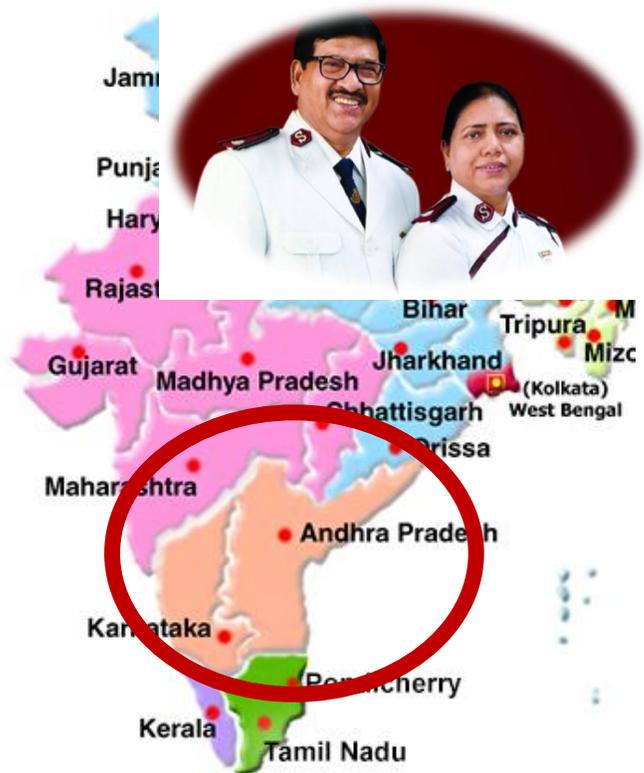
<https://youtu.be/z1RG0VH7C1Y>

## **30 TALLEST BUILDINGS CHALLENGE:**

Sign up for our new challenge to climb the equivalent number of stairs of the tallest building in 30 countries throughout the 30 days of June, to support your corps or a Salvation Army project of your choice. You could even get together a team of people in your corps and set up a bespoke 30 Tallest Buildings Just-Giving page and watch the funds come in! See poster at the end of Chatham Chatter.

## **PRAYING FOR OUR ARMY WORLD**

### **India Central Territory**



### **Territorial leaders:**

### **Colonels Yaqoob and Sumitra Masih** **Prayer requests:**

- Evangeline Booth Hospital opening: This is a core project of the territory, and the hospital building is completed and ready for opening.
- Officer Health (Active and Retired): Most of our officers both active and retired are having various health issues. This year from January five active offic-

ers were PTG and Retired. This is a big concern to the territory.

- Cadets Commissioning "Reconciliation Session" - 7th and 8th May 2022 is the commissioning program
- Territorial Review by IHQ
- Towards Self Support Territory: Territory is striving hard to move forward towards Self Support by the year 2025.

## THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Here is this week's article explaining and giving information on the subject. We are starting with the 2022 watch list and Number 12 in the world is

## Myanmar



### Leader

General Min Aung Hlaing

### How many Christians?

4.4 million (8%)

### Main threats

- Religious nationalism
- Dictatorial paranoia

### How many Christians are there in Myanmar?

The Buddhist-majority country has 4.4 million Christians, which is just 8% of the country's population.

### How are Christians persecuted in Myanmar?

The persecution of Christians in Myanmar has worsened in the wake of the military coup in February 2021.

The army has attacked Christian villages and churches, while leaving Buddhist monasteries untouched, and killed Christian aid workers and pastors. The coup has exacerbated the country's ongoing civil war which was already centralised in Christian-majority state such as Kachin and Shan. More Christians than ever have been forced to live in internally displaced people camps where they are often deprived of food and healthcare.

Between 1962 and 2011, when Myanmar was led by the staunchly-Buddhist military, Christians were systematically persecuted. The coup has not only brought back awful memories for Christians, it's prompted fears that they will be repeated.

Meanwhile, converts continue to experience persecution from their Buddhist, Muslim or tribal families and communities for leaving their former faith. Communities who aim to stay 'Buddhist only' make life for Christian families impossible by not allowing them to use neighbourhood water resources. Non-traditional church groups experience opposition, especially those located in rural areas and/or are known for proselytising.

Christian men in the army find it very difficult to practise their faith, with the army known to impose forced labour on believers to prevent them from attending Sunday services and accessing Christian community. Following the military coup, this control is likely to intensify. Christian men are also often targeted for recruitment into militias.

### Meet 'Shwe Shwe'

*"The situation is hopeless, but the greatest thing we still have is the opportunity to come closer to God and seek Him for the salvation of the lost souls, for peace in the country and hope for the people.*

”SHWE SHWE, A CHRISTIAN IN MYANMAR

### What's life like for Christians in Myanmar?

Shwe Shwe\* works with children and youth in Myanmar. Her words, just a few months after the coup, reflect the challenges of leading others whilst wrestling with personal emotions: "As a Christian worker in Myanmar, I tried not to show my true emotion to our friends and family as people are seeing us as their spiritual leaders. It is a very difficult moment to be a

Christian - and Christian leader as well - in this kind of situation.

“I feel guilty for not joining the protest for justice. I was so confused: should I join the protest or continue the training? I prayed to God, asking if I am doing the right thing. God answered my prayer in our family devotion. I praise God that He cares for me and the people of Myanmar. The answer was Isaiah 55:6: “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near.”

This Bible verse confirms that what I have been doing with the people is right in the eyes of God. \*Name changed for security reasons

### **Is it getting harder to be a Christian in Myanmar?**

Yes. Myanmar is one of the big rises in the latest World Watch List, jumping six places to number 12. The persecution facing Christians in the country was already severe. This has worsened following the military coup - and it may yet get worse. “The military coup is going to be like North Korea,” says one believer. “I have big concern for our future generations.”

#### **PLEASE PRAY**

Heavenly Father, we can't imagine the grief, fear and pain facing our brothers and sisters in Myanmar. Heal the hurting, strengthen the weary, and encourage the fainthearted. Protect Your people and provide for all their needs. Thank You for powerful ways You are working through the church during this difficult time. Do this more and more. Give Christians wisdom, revelation and boldness as they seek to respond to this crisis. Soften the hearts of the military. Amen.

### **ON YOUR DAILY JOURNEY**

As part of your daily devotions let's pray the [A to Z prayer](#). Each day you will have a letter from the alphabet. Use this letter to pray for members of the Corps with this initial, friends, family, neighbours, a Salvation Army Corps and a country of the world. Let's make a difference by praying for each other and wider. Can you imagine the difference that will make?

### **MONDAY PROVERBS 15:1**

*A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

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

Why is it so hard to endure an unjust or unfair criticism? Why do we always have to defend ourselves no matter how ridiculous the charge? Often the problems we have with others simply escalate because we do not choose to forgive and let them go on in the Lord!

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

Precious and Holy God, help me more carefully guard my speech from things you despise, especially gossip, slander, and innuendo. Thank you. Through Jesus' grace. Amen.

### **TUESDAY 1 CHRONICLES 29:11**

*Yours, O 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, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.*

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

Praise is letting God know we recognize him for who he is, what he has done, and what he is doing. But more than informing God of his greatness, praise is rejoicing before him in his greatness and recognizing that not only is his grace without comparison, his majesty and might and holiness and faithfulness and righteousness and mercy and love and forgiveness and justice and ... are without comparison. Praise is thankful celebration that he is God, and even more importantly, that he is our God.

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

Great and Gracious God without comparison, you are truly worthy of my best words and best thoughts and best imaginings. I worship and submit to you, rejoice that you are who you are, celebrate what you have done, and long for what you are yet to do. You are magnificent, my Father and my God. Through Jesus, and because of his matchless love, I praise you. Amen.

### **WEDNESDAY 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11**

*Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

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

While Paul's exhortation here is excellent, it is the style of the exhortation we should especially notice. We live in an age where we are constantly pressured to emphasize the novel, new, or improved versions of things. But in our lives as Christians, we need to remind each other of what we are doing right and just simply say, "Hey, you're doing well, just keep doing what you're doing!"

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

Faithful Father, thank you for noticing and keeping record of the things I've done that are good and pleasing to you. Please help me to keep doing those things that please you, only do them better, that you may be pleased and glorified. In Jesus name. Amen.

### **THURSDAY EPHESIANS 3:17-19**

*I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*

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

Love that surpasses knowledge. That's very difficult to explain, but when you have loved your spouse for decades you experience what this means. When you love a child and do what you never dreamed you could do for another human being, you understand this phrase. And when you stand before God, adopted as a full heir of all his great riches, a full sibling to Jesus Christ the Lord, and know you are seen as holy, without reproach, and blameless, you begin to understand this phrase.

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

Holy and incredible God, help me to know in my soul the love that is greater than words and knowledge so that I may not only be like you, but that I may know you in experience just as I know you in faith. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

### **FRIDAY PSALMS 90:2**

*Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. For a thousand years*

*in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.*

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

So many things about our lives are uncertain. This one thing, however, is sure: no matter where, when, or how long, God will be there and will be with us.

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

Everlasting Father, I find great comfort in knowing that I cannot be in a place or time where you are not. Stir my courage through your Spirit that I may be more bold, by your power and presence, to share the Gospel of Jesus. Through whom I pray. Amen.

### **SATURDAY HABAKKUK 3:19**

*The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights.*

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

"The Lord is my strength!" Wow, what power we have in his abiding and empowering presence in the Holy Spirit.

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

Sovereign God and Almighty Father, be not only my strength, but the strength of those battling depression, grief and despair. I ask your blessings especially and specifically for \_\_\_\_\_ at this time of difficulty and struggle. Through Jesus I ask this. Amen.

### **SUNDAY MATTHEW 7:13-14**

*Jesus said, "Wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*

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

The world wants a Saviour but not a Lord. The New Testament is clear, a Saviour who is not Lord is no Saviour and no friend. If the Old Testament showed us anything, it is that God's seemingly bizarre laws were written not for his fascination but for his people's preservation. Let's not only call Jesus Lord this week, let's live in a way that shows that he controls our lives and his Spirit produces our character.

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

Most Holy Lord, please take control of my life and my will so I may be wholly yours, not just in word, but in thought and in deed as well. Amen.

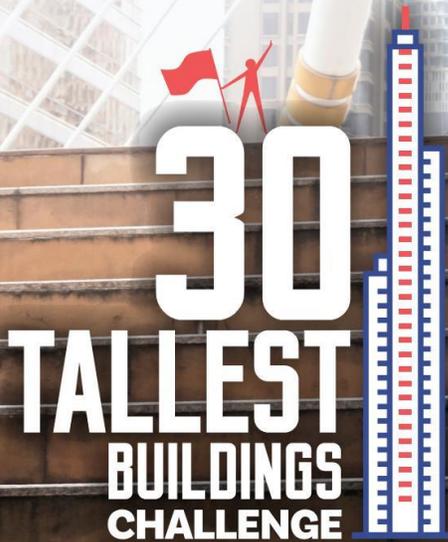


# 'CLIMB' THE TALLEST BUILDING IN 30 COUNTRIES IN 30 DAYS

June 2022

Climb the equivalent height of some of the world's tallest buildings anywhere you like: at home, at the gym, on your favourite flight of steps; all the while raising funds to help individuals and families in need.

For more information and to sign up for your pack, please go to [bit.ly/30TallestBuildingsChallenge](https://bit.ly/30TallestBuildingsChallenge) or scan the QR code below.



Sign up today! Go to:

 [bit.ly/30TallestBuildingsChallenge](https://bit.ly/30TallestBuildingsChallenge)

 or email: [30TallestBuildings@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:30TallestBuildings@salvationarmy.org.uk)

