



Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps

Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

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26th June 2022

My thanks to Captain Jonathan Wiley, Military Chaplain Brompton, for leading worship last Sunday.

Also, thanks to those who attended the leadership away day last Saturday at Maidstone Corps. Firstly, thanks to Lt Col Judith for facilitating and leading us through the day in a way that challenged, blessed and made us think about ourselves, those around us and about our future with God and secondly, thanks to Captain Jonathan Rouffet for the use of the Hall.

This Sunday we are delighted to be a part of and witness the dedication of Isla, some two years late but Covid got in the way of the celebrations. So here we are and we welcome back to Chatham a former Commanding Officer, Major Alec Still, to lead our worship and conduct the dedication ceremony. I am sure we will be blessed in many ways.

Also, this Sunday will be the final meeting for Sue and Peter Willard as they are moving to Southampton to be nearer family. We will have time to thank them publicly on Sunday Morning but here I want to put on record my (and former COs) thanks for their ministry and commitment over the years at Chatham. Both Peter and Sue have been involved in many activities within the Corps but we particularly thank Sue for her work and dedication in Mummy & Me and Mainly Music and Peter in his War Cry Street Ministry (in all weathers) to name just a few. Thank you both and we ask God's blessing on your lives as you move home, for I am sure God will have a ministry for you both in Southampton. God Bless You.

This past week I conducted the funeral service of one of our vulnerable, homeless men, Russell. It was quite a sad occasion as he had been a man known for his power over people, spent most of his life in and out of prison, arrested countless of times and was known by all the police personnel, especially in Medway. At the graveside I gave an opportunity for those present to speak out their memories. Sadly, they were all about the troubled times, drunkenness, etc.

One person said 'One thing about Russell was he always spoke the truth'.

I found that quite challenging as the truth that they were eluding to was totally different to how I, and we, would understand truth. I spoke of the journey we are all on and the choices we make on that journey which affect others and us.

I thought of the scripture verse that says *'Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'* John 8:31-32

I so wish and hope that as I led that service those there will get to understand what the truth means in reality and discover the truth in Christ. What a privilege we have in being able to minister to people in this way.

As we come to this Sunday, I look forward to welcoming you all and family and friends of Mark, Rachel and Isla, especially Major Alec.

As we gather may we sense the presence of God and his blessing.



God Bless You

Ian F Payne Major



**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
11th & 12th
MARCH 2023
THE VISIT OF
GENERAL BRIAN**

AND COMMISSIONER ROSALIE PEDDLE.

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

**SATURDAY &
SUNDAY
18th & 19th
NOVEMBER 2023
THE VISIT OF OUR
TERRITORIAL**

**LEADERS, COMMISSIONERS ANTHONY &
GILLIAN COTTERILL**



SUNDAY 17th JULY

LIVE STREAM CONGRESS

10am COFFEE

10:30 LIVE STREAM

'TOGETHER 2020' Territorial Congress in Birmingham - If you can't be there in person, we hope you will join via livestream on **Sunday 17 July to watch the Commissioning** of the Messengers of Reconciliation (10:30am) and Territorial Celebration meeting (3pm) on Youtube.

Use this QR code to open the link to youtube



We will be streaming the Sunday meeting live at the Hall starting with coffee -10am

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

- Pray for Rachel and Mark as they make the parental promises in the dedication of Isla.
- Pray for Sue and Peter as they have been guided to make this big move to the Southampton area, that they will continue to feel God's hand upon them.
- Pray for the homeless people in this area and for those suffering from addictions that somehow they will be guided to seek the Lord and know His loving presence.
- Pray for those suffering from Covid symptoms and others who are suffering from other chronic long term health problems.
- Pray for peace in Ukraine and other war-torn countries. Pray for the Salvation Army

in Ukraine that their members will be kept safe as they provide help to those who need it.

- Pray for those who are struggling with financial problems in these times of increased costs of food and fuel.
- Pray for all those who need our prayers in a special way: the lonely, the bereft, the anxious, the lost.
- Pray for the SA Cadets who are preparing for their commissioning on 17 July.

Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on jeanm1938@gmail.com or text on 07787718273. If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, please let Jean know.

FROM DHQ YOUTH OPPORTUNITY



The South East Division have created an exciting opportunity for Divisional Youth Development Workers to join our DHQ team working along-

side you to help develop youth work in your Corps. Please use QR code for details: Closing date is 28th June.

THE SUMMER SCHOOL 2022 APPLICATION

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

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

BAGS OF HOPE YOUR HELP NEEDED

We are requesting donations of **Packets of Cereals, Jam, Nappies (not newborn), Packet Soups, Sugar, Crisps, tinned custard.**

Please drop them in the basket in the foyer. THANK YOU or let Trevor know.

SA PAPERS

A huge **THANK YOU** to Joan West, who for a number of years has carried out the role of dealing with the weekly SA papers - a job in the background, making sure you got your papers each week. Joan, thank you for your service in this way.

From July 1st Gill will be organising the weekly papers and a monthly invoice will be emailed to those that do not pay annually, giving details of how to pay by bank transfer which is preferred. You can still pay by cash/cheque and hand into the Office for Gill to administrate.

DIVISIONAL - FRESH EXPRESSIONS HUB

The South East Division is hosting the first Fresh Expressions Hub Day scheduled for Saturday 2nd July at Bognor Regis Salvation Army. This is for all those who want to explore fresh ways of ministry within The Salvation Army. There is a poster with the details at the end of the Chatter.

MEDWAY 'WALK FOR PEACE DAY'

Saturday 2nd July Starting at 12:30pm.

'Walk for Peace Medway' is an annual event with different themes, organised by Medway Inter Faith Action (MIFA), to promote the principal need for Peace and Unity amongst people of different cultures, race, faiths and none. We will walk together from the Naval War Memorial in Chatham after a Peace Service presented by the representatives of many faiths and none. Then proceed as the map shows (Additional Attachment to the email)

MIFA are inviting the local charities, places of worship, community groups, schools, residents and like-minded people to participate in the event.

PRAYING FOR OUR ARMY WORLD

Indonesia Territory



Territorial leaders:

Colonels Yusak and Widiawati Tampai

Prayer requests:

1. We thank God for answering our prayers towards challenges in performing our ministries in the territory
2. Pray for the visit of the International Secretary and ZPWM for SPEA, Commissioners Wayne and Robyn Maxwell in August 2022; including the activities that will take place while they are in Indonesia
3. Pray for the changes in the Education and Training for the Cadets which will begin in the middle of this year. The second year Cadets will undergo a year of practice outside the Training College. Hoping the changes bring a good impact on the Cadets during their education and training period
4. Pray for the Principal of the Training College, the Staff and Officers, who will accept the Cadets in practice since they are very influential in supervising and responsible for preparing the Cadets to become Officers
5. Pray for the development of the Salvation Army ministries in Eastern Indonesia
6. Pray for the Officers and Salvationists to continue echoing the importance of living in holiness and being able to apply it in the ministry and family.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Here is this week's article explaining and giving information on the subject.

Qatar

World Watch ranking: 18



Leader

Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani

Main threats

- Islamic oppression
- Clan oppression

How many Christians are there in Qatar?

Of Qatar's population of 2.8 million, about 372,000 people are Christian - including many migrant workers.

How are Christians persecuted in Qatar?

The level of persecution you face as a Christian in Qatar depends largely on whether you are Qatari or not. Most of the Christians in Qatar are migrant workers from other countries: these believers face pressure and discrimination, and their churches are often heavily monitored by the government, but they are freer to worship.

It's a different story for indigenous believers. Life is much more difficult for them. A new believer is likely to face extreme pressure from their Muslim family

and community, if their Christian faith is discovered. Christian women and girls are particularly vulnerable to having their freedoms severely curtailed by the Muslim families - including house arrest without access to outside communication.

Qatar doesn't officially recognise conversion from Islam, which causes loss of status and legal difficulties concerning property and child custody. Similarly, a Christian from a Muslim background isn't permitted to marry a non-Muslim.

Meet 'Pastor Samuel'

"We are limited in evangelising too openly. But nobody can stop us from talking to our fellow workers and witnessing to them in our everyday lives." PASTOR SAMUEL, A MIGRANT WORKER IN QATAR

What's life like for Christians in Qatar?

Pastor Samuel* is a migrant worker in Qatar. He can worship as a Christian - but his underground work is forbidden: telling Qataris about Jesus.

Pastor Samuel also secretly encourages other foreign Christians to share the gospel. One evening, one of the seven men he's discipling says that he is fearful of doing so - understandably. Pastor Samuel responds: "Fear is always reminding me of the strength there is in the Word of God. Real courage is to totally depend on Him."

Pastor Samuel recognises that Christians can have a hard time witnessing in Qatar. "In this Muslim country, we are limited in evangelising too openly. But nobody can stop us from talking to our fellow workers and witnessing to them in our everyday lives. Every day God gives us opportunities to show His love to others.

"Many of those we've encountered in Qatar testified that they came to the country for the opportunity to earn

more, but God had a greater plan. They encountered the King of kings and the Lord of the lords, who does not only provide them with a 'better life' but with life everlasting."

**Name changed for security reasons*

Is it getting harder to be a Christian in Qatar?

It is getting harder: Qatar is one of the countries that rose the most on the World Watch List, compared to last year. It has jumped 11 places. The main reason was an increase in violence, and most house churches having to stay closed.

Services for foreign migrant workers are permitted at a designated compound. As it is too small for the expatriate Christian community, the government had previously unofficially accepted this community meeting in house churches. These had to close during the most intense Covid-19 restrictions - and have not been permitted to re-open when the restrictions were broadly lifted.

How can I help Christians in Qatar?

Please keep praying for your brothers and sisters in Qatar. Your prayers make an enormous difference to those following Jesus no matter the cost.

Open Doors supports the church on the Arabian Peninsula by organising prayer, distributing Scripture resources, and training believers and pastors.

PLEASE PRAY

Almighty God, we thank You for Your presence with Your people in Qatar. We ask you to bless, strengthen and comfort them in times of trials, and whenever it seems like there is no hope or way out. Please protect our brothers and sisters, and grow Your church in Qatar. Use the FIFA 2022 World Cup to draw attention to the challenges facing Qatar's Christians and bring about greater religious freedom. 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 JAMES 1:21

Get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Isn't it true! When we find ourselves caught in the clutches of the moral filth of our culture, we find the word of God boring and irrelevant. Yet even in those moments when Satan uses sin to harden our hearts, God's Spirit calls us to change at a level deeper than just the mere understanding of the words of Scripture. Thank God for his Spirit, which can use his word like a surgeon's scalpel on our hearts.

H - MY PRAYER ...

Holy God, I pledge to you today to willingly and decisively give up the immoral habits in my life. I recognize that these not only offend your holiness and grace, but also harden me to your will, pull me away from your character, and blunt my witness to others. Please forgive me and then sustain me as I seek to live a life wholly pleasing to you. In Jesus I pray. Amen.

TUESDAY COLOSSIANS 2:9-10

In Christ, all the fullness of the Deity lives bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

If you had known Jesus' address in Nazareth along about A.D. 20, you could have gone to that house and said, "God lives here!" The doctrine of Jesus as fully God and fully man, fully God and yet having emptied himself of all of his divine privilege, is nearly impossible to fully understand, but is the awesome reality of Grace. God chose to be like us because we could not be like him. So in Jesus, God came to us so we could be given his fullness.

I - MY PRAYER ...

Almighty God, I confess that you are too great for me to comprehend. Yet as marvellous and mighty and majestic as you are, your grace is greater still. Thank you for sending Jesus so I could know you. Thank you for sending Jesus so I could be forgiven. Thank you for sending Jesus so I can go home to you and live forever. Thank you, Jesus, for coming to redeem me and then returning to the Father so I can speak to him through you. Amen.

WEDNESDAY ROMANS 1:16

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

For the rich and poor, young and old, weak or strong, skinny or fat, there is still just one message and one name and one story that makes the eternal difference -- it is the Gospel, the story of Jesus Christ.

J - MY PRAYER ...

Great Redeemer, make me more bold to proclaim the Gospel today. Give me eyes to see those who are waiting to be told. Fill me up with your Spirit so that I will not be ashamed, and help me gladly proclaim the story of Jesus so others may know your grace. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

THURSDAY PSALMS 119:7

I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws.

New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Praise is integrally connected with our character. So, for us to worship God, the intent of our heart and the effort of our life must show forth a determined desire to know and live his will. While we will never do this perfectly, grace covers us. But grace must never be used as a pretence to excuse spiritual laziness or intentional weakness.

K - MY PRAYER ...

Holy God, I want to be more like you in character even though I will never be like you in might or majesty. Open my eyes and through the Spirit illumine me as I seek your will in your Scriptures and as I seek to be obedient in my daily life. Forgive me of my sin and create a clean, holy, determined heart. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

FRIDAY ISAIAH 41:10

[The Lord says,] *"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Fear saps our will power and leaves us feeling depleted and hopeless. Yet very few of us have ever experienced a defeat so complete and bitter as the one God's people faced when Isaiah shared this message of hope. The preservation of Israel to the time of Jesus, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, the triumph of the Church through centuries of persecution and opposition are powerful reminders that underneath us are the everlasting arms of a mighty and loving God.

L - MY PRAYER ...

Almighty and Eternal Father, it is such sweet comfort to know that you are always there. Thank you! In Jesus name. Amen.

mind, and strength. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

SATURDAY 1 JOHN 1:7

If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

As we seek to please God and trust his grace, more grace is supplied. While Jesus' death was "once for all," its cleansing power goes on and on as long as our hearts are tuned to his grace.

M - MY PRAYER ...

Loving Father, thank you for the gift of Jesus and the cleansing his death brings me. Help me today to live a more dedicated life. Thank you for the assurance that as I seek your will and live your life you are also forgiving me of my sins and cleansing me and making me new. Through Jesus I offer this thanks. Amen.

SUNDAY PSALMS 119:30

I have chosen the way of truth; I have set my heart on your laws.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

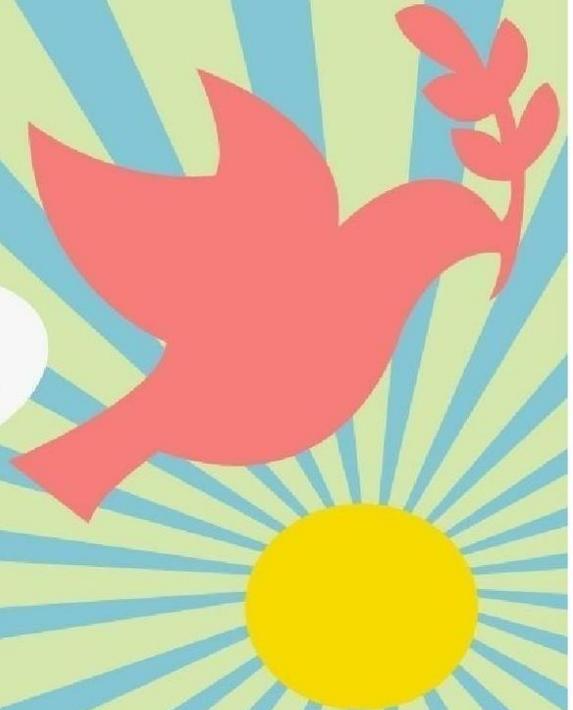
Jesus reminded us to "pick up your cross daily and follow" him. The way of truth is a daily choice. To not choose God's way, to not intentionally seek to put him at the centre of our life and as the top priority in all of our decisions, is to slip a little bit further away from the life he calls us to lead. Lack of a decision is a decision to not follow.

N - MY PRAYER ...

Heavenly Father, I choose to follow you and your truth today. Open my eyes so I may see your truth and open my heart that I may live it. I decide today, again, to follow, you with all my heart, soul,

WALK FOR PEACE MEDWAY

Saturday
2nd July 2022



Walking for the Love of Peace

12:30 - 17:30

**Visiting; Chatham Naval Memorial (12:30), Byron Rd
Gurdwara (13:40), KMWA Mosque (14:50), Gillingham
High St. Nr Post Office (15:40), St Mark's Church (16:00)**

**With Entertainments including; Presentations,
Speeches, Cultural Dance & Musics**

**Everyone Is Warmly Welcome to Join the
Event at Any Point**

www.medwayinterfaith.org.uk

www.peacewalkmedway.uk

Medway Inter Faith Action



Fresh Expressions Hub

South East Division

For those who want to explore fresh ways of ministry within The Salvation Army.

Open to corps officers, leadership teams and individuals, along with your families.

Sat 2nd July 2022, 12pm-4pm

Bognor Regis Salvation Army

Canada Grove | Bognor Regis | PO21 1QL

Facilitated by
Major Sarah Butler
Fresh Expression Mission Enabler (South East)



If interested in attending, please email
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Fresh Expressions
South East Division

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