



Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps

Corps Officer Major Ian F Payne

ian.payne@salvationarmy.org.uk 07813949773 Corps website: www.chathamsa.org.uk

31st July 2022

Where has this year gone? We are now into the summer holidays and, unlike previous years, WE ARE NOT STOPPING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP during August. As we are away on the 7th and the 14th, I am grateful to CSM Paul who will be covering the worship on these dates. On 21st and 28th we will be looking at the Psalms. Therefore, join with us in the hall or online at www.chathamsa.org.uk. Those going on holiday I trust you will have the opportunity to experience R&R (Rest and recuperation).

Thursday last (28th) saw the commencement of the Commonwealth Games. A lot of preparation by 100s of athletes; exercise, food and training to be the best they can be. It got me thinking about us as Christians. Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth saying *'Do you not know that in a race all the runners run but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last but we do it to get a crown that will last for ever'. 1 Corinthians 9:24/25*

We are all in that race, no two athletes are the same. Life regimes are different. Like us as Christians, we are all aiming for the same prize but all in different ways. So how are you as a Christian athlete? God knows. Come and join in worship together as we consider these facts; 'Running for Jesus and the prize'

I look forward to seeing many of you on Sunday morning and many of you at the quarters for the BBQ at 3pm on Sunday



God Bless You

Ian F Payne
Major

THE GENERAL'S COMING



SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
11th & 12th MARCH
2023
THE VISIT OF GENERAL BRIAN AND COMMISSIONER ROSALIE PEDDLE.

AND COMMISSIONER ROSALIE PEDDLE.
Draft details Note timings may change;

CHATHAM 150TH ANNIVERSARY 2023 SATURDAY 11TH MARCH

10am - 12:15 General & Commissioner Arrives at Chatham Hall

Received by Commanding Officer Major Ian F Payne, Corps Locals & Divisional Leaders Morning to include;

Corps Welcome and dedication of the weekend, coffee morning and Exhibition

4pm - 4:45pm Territorial Leaders arrive at Rochester Baptist Church followed by General & Commissioner Peddle Official Civic Welcome by Mayor of Medway Cllr Jan Aldous and others.

Corps members, Past Officers & special guests in attendance

5pm March - General & Commissioner & Dignitaries from RBC to Rochester Cathedral.

5:15pm Outside - Welcomed at the Cathedral by the Dean of the Cathedral

5:30 - 7:30pm Commencement of Service of Celebration (Ticket Required)

SUNDAY 12TH MARCH

10am Commencement of Morning Worship (live streamed)

11:30 Refreshments served - Bradbury room

3:30 - 5:30pm Praise Meeting. All Corps in area invited (live streamed)

FURTHER 150th ANNIVERSARY INFO

WELCOME HOME WEEKEND

**SATURDAY &
SUNDAY
18th & 19th
NOVEMBER 2023**



THE VISIT OF OUR
TERRITORIAL LEADERS, COMMISSIONERS
ANTHONY & GILLIAN COTTERILL.

Former members & friends of the Corps will be invited back to share this weekend with us. Do you know some names and addresses? Share them so we can invite those friends back.

SPIRIT 'The Musical'



As part of our **150th Anniversary** - we would like to produce the iconic SA musical 'SPIRIT' by Gowans and Larsson. If you are interested in 'getting involved' - there are many roles, singing, stage management, props, musician, etc: - please contact Charlie Gouyet. You may have been in it first time round, well here's another chance. We are looking to run the production during Holy Week 2023.



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

- During this holiday period, help us to find ways of appreciating being grateful for all that God provides for us.
- Pray for all those who need our prayers in a special way: the lonely, the bereft, the anxious, the lost and ask God to guide us in finding ways to help.
- Pray for those suffering from Covid symptoms and others who are suffering from other chronic long term health problems like Parkinson's.
- Pray for the successful planning and participation in the visit of General Brian and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle next March.
- Pray for those members of our Corps who have not returned to worship with us following lockdown, that they will have confidence to join with us again and be a part of our congregation in worship.
- Pray for those who are struggling with financial problems in these times of increased costs of food and fuel.

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.

There will be no CHATHAM CHATTER for weeks 7th, 14th & 21st August

SUNDAY 31st July BBQ

BBQ AT THE QUARTERS IS BACK! on Sunday from 3pm. Just bring yourselves (**& a CHAIR**). BBQ will be provided; Chicken/Burger. Let Major Ian or Gill know if you have any food fads! We will be asking for a donation to cover costs. Bring a chair and conversation. Look forward to welcoming you back to this popular event.

CORPS HISTORY DOCUMENTS

MONDAY 15TH – FRIDAY 19TH AUGUST

As part of our preparation for our 150th Corps Anniversary next year, we will be holding an exhibition of our history, mainly thanks to Peter Wood who kept, recorded, filmed everything, for which we are very grateful. Now it all needs putting into a format that can be used practically.

Floss (Scott) is leading on this project to digitalise all the documents, which is a **HUGE** task. Therefore, on the days noted above between 10am - 3pm on each day, we would like as many people as possible to come and help record these documents and photos. All you need is a smart phone and all will be revealed. Refreshments will be available. If you can only give 1 hour that would be most helpful. Please let Gill know when you are available. It is an enormous task and needs all hands on deck. So, you young people with nothing to do over the summer break, why not get involved?! If you require further information, please do ask Floss or Major Ian.

1ST AUGUST - 30TH INCLUSIVE

THERE WILL BE NO ACTIVITIES AT THE HALL APART FROM THE ARTICLE ABOVE RE DIGITALISING HISTORY DOCUMENTS; SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP AND TAKE-AWAY MEALS ON TUESDAY EVENINGS. ALL ACTIVITIES RECOMMENCE ON WEDNESDAY 31ST WITH OUR ONE-STOP HUB

PRAYING FOR OUR ARMY WORLD

Finland and Estonia Territory



Territorial leaders: Colonels Anne-Dore and Patrick Naud

Prayer requests:

2022 in Finland, TSA celebrates '100 years of Women's Ministries':

- Please, pray that this year will be a good opportunity for new engagements of young people and in the mission towards women and families. ▪ ... for the very special women's conference planned on 14-15 October in Helsinki
- ... for a great celebration meeting in Helsinki Temple with special guests, Salvationists and friends of Finland & Estonia on 15 October in the afternoon After this long Covid-19 pandemic which is still going on...
- Please, pray that officers be strengthened and encouraged to develop new mission opportunities and ministries for all generations Please, pray:
 - For new people coming to faith in corps, outposts and in social units
 - For new members taking commitments as soldiers, junior soldiers, local officers, and adherents
 - For new candidates and cadets
 - For the development of our strategy in order to find new ways of creative and innovative activities



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHATHAM CORPS?

LET RYAN HAVE YOUR IDEAS

Meanwhile, the authorities continue to systematically close protestant churches. Thirteen churches that had been forcibly closed remain shut, whilst another three have since been closed.

Most Christians are converts from Islam and face strong opposition from their family and community. This can involve harassment, beatings, forced marriage, imprisonment, even death. The hostility is especially acute in the rural and religiously more conservative parts of the country. In the 1990s, these regions acted as a stronghold for Islamist insurgents in the fight against the government.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

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

Algeria



World Watch ranking: 22

Leader

President Abdelmadjid Tebboune

Main Threats

- Islamic oppression

How many Christians are there in Algeria?

There are around 134,000 Christians in Algeria, making them a tiny minority in the country (0.3%). The majority of people are Muslim.

How are Christians persecuted in Algeria?

Algeria's tiny population of Christians are facing increasing obstacles to religious freedom. Laws regulating non-Muslim worship ban anything that would 'shake the faith of a Muslim' or be used as 'a means of seduction intending to convert a Muslim to another religion'. Consequently, Christians are acutely vulnerable to prosecution under blasphemy and proselytising charges.

Meet Pastor Rachid

"This is purely an attack against us Algerian Christians and the churches'" PASTOR RACHID

[Read Pastor Rachid's story](#)

What's life like for Christians in Algeria?

The closure of churches and clampdown on activities that could offend, or seek to convert, Muslims are two of the key reasons that Algeria is number 22 on the World Watch List.

These pressures are epitomised in the troubles facing Pastor Rachid. He leads a church and runs a bookshop that sells Bibles and other Christian books. In February 2021, he and his assistant Nouh were convicted of proselytising and selling books that 'shake the faith of Muslims'. They were fined and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. This was later reduced on appeal to one-year suspended sentences. The two men continue to appeal the verdict.

Rachid's church was also forcibly closed and sealed in July 2021 - one of 16 across the country in recent years.

PLEASE PRAY

Father God, thank You that, even if churches are closed, nothing can stand in the way of Your children knowing and loving You. Please speak clearly and tenderly to our brothers and sisters who struggle to worship together, and who face such terrible persecution from their families and communities. Provide ways for Christians to worship together and to share the good news of the gospel, and bring breakthrough in places of authority so that laws and regulations opposing Christian practice will be overturned. 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 PHILIPPIANS 1:21

To me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

The truth is often as simple as it is sweet - if Jesus is our life, then our life has no end.

O - MY PRAYER ...

Eternal God, thank you for sending Jesus to show me your love and thank you for sending him again soon to take me home. He is my anchor in the storms of life and my light in the darkest nights, reminding me that you love me with an undying love. Through him I pray. Amen.

TUESDAY 1 JOHN 5:12

He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

This statement is both a reminder of God's glorious grace and also of our need to share that grace with others.

P - MY PRAYER ...

Father of all nations, resurrect in your people a desire to spread your grace to every language, tribe, nation, and people. Empower us with your Spirit so we will speak the Gospel of Jesus with boldness and respect to a world that does not know him. Use us to help others come to life in the Son! Through whom we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY JOHN 6:29

Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: To believe in the one he has sent."

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Do you believe in Jesus? Do you really believe? Shortly after Max Lucado came back from his mission work in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, he shared with a group of his closest friends that his theology was pretty simple. He didn't have a

handle on a lot of the big difficult theological problems that divide folks. But Max said he came to the firm and deep conviction that God loves us and he showed that love by sending Jesus to live among us, to die for us, and to be raised from the dead so we could, too. This is the work of God - amazingly simple and awesomely powerful.

Q, R - MY PRAYER ...

Holy God, I do believe that Jesus came to earth, died, and was raised from the dead. Please help me show and share that message with those around me looking to find hope and help. Holy Spirit, open my eyes to those around me who are searching. Father, I want so much to share in your work, please help me as I rededicate myself to it today. Through Jesus, my Saviour, I pray. Amen.

THURSDAY GALATIANS 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Wouldn't it be great if we could tear down all the walls that divide us - racial, social, and gender. The apostle Paul spent his entire life trying to do just that, to tear down the walls that divided people by bringing them to Jesus and the cross. There are no positions of superiority or inferiority at the foot of the cross, only those who discover God's might displayed in sacrifice and God's love displayed in the face of human cruelty. While the forces of culture and human selfishness are always finding ways to divide us, we must remember that in Jesus, and only in Jesus, we can be one.

S - MY PRAYER ...

Forgive me, O God, when I have let prejudice and suspicion keep me from fully loving those whom you have claimed as your children. I pray that my life will be an example of redemption and unity as I seek to love your children as you do. Through him whose dying prayer was for unity, I pray. Amen.

FRIDAY EPHESIANS 2:19

"You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household."

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Those of us who have been Christians a long time sometimes forget that we have no claim or right to the grace we have received. When we

feel we deserve it, that it is ours by right, it is no longer grace and we no longer have it. To be a part of God's family is grace. Our lives are a gift from the Holy One who spoke into existence the universe (in which we are) and who knows how to share and love in ways we can't even imagine.

T, U - MY PRAYER ...

For the incredible and boundless love you have given to me, O Almighty God, I can only fall to my knees and thank you. Your power is beyond my comprehension. Your awesome holiness is beyond my understanding. Yet your infinite grace is mine because of your love, which cost you so much. "Thank you. A million times over I say it, "Thank you!" Through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

Saturday 2 Timothy 1:13-14

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you -- guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

We live in a world of keys, locks, alarms, and security systems. Paul's words here, shouldn't come as a surprise to us. The things that are most valuable to us we protect. What is more precious to us than the truth of God's saving grace in the Gospel. Thankfully, God has pre-wired all of us with a security system to help protect that incredibly precious hope. This security system lives in us. It is the Holy Spirit.

V, W - MY PRAYER ...

Help me, O God, to not compromise your truth to legalism or license. I want to live, and show others how to live, a holy life. I want to share with them your grace and mercy. But most of all Father, I want them to join with me in welcoming Jesus when he returns. Please empower me by your Spirit to see through falsehood and error and protect and live your truth. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

SUNDAY MATTHEW 28:18-20

[Jesus said,] "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE ...

Last words. The last words of a parent to a child leaving for college. The last words of a loved one at the bedside of someone dying. The last words of a friend before moving to a distant place. These last words are chosen with care because they leave a lasting impact. Jesus' last words are our marching orders. "Go make disciples of all peoples! To do this," he emphasized, "you must go where they are, baptize them, and then teach them to do what I taught you to do." Not hard to understand, so what are we doing about obeying those last commands?

X, Y, Z - MY PRAYER ...

Father from whom all peoples derive their hope, use your Spirit to rouse within me a passion to share your grace with all peoples. Nudge me out of my safety zone and call me into your empowering and sacrificial grace so that I help others come to know you. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.