

## Ramsgate Salvation Army

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021

A warm welcome as we gather as the family of God today, especially if you are not normally with us on a Sunday. May we all feel the welcome of God and each other.

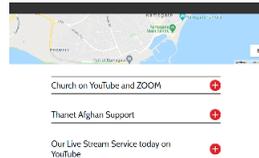
**We meet at The Salvation Army Hall Sunday 10.30 am.**

**Also Sunday worship is** livestreamed on  **YouTube**

You can find a link on the Ramsgate Salvation Army page

[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate)

click on the plus icon and it will take you to a link for today's service



Or go to the Ramsgate Salvation Army YouTube page and click on the "live" link on the channel content. You can watch again at any time.

**THIS YEAR 2,662 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN RESCUED FROM MODERN SLAVERY.**



"Despite the rise in the number of people who have been rescued this year, we are worried that many more across the country are still trapped in slavery unable to escape. We can all help fight modern slavery by raising the alarm if we are worried that something is wrong."

**Modern Slavery confidential 24/7 helpline:  
0800 808 3733.**

Major Kathy Betteridge, Director of Anti Trafficking and Modern Slavery



## What's happening at Ramsgate Salvation Army?

Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	WORSHIP - Salvation Army Hall Featuring an interview with Emma our very own Anti-Trafficking First Responder ....and we say farewell to Claire
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Sunday school –

Carl and Heather are at are **Officers Councils in Harrogate** Monday to Wednesday, visiting family in Manchester on Thursday and then at WBC for a **Natural Church Development Seminar** Friday to Sunday

We will take the opportunity for our volunteers to have a holiday this week – **so our normal activities will (mostly) stop** for the week.

Wednesday (7 pm)

Band practice

Thursday

Forward Trust using hall

Thursday

Support the Mayor with the monthly Litter Pick. Meet at the Salvation Army Hall (Jacqueline will open and host the event)

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>

**DON'T FORGET CLOCKS GO BACK**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> (10.30 am)

Sunday Worship and Sunday School  
**SONGS OF PRAISE**

A promotional poster for a "Table Top and Bric a Brac sale" at the Ramsgate Salvation Army High Street Ramsgate. The poster is red and white with green accents. It features the text: "Ramsgate Salvation Army High Street Ramsgate invite you to our Table Top and Bric a Brac sale (Tables available at £6 07752215789) Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Christmas gifts Home made cakes & preserves Tea and Coffee Late Breakfast & Light Lunch". There are images of a coffee cup and a plate of food at the bottom.

**Our next Saturday sale is on 6<sup>th</sup> November.**

Why not book a stall (£6) or encourage a friend or neighbour to come and run a stall.

Make some cakes....and distribute some leaflets.

See Pauline for more details

## Birthdays

Mavis	Harden	24-October
Sue	James	24-October
Mark	Martin	24-October
Dacia	Matias	26-October



## **Prayers please for**

For **Ben and Den, Kenny** and the rest of the family as they prepare for the funeral of **David Anderson**.

For **David Miles** as he recovers at home from his surgery. Pray that he will receive good news for the second part of the operation.

For **David Richards** who is at last recovering at home.

For **Isobel** following her time in QEQM this week – thankfully now home. For **Archie** who has been unwell this week. Continue to pray for his and against the breathing complications he is suffering from

For **Val**, following the loss of her beloved dog **Lucky** and her short admission to hospital

For **Jan Penfold** and **John McCairn** waiting for medical treatment.

For **Val's** brother-in-law Peter, and her neighbour Dereck – both in hospital.

For **Sharon Goodyer** following her operation recovering at home.

For **Paul Wales** now being cared for by his sister Kim in South London

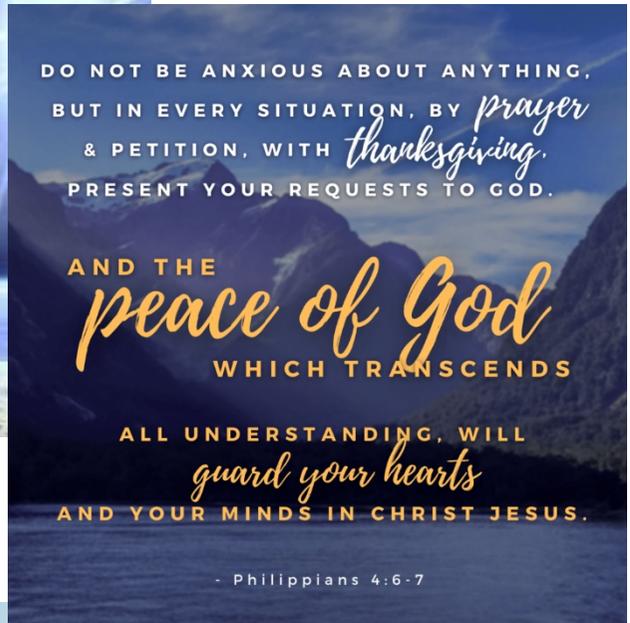
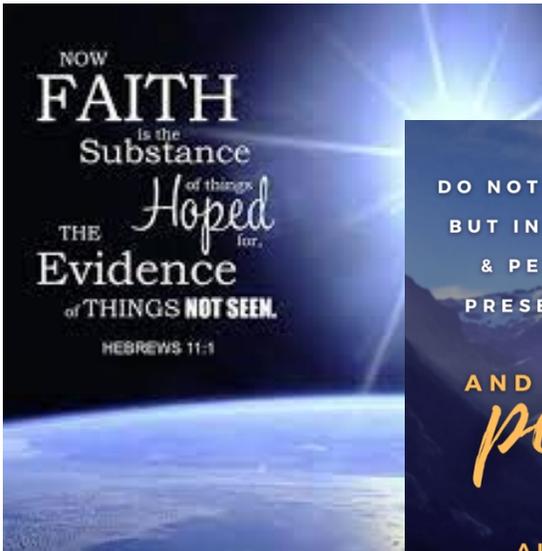
For **Paul**, friend of Douglas, diagnosed with a terminal illness.

For Jacqueline's friends **August** who has lost sight in one eye and has an ulcer in the other eye and **Sue** suffering respiratory problems.

For the daughter of Pauline's friend **Norah**, For Sue Layton's relation **Barry** battling with MND, For **Sandy** who has recently lost her husband, continued prayers for **Jean Mayton**. For **Paul** and **Sue Taylor**.

For all those suffering from **Long Covid** – which include some in our church family.

As we wish Claire every blessing for her future ministry with Philip and our friends in Margate Salvation Army she leaves us these verses. Thankyou Claire, they are powerful reminders of our Great God.



## A County Lines Psalm

*County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where the drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend.*

The gang leader is my shepherd, I shall not ask.  
He makes me lie down in unheated flats;  
He leads me beside needle-strewn stairwells;  
He enslaves my soul.  
He leads me down windswept streets  
For his own profit.  
As I walk down the darkest alley,  
I feel evil; For he is with me;  
My phone and my stash, they cling to me.  
He prepares every deal for me in the presence of my enemies;  
My head it drips with sweat;  
My water bottle is empty.  
Surely ruthlessness and cruelty  
shall stalk me  
All the days of my life,  
And I shall live in an  
unfurnished home  
My whole short life



**DAN, 16, HAS BEEN STABBED AND FORCED TO SELL DRUGS MILES AWAY FROM HOME.**

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT #COUNTYLINES**

**NCA** NATIONALCRIMEAGENCY.GOV.UK/COUNTYLINES  
National Crime Agency

Psalms 23 has perhaps a greater recognition than any other piece of scripture and it is not hard to see why.

Its sparse words offer huge solace to fearful people.

Though we try to look to others as though we are not afraid, many of us live with this vulnerability.

Psalms 23 is an anchor in an anxious world. Getting in touch with nature is a way of soothing trouble, so the Psalmist's reference to 'green pastures' and 'still waters' quickly help. But we should be careful not to think God only meets us in nice views. There is ambiguity in Psalms 23 too, in talk of the 'darkest valley' and 'the presence of my enemies'.

Some live only with the ever-present fear of other people, who inhabit their waking moments like a shadow over their shoulders. Girls and women running county lines are frequently in the company of those who commit casual violence. Fear stalks each day.

It is not God's will for people to endure this pain, so we have a rallying cry from heaven. Our first instinct may be to avert our eyes from suffering, but Jesus tilted into distress in his earthly life and in our prayer life he calls us to the same.

True intercessory prayer doesn't skate over the frozen surface of others' pain; it breaks the ice and sits in the freezing water until pain is felt. It's the point at which intercession begins to kick in, if we have the endurance to stay the course.

### **For Reflection**

What feelings do you have after reading the County Lines Psalm?

What should our intercession look like as we pray for those caught up in county lines?

How can we make life in our communities more attractive than life in a gang?

How can we make the alternative better?

Lord, you are a shepherd to those who are fearful and lost.

We pray for those who walk streets they don't know to meet people they don't trust.

May your goodness and mercy overtake those who are afraid of the only shadow they see, to restore souls that have been stolen.

For Jesus' sake we pray.

Amen.

## Steep rise in modern day slaves forced into crime during pandemic

The number of people rescued from modern slavery after being forced to commit crimes rose by more than half (62%) in 12 months, according to a new report released by The Salvation Army on Anti-Slavery Day.

Over the last ten years, The Salvation Army and its partners have helped more than 15,000 adult survivors through the Government's Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract. Specialist support workers provide safe places to stay and help to get medical care, counselling and legal advice.

From July 2020 to June 2021, a total of 2662 survivors of modern slavery in England and Wales were referred to The Salvation Army for help. Of these, 470 had been forced to commit crimes such as growing or dealing drugs, begging, and shoplifting.

Dan (not his real name) was an 18-year-old warehouse apprentice when the new head of security at his work forced him to deal drugs. He says: "I didn't want anything to do with it, but I was told I would lose my job if I didn't. When I couldn't pay him back for the drugs, he went to my parents' house and smashed it up. He also took all my wages and used my identity in fraud. He said he'd shoot me if I did a runner without paying, but I was too scared to go to the police because I didn't know there was help for me. He beat me up

so badly that I've lost most of the teeth at the back of my mouth, had broken ribs and need an operation for a damaged knee.

"I was finally rescued when the police raided my work after a tipoff. Then someone from The Salvation Army drove me to a safehouse hundreds of miles away. I stayed there for months because it was too dangerous to go home, but they made me feel that things were going to be OK. They treated me with respect and built up my confidence. With their help, I've found a job and I'm studying for a degree."

Forced labour, where people are made to work in places like farms, factories, building sites and restaurants for little or no pay remains the most common way survivors were exploited, with 1,030 referred to The Salvation Army this year. There were also 647 survivors of sexual exploitation and 187 who had been domestic slaves.

Major Kathy Betteridge, The Salvation Army's Director of Anti Trafficking and Modern Slavery said: "Behind these statistics are real people who have had their freedom stolen and been used and abused as mere commodities. They come to us fearful and traumatised with nowhere else to turn for help.

"The perpetrators often target the most vulnerable in our society: those in poverty, people who are homeless, those with mental health problems and those with addictions. And, we fear that the economic fallout from the pandemic will put even more people at risk of falling prey to modern slavery.

"Despite the number of people that have been rescued this year, many more across the country are still trapped in slavery unable to escape. We can all help fight modern slavery by raising the alarm if we are worried that something is wrong."

Anyone who is a victim of modern slavery or is concerned about someone else can contact The Salvation Army's confidential 24/7 referral advice line on 0800 808 3733.



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