CHALK FARM CORPS SUNDAY NEWSLETTER



Christ has overcome the world

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

(John 16: 33)

In this issue we celebrate all the blessings of Advent and Christmas, recognising how God has been at work in our busy community programmes and worship life.

During this period the starkness of the 'trouble' of this world was contrasted with the peace of God and His overcoming. Many came to our doors for help; those alone and needing a listening ear; the homeless and despondent; those in deep financial crisis and alike. From food and toy parcels to Christmas carol services and the band playing on the streets we aimed to bring about the peace of God in a troubled world and a message of 'overcoming' through Christ.

God's incarnation is a truth that God understands our 'trouble' in a troubled world.

As we moved through to Epiphany, we considered what we might bring to God as the Magi did long ago. For many, after in the intense run up to Christmas, the New Year became a time of re-commitment and contemplation as to what 2023 would hold.

We find ourselves moving through Lent with our period of Self Denial and deep reflection culminating in the passion of Christ and Easter morn. For some this began with the symbolic ceremony on Ash Wednesday of having ashes of last years palm crosses placed upon the head. So we die to self and arise in Christ.

So we take time now to focus upon the birth of Christ to the death of Christ and a recognition of the significant impact His earthly life, miracles, teachings; sufferings and atoning death have for us personally. God indeed knows all of our 'trouble'.

My prayer is that as we move through the seasons of the Church we allow God to use them to draw us closer to Himself. My prayer is also that we each have a very personal relationship with Jesus as our Saviour and Friend this Easter time.

You may find it helpful to use the words of this song by Catherine Baird as a prayer today noting the final refrain – 'For Christ has overcome the world'.

Eternal God, our song we raise
In thankful, overflowing praise,
For men of faith whose power was thine,
Whose love no barrier could confine;
They humbly offered Christ their bread,
And lo, the multitudes were fed!

We thank thee for the fruitful years,
The sacred gains of toil and tears,
For mighty works through weakness wrought,
For souls who led in deed and thought;
They followed Jesus in the light
And their loud anthems thrilled the night.

O may no longing of our own
Obscure the path by Jesus shown!
We would not thirst for earth's reward
And lose the blessing of our Lord:
His cup of pain and grief and strife
That yieldeth up the gift of life.

Our Father, we beseech thee now:
Receive again our first pure vow
To stand though fire and tempest rage,
Nor fear the terrors of our age,
To love thee with a constant mind
And lose ourselves to save mankind.

Our great Redeemer liveth still, His love sustains us in thy will Because he conquered, we shall win, His cross before, his joy within; Our cheerful banners are unfurled, For Christ has overcome the world.

Catherine Baird (1895-1984)

Major Michael J Kinnear Commanding Officer

CHRISTMAS MUSIC EVENTS



Christmas cheer with Rhyl Primary School Junior Choir presenting a Christmas Programme



Festive Brass Concert with Regent Brass raised funds toward refugee orphans from Ukraine

CORPS CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE









The Christmas fellowship choir presented Away in a Manger and Joy to the World and the band played an arrangement of The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy, the piano solo: It Came Upon A Midnight Clear was played as people came forward to the Crib. The Service concluded with a special visitor presenting gifts to the children.



CHRISTMAS CAROLLING

Left: Regent Brass join with Chalk Farm Band in Hampstead High Street

Our thanks also go to William Booth College Cadets Band for their stand in Hampstead High Street and to Harpenden Corps Band for their stand at St. Pancras International Station



Left: Eva Rose & Florence enjoying the snow falling as the Festive Brass Christmas Concert takes place

Right:
The CAMEO Club
(Over 60s) enjoyed
learning more about
Christmas traditions from
around the world.
They made baubles to
represent the world with
celebration chocolates
inside to remind us to
celebrate Jesus coming at
Christmas



HOMELESS DROP IN CHRISTMAS DINNER





The Homeless Drop In enjoyed a full Christmas Dinner – pictured Major Michael Kinnear playing for Santa to enter and distribute gifts and some of our volunteer team from Liberty Church

LUNCH CLUB & CAMEO (OVER 60'S) CLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCH







The Lunch and CAMEO (Over 60s) Christmas Dinner was a great celebration over a three course meal concluding with singing favourite carols

COMMUNITY SUPPORT CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL & PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

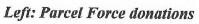






Maureen Gray and Jean Kinnear sorting toy donations in readiness for making up the Christmas parcels







Right: Santander donations

Other donor organisations include: Kiln Place Residents Association; A J Morrisroe Camden Goods Yard Development; Haverstock School; Christ Church School; Fitzjohn's Primary School

Covenant Sunday

Covenant Sunday took place on Sunday 8th January with many renewing their commitment to the Lord in 2023.

Self Denial Altar Service

Our Self Denial Altar Service took place on Sunday 5th March and raised a total of £1,363.98. This appeal supports the mission of The Salvation Army overseas. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday 19th March was led by Cadet Ana Layton including a time of remembrance for those influential people in our lives and a daffodil gift presented to all the ladies present.





The January Band

The January Band performed at Regent Hall's Friday lunchtime concert on 3rd February. The band was formed by Cameron Johnson made up of professional musicians who rehearsed at Chalk Farm Corps in readiness for the performance. The conductor is Jake Bagby and trombone soloist Isobel Daws. One of the pieces played was arranged by Cameron's brother, Sebastian. At the concert it was good to meet numerous people with links to Chalk Farm Corps including Cameron's mum, Lindsey and Nan, Elizabeth Todd.

A Look Back at Christmas 2022 at Chalk Farm Salvation Army

215 Toy Parcels Distributed76 Christmas Day Dinner Guests

Homeless Drop In Christmas Dinner; Older Persons Lunch Club Christmas Dinner; many accessing help and advice utilising our Employability and Advice Service; A Festive Brass Concert; Rhyl School Junior Choir Concert; Toy Service and Traditional Carol Service

Christmas Carolling in Hampstead and at St. Pancras International raising a total of: £2,189.63

Thank you to all our supporters, donors, volunteers, Officers, Cadets, Soldiers and Friends



It was wonderful to formally welcome Janifa Raju onto our soldiers roll at Chalk Farm Corps following her transfer from India.

Thanks to generous funders we have restocked our supplies for the homeless including: backpacks, sleeping bags, toiletries and emergency foil blankets.



Kenneth Evans: Black holes, the Psalmist and us

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him?

Psalm 8:3-4 (KJV)

How small and insignificant is man compared to God's wonderful creation. But just how big is the Universe and what on Earth are black holes?

Our universe has been estimated as being 92 billion light years in diameter. Light travelling at 186, 000 miles per second would take 92 billion years to travel from one side of the universe to the other. What is more, it is still expanding at an incredible rate.

And what is a black hole? This is a star of any size that has become so dense (billions of tons per cubic centimetre), the gravitational pull has become so great, that not even light can escape from it, consequently it appears black. The only thing that stops any star becoming a black hole is the fusion of hydrogen atoms into helium atoms at its core, thus releasing atomic energy which counteracts the tremendous force of gravity.

There are billions of black holes in the universe. Some are massive, many times bigger than our sun, and others can be small. For instance, if our sun could be crushed by gravity to a diameter of 2 miles, it would become a black hole. If, coming closer to home, our own planet Earth could be crushed to the size of a pebble, then it too would become a black hole.

How great and wonderful is God the creator of the universe! Yet He is still mindful of each one of us.



Promoted to Glory Lilian Shillingford

Soldier Lilian Shillingford was Promoted to Glory on Monday 20th March. Lilian was a valued member of our Corps family and enjoyed serving the Lord through the charity shop and café. In later years Lilian settled at Henderson Court taking part in the varied weekly activities and recently won an award for her art work. Sadly Lilian was unable to attend the Corps for some time due to ill health.

A thanksgiving service will take place at Chalk Farm Corps on Monday 17th April at 2 pm to which all are welcome.

Margaret Green

Margaret Green (Lunch & CAMEO Club Member) went to her eternal reward on Sunday 18th December. Margaret's funeral was led by Major Michael Kinnear at Chalk Farm Corps on Wednesday 18th January followed with a committal at Golders Green Crematorium.

Margaret is pictured here with her dear friend and carer Rose Burrows.



Bernie Denney

Bernie Denney was a regular at our homeless drop for some years and sadly suffered a stroke and went to his eternal reward on 5th January.

June Barber

On Monday 6th March a memorial service was held on the Webbeath estate for the life of June Barber next to her large portrait wall mural. June used to attend Chalk Farm Corps and Kilburn Corps. Lieutenant Jennie Barker (C.O. at Kilburn Corps) spoke at June's funeral.



Dates for your diary

Friday 7th April, 11 am Good Friday Meditation united with Kilburn Corps Sunday 9 April, 11 am Easter Sunday Celebration Monday 17th April, 2 pm Funeral and Thanksgiving Service for the life of Lilian Shillingford Thursday 4th May, 12.30 pm Coronation Celebration Lunch Club Sunday 7th May, 11 am Coronation Sunday Meeting



20th May, 4 pm Senior leaders from across the Army world will be gathering in the United Kingdom this May to elect a new General of The Salvation Army. The welcome event is an opportunity for Salvationists and supporters to worship with these High Council members. The ministry of our current international leaders, General Brian Peddle and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle (World President of Women's Ministries), will also be honoured, as they prepare to enter retirement. Be a part of the celebration as we bring this important moment in the life of The Salvation Army before God

TOGETHER 2023

14th – 16th July Tickets are now on sale for *Together 2023*, The Salvation Army UK&I territorial celebration weekend taking place on 14-16 July at Fairfield Halls, Croydon. Combining Commissioning, Congress and Symphony Sounds, there will be something for everyone - worship, discipleship, prayer, music and family-friendly events in the local community. Find out more at <u>salvationist.org.uk</u>. Tickets: £7 Friday, £10 Saturday, £10 Sunday. Under 17's go free. To book order directly from the Fairfield Halls box office www.fairfield.co.uk or telephone: 0300 500 0595.

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