

SUNDAY 16th November 2025



**Local ...
Lively ...
Loving**

To moan or not to moan?



Today's edition is brought to you by Paul's *apprentice* because sadly Paul has just found himself in Southmead Hospital, where he will be spending at least this weekend. Get well soon Paul, we will miss you! Who knows? Maybe he'll have time to revisit some weekly bulletin cartoons again 😊 So here we go, hope it's up to his usual standard!...



As we sit indoors looking out at the seemingly unending rain pounding down, it's very easy to be gloomy and moan about the weather. After all, it is in the British DNA! Which then undoubtedly leads to moaning about something else. But this year especially I've marveled at the stunning colour of nature as the trees morph the landscape into an unrelenting pattern of beauty as we move towards winter – which seems to be arriving next week. Our family dog's necessity to go for a walk doesn't depend on the sun, and it makes me realise how 'fresh' the rain makes everything smell (other than the dog – but I'm not moaning). Philippians 2:14 – “Do everything without grumbling” is sometimes a tough instruction, but let's all try this next week to praise God for His beautiful creations all around us – even when it's raining! (note to our editor.... No moaning about your hospital food 😊) - Mark D

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More Information:

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People

We continue to remember those within our fellowship who have been bereaved, in particular we remember Kay, Steve and their respective families along with the family of Josie Keen, who was promoted to glory last weekend. The funeral for Daisy will be on Monday, 1st December at 1pm at the hall. Please remember our friends in your prayers.

As of writing, Bill M is very poorly and in Southmead Hospital, along with Paul H. Please uphold our friends and family at this time.

Congratulations to Joseph W, Helen's son, who celebrates his 21st birthday on Tuesday. Also, congratulations to Rob Davis, who graduated with an MA this weekend. As part of his dissertation, Rob included thanks to those in the corps that helped him in his formative years. We never know what impact a positive word of encouragement has, so thank you on behalf of Rob.

Daisy Usher

Kay, Steve & all her family would like to thank you for your prayers, kind words, thoughts & cards following Daisy passing very peacefully away last Friday 7th November. They have been very helpful & reassuring at such a sad time.

Her Funeral which will be a joyful celebration of Daisy's long life fully lived, will take place on Monday 1st December at 1pm at the Staple Hill Salvation Army which will be followed immediately by refreshments in the Bradbury Hall,.

There are to be no flowers, but you can donate to the work of the Staple Hill Salvation Army in her memory. (Use this QR Code)



Christmas Reception

Tuesday 25th November to Christmas Eve (10am – 12 noon) (Tuesday- Friday)

During the Christmas period, many people want to donate to our Christmas Appeal so from Tuesday 25th November until Christmas Eve our 'Christmas Reception' will be open from 10am to 12 noon Tuesday - Friday. Most days are covered by our volunteers running our regular 'Open Doors', but we need cover every Wednesday - If you are able to help, please put your name on the rota on the noticeboard. If you want to know more, please ask Nicola.

Flowers

We thank Pauline E and Yvonne W for the flowers at the front of the hall today.

Next Sunday - 23rd November at 3.30pm Yate

'Following a recent incident where my 3 year old daughter was subject to racial abuse in the streets of our community, I feel called to respond. Not with anger or fear but with something much more powerful - faith. I will be prayer walking Yate shopping centre and want to invite fellow believers in the power of peace, unity and prayer to join me. All are welcome, and there are details on the attached poster. If you would like to join but are unable to walk for whatever reason, please do reach out and I can send you a link to our route so that you can join from afar. God bless, Beth.'
(Beth Gweshe – Divisional Youth Specialist)

Beth is Steve Selfe's daughter so her daughter is also his granddaughter, this is also on our 'patch' and many of us live in Yate so please support this if you can.

See the flyer on the main Bulletin email or on the noticeboard at the hall.

Remembrance Sunday

Thanks to everyone who helped facilitate the community Remembrance parade and service last Sunday. It is an important part of the community calendar, and it is good that we can take an active role in this event.

To express their gratitude for all the support that we give to the Royal British Legion during the year, last Friday I (Colin) was invited to the Staple Hill RBL branch meeting, where I received, on behalf of the corps, a 'commemorative coin' of thanks. It's currently with Paul, who is in hospital, but we will make it available for people to see over the coming weeks.



Mission Council Meeting

Monday 10th November

A Mission Council meeting was held last Monday and the minutes are on the noticeboard for you to take a look, but here's a quick summary:

- Health & Safety – evaluation of recent fire drills and 999 calls made from the building
- Leadership – conversations about future local leaders and leadership development
- Calendar – Remembrance Sunday evaluated, Christmas discussed and 2026 confirmed (please see noticeboard, bulletin email & pick up a printed copy)
- Update on building fund – approx. £15,000 to be raised - a reduction of another £5,000!
- 'Churchsuite' app to be launched in new year – replaces many of our administrative systems including corps directory, calendar and communication.
- Electronic Christmas cards & Post Box availability – more details in bulletin next week
- Outreach grant used to purchase new gazebos

First Aid

Just a reminder that we have a small number of people who are designated Accident Responders and First Aid Qualified – the list of these people can be found on the Health & Safety noticeboard opposite the coat hooks. If an incident occurs, please locate one of these people and leave it with them, they know what to do!

2026 Calendar is now available

Please click the link in the Bulletin email or pick up a hard copy at the hall.

Light up a Life Christmas Concert Friday 5th December at 7pm

As you know, we have supported St Peter's Hospice for a number of years with a Light up a Life Service usually on the first Sunday evening in December. Now that I have retired, it seemed like an ideal time to effect a change on how we can support the Hospice, introduce people to the real Christmas as well as giving people who need it the opportunity to remember a lost loved one.

We are going to do that in the form of a Christmas Concert featuring the Band supported by the newly formed St Peter's Hospice Choir. The concert will be everything you would expect from the Band at Christmas but with an opportunity in the second half to hang a star on the tree in memory of a loved one. This will also feature Victoria Heath as a soloist on flute. Hopefully, this might be a joyful occasion to remember someone special.

A few words about the Choir:

The new St Peter's Hospice choir have only been singing together since this summer. They rehearse at the Hospice on a Tuesday evening and the choir is made up of staff, volunteers and supporters. It is a self-funding choir and non-auditioned. The choir is so fortunate to have such fantastic leaders. The Musical Director is Paul Hemmings. Paul was a music teacher prior to retirement and now spends much time as a percussionist with many orchestras. The choir's accompanist is Travis Glover. Travis is the in-house pianist at Berwick Lodge Hotel and also plays at several care homes and in the atrium at Southmead Hospital. This will be the choir's first public singing performance and to be raising funds for the hospice is so important to the singers. Singing is so good for wellbeing and choir members always feel uplifted after a rehearsal. To gather a group of people who get on so well and who so enjoy being part of a choir has been an important aspect for the choir Administrators Sarah and Faye who are the Hospice's Wellbeing Team Administrators. They regularly receive very positive feedback from choir members and also visitors to the Hospice who can hear the rehearsals.

Sarah and Faye say “setting up the choir has been a highlight for us this year and to know that singing has improved the wellbeing of many of the choir members is just the reason we set it up. To also know that the choir will be raising funds for the work of the Hospice is what motivates us all and we are delighted to be performing at the Staple Hill with the Salvation Army”. The choir also has a four-legged member called Tess a beautiful black Labrador Hospice therapy dog who is a calm presence at rehearsals and who is loved by all the choir. She may even make an appearance at performances! The choir will be dressed in clothing or accessories which they have purchased from a St Peter’s Hospice shop.

Over 70 tickets have been booked already & we don’t want you to miss out. Tickets are priced at £5 & available on-line using the link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/light-up-a-life-concert-2025-staple-hill-salvation-army-tickets-1735295177589?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl> or on the door on the evening.
All proceeds will be going to St Peter’s Hospice.

Marc Willetts

The Week Ahead

TODAY Sunday 16th November:

10am	All Age Worship <i>led by Majors Colin & Nicola</i> "David the Fallen" <u>2 Samuel 11, 12</u>
11:30am-12:15pm	Children's Church & Youth
12noon	Church 2 U <i>at Keynsham</i>
5pm	Pulse Youth Event <i>at Bristol Citadel</i>



Note: Our Young People's Band will be Weston Corps this week

Tuesday 18th November:

10am – 2pm	Open Doors including Employment Plus and Light lunch at 12.30pm
10am-11am	Fitness Club
11am-12noon	Extra Slice Group (leader: Kelvin) <i>at the hall</i>
From 6:30pm	YP Band Practice and Singing Company Practice
8pm	Songster Practice

Wednesday 19th November:

9:30am-11am	Tots on the Hill
3:30pm-4:30pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Gerry) <i>online</i>
8pm-9pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Linda) <i>at Kelvin & Linda's</i>
8:15pm-9:15pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Beth) <i>online</i>

Thursday 20th November:

10am-12noon	Open Doors
11:15am	Extra Slice Group <i>at the hall</i>
12:30pm	Lunch Club - <i>booking essential</i>
8pm-9pm	Extra Slice Group <i>at Colin & Nicola's</i>
8pm-9pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Bethany) <i>at Bev & Jon's</i>
8:15pm-9:15pm	Extra Slice Group (leaders: Ian & Rachel) <i>online</i>

Friday 21st November:

7:30am-12noon	Slimming World Groups
10am-12noon	Open Doors
2pm	Cleaning Hall

Next Weekend

Sunday 23rd November:

- 10am All Age Worship *led by Majors Alan & Carol Young
(Divisional headquarters)*
- 11:30am-12:15pm Children's Church & Youth
- 6pm Youth Fellowship at Colin & Nicola's

Dates for the Diary

Here are some other dates that are coming up soon:

Monday 24 th November	CAMEO Craft Group
Friday 28 th November	Band at Downend Lights Switch On
Saturday 29 th November	Christmas on the Hill
Sunday 30 th November	1 st Sunday in Advent Messy Church
Friday 5 th December	Light Up A Life Christmas Concert with our Band and St Peters Hospice Choir (tickets req'd)
Sunday 7 th December	10am Family Carol Service
Thursday 11 th December	11:15am Thursday Church Carol Service
Sunday 14 th December	10am Toy Service Toy Sorting in afternoon 1-4pm
Sunday 21 st December	10am All age worship 5pm Corps Carol Service
Christmas Eve Wednesday 24 th	5pm Carols in the Square
Christmas Day	11am All age worship
Sunday 28 th December	10am All age worship