



HOVE SALVATION ARMY wishes everyone a very
HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a **HAPPY**
NEW YEAR



THOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS

As a small child in a 1960's primary school I learned a Christmas Carol that has remained with me for a very long time. Love came down at Christmas.

Christmas can return us to childhood; to playing games again, giving and receiving gifts and eating too many sweets! But as adults we have a chance to reach out to others and tell the Christmas Story.

The words of Love came down at Christmas have the word Love throughout, reminding us that God sent His son to be born King of Kings. Through His life He would go on to teach us how to love others and ultimately He taught us to tell others of His never-ending love for all.



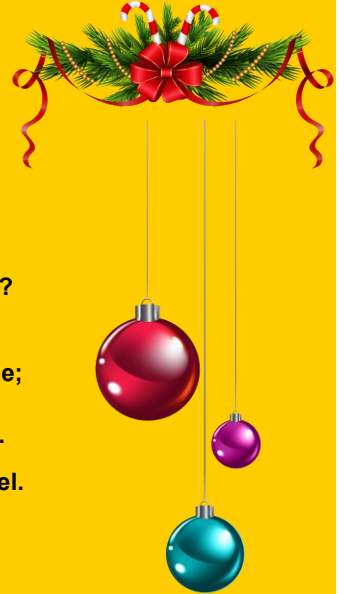
1 Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.

2 Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign?

3 Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and others,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Sing Noel, Sing Noel, Sing Noel.

Christina Rossetti



In a circle of evergreen
Great **Hope** for all the world is seen

A candle burns and sheds its light
Reaching into the darkest night!

A second spark then adds its glow
Peace is the gift it will bestow
Ending all wars and conflicts dire
Renewing hearts it will inspire!

A third wick shines with heaven's beam
Bright **Joy** and laughter in its stream
Faces are smiling all around
Fear and sadness are no more found!

Add to this trio one more star

The **Love** of God is reaching far
Around the globe it touches all
The poor, the rich, the great and small!



The "**Life-Light**" so the Gospel claims

Brightest and purest of the flames!

Now standing in the center tall
This light shines out above them all!

The **Christ-Candle!** Glory to God!

Immanuel here, on this sod!
His Life in us! We rise new-born!
His Light in us! An Easter morn!

This is the story in the bough
It happened then, it happens now
And some tomorrow He'll return
These lessons from the wreath we learn!



DECEMBER CALENDAR 2025

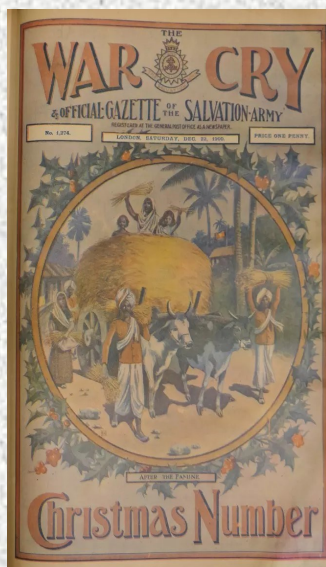


Tuesday 2nd Open House 10-12pm
Wednesday 3rd Lunch Club at 12 noon
Friday 5th Open House 10-12pm
Saturday 6th Food Bank 10- 2pm
Saturday 6th Carolling at Tesco Hove 11-12.30pm
Sunday 7th Carols at Bramber 6.30pm
Monday 8th to Friday 12th Meeting at 10.30am led by Mandy
Santa's Grotto in association with One Stop 4-6pm each afternoon
Tuesday 9th Open House 10-12pm
Wednesday 10th Lunch Club at 12 noon
Friday 12th Open House 10-12
Saturday 13th Food Bank 10 - 2pm
Sunday 14th Carolling at West Hove Sainsbury's 11-12.30pm
Sunday 14th All Age Service at 10.30 am led by Mandy

Sunday 14th Band at Pulborough Trains 2.30-4pm
Monday 15th Carolling around Poets Corner with Holy Cross Church 6.30pm
Tuesday 16th Open House 10-12pm
Weds 17th Lunch Club
Christmas Dinner 12 - noon
Friday 19th Open House 10-12pm and Food Bank 10-2pm
Friday 19th Carols at Woods House 6.30 pm and Ellen Street 7.15pm
Saturday 20th Carolling at Holmbush 11-12 and 1-2 pm
Sunday 21st Carol Service at 10.30am followed by the Corps Christmas Dinner (booking required)
No Lunch Club
Weds 24th Carols by Candlelight 11pm
Weds 24th Carol Service at 10.30 am followed by Christmas Dinner (booking required)
Thursday 25th No Food Bank or Open House
Friday 26th 10.30 am All Age Service
Sunday 28th Open House 10- 12pm
Tuesday 30th No Lunch Club
Weds 31st

Our Charity shop closed from Wednesday 24th December to Monday 5th January 2026

From the Archive



The War Cry has had a decorative and eye-catching Christmas cover ever since its first Christmas issue in 1880, which carried black and white etchings of William and Catherine Booth. The first ever colour *War Cry* cover was for Christmas 1900, juxtaposing traditional European holly with a scene from India. The issues running up to Christmas carried advertisements for goods sold by The Salvation Army which could be bought as 'Presents for Xmas.' In 1903 there appeared a full-page advert for books written by General Booth, a biography of his late wife and recent song books, 1899 saw a page illustrating a whole range of articles available from The Salvation Army's trade department, including singing clocks, slippers and mandolins. In 1911 the Trade Department took advantage of its new, purpose-built premises in Judd Street to open its first Christmas 'Giftorium', where the Salvationist could buy all their Christmas presents. Such was the popularity of the Giftorium that in 1912 an advert asks the question "Will there be a Giftorium this year?" and emphatically responds "the answer is yes!" Alongside the long list of toys available from the Giftorium, the advert goes on to stress that in keeping with the Salvation Army's commitment to pacifism, "There will be neither guns nor fighting soldiers.'