



February 2026

# Newsletter

Street Salvation Army, Church & Community Centre



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The Salvation Army Registered Charity No 214779 and in Scotland SC009359

**Therefore,  
if anyone is in Christ,  
the new creation has come:  
The old has gone,  
the new is here!**

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV



Hello everyone—and a happy (if slightly belated!) New Year to you all.

We know it's already February, and many of you have seen us recently at our groups or services, so this may feel a little redundant. One of the great things about this newsletter, though, is that it reaches beyond the printed copies each month. To those of you who connect with us online and whom we haven't seen yet, we hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. If you're ever in the area, we'd absolutely love to see you.

There is a spirit of newness around the hall at the moment. As I write this letter, the builders have finished the foodbank room and the shelves are being filled ready to continue serving the community.

I was recently reminded of the origin of the word *Christian*. It comes from the Greek *Christianos*, first used in Antioch to describe followers of Jesus Christ. It means "belonging to Christ" and came to be understood as "little Christs," pointing to the calling of believers to live and act in the way of Christ.

When the term was first used, it wasn't meant as a compliment. Early Christians were often disliked because they didn't blend in. They challenged the culture around them, refused to follow popular beliefs, and lived by different values—something that made people uncomfortable, particularly in the Roman world. Their strong sense of community and loyalty to Christ made

them stand out. Rather than rejecting this label, they wore it with pride, even when it came at great personal cost.

It raises an important question for us today: when people look at us—individually or as a church—what do they see?

The Salvation Army was founded as a different expression of church, willing to stand out and to serve others wherever the need existed, regardless of who they were. Our early Salvationists embodied this identity of “little Christs,” reaching out to the poorest and most marginalised, finding new ways to share the gospel, even when it meant risking their own safety.

As we step into this new year (even if a little late), it’s worth asking ourselves: are our lives marked by the same passion and identity shown by those early Christians and Salvationists? And if not, what might need to change so that we become better reflections of ‘little Christ’s’ in our everyday lives?

Blessings, John and Louise





# STREET FOODBANK NEWS

Many of you will already be aware that, over recent months, we've been quietly working behind the scenes to secure funding to improve and expand our foodbank. Demand for support has continued to grow, and with it, our responsibility to ensure that the space we have is fit for purpose.

We're delighted to share that, over the last couple of weeks, significant work has taken place within our building to make this vision a reality.



The old band room, a space full of history and memories, has now been thoughtfully repurposed into our new, dedicated foodbank area. This larger, more accessible room gives us the space we need to prepare food parcels and to store essential emergency items such as our 'kettle packs' and sleeping bags, ready to be given out to those who need them most. It allows us to hold more stock and organise it more efficiently, to continue serving our community with compassion and care.





The previous foodbank room will now become a much needed storage space for toddler toys and market goods. This new layout gives us a practical workspace to sort, clean, and prepare items for sale on our community market stall, an important source of income that helps fund our work in this community.

These changes are more than just practical improvements. They represent growth, hope, and the generosity of those who have supported us, through donations, encouragement, and prayer. Thank you for standing with us as we continue to meet the needs of our community with dignity and kindness.

As our foodbank continues to grow, so does the cost of keeping it stocked. Each month, we spend a significant amount on food to ensure that no one who comes to us leaves empty-handed. ***If you are able to support us, whether through regular giving, a one-off donation, or by contributing items to us directly; your generosity will make a real and immediate difference to local families.***

If you'd like to know more about the foodbank, or support it in the months ahead, we'd love to hear from you.



Love God  
Love Others



07511 313 339



street@salvationarmy.org.uk



# Building hope

**Your sacrificial  
gift can  
bring hope to  
communities  
that need it  
most.**



**1 February to 1 March**



**DO NOT FORGET TO DO GOOD  
AND TO SHARE WITH OTHERS,  
FOR WITH SUCH SACRIFICES  
GOD IS PLEASED**

*Hebrews 13:16*

## February - the month of Self Denial

The Salvation Army's important appeal takes place in 134 countries and involves thousands of Salvationists.

What gives you the hope to get out of bed in the morning? Is it knowing that God is with you in all circumstances? Is it trusting that he is at work in your life and in the world for a better future? Is it a confidence that you are joining in God's transforming mission? Is it passion to share your hope with others? This year's Self-Denial Appeal will see Salvationists around the world united by all of these, as they support the Army's international work of bringing that living hope into people's lives and communities.

As a global Movement, we are helping people to discover fullness of life with Jesus and supporting them to flourish - physically, professionally, socially and spiritually. That's as true in the UK and Ireland as it is in Estonia. The Army's work began there in 1927 and, after a time of prohibition that started with the Second World War and ended with the fall of the Soviet Union, resumed in 1995.

The 2026 Self-Denial Appeal focuses on the Army's work across Estonia, including the Hope House Rehabilitation Centre in Tallinn, Estonia's capital city, and a summer kids camp for young people in Loksa.

Thanks to your generous sacrificial giving, the 2025 Self-Denial Appeal raised a total of more than £1 million, breaking the million-pound mark for the fifth time since 2020. The 2025 appeal focused on the Army's work in Indonesia. Thank you to everyone who gave in last year's appeal - and to everyone who will give this year.

### How to donate:

- By using the envelopes (pick one up from the hall)
- If you usually give by standing order, you can make a one off payment using your usual 10 character reference followed by CTSD (e.g. 123400ST14CTSD)
- Online at [www.salvationist.org.uk/faith/giving-fundraising/self-denial](http://www.salvationist.org.uk/faith/giving-fundraising/self-denial) - please remember to enter *Street Corps* when prompted

# FEBRUARY

**SCIENCE SPARK: EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND LOVE BOOSTS OXYTOCIN, WHICH DEEPENS RELATIONSHIPS AND EVEN LOWERS BLOOD PRESSURE.**

SUN	MON	TUE	
1 Write three things you love about yourself.	2 Give a genuine compliment to three people today.	3 Text or message someone who helped you just to say thanks.	4 Make eye contact and share a genuine smile at least five times today—at home, school, or on the world.
8 Do something kind and invite others to "pass it on."	9 Tell a classmate, coworker, or friend something you admire about them.	10 Write a love letter to yourself or someone special (it can even be your future self!).	11 Give your pet some cuddles—or volunteer at an animal shelter.
<b>RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS</b>			
15 Scroll until you see someone's creative effort — a drawing, a recipe, a photo — and leave a genuine, specific compliment.	16 Ask someone, "What's something good in your world today?" Then listen without rushing in to fix or compare.	17 <b>Random Acts of Kindness Day!</b> Do at least three acts of kindness—one for a friend, one for a family, one for a stranger.	18 We always celebrate the big news, but don't forget to share a tiny joy. You'll invite others to celebrate small joys too.
22 Before bed, name one loving thing that happened today.	23 Shout out someone else's accomplishment on social media.	24 Leave a kind chalk message on a sidewalk or driveway.	25 Bring a treat to share with coworkers, classmates, or neighbors.
1	2	3	

Ideas for Random Acts of Kindness day this month!

# 2026

**make  
kindness  
the norm.**

randomactsofkindness.org

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION

OCIN (THE "BONDING HORMONE"),  
URE.

WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4 Contact a friend or family member while with people at home, at work, or out in public.	5 Hide notes of appreciation in lunchboxes, desks, or lockers.	6 Pick up litter or plant something green.	7 Take a photo of something beautiful or quirky around you — a cloud shaped like a heart, a stubborn little flower by the sidewalk — and send it to a friend with a simple "This made me think of you."
11 Get extra help or support at a community center, library, or place of worship.	12 Send a message or card to someone who taught you something valuable.	13 Make handmade valentines for neighbors, caregivers, or community helpers.	14 Cut out paper hearts, write kind words on them, and scatter them in shared spaces.

5 WEEK FEBRUARY 15-21, 2026

18 Trade a book with a friend; today is your victory. Celebrate with others and their families.	19 Drop a surprise note in a library book.	20 Let someone merge in traffic, go ahead in line, or take their time when they're flustered.	21 Make a playlist of songs that make you feel loved and send it to a friend.
25 Start a message thread where everyone adds something kind about someone else.	26	27 Write a loving reminder on your mirror ("You're doing great," "You are loved").	28 Look back on your month of love— what act meant the most?

ess every

JANUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11



## HIDDEN TO WHOLE

*Lent begins on 18th February.* The Salvation Army's theme for this year is

### Hidden to Whole

which will look to the unploughed ground within our hearts; the hardened places and hidden fears that resist the transforming love of God. To confront these areas requires courageous discipleship, a willingness to face what is uncomfortable and allow the Spirit to do the deep work of renewal.

This six-week series will help us to search for the hidden things within our hearts that God has already planted and wants to breathe new life into. Allowing his love to heal our hearts, making them whole, so that we may live out this transforming love more effectively in our communities.

## SPIRITUAL HEART HEALTH!



### 1. STAY ACTIVE – EXERCISE YOUR FAITH

Exercise faith even when it's uncomfortable - ask God for opportunities to talk about your faith with others.



### 2. EAT HEALTHY – THE BREAD OF LIFE

Say no to stuff that's no good for us. These things clog up our spiritual arteries & spread dis-ease within us.

Eat the Bread of Life - the Word of God. Read scripture, listen to songs and hymns



### 3. SHED THE EXCESS WEIGHT

There's no condemnation in Christ Jesus. He removed our sin as far as the east is from the west. We are forgiven.  
Let go of the guilt and regret - it's heavy!



I look to the hills! Where will I find help?  
It will come from the Lord,  
who created heaven and earth.



PSALMS 121:1-2 (CEV)



## Money Matters

If you'd like to sow into the work we do in our community, you can do so in the following ways...

*If you're a member of our church, you can give:*

- by weekly, monthly (or other) 'cartridge' envelope for cash or cheques
- by weekly, monthly (or other) cartridge standing order - get in touch with us if you'd like to give in this way and we'll give you the details
- by cash or cheque in the weekly offering plate



*If you're a member of the public who'd like to support our community work then you can give:*

- by weekly, monthly (or other) standing order - get in touch with us if you'd like to give in this way and we can give you the info you need
- by donating securely online via our website at [www.salvationarmy.org.uk/street](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/street)

If you pay tax, then ***you can make your donations and gifts to The Salvation Army worth 25% more just by making a Gift Aid declaration*** - this is a huge help to us!

For us to claim this extra money from the Government, you just have to fill in a small form; please ask John or Louise for one, if you've not completed one already.

'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.'

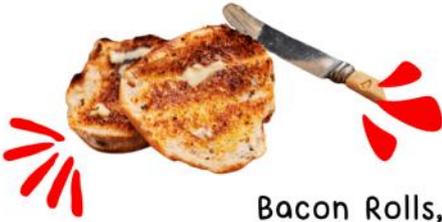


1 PETER 4:10-11





Drop in on Friday  
mornings for  
**COFFEE MORNING**



**10:00am to 12:00pm**

Bacon Rolls, Toasted Teacakes, Tea,  
Coffee, Biscuits, chat and company!



LAUGHING  
WITH A FRIEND

TAKING A HOT  
BATH/SHOWER

UNDISTURBED  
BIBLE READING  
TIME

WATCHING A  
SUNRISE



TAKING A DAY  
OFF FOR  
MYSELF

PLAYING  
WORSHIP MUSIC

LOOKING  
FORWARD TO  
A TRIP

GOING FOR A  
LONG WALK

MY CUP OVERFLOWS WITH BLESSINGS  
PSALM 23:5

I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing  
praise to my God as long as I live.

PSALM 104:33



Singing  
By Heart



Every Wednesday at 2pm



*All are welcome to join us for a sing-along*

Walk with me and work with me- watch how I  
do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I  
won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you.  
Keep company with me and you'll learn to live  
freely and lightly.'

MATT 11:29-30 (THE MESSAGE)



How can people have faith in the Lord and ask him to save them, if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear, unless someone tells them?

✦ ROMANS 12:14 (CEV)



# Happy birthday!

to these members of our church family this month:

17th Wendy

24th Phyllis C

*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)*



**Street Corps online**

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

- which includes a secure link to donate!

or on Facebook at [facebook.com/SalvationArmyInStreet](https://facebook.com/SalvationArmyInStreet)

Email - [street@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:street@salvationarmy.org.uk)



Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.



EPHESIANS 4:32

# Wordsearch - Biblical occupations

Once you've found all the words below, the letters left over form a mystery answer.

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Ambassador  
Apothecary  
Artisan  
Astrologer  
Baker  
Basketmaker  
Brewer  
Brickmaker  
Carpenter  
Charioteer  
Clerk  
Coppersmith

Craftsman  
Cupbearer  
Disciple  
Fisherman  
Gatekeeper  
Glassworker  
Harvester  
Jeweler  
King  
Laborer  
Magistrate  
Maid

Mason  
Metalsmith  
Nurse  
Prefect  
Silversmith  
Slave  
Tentmaker  
Woodworker



## ***What's on in February***

<b>Monday - Friday:</b>	all day	<i>Food Bank</i>
<b>Tuesdays:</b>	9.30am to 11:30am	<i>Toddler Group (not 17th)</i>
	2.00pm	<i>Hindhayes School Christian Assembly (not 17th)</i>
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	9.30am to 11.30am	<i>Toddler Group (not 18th)</i>
	9.30am to 11.30am	<i>Paper sales - Wells</i>
	2.00pm to 3.00pm	<i>Singing by Heart</i>
<b>Fridays:</b>	10.00am to 12:00pm	<i>Coffee Morning</i>
<b>Sundays:</b>	10.30am	<i>Worship followed by tea &amp; coffee</i>

**Our Vision:**  
**Fullness of life**  
**for *all* with Jesus**



Please if you need anything, our home phone number is  
**01458 445 232** God Bless, Louise and John