

SUNDAY 17th May 2026



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

On Thursday, we received an email from the Prayer Fellowship asking us to pray for a couple of different topics, one of which was this afternoon's 'Messy Church', and it mentioned that the theme this week is based around [Daniel 3](#). As it happens, I have been thinking a lot about this passage of scripture recently. It covers the story of 3 Israelites who defied King Nebuchadnezzar and refused to bow down to a golden idol.

A couple of weeks ago, I looked in an old box of my late father that I had stored in the garage. Within it I discovered a brass arrangement of 'Shadrack' that my father had composed around 40 years ago for my brother to sing with the Divisional Youth Band – something that I had thought had been lost forever. So I have been busy transcribing this manuscript onto the computer ... perhaps we will be able to use it sometime in Staple Hill! The problem has been that the manuscript did not include the vocal part, so I have been trying to recreate that from my sketchy memory and various original recordings from Louis Armstrong, Brook Benton, The Larks, etc. – all of which have slightly different lyrics and very different melody lines! But even though every rendition is different, the story is still inspirational – well worth re-reading if you haven't read it for a while. I am sure the families at Messy Church this afternoon will be in for a treat!

Paul Heath

Corps Officers: Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones Tel: 0117 9565232
Hall Address: 21 Broad Street, Staple Hill BS16 5LN Tel: 0117 9569733
More Information: www.staplehillsa.uk / contactstaplehill@gmail.com
Prayer Fellowship: staplehillprayers@gmail.com
Bulletin: staplehillbulletin@gmail.com
YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/TheSalvationArmyStapleHill

People

Please continue to remember Ivan Danford's family as they prepare for Ivan's funeral on:

- Thursday, 28th May @ 11.30am at Westerleigh Crematorium

For those of you who attend Lunch Club and Open Doors, you will be sad to learn that Roger's wife, Rita, has recently died - Rita and Roger also use to attend concerts together and sit on the front row. Rita's funeral is on:

- Tuesday, 26th May: 1.30pm at St Augustine's Church; 2.15pm at Westerleigh Crematorium; 4pm at the Hunter's Rest, Clutton Hill, Clutton, Bristol BS39 5QL.

We were also sorry to learn that Major John McCombe was PTG on 11th May 2026. John had been the corps officer at Easton.

Peter Jackson was taken ill last Sunday and is currently in Southmead Hospital, as is Lydia. Please continue to remember our friends at this time, along with those of our fellowship who are poorly, living with long-term health conditions and/or coping with difficult personal situations.

Thanks to Hilton for leading worship last week and preparing the Extra Slice Groups Handout. From conversations, we know that Hilton's ministry was a blessing to many. Thanks again Hilton..

Flowers

The flowers today have been given by Viv Wallington remembering Allan, who passed away 16 years ago today.

A Salvationist Abroad

My trip to Zimbabwe allowed some time to join worship with Victoria Falls Salvation Army. The day started with a taxi journey and the driver sharing his faith story ... our Army tops certainly invite conversations! On arriving, we were greeted by a heavy metal, closed gate – as it turns out it is to keep buffalo and elephants out rather than the visitors, but you do need to be captured on a security camera to go in.

The corps was large and airy but unfortunately the band were away this weekend - so out came the maracas, tambourines and bazookas! There were around 30 adults and many junior soldiers all wearing their winter uniforms as they didn't feel suitable warm – but the 32° heat was more than enough for me!

I sat with a lady who translated for me. The service was largely around trusting and the power of prayer - 2 things I have relied on heavily whilst in Zimbabwe and I have always felt safe and so protected here - that old Songster song 'Angels watching over me' keeps coming to mind.



Time to move on and go through Botswana and end in Johannesburg in a week. Whatever comes, I know I will be going 'In the strength of The Lord'.
Becky Gardner

Page Park Praise

Following on from this morning's service, there will be an open meeting for anyone who would like to support this year's series of Page Park Praise events, in the front part of the Main Hall. If you are able to help with the practical aspects of these events, we would love you to come along. If you are unable to attend but would still like to be involved, please email: Neil.baker@salvationarmy.org.uk.

Retiring Collection Today

Each year we financially support those people who are entering leadership training to become officers for The Salvation Army. A retiring collection will be made before and after the Sunday morning service today to support this year's appeal.

There are various ways that you can give to the Candidates fund, they are:

- Cash/cheque donations in the 'Candidate' basket at the back of the hall, before and after the service.
- By credit/debit card using the card reader.
- Or BACS using the details below:

Account Name: The Salvation Army

Sort Code: 60-01-73

Account No: 00130997

Ref: CAND

Thank you for supporting this appeal.

Gary



The Week Ahead

TODAY – Sunday 17th May: *CANDIDATES SUNDAY*

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 10am | All Age Worship <i>led by Majors Colin & Nicola</i> 'Called to be ... a Leader' Acts 2: 37-42 |
| 12noon | Page Park Praise Logistics Meetings |
| 11:30am-12:15pm | Children's Church and Youth |
| 4pm-6pm | Messy Church |
| 5:30pm | Pulse Youth Event <i>at Bristol Citadel</i> |



There will be special collections today in aid of the Candidate's Fund

Monday 18th May:

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| 8pm | Mission Council Meeting <i>at the hall</i> |
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Tuesday 19th May:

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|---------------|---|
| 9:30am-2:30pm | Employment Plus |
| 10am – 2pm | Open Doors <i>inc. homemade soup at 12.30pm</i> |
| 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 20th May:

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|---------------|--|
| 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 21st May:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 11:15am-12noon | Thursday Church – <i>refreshments from 10am</i> |
| 12:30pm | Lunch Club - <i>booking essential</i> |
| 8pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group (leaders: Colin & Nicola) <i>at Qtrs</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> |



The Week Ahead [continued]

Friday 22nd May:

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

Saturday 23rd May:

10am-12noon Coffee Morning *coordinated by
Mary & Nick Dunk*
12noon Remembrance Service for RBL *in Page Park*



Sunday 24th May:

10am All Age Worship *led by Majors Colin & Nicola*
11:30am-12:15pm Children's Church and Youth

PENTECOST

Dates for the Diary

Here are some other dates that are coming up soon:

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|---|--|
| Sunday 31 st May | Page Park Praise |
| Sunday 7 th June | Messy Church |
| Thursday 11 th June | Thursday Church |
| Saturday 13 th – Sunday 14 th June | Band weekend |
| Saturday 20 th June | Coffee Morning |
| Sunday 21 st June | Fathers' Day Pulse Youth Event at Staple Hill |
| Sunday 28 th June | Page Park Praise |