SUNDAY 1st November 2026

Staple Hill Bulletin

THE SALVATION ARMY

Local ... Lively ... Loving

Computer Says "No"

During this week, my heart specialist has recommended a change of medication to help maintain my health going forward. However, when the request reached my GP surgery, I received the message back that they couldn't prescribe the tablets due to a minor technicality. The computer said "no". Hopefully, the issue will be quickly resolved so that I can get the new medication that I need.

As we move further into the age of artificial intelligence, we will be relying more and more on computers to make every-day decisions for us. Some may welcome the extra productivity that these technological advances may bring, whilst others will be worried about decisions being taken based purely on programmed logic and without recourse to basic humanity or common sense. AI may not get it right!

We are not computers, so the actions and decisions that we have to make are rarely a binary "Yes" or "No". God made us in his image, with freedom of thought and with the ability to change our minds, to make better decisions as we progress through life. Even though we may have said "No" to God in the past, doesn't stop us saying "Yes" to him today.

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me!

The Song Book of The Salvation Army, No. 436

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People

We continue to support a number of families who have been bereaved and who are preparing for funerals. Please remember

- Brian and his family as they prepare for Pat's funeral, which is to take place on:

  Monday 9th November 2026. There will be a service of celebration at the hall at 10.30, followed by a committal at 12noon at Mangotsfield Cemetery, returning to the hall for a reception.

- Dennis Lane and his family as they prepare for Anne's funeral, which is to take place on:

  Monday, 23rd November 2026 at 12.30 at the Waterside Chapel, Westerleigh Crematorium, followed by a committal at 1.30 at Mangotsfield Cemetery, returning to Westerleigh for a reception.

We also remember:

- Aimee, Claire and Jean and her family following the bereavement of Chris (Aimee's grandfather).
- Wesley Challenger as his brother, Gordon, passed away last Wednesday night.

There are a number of our friends who, as of writing, are in hospital, including: Hilton, Mary Brown, David Jones and Jenny Read, along with a number of people who are recovering from illness, who include: Lilian, Rob and Helen. There are a number of different seasonal bugs and illness going around, so please stay safe.

Heating

We are hoping that the heating will be repaired today (Friday) and as I write the gas engineer is working on our boiler. He is hopeful that everything we will be working by the end of the day. If there are problems, we will put a notification on the email that this bulletin is attached to.

[Ed. Before completing this bulletin, Colin sent an email to say that the radiators were starting to warm up, so sounding positive that the heating is indeed fixed!].

Flowers

We have another beautiful arrangement of flowers at the front of the hall today from Kay Willets, in memory of Daisy.

Food Store

Thank you for all the recent food donations and gifts from our harvest appeal. The food store is full at present. Thank you for your support.

Holiday Club & Light Party

We had an amazing time this week in the Holiday Club and Light Party – thank you to the many people who made it happen, not least Laura and Rachel for the coordination. Overall, we had 42 different children attend (not including the toddler children and at the time of writing the Light Party hasn't happened yet). We also had 75 people stay for the family lunch on Wednesday. It was great to see so many families engage with this new initiative including people we had never connected with before. Please pray that this week will have brought both helpers and participants closer to Jesus.

Messy Church – We Need Your Help!

We are collecting empty toilet roll tubes and kitchen roll tubes for our upcoming Messy Church on Sunday 29th November!

If you have any spare cardboard tubes at home, please don't throw them away! We'd be very grateful if you could bring them into the hall ahead of Messy Church so we can put them to good use in our activities.

Thank you so much for your continued support – every little contribution helps us make Messy Church a fun and creative experience for everyone!

Many thanks,

Naomi
Messy Church Craft Coordinator

Casual Uniform

Deb Hatcliffe is putting together another order for Casual Uniform so if you would like to order anything please see Deb by the end of today (Sunday 1st November).



Dates for the Diary

Please check your ChurchSuite app (My events) for an up-to-date calendar of all events including these:

Special Worship Events:

Major Amanda Lee Leads worship	Sunday 22nd Nov. 10am

Monthly & Irregular Meetings:

Coffee Morning	Saturday 14th Nov.
Mission Council	Monday 9th Nov.
Messy Church	Sunday 8th Nov.
CAMEO Craft Groups	Monday 30th Nov.
Thursday Church	Thursday 12th Nov.
Church2U	Sunday 22nd Nov. 12pm

Divisional Events:

Divisional Children's Praise & Pizza Party	Friday 6th Nov. 5pm-7pm
Divisional YP Leaders Day	Saturday 14th Nov. 10am – 4pm
Divisional Youth Praise Night	Sunday 22nd Nov. 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Christmas Events:

Loads of things!	From week commencing 23rd November and continuing throughout December

The Week Ahead

TODAY – Sunday 1st November:

10am	All Age Worship *led Majors Colin & Nicola*
	'Frontline Fruitfulness: Messengers of the Gospel'
	Colossians 4: 2-6
11:30am-12:15pm	Children's Church & Youth activities

Tuesday 3rd November:

	No Employment Plus this week
10am – 2pm	Open Doors *inc. homemade soup at 12.30pm*
10am	Fitness Club
10am – 1pm	Energy Help Desk
11am-12noon	Extra Slice Group (leader: Kelvin) *at the hall*
From 6:30pm	YP Band Practice and Singing Company Practice
8pm	Songster Practice

Wednesday 4th November:

3:30pm-4:30pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Gerry) *online*
8pm-9pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Linda) *at Kelvin & Linda's*
8:15pm-9:15pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Beth) *online*

Thursday 5th November:

10am-12noon	Open Doors
11:15am-12noon	Extra Slice Group *at the hall*
12:30pm	Lunch Club - *booking essential*
6.45pm	Extra Slice Group *in the upper room at the hall*
8pm	Senior Band Practice
8pm-9pm	Extra Slice Group (leader: Bethany) *at Bev & Jon's*
8:15pm-9:15pm	Extra Slice Group (leaders: Ian & Rachel) *online*

Friday 6th November:

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

The Week Ahead [continued]

Sunday 8th November: ***Remembrance Sunday***

10am — All Age Worship *led Majors Colin & Nicola*
'Frontline Fruitfulness: Being a mouthpiece for truth & justice'
Colossians 1:9-14

The Senior Band will be supporting the Remembrance Day Parade once again this year – please see on the next page. Worship will start with coffee at 10am – but don't worry there'll be coffee afterwards too!

11:30am-12:15pm — Children's Church & Youth activities
4pm-6pm — Messy Church

STAPLE HILL REMEMBRANCE DAY

SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER



The parade will start on Page Road at 10am.
At 10.20am the parade will march to the war Memorial in Page Park for a service of Remembrance.

For more information or to order a wreath, please contact:

07950104450
STAPLEHILLRBL.ORG.UK/REMEMBRANCE

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Staple Hill & Mangotsfield Parish Council

THE SALVATION ARMY

SHB STAPLE HILL BAND