

# CHALK FARM CORPS SUNDAY NEWSLETTER



## Summer and Winter

It is hard to believe that summer time has passed and we have truly entered into autumn. Winter soon knocks at our door! As the seasons change so does our world and culture. We and the Church are confronted with changing times. I have been led to reflect upon the changing seasons within The Salvation Army and indeed within our own fellowship here at Chalk Farm. Some things pass and other things come to the fore. One thing is for sure, God still blesses us richly – Hallelujah!

Within our lives there are also seasons. I have entered 'middle-age' and sometimes feel like old age is closer than I'd like. My girls are growing up. Evangeline has just started high school and is discovering a whole new world of academic learning and the many opportunities for self directed activities provided by the school. Some members of Chalk Farm Corps have graduated from their studies, some found employment, some have moved home - even to other countries! Many have marked milestones with achievements and also significant birthdays. Life constantly changes.

In such times we should remind ourselves that God never changes. The constancy of faith in the LORD Almighty is a solid rock upon which to build no matter how shifting the sands are beneath our feet. His character is one of love which endures forever (see Psalm 136). He is totally just and so very merciful toward us as we are his dearly loved children (Ephesians 5: 1).

When Noah and his family quite literally had the ground taken from under their feet by the great flood they remained confident in the LORD.

Because of Noah's faithfulness God delivered them as promised and marked his deliverance by

GREAT is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;  
As thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness!*

*Great is thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Thomas Obediah Chisholm (1866-1960)

painting a rainbow in the sky affirming: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Genesis 8: 22, NIV).

You may feel tossed about on the flood waters today. The ground beneath your feet may seem to be shifting and disappearing as culture and personal circumstances change. May your faith assure you that the flood waters will recede to land you safe on Canaan's shore. God's promises are sure for all eternity. God never changes! A beautiful benediction of Teresa of Avila:

**Let nothing disturb thee,  
Nothing affright thee;  
All things are passing,  
God never changeth!  
Patient endurance attaineth to all things;  
Who God possesseth in nothing is wanting;  
Alone God sufficeth.**

*Teresa of Avila (1515-82)  
trs Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82)*

May God bless you in the changing seasons of life.

Michael  
Major Michael J Kinnear

Well done to our very own  
Maureen who appeared on the  
International Salvation Army  
media pages for the international  
day of older persons.

## Contact us

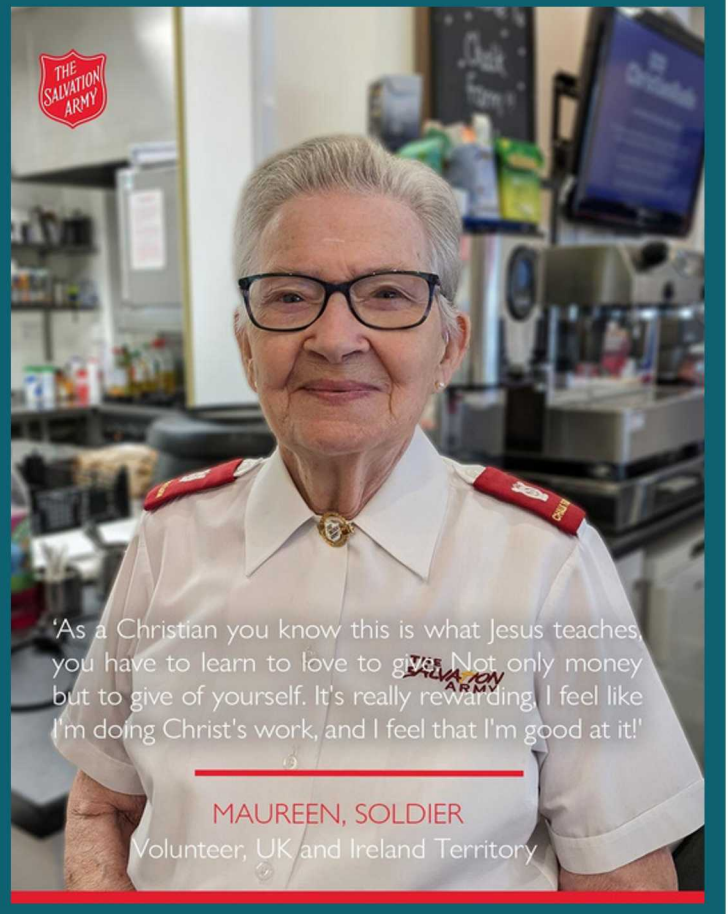
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# Homelessness Sunday, 8 October

On Sunday 8 October we marked Homelessness Sunday. During the service we watched a film featuring Kings Cross Methodist Church who are part of the winter night shelter scheme, C4WS.

This year Chalk Farm Corps commenced a new partnership with C4WS. The charity operates a Friday Club from our building, offering support to past and present shelter guests. Corporate teams come in to cook a meal, and guests can take a shower and get a change of clothes. Our own Lorraine Kinnear is the C4WS night shelter coordinator and is preparing to open the shelters again at the end of the month. C4WS has a good success rate assisting its guests into accommodation alongside offering tailored support services.

Another initiative for this year is our partnership with Haircuts 4 Homeless, who come in once a month to our Wednesday evening drop-in service. On their last visit three barbers provided 25 haircuts in the 2 hour sitting!

Volunteers are the backbone of our service provision. Eleanor leads the Wednesday evening and Ian helps to co-ordinate Monday evenings. On Wednesdays we also have a volunteer cook, Suzy. Two churches are actively involved in providing volunteers; Liberty Church London and Reality Church (Primrose Hill Community Group).

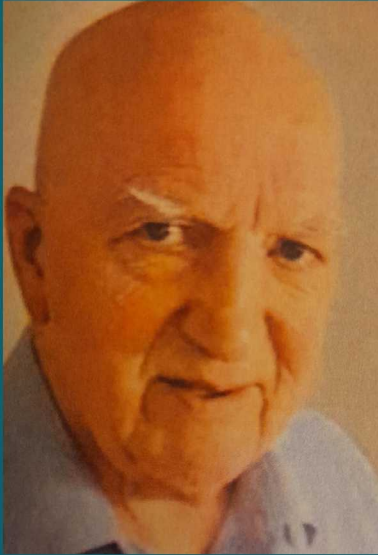
We are sadly seeing increasing numbers of people accessing our services, with over 50 guests attending some of the drop-in evenings. We offer a welcome to rough sleepers, the housed homeless and the vulnerably housed, providing a brief respite from life on the streets, a freshly cooked meal and refreshments, a shower facility with essential clothing, access to wi-fi and signposting to additional support.

A generous funder has enabled us to continue to provide items such as sleeping bags, underwear and toiletries for our guests who are rough sleeping. With this donation we have also been able to replace our electric oven and purchase other equipment to aid our service delivery. With rising costs from food to utility charges these are difficult times but we trust God will provide for this much needed work to continue.



## Those gone to their eternal reward

Since our last newsletter we have had a number of our fellowship called home to be with the LORD. May God bless and comfort the bereaved.



David St. George



Marion Ford



Fenella Gabriel



Frank Knight



Sophie Pearce





We have received a number of beautiful hampers and items for our homeless guests prepared by Trish and Violet. Here they are pictured with Major Michael Kinnear. Major distributed the hampers to those in need within the district.

On Saturday 12 August a memorial service at the Far East Memorial in Camden Town marked VJ Day. Major Michael Kinnear was the bugler and Captain John Cameron Nixon laid a wreath on behalf of The Salvation Army.



A lovely sunny day was had at Southend-on-Sea at our summer outing. Some had fish and chips, some had a paddle and some took a walk along the world's longest pleasure pier.

Over 50 gathered for our Songs of Praise meeting with guest musicians from Regent Brass.



## Farewells

We said goodbye to Ted and Jana who returned to Canada.

We said a 'till we meet again' to Siamkee who is spending some time in Malaysia and Thailand until the new year.

We said a 'till we meet again' to Lionel and Beatrice who returned to their home in Kenya and are expected to return in time for Christmas.

Cadet Ana Layton who concluded her preaching placement with us to take up her summer appointment at Pill Corps.

## Congratulations

We congratulate Mimi on the completion of her studies and new job which will shortly commence at St. Georges Hospital.

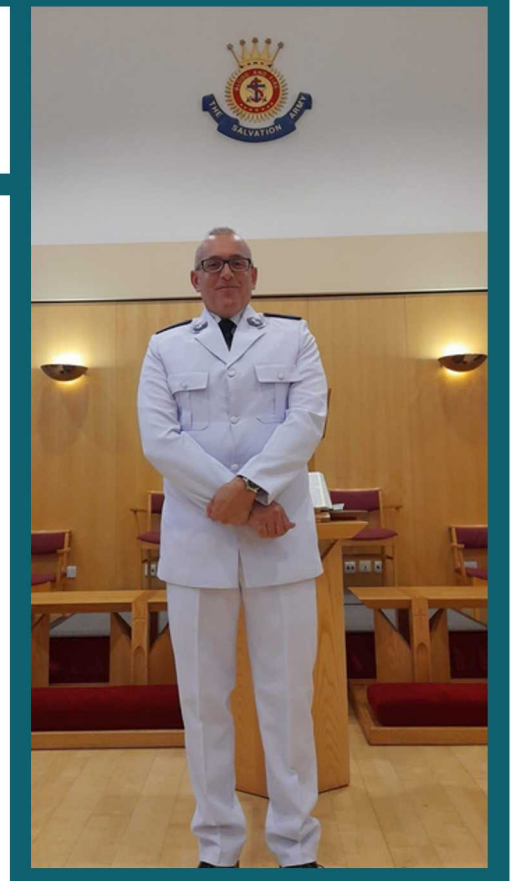
## CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) Club

We have again enjoyed a range of topics over the summer:

Dr. Lionel Cooper presented a talk about his time in Kenya and Kenyan life.



Tunes on Tap Ukulele Group brought an afternoon of song.

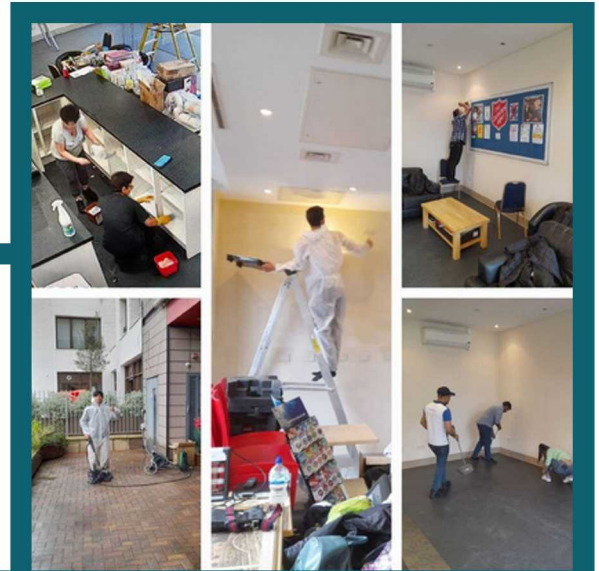




# Summer Sale

This year's summer sale took place in August. Stalls and refreshments raised £811.24.

Our halls got a thorough spring clean and lick of paint with the help of Premier Inn, Hampstead at the beginning of the summer. Thank you to all the staff from the newly opened Premier Inn and Social Restaurant for the hard work.



## Corps administrator appointed: Rita Khan

We are delighted that Rita has been appointed to our team to provide administrative support to Chalk Farm Corps. This role has great variety from the managing of room hirers to helping oversee contractors and finance. The post of administrator will greatly assist our officer in dealing the many calls, emails and compliance issues.

## Dates for your diary

### **Saturday 11 November, 10.45am**

An armistice day service at the Euston War Memorial (at Euston Bus Station).

### **Sunday 12 November, 10.45am**

Our Remembrance Sunday service will start at the earlier time of 10.45.

### **Sunday 3 December, 11am**

Christmas Toy service with a chance to support this year's present appeal.

### **Thursday 14 December, 1.45pm**

Rhyl Primary Junior Choir present a Christmas concert at the hall.

### **Saturday 16 December, 11am - 1pm**

Christmas carolling in Hampstead with support from Regent Brass musicians.

### **Sunday 17 December, 11am**

Christmas carol service with support from Regent Brass musicians.

### **Monday 25 December, 12.30pm**

Our Christmas Day meal followed by a Christmas Day meeting at 2pm.