



**Commanding Officer (Minister) - Major Kevin Pitt.** Tel.No. 01449 613989  
The Salvation Army, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE Tel no: 01449 614133  
[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/stowmarket](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/stowmarket)

July 2024

A couple of months ago Mags, Sandra, Tom and myself went to a conference in Northampton where we learned about Natural Church Development and how God has blessed churches and Corps both spiritually and numerically who have engaged in this process.

Natural Church Development is a way by which Churches and Corps around the world look at their health to ensure that they are continuing to grow and develop in the way that God requires. It is all about releasing the God given growth potential that we already have.

In 1 Corinthians 3:6 it says 'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow.' It focuses on the 8 quality characteristics of empowering leadership, gift oriented ministry, passionate spirituality, effective structures and inspiring worship services, loving relationships, need oriented evangelism and whole life small group ministry.

Our Mission group and Corps Council have decided that this will be a good way to help our Corps to continue to move forward and so this Sunday morning we are going to be looking at Natural Church Development in our morning worship together as a Corps. We are also going to be reflecting on this over the next few weeks. It is something that everyone will be given the opportunity to be involved with. In a few weeks time there will be a questionnaire that we will complete which will help us as a Corps to continue to move forward as God wants for us.

There has already been a lot of prayer as we look for God's guidance and direction in the weeks ahead and we would encourage you to continue to pray about the exciting new chapter that God has planned for each one of us here in Stowmarket Corps.

God bless you  
Major Kevin



### Regular Activities

#### Sunday:

9:30am Breakfast Church  
10:30am Morning Worship

4pm Messy Church (2nd Sunday of the month or otherwise stated)

Fellowship Lunch (3rd Sunday of the month—note change of date for this month overleaf)

#### Tuesday:

10:00am CAMEO Club



2:00pm Over Sixties Club

#### Wednesday:

7:45pm Songster Practice

#### Thursday:

6:00pm Music makers

7:45pm Band Rehearsal

#### Monday to Friday

Café on the Rec - open for business 8am to 4pm and

**Saturday** 9am to 1pm.

Also **Sunday mornings** 8.30am to 10am for the Junior Park run.

All items for the August newsletter: messages, prayers or prayer requests, please let Major Kevin, Caroline, Mags or Bev know by Sunday 21st July 2024. If you would like the newsletter emailed to you each month, please let Bev know.

[bev.robilliard53@gmail.com](mailto:bev.robilliard53@gmail.com)

## Café Church 21st July, 2024

From 3.30pm to 5.00pm

### 'Leap'

This is a place for you to explore, question and belong.

In your prayers, please remember Cameron who is making the commitment of becoming a soldier, and Zoe, an adherent on 18th August.

As we gather together Lord; As we put aside the things that distract us; As we leave behind the things that worry us; As we forget about ourselves; As we worship you with songs of praise; As we listen to stories from your Word; As we hear your teaching Lord, help us to concentrate on you.

Lord Jesus, we remember those we know who are far from well and housebound; those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Surround them all with Your tenderness; Give strength to those in pain; Hold the lonely in Your arms of love; Bring hope to the aging and patience to the young. Give healing to those who are sick, and wholeness to those who are recovering. As One Body, may we come to know You and to love You and may Your holy presence within us become a blessing for all.

Photos of the Over 60's/CAMEO clubs enjoying their fish and chips at Dunwich and afternoon in Southwold:



Volunteers are still needed at our Café on the Rec. This has and continues to be a valuable ministry to our community, many relationships have been built and forged. Please have a word with

Sandra or Steve Ambrose for further information.



## Diary Dates for July 2024:

Tuesday 2nd Children's workers meeting

Monday 8th 7.30pm Mission Group

Tuesday 9th 7.30pm Prayer Meeting for health of our church

Saturday/Sunday 13th / 14th Carnival Weekend

Sunday 14th From 4:30pm All Churches picnic followed by service by Kings and New Life churches at 6.00pm on the Recreation Ground

Monday 15th Pastoral Care Council

Tuesday 16th Café Volunteers Meeting

Saturday 20th Hall Hire 8.30am – 1.30pm All rooms Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

Sunday 21st 10.30am Welcome to Cadets Johnathan and Cat Brown and Corps Lunch followed by Café Church at 3.30pm

Monday 22nd 7.30pm Property/Finance Group

Tuesday 23rd Prayer meeting for church health 7.00pm

Tuesday 30th 6.30pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 31st Youth Drop In



## Bev's Musings!

**Peter and Paul! They came from very different backgrounds. Peter a fisherman from rural Galilee; Paul a learned Pharisee from the university city of Tarsus. Peter's first language was Aramaic; Paul's was Greek. Peter knew Jesus from the time of Jesus' baptism and was with Jesus until the time of His passion and death; Paul only ever met the risen Lord, in the vicinity of Damascus. For all their differences, they had at least one thing in common. Both of these men found themselves at odds with the Lord. Peter denied Jesus publicly three times. Paul violently persecuted the followers of Jesus, and thereby persecuted Jesus himself. Yet, their resistance to the Lord did not prevent the Lord from working powerfully through them. Peter was chosen to be the leader of the twelve, the rock on which Jesus would build his church. Paul was chosen to be the great apostle to the pagans. We know from the letter to the Galatians that Peter and Paul had a serious disagreement at one point about the direction the church should be taking. They were very different people and the Lord worked through each of them in very different ways. They were certainly united in death. Very early tradition recalls that both were executed in Rome by the emperor Nero who blamed the Christians for the fire of Rome. Their stories remind me that the way the Lord works through us is unique to each one of us. An even more amazing fact is that although Peter, who denied the Lord and Paul who persecuted the Lord, went on to become great servants of the Lord. This is a reminder that our failings do not define who we are. Paul would go on to say, 'the Lord's grace toward me has not been in vain'. The Lord's grace towards us in our weakness and frailty need never be in vain if we continue to open ourselves to the workings of that grace, as Peter and Paul did!**