

May 2024

CHALK FARM CORPS NEWSLETTER



*And they were calling to one another:
“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”
(Isaiah 6: 3, NIV)*

This issue of our newsletter spans over the major celebrations of the Christian Church as we look back to our Christmas, Easter and Pentecost celebrations. Today is Trinity Sunday when the Western Church celebrates the wonderful mystery of our God who reveals Himself in three persons; Father, Son and Spirit. God as trinity teaches us about unity in love and living as a community of faith. So we celebrate as such!

Celebrations are important from birthdays to major life events such as; graduations; weddings; anniversaries and even passing your driving test! Celebrations are observed within ‘community’ whether our family and friends; within faith settings such as Churches and or as a nation.

The 80th Anniversary of D-Day and the Normandy Landings will take place on 6th June and reminds us that we can celebrate things that on the face of it are not happy events. Within the Christian Church we celebrate the events of Easter recalling the sacrifice of God which brings us life. At a funeral we can celebrate the life of someone close to us and though sad still have a sense of rejoicing and thanksgiving as our faith tells us that their story is not over. A celebration awaits us referred to in the vision of St. John as *the great wedding supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19: 6-9)*.

So as Christians we celebrated God sending His Son Jesus to us at Christmas. At Chalk Farm we had a full Christmas dinner and act of worship. We recognise Jesus as God incarnate and so the face of God came into our world and taught us the way to live. His coming to earth was humble and His teachings profound for He came as *the Word of God made flesh (John 1: 14)*.



TRINITY SUNDAY

Christmas then gives way to Easter. God the Son became the sacrifice for us to be united to God – hence Jesus being known as *the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1: 29)*. Easter speaks of life! Through Jesus we are invited to share in fullness of life (*John 10: 10*) and in life *eternal (Romans 6: 23)*. For those who have experienced faith in Christ and the power of his sacrifice upon the cross and resurrection a description of rebirth is often applied. This rebirth is through receiving the Holy Spirit. Jesus explained to Nicodemus the need to be born again of the Spirit (*John 3: 7-8*). Jesus continues to explain:-

*...everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.
(John 3: 15-17, NIV)*

Life itself is a gift from God demonstrated at the moment He created the world with all its varied plants, creatures and of course us. As we read the creation accounts we see God referred to as more than one person. Firstly we see the Spirit identified in the second verse of the Bible: *Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. (Genesis 1: 2)*. Later God breathed life into man which is linked to his Spirit (*Genesis 2: 7*).

In Genesis 1: 26 we read: *Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."* (Genesis 1: 26).

Jesus Himself affirms that he is the Son of God on many occasions throughout his time on earth and promises to send the Holy Spirit when he returns to the Father. (John 14: 26). So last week we celebrated Pentecost and the birth of the Christian Church being endowed with the Spirit.

Today then we again are called to celebrate the Trinity. The mystery of the Trinity hard to grasp but that is precisely why its referred to as a mystery. As we read God's word and receive the Holy Spirit to illumine our minds may we know more of our great triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

By the Father sending us Jesus we received a practical example to follow of what we are called to be and was each gifted grace for the times we fail. By sending us the Holy Spirit God gave us the power to live and work to His praise and glory leading others to find salvation through Christ. Our Father awaits the day when all will be judged and those found in Christ be welcomed into His eternal presence. So today may we sing with the angels, Holy, holy, holy!

Did you Know?

The Salvation Army's second doctrine:
that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

The Salvation Army's third doctrine:
We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead – the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!***

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; the love of God the Father; and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us both now and forever more. Amen.

*Major Michael J Kinnear
Commanding Officer*

OUR COMMUNITY WORK – CHRISTMAS AND 2024



Each week Chalk Farm Corps has a busy programme welcoming people through its doors. Our present programme includes; drop-in services for the homeless community; advice and employability service; coffee morning; luncheon club for seniors; social afternoon (CAMEO Club); and a Friday Club partnership with C4WS (Night Shelters) for the homeless and vulnerably housed. There are also other ventures which take place throughout the year.

TURKEY AND TINSEL HOLIDAY

Last November Major James Williams arranged a 'turkey and tinsel' holiday to Great Yarmouth attended by some of our fellowship. They had a wonderful time having a full dress rehearsal for celebrating Christmas and New Year!

Left to Right; David (Chelesa Corps); Driver Chris; Major James Williams; Major David Jackson



BE A STAR CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

Chalk Farm Corps supported 270 children providing a parcel of new toys to each through our Be a Star Christmas Present Appeal. Thank you to all who supported this work.

On Sunday 3rd December our annual Toy Service marked the commencement of the Appeal.

We again received 70 shoe box gifts from the children of Christchurch School



LUNCH CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER

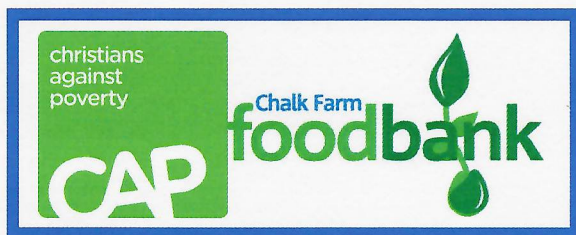
On Thursday 14th December 40 of our Lunch Club gathered to enjoy a full Christmas Dinner followed with a joyful Christmas Concert presented by Rhyl Primary School Junior Choir.

HOMELESS CHRISTMAS DINNER

On Wednesday 13th December 60 guests enjoyed a full Christmas Dinner including Christmas Pudding and a even dancing! All received a Christmas gift from Santa and emergency supplies to help them over Christmas time. A good number of those attending signed up for our Christmas Day venture and also received information about CRISIS| at Christmas events.

ANNUAL FOODBANK CHRISTMAS DINNER

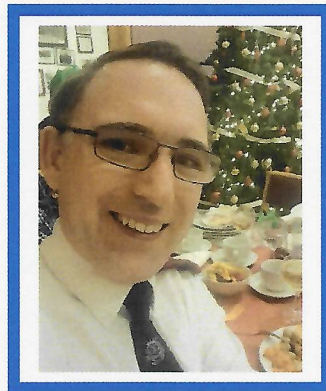
On Saturday 16th December the Trussell Trust Foodbank, Christians Against Poverty and Revelation Church organised a Christmas Dinner for approximately 80 guests to take place at Chalk Farm Corps. We are a referral partner with the Trussell Trust and have worked with them for many years. In the past food preparation and budgeting courses have been run from our building alongside their annual Community



Christmas Dinner event.

CHRISTMAS DAY

A wonderful Christmas Dinner was enjoyed by 80 guests. This is an annual event to support those who might be in need and otherwise have been alone on this special day. We welcomed many from the homeless community; older people and also families in need. We again had a fantastic team of volunteers alongside our Chef Major James Williams who served up a lovely three course Christmas Dinner. This was followed with a Carol Service. Special contributions included Ash and the family entertaining us with some singing accompanied by his guitar; (11 years old) playing a Cornet Solo and Major Michael who led the afternoon through.



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CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

On Sunday 17th December Commissioner Bill Cochrane led our Community Christmas Carol Service. The Band accompanied many well loved carols and contributed messages in music including the piece 'Mid Winter' - an arrangement by Richard Phillips of in the bleak midwinter. The final verse of this carol reads:



*What can I give Him
Poor as I am,
If I were a Shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what can I give Him
Give my heart.*



CHRISTMAS CAROLLING

Thanks go to Harpenden Band and Regent Brass alongside our collectors and musicians for last years carolling effort bringing Christmas Joy to the community. We had two stands:-
Hampstead High Street with Regent Brass = £1,288.68 and £185.00 card donations.
St. Pancras International Station with Harpenden Band = £560.00
This raised a total of: £2033.68 towards the Corps.



JUNIOR CITIZENSHIP SCHEME



We again hosted the Junior Citizenship Scheme which welcomed over 1,000 Camden year 6 participants over 10 days. Pictured are the team of facilitators including; TfL; LFB; Ambulance Service; Police; Hope UK and Arsenal FC Inclusion and The Salvation Army!

The scheme will again be hosted by

Chalk Farm Corps this coming November 2024.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

On Friday 10th November 2023 Chalk Farm Corps were represented at the Euston Memorial Remembrance Service with a wreath being laid and our Officer playing the Last Post. The Euston Service of Remembrance is organised by The Railway Mission and includes representatives from Euston Station, local dignitaries and the Police Service. Each year the Corps is privileged to be represented on VJ Day and Armistice Day laying a wreath and providing a bugler.

Major Michael Kinnear plays the Last Post & Reveille at the Euston War Memorial



EMPLOYMENT PLUS & ADVICE SERVICE

This takes place every Tuesday morning with a Salvation Army Employment Plus Advisor on site bi-weekly. Practical assistance is offered throughout the week but the Advice Service enables casework to be undertaken by our Officer and Community Assistant, Floridane Njike. Our Salvation Army Employment Plus Advisor, Colin King, is also able to give benefits and tenancy advice. We are able to refer people to centrally to Salvation Army Services such as our family training service; anti-human trafficking unit and debt advice service. We are also a referral partner with the Trussell Trust Foodbank; Little Village (family support services) and C4WS Winter Night Shelters which successfully housed three of our homeless drop in community.

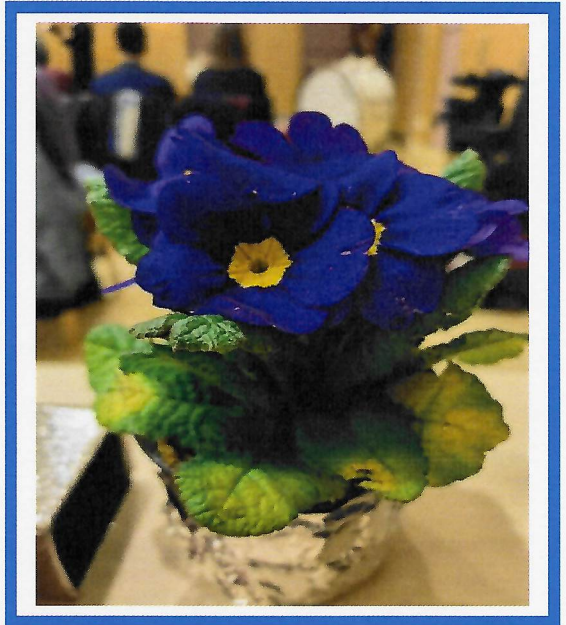
FAITH AND WORSHIP 'MUSIC, MUSIC EVERYWHERE'

MOTHERING SUNDAY

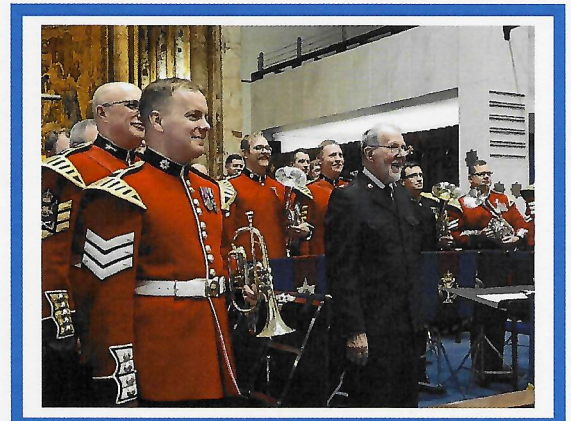
We were blessed as we celebrated Mothering Sunday around the theme kindness. The band contributed 'Hosanna' (Give me joy in my heart) and each lady received a flowering plant. In our response time many put fragranced oil on their hand to symbolise spreading kindness wherever we go.

CONCERT FESTIVAL – REGENT BRASS MUSIC OF ERIC BALL

On 12th March we had a packed hall as Regent Brass and Regent Community Brass presented a concert in preparation for the London & Southern Counties Brass Band Area Qualifying Contest 2024. The musical evening included; 'High Peak' and 'Corineus' as well as a selection of other pieces from the brass band maestro, Eric Ball.



Pictured Left - Regent Community Brass and Regent Brass Band unite for a musical spectacular pre-contest festival



*Pictured Right - Major Michael Kinnear; Major John Mott
And our Bandmaster Richard Brown*

On 27th February at the Guards Chapel the Household Division Brass Band presented music of The Salvation Army compared by Major John Mott. Our own Bandmaster, Richard Brown, was playing Horn. Major John Mott's grandson contributed two Solo items and is pictured above right on cornet.



EASTER 2024



Our **Palm Sunday** meeting was praise filled as we commenced our 'Easter Journey'. During our response people laid their garments down on the road to the cross and took a palm cross from the holiness table. After our fellowship lunch a number enjoyed a Palm Sunday Praise Concert at Kilburn Corps with Harlesden YP Band.



On **Good Friday** Lorraine Kinnear led our time of worship '*Journey to the Cross*' as we gathered around the cross and symbolically placed our footprints upon the road to Calvary. Following worship we shared refreshments and hot cross buns.



On **Easter Sunday** we considered the meaning of the name of Jesus and how God has our own names written on His heart and engraved upon his hand. Worship opened with the statement of faith; '*Christ is risen!*' and response: '*He is risen indeed!*' as the band struck up for the opening song 'Christ the Lord is risen today, Hallelujah!'. Later the band presented '*Come on and Celebrate!*'. During the response time people came forward and placed a heart with their name upon the empty cross. Following worship the Band led a witness to passers by on our Terrace and many stayed to



enjoy a lamb roast dinner and home made hot cross buns (*well done to the Major James and the kitchen team – and our in-house bakers Eleanor and Kendrick!*).

PENTECOST

We were blessed at our Pentecost celebration as we considered the universal language of God's love which helps draw others to receive the gift of salvation through Christ and receive the Holy Spirit. Major Michael magically made a birthday cake appear for the Church aided by the assistance of Marion. Members of Regent Brass supported our music making and later played out on the Terrace receiving a round of applause from those stopping to listen.



*Thou Christ of burning cleaning flame; Send the Fire!
Thy blood-bought gift today we claim; Send the Fire!
Look down and see this waiting host; give us the promised Holy Ghost;
We need another Pentecost; Send the fire today!
William Booth (1829-1912)*



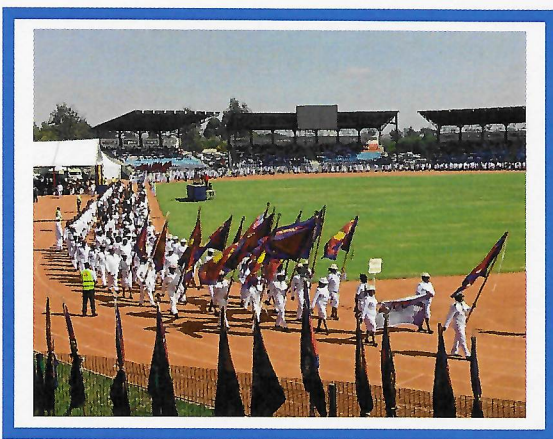
CAMEO CLUB

This year we have had a number of guest speakers. Our friends from Tunes-on-Tap Ukelele Band led the first club of the year. Other guests followed including a local artist giving a workshop; healthy aging and technology by Imperial College; the Camden wellbeing team and digital inclusion; and the National Energy Action Charity. Plans are underway for our annual summer coach outing. Details will be released shortly.

On Thursday 16th June, 10 am – 3 pm we welcome the Camden Wellbeing Bus on site at Chalk Farm Corps offering a range of services (10 am – 3 pm). *Including: Digital Inclusion; Blood Pressure Checks; BMI Assessments; Smoking Cessation & Spring Booster Vaccines for vulnerable individuals.* Bring along your technical devices and get expert support.

NEWS FROM KENYA EAST

Chalk Farm Corps members Lionel and Beatrice were among the crowds of Salvationists welcoming the General to the 100th Anniversary celebrations in Kenya East. Lionel recounts the occasion;



“Many Soldiers were enrolled and marched around the stadium. The president attended and spoke for 20 minutes praising the Army.”



Almost 250 Soldiers were enrolled by the General on the day. Lionel attends a thriving Corps which last month enrolled 13 new Soldiers. Both Lionel and Beatrice are due to return to us in August for their summer break.

**SELF DENIAL
MISSIONARY APPEAL**
Thank you to all those who contributed to this years Self Denial Altar Service. Chalk Farm Corps raised a total of £903.65.

DESTITUTION IN THE UK SURVEY

Chalk Farm Corps again had some involvement in the Josph Roundtree Foundation (JRF) Destitution in the UK research. We welcomed members from the foundation to attend our programmes and help those willing to complete the research survey. As well as achieving the Guardian's front page and extended broadcast news packages on Channel 4, ITV and Sky, the findings were prominently shared in 216 online and print articles including 10 national newspapers. This study was discussed at length on LBC and BBC Radio 4's Women's Hour alongside 500 further mentions on local and national radio stations across the week. At least five prominent media commentators, including one former PM, dedicated their entire columns to the report with Frances Ryan's Guardian column achieving 'most read online article' for the title on launch day. Across social media, high-profile engagement and reposts ranged from news editors, former First Ministers and current MPs to TV presenters, prominent authors and activists. To see this report visit the web address:

<https://www.jrf.org.uk/deep-poverty-and-destitution/destitution-in-the-uk-2023>



POLLING STATION

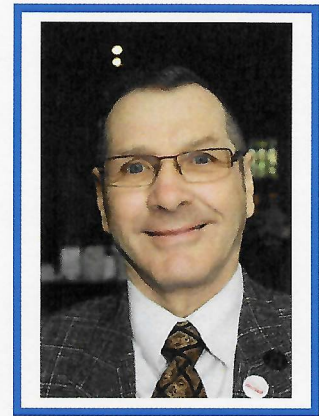
Chalk Farm Corps was again used as a Polling Station for the local and Mayoral elections. We have just received a booking by the Camden Electoral Services to be used for the General Election on Thursday 4th July. Please note that there will be no community programme taking place on election day.

THOSE GONE TO THEIR ETERNAL REWARD

We give thanks for the life of Lunch Club & CAMEO Club members Raymond (Bill) Butler and Robert (Bob) Stewart.

*'God bless and comfort
the bereaved
God keep us faithful unto death'*

*Pictured: Bill Butler
who had a Salvation Army funeral
led by Major Michael Kinnear*



Promotion to Glory of former Chalk Farm Bandsman Bob Humphrey

Chalk Farm Corps remembers Bob as an enthusiast percussionist, fond of the timpani but how many times did he march up and down the Camden Road between the Farm and Camden Town beating the bass drum. He also enjoyed playing with a staff orchestra at BBC Broadcasting House possibly through the connection with Bill Relton who conducted. Bob featured as a vocal soloist on some occasions and did sing with a choir in Barbados. He loved sport, playing for our successful Chalk Farm Band team, but golf was his long term interest. For many years he worked as a golf professional in Barbados, alternating between the West Indies and South Wales where his wife Eileen originated. He took early retirement and returned with Eileen to Newbiggin in the north east, which was Bob's family home. Eileen became ill, requiring institutional care and later Bob also had health problems. Bob went to his eternal reward on Christmas Day and his funeral and cremation took place in January.

Adapted from an article courtesy of Mike Stubbings

IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember in prayer:-

- Harriet who was bereaved of her father and Dexi bereaved of her husband Bill Butler
- Maureen Gray's niece, Gemma, who is recovering from major surgery and for her mother Pam who is Gemma's full time carer
- Rose Burrows as she recovers following surgery
- Collin Clifford as he recovers following surgery
- Doreen Bartlet as she recovers in hospital following a fall
- John Freeman who is recovering following a hospital stay
- For those connected with our fellowship who have health concerns and so unable to attend, particularly we think of Michael & Pat Clack and Kenneth Evans
- Those connected with our fellowship overseas; Lionel & Beatrice Cooper; Ted and Jana Williams
- Majors Jonathan and Mimmie Payne and their daughter Siya as they continue to wait upon a Visa to be granted to come to the UK



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