



RUSHDEN SALVATION ARMY

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS



**Reach Out Joint Newsletter for
December 2024 and January 2025**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3 v 16

What gifts will you be giving this year? Christina Rossetti's wrote these words What can I give him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give him - Give my heart. (song 110 v 4)



As you celebrate the festivities of Christmas May your hearts leap for joy as you remember the wonderful gift of God's Son. May the blessing of the Lord be upon you. The gift of His spirit flow through you, filling you with love, Joy and peace that will remain with now and always.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT FROM MAJOR DEBORAH OUGHTON

Christmas is well and truly on its way! I've spotted Christmas lights going up on houses, in streets and shops, and our local café is all about Christmas drinks with weird and wonderful variations on gingerbread, hazelnut and Turkish delight flavourings. Christmas films and music are available on television and radio

This time of year provokes all sorts of feelings. We know it's going to be incredibly busy, but we know it's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and be with all kinds of people. We also know that it can bring up feelings of loss and pain for many people – a cursory glance at this week's news only heightens that. Yet, into that hurt, we recognise the power of the story of God's light breaking into our world and bringing healing. Christmas is a brilliant time to share the good news of Jesus, even as the streets and homes around us light up.

So, drink up your gingerbread latte, switch on the lights, play the Christmas music and may the light of God shine through you.

Our First Christmas Preview took place on November 12th from 6pm until 8.30pm. This was a great success Karl Scott reports

The Charity Shop recently held a Christmas Preview Night where the Christmas stock was sold. Over 50 people attended.

Special thanks to Mike and Jenny for the music in the shop. The Band for the music in the community centre and those who helped make and serve refreshments.

A special thank you for all the volunteers who gave their time on the evening to make the night a massive success.

Painting Group Winter Sale of Paintings. Bram Prince writes The Art Group held a sale of pictures in St Marys Church at the Farmers Market October 24. We thank those who donated their pictures which raised over £200 for Parkinsons UK and Dementia UK.

SUNDAY MEETINGS FOR ADVENT

1st December 1st Sunday of Advent 10.30am Morning Worship.

This will be our toy service and also a church parade.

8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent – 10.30am Morning Worship

15th December 3rd Sunday of Advent – 10.30 worship meeting

22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent – 10.30 worship meeting

22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent - **6pm Carol Service**

29th December 10.30 Morning Worship

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING ON CHRISTMAS DAY

CHRISTMAS DAY MEALS - These will be provided for those who would otherwise be at home alone. Please speak to Major Deborah if you wish to go or know someone who would benefit from going along.

OPEN HOUSE DAY TUESDAY 31ST DECEMBER

Major Deborah invites you to come to her home for coffee/tea and cake at the Quarters 10am – 4pm. ALL ARE WELCOME

OTHER DATES FOR DECEMBER 2024

BADEN POWELL GROUPS (SCOUTING SECTIONS)

CAROL SERVICE WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 6.45 UNTIL 7.45 followed by refreshments in the community room.

Our Baden powell groups will be leading this carol service. All are welcome. This will be the last meeting until January 8th 25.

MONDAY'S ACTIVITIES

Drop-In 2nd 9th 16th 23rd and 30th December
10am- 1pm in the community room – all welcome.

Bible Study with Major Stuart 9th December **No Bible study** on Monday 23rd December

TUESDAY'S ACTIVITIES

Eplus Local on 3rd 10th 17th 24th and 31st from 10am – 1pm

Bible Study at Jenefer's house 3rd and 17th December

DATES FOR DECEMBER 2024 CONTINUED

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Painting Group 4th and 18th December from 1pm

SINGING GROUP practices on 4th 11th 18th December
No practice on December 25th

BAND PRACTICES for December still to be confirmed

BP SECTIONS after the carol service on 11th stop for the Christmas break. The next meeting will be in the new year.

CHRISTMAS DAY MEALS SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR DETAILS

THURSDAY ACTIVITIES

Thursday Fellowship 5th December 2pm

60's Club Band present a Christmas carol concert

19th December 2pm **Carols and More with Major Deborah**
Tea and biscuit available from 1pm in the community Room

Knit and Natter – There is no meeting taking place for the month of December. Next meeting will be on January 23rd 25

Prayer Meetings December 12th meeting together at 10.30 for a drink then 11am – 12noon prayer in the community room

No Prayer Meeting On Thursday 26th December 24.

FRIDAY ACTIVITIES

CAMEO - 13th December AT 12noon A 2 course meal is provided at the cost of £5. All Welcome Please speak to Major Deborah if you would like to go along.

STARTING ON THURSDAY 16TH JANUARY AT 4PM

DEVELOPING YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE THROUGH THE SALVATION ARMY

If you would like to know more on how to move forward in your worship at Rushden Corps speak to Major Deborah or Christine about attending this group.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM RUSHDEN CORPS FOLK

To all my friends - thank you so much for your prayers and good wishes for my recovery this year.... and a very special 'thank you' to everyone who did 'old lady sitting' for me during the three weeks after my operation. I hope you will feel blessed throughout the Christmas season and I wish you a Healthy and Happy New Year. God Bless you all, Geraldine.

Ruth Billingham wishes everyone at Rushden Corps a very happy Christmas and a peaceful & healthy New Year.

Robert, Sharon and Karl wish all those at Rushden Salvation Army A Happy Christmas and a good 2025.

'Blessings for a Christmas filled with Peace & Joy'.
Richard & Pauline (Majors)

*Greetings to all my Corps friends. I would like to say huge thank you for your thoughts and prayers over the past months. I wish you all Happy Christmas and God's blessing on you in the coming year.
Margaret Nutt*

Pat Munro would like to wish everyone at the Corps a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May the presence of our Lord Bless you and yours this Christmas and be with you throughout the New Year. With Love and thanksgiving from Majors Brenda and Douglas.

We would like to wish all our friends at Rushden Corps Love and Peace at this Christmas Time God Bless Shayne and Marian English

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE COMING YEAR

As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the next, we give thanks to God for the blessings of His love and strength each day. We thank God for the joy He has given and strength received that has helped us through the challenges that the day may have given. This Christmas time fill us with your grace and peace that will flow into the New Year giving us direction and wisdom, your peace and love in our lives each New Day.



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