

## REGULAR CORPS EVENTS

- Sundays **Meetings at 9.50. 10.30 a.m.. 4-30 p.m.**  
**JAM Club— Jesus and Me 11.10 a.m.** For young people
- Mondays **Silver Threads Club** Lunch 12 noon. Meeting 1.45p.m  
Fortnightly—Next one on 10th May.  
**Bible Study** Weekly, 7.30 at the hall with Major Tony.
- Tuesdays **Open Door and light lunches** 10 a.m.—1 p.m.  
**Parents and Tots** 10 a.m.—12 noon. Not school hols.  
**Home League** 1.30 p.m.
- Wednesdays **Cameo Club**—second Wednesday each month 7.30 p.m.
- Thursdays **Open Door** 10 a.m.—12 noon  
**Open Songster practice** 1st Thursday each month
- Fridays **Coffee Morning and Luncheon Club** 9.30 a.m. and 12.15.  
**Youth Club 8—11 yrs old.** Monthly, 7—8.30p.m.
- Saturdays **Walk** first Saturday every month. Details from  
Barrie, Andy or Gladys. All welcome  
**Coffee Morning** on third Saturday each month 10.30 a.m.

### Special this month.....

- Sun. 9th May Songs of Praise at 4.30 p.m. Singing Company leading.
- Tues. 12th May Divisional Home and Family rally at the Kings Centre
- Sat 15th May The Blast. Festival at Staines
- Sun 18th May Celebration of Talents at 4.30 p.m.
- Sun May 23 Pentecost.
- Wed. May 26th Give to Grow meeting at 7.30 p.m. See page 9

### Looking ahead .....

- Sunday June 9th Songs of Praise at 4.30 p.m.
- Sat. June 12th Sing Gospel. 3 p.m. See page 10.
- Sunday 20th June Y.P. Anniversary with the Divisional Youth Band.
- Fri July 9th Divisional Big Prayer Walk postponed from June 18th  
More details to come.
- July 9th/10th Churches Together BBQ.
- Sun July 11th Churches Together Songs of Praise on the Rye

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*High Wycombe Corps*  
*Frogmoor*

COMMANDING OFFICERS  
MAJORS TONY AND SANDRA FROST



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Dear Friends in Christ,

I am sure you like me, have noticed the beautiful cherry blossom this year. Each year it looks wonderful, but this year it appears to have added beauty and the colour more prolific. Those of you who are gardeners will know that these trees are native to China, Japan and Korea. In these countries the blossom

heralds spring, is an omen of good fortune and an emblem of love. In Japan it is symbolic of mortality. During the Second World War cherry blossoms were used to stoke nationalism and were painted on bomber aircraft to symbolise the ephemeral nature of life. The Japanese use salt-pickled blossoms in hot water to make sakurayu, which is drunk at festive events in place of green tea.

There is a reason for this year's best show of cherry blossom. The cold harsh winter has improved the quality and the lack of frost has made conditions perfect for flowering. The cold winter enhanced prospects for fruit and the trees were given the chill they needed to produce good quality blossom. Nick Dunn who runs a nursery and has been growing trees for 30 years said "This has got to be one of the best years ever for cherry blossom".



I couldn't help but think back to how we were complaining about the long cold winter and how we were hoping for warmer weather. Perhaps you can guess where I am going with this. Sometimes we have to experience difficulties and challenges before we see fruit for our labours. In Isaiah 35: vs1 & 2 says "The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom; like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God". Isaiah 27: v 6 "In days to come Jacob will take part root, Israel will bud and blossom and fill the world with fruit".

The wilderness will not remain a wilderness for the Lord will transform the earth into a Garden of Eden. All of nature eagerly looks for the coming of the Lord. Lebanon, Carmel and Sharon were three of the most fruitful and beautiful places in the land and yet the desert would become more fruitful than the three places put together.

Sometimes we find ourselves in a desert place or wilderness. However, because of God's love and mercy our lives can bloom and blossom once more and we will see fruit in abundance. Eighty-nine workers were killed in accidents during the building of Boulder (Hoover) Dam. The memorial plaque reads: "For those who died that the desert might bloom." One day, the desert will bloom to the glory of God because Jesus Christ died on the cross for the sins of the world.

All thy works with joy surround thee,  
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee,  
Centre of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Blossoming meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Major Sandra

Please pray for.....  
Bob Marsh who is in Ward 5b at Wycombe General Hospital.  
Bob is quite poorly at the moment and would appreciate your prayers and perhaps a visit (from 3 p.m.), or a card.

### Easter Quiz.

Please remember that the closing date for this is on Thursday 13th May. Quiz sheets still available from Gladys. £1.

*Young People's Anniversary*

*Sunday 20th June*

*with*

*Nick Ward, Divisional Youth Officer*

*and the*

*Divisional Youth Band.*

*Meetings at 10.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.*

*Don't miss this exciting occasion!*

*And now Something Different*

*For*

Musicians, non musicians, people who sing in the shower,  
Silver Thread Club members, Mums and Tots, Jam Club  
members, people who sit in the congregation, people who  
live with you, or next door, or down the street, your friend  
from another church, your local newsagent, your boss, your  
school teacher, your carer, your window cleaner,  
your Facebook friend.....in fact.....

Everyone you know, bring them along to

*Sing Gospel*

*Saturday 12th June*

Come along at 3 p.m. and join in and sing.

You can just come along and listen if you wish but it's  
guaranteed that you will end up singing anyway.

O God of the universe,  
You shed your glory, your majesty,  
Your omnipotence  
To become human, as Jesus Christ—  
To get close to us, to connect with us,  
To be our role model and guide for living.

O God of the universe,  
You became the human Jesus Christ,  
To know us, to feel all we feel,  
To show us how much you love us  
By taking upon yourself all our sins.

O God of the universe,  
You felt not just one person's pain  
But the pain of all of us,  
To wash us clean and bond with us,  
Your creation, your children

O God of the universe,  
You proved your transcendent holy power  
By rising from the dead,  
A sign that all of us who believe in You  
Will also rise to be with You eternally.

Joanna Fuchs

# Andy's Column

When the Salvation Army Corps at Marlow closed, we were fortunate to inherit Anna Thompson, who has been a regular attender at our church ever since. But what do we actually know about Anna?

## Ten things you may not know about Anna Thompson.

1. Anna is Belgian, having been born in the town of Pral, daughter of Remi and Catherina Keusters. She moved to Korspel at the age of one and is a Flemish speaker.
2. She was just eleven years old when the Germans invaded Belgium. Her parents owned and lived in the general stores which was immediately commandeered. The family were forced to move into overcrowded accommodation with barely enough food to go round.
3. They eventually evacuated to France, Anna with just a blanket on her bike. Her father transported her Grandfather on the crossbar of his bicycle. They stayed in derelict barns on the journey.
4. They did find a place to stay, but it was soon the epicentre of all the fighting, with the Germans on one side and the British on the other. It was here that Anna had the horror of seeing her first dead bodies, some German soldiers who had been shot during the conflict.
5. Returning to Belgium they were liberated by Montgomery's Eighth Army and her future husband, Ronald, camped in a tent behind their house. They met when he and seven others moved into the house to avoid the foul weather.
6. They were given permission to marry and after Ronald's demob they moved to Flackwell Heath where Gilbert and Mary were born.
7. Much later, Anna (a Roman Catholic) joined the Salvation Army at Marlow, enrolled as a soldier in 1997, becoming a very active administrator in the Corps.

8. Anna's great enjoyment was singing, having frequently sung "Ave Maria" at local weddings. She is also an enthusiastic flower arranger and darts player!
9. Anna admits to being a fussy eater, inevitably choosing gammon steak with pineapple when eating out. At home she prefers a dish that reminds her of childhood, potatoes with onion sauce.
10. No hesitation from Anna in choosing her favourite hymn. Those wonderful words of Carl Boberg, "How great Thou Art"

"O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

*When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation,  
To take me home, what joy will fill my heart!  
Then I will bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God how great thou art!"*

## Car Boot Sale.

Wondering what to do on Bank Holiday Monday? Why not go to the car boot sale at the Pedestal Field at West Wycombe. It does depend on the weather but Gladys is planning to be there, with her car boot overflowing with goodies for sale. A good afternoon out.

## Youth Club

May 7th. and 28th  
7-8.30 p.m.  
Children between the  
ages of 8 and 11 are  
very welcome.  
Fun in a safe  
environment.

## *A Day to Remember*



Easter day meant even more to Joan Edwards this year when she was sworn in as a soldier of the Salvation Army. A visit to S.P. & S. a few days previously, provided the uniform, which Joan was keen to wear as a witness to her new commitment. Joan was previously an adherent, but wanted to take that further step. Already finding ways to work in Corps activities, particularly on the practical front, Joan was gladly welcomed into our fellowship. Her testimony was given clearly and left us all in no doubt as to her love for God and her happiness that He has brought her to the Army. We are so glad to have her, with her bright and cheerful personality despite the difficult months she has endured, with the loss of her son and her brother. Her will to get stuck in, makes her a real asset to our fellowship. Let us continue to pray for her, and indeed to pray for each other, in order that we may be united in our love for God.

Quote of the month:-  
He (Jesus) turns panic into peace.  
He turns confusion into clarity  
He turns pointlessness into purpose  
He turns worry into worship.”

Give to Grow  
Wednesday May 26th  
7.30 p.m.  
A very important meeting

This is a meeting for everyone who has an interest in the Corps, whether the sort of person who feels a bed at the hall would be useful, or whether a person who appreciates the opportunity simply to worship here on a Sunday, or be part of the midweek activities. We need this place, we need this fellowship and it would be good for all to be aware of the financial implications of keeping it all going. Please make this meeting a priority in your list of 'Must Do's'. We will have officers from DHQ and THQ who will be able to suggest ways that we can help ourselves to keep our doors open!

## *Of Music and Food*

Many thanks to Helen and Mark Selwood who arranged both the concert with Marlow Town Band and Holtspur School Choir, and the safari supper on Easter Saturday. The concert was a sell out and was a fantastic evening with these two enthusiastic groups. We thank them for coming and providing such an enjoyable occasion for all who were able to be there. Some, including our 'music correspondent' Claude, were unable to be present because of other commitments, and some lost out because they didn't get in soon enough to buy a ticket. Nonetheless a great success.

The safari supper was also very successful. Small groups sharing food together in various homes, then all together for delicious desserts at the hall. Plenty of chatter goes on in the hall on Sundays, but this was an opportunity for real getting to know you better conversation.

Not only were these two events intrinsically good, but they also resulted in the raising of £400 towards renewing the notice board outside the hall. Again, thank you Helen and Mark.

Helen, Karys, Penny, Helen's sister and niece are all taking part in the Race for Life, raising funds for cancer research. They would be glad to hear from you if you would like to sponsor them.

## Easter Blessings

### *The cross raised in High Wycombe*

There was no doubting the message of the huge wooden cross as it was carried through the town centre on Good Friday morning. A large procession of people from many different churches joined together for this annual event. Stopping at various points in the town for the reading of Scripture telling the story being portrayed. The town was not hugely busy, but there were plenty of people who did watch and perhaps remembered the



sacrifice that Jesus made for them.

Throughout the week leading up to this day, our hall had been open and more than 120 people had visited to share a while. The informal service of Easter hymns and readings

brought in 45 people on the Tuesday morning. And of course the supply of hot cross buns and soup never ran out all week! What a great job the team of ladies do every day, we should be so grateful to them, not only for this week, but for the whole year when they quietly get on with their work almost every Tuesday and Thursday. They were exhausted. The Thursday evening meeting brought twelve of us together. We sat round a long table and tried to relive the events of that evening so long ago. Using the Scriptures



we took turns in reading the story and tried to imagine what it would have felt like for the disciples. We shared water and biscuits, serving each other to emphasise the intimacy of the occasion. We even deliberately shared songbooks. The feet of one man and one woman were washed, symbolically remembering the action of Jesus, and all the time trying to put ourselves in the place of those men in that upper room. Major Tony symbolically moved away from the table to 'be' Judas, and we finished the evening with the account of the trial before Caiaphas and then prayer.

Good Friday and Easter

Sunday meetings were led by the Divisional Commander, Major Christine Bailey, remembering first the anguish of the cross and then the journey of the two on the Emmaus road and



the shekinah, the glory of God shown in the risen Son of Man, Son of God, Jesus. Early on resurrection day a group of 22 people greeted the morning at Hughenden, rejoicing in the risen Christ. Not everyone was wearing suitable shoes for our usual climb up the hill, so we stood in the churchyard of Hughenden Church! The breakfast that followed was welcomed and enjoyed by all. A great start to a wonderful day of praise and worship, Easter is the fulcrum of history and the hope of the world. Sacrifice, forgiveness, resurrection, new life. How appropriate that we celebrate every aspect of this season.

