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| **Story 91** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **16**  **September** | **Taking a leap of faith** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 91:2**  ‘I will say to the Lord, “You are the strong place where I will be safe. You are my God, and I trust in you.”’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1964**  In October 1964, Lynn (the Leap) Davies won gold at the Tokyo Olympics with a leap of 8.07 meters in the long jump. The first Welshman (born in Nantymoel) to win an individual Olympic gold medal.  The Joystrings were a ground-breaking Salvation Army pop group that had a hit record in the UK singles charts in 1964. As a young officer Lieut-Colonel Sylvia Dalziel was a member of the group and mentions this remarkable event in the book *The Joystrings*: ‘On February 14th, 1964, “It’s an Open Secret” was in at number 16 – quite a Valentine’s Day gift for The Salvation Army!’  She also recalls a visit to Cardiff: ‘I was sufficiently recovered from appendicitis to join the group in Cardiff to perform for the first weekend in October … a concert was given in the Cory Hall on Saturday evening and in a cinema on Sunday afternoon.’  Further visits to Wales followed: ‘It wasn’t long before we set off on our travels once again, this time headed for South Wales, where we played at Senghenydd, Cardiff and Newport.’\*  The Salvation Army had taken a mighty leap. The Joystrings were proving to be very successful, both with Salvationists and the public. However, some Salvationists were highly critical of the use of ‘pop music’ to proclaim the gospel – a leap too far in their opinion! \*  \*Paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * What would a leap of faith look like for you today? Ask God to help you look for an opportunity to give him glory. * Is there something that God is speaking to you about and you haven’t shared it with anybody yet. Is today the day that you take that leap of faith? |

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| **Story 92** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **17**  **September** | **Praying for the United Kingdom and Ireland Territory** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 92:1**  ‘It is good to thank the Lord! We sing to praise your name, Most High God.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1965**  The Salvation Army’s centenary (100 years) celebrations took place this year. In Wales this included a service of thanksgiving at Llandaff Cathedral on 8 July. The *War Cry* carried a report:  ‘The Llandaff area of Cardiff was moved by a meeting of more than 1,500 Salvationists gathering at Llandaff Cathedral, for a celebration in connection with the Army’s centenary. Of these, some 450 had marched for a half-mile, led by the united bands of Roath and Grangetown. Bearers of 30 flags came in front of various groups and then lined up on either side of the cathedral as the crowds passed inside.  ‘The South Wales divisional flag was carried to the high altar and received by the dean, the Very Rev Eryl Thomas, who welcomed the Salvationists and, in his sermon, spoke of the Army’s enthusiasm, faith and unconventional methods, with particular reference to its local social work.  ‘Cardiff Canton Band accompanied the congregational singing and provided a selection and a songster brigade of nearly one hundred voices sang, “The World for God”.’ \*  Welsh representation at the London centenary celebrations (24 June to 3 July) included:  26 June at the Crystal Palace  Bandstand 1 and then 3, Cardiff Canton Band.  Torchbearer Groups, Llanelli and Morriston.  28 June at the Royal Albert Hall  Centenary Festival of Praise, including Cardiff Canton Band playing ‘Heroes of the Faith’.  A film of the celebrations can be found on YouTube: [1965 Salvation Army Centenary (youtube.com)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cpUZcR0ebRA).  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for the territorial leadership team. * Thank God for the way the United Kingdom and Ireland Territory is continuing to impact lives for Jesus in the 21st century. |

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| **Story 93** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **18**  **September** | **Praying for all those affected by the Aberfan disaster** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 93:5**  ‘Lord, your rules remain strong and true. Your house will always be holy, because you are holy.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1966**  On 21 October 1966, 116 children and 28 adults died in the Aberfan disaster.  Under the headline, ‘The Aberfan Tragedy’, the 29 October *War Cry* reported on the ‘round-the-clock ministry by Salvationists’:  ‘From about noon on Friday, a few hours after news of the tragedy had broken, Salvationists have been maintaining a continuous night-and-day service of care. As we go to press Major Arthur Petit (Merthyr Tydfil) and Captain Clifford Howes (Treharris), commanding officers of the two corps nearest to Aberfan, will, with other Salvationists, join local ministers in visiting the homes of the bereaved.’  Mentioning that ‘the moving tip had buried the Pant Glas Junior School’, the report went on to say:  ‘Headquarters was first set up in one of the extensively damaged homes, but later police put an empty house for the Army’s use… it was possible to take much-needed food, and other comforts to the “front-line” diggers high up on the mountain of debris. Help was also given in helping people leave their property, if it was in danger. \*  ‘Probably the most valued help to the people who were upset was that given in and around the Bethany Chapel, which served as a mortuary. Nearly every parent who was called to identify a child was accompanied by a Salvation Army officer, who then returned with the bereaved to the home of sorrow … for a time, Major Derek Tribble supervised the preparation of the children’s bodies for their parents’ ordeal.’ \*  The 12 November *War Cry* had a report titled: ‘The Woman Who Loves Wales’:  ‘When the Duke of Edinburgh visited the damaged village of Aberfan and spoke to Brigadier Winifred Gilmore he did not know that she had a particular love for the valleys and by her own desire has served four periods in South Wales covering half of her more than 30 years officership.\*  ‘Her first appointment in Wales was to Troedyrhiw, which is the next village to Aberfan. She is now stationed, with Captain Eileen Kellard, at Abergavenny. They were amongst several officers who gave continuous service, during the days following the disaster.’  Major Dorothy Graham also played a part in the Army’s response. Steven Spencer of the International Heritage Centre recorded an interview with her on 9 March 2010. The ‘content summary’ of the recording says:    ‘Dorothy Graham [DG] describes her role as a corps minister in Pentre, Wales. She describes how she heard about the Aberfan disaster and preparing to help. She states the time of the disaster as 9.30am and hearing about it at approximately 5.00pm, arriving at the disaster site by 6.45pm. DG describes the disaster site at Aberfan and the initial work that she carried out clearing the slurry. She describes how she comforted people affected by the Aberfan disaster after the event and staying until 10.30pm to help on the first day. DG comments on working with other religious services at this disaster site and the work carried out by other Salvation Army officers. DG states that she was only needed for two days, and then local and divisional officers continued the emergency support work. DG recalls being photographed at the disaster site by the *Sunday People*. She describes how being involved with the disaster relief work at Aberfan has affected her. She states her belief that The Salvation Army, as an organisation, can do things that others cannot because of their religious background.’  In *The Joystrings*, Sylvia Dalziel writes:  ‘Perhaps worth more than a mention is the Christmas Benefit Concert in aid of the Aberfan Disaster Fund at the Royal Albert Hall, where the Joystrings featured alongside the Small Faces and Cat Stevens. It is interesting to note that at the time of the Aberfan disaster former Joystrings member Ruth and her husband Cliff Howes were Salvation Army officers in the South Wales valleys and selflessly served the people in the days after of that great tragedy.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for all those still affected by the tragedy in Aberfan: for those still feeling the guilt associated with survival and for those still affected by the things they saw that day. * Pray that the children currently attending schools in the area will grow into strong members of society and succeed. |

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| **Story 94** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **19**  **September** | **Remembering those who have laid down their lives for others** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 94:14**  ‘The Lord will not leave his people alone. He will not forget to help the people that belong to him.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1967**  Between 25 and 27 August 1967 The Beatles, along with Mick Jagger, Cilla Black and Jane Asher, came to Bangor to attend a seminar by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi on transcendental meditation.  The Beatles were well – known symbols of the swinging sixties, when people questioned long-held traditions and turned their back on the usual authority, including the Church. However, human beings are spiritual beings. They might reject traditional forms of religion, but they still have a spiritual hunger – a hunger that the anything-but-traditional Salvation Army met in the 19th century and was still meeting through the sacrificial giving of followers of Jesus like Winnie Davies, whose death was mentioned in the *War Cry* of 14 October 1967. \*  ‘Many readers will know of the martyrdom of missionary-nurse Winnie Davies, who met her death at the hands of Congolese rebels on Sunday, May 27th, this year. Formerly a sister at Liverpool Royal Infirmary, she went to the Congo in 1947, set up a hospital at Opienge and trained Congolese girls in nursing.  ‘Miss Davies was born in the village of Coedpoeth, Wrexham, and the local people felt that “a fitting, visible memorial should be built to remind us of her dedication, sacrifice and courage while proclaiming the gospel of salvation to the people whom she loved so much”… Corps Secretary John H Roberts, the Salvation Army representative on the committee, tells us that anyone wanting to contribute to this memorial fund can send their donation to him.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Thank God for those who have laid down their lives for others. |

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| **Story 95** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **20**  **September** | **Praying for Bargoed** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 95:7**  ‘He is our God. He takes care of us, like a shepherd takes care of his sheep. As his sheep, he gives us what we need. Today, you must listen to him and obey him.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1968**  The Bargoed Corps history book records the Army’s 20th Rhymney Valley Festival on 21 and 22 September 1968:  ‘Eight hundred people, one of the largest attendances for many years, were present for the opening of the Rhymney Valley Festival of The Salvation Army Bargoed at the Central Hall on the Saturday night.  ‘The Army’s well known Chalk Farm Band, London provided the programme for the 20th annual effort, which included two meetings at the Central Hall – Saturday night and Sunday Afternoon. The band, conducted by Bandmaster Michael Clack, also took part in the services at the Central Hall on Sunday morning and Sunday evening…  ‘Councillor Coleman, who always supported The Salvation’s Army work in Bargoed, praised the work of the Army locally who were always ready to give of their services for good causes.  ‘“This annual effort is traditional,” said Captain Harry, who added he hoped it would be possible to invite the Army’s International Staff Band to next year’s festival.’  The International Staff Band did attend the 21st Rhymney Valley Festival October in 1969!  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * We praise God for the continued work of The Salvation Army in Bargoed. * Pray for all those who are effected by their work and witness. |
| **Story 96** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **21**  **September** | **Praying for Skewen** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 96:2**  ‘Sing to praise the Lord's great name! Every day, tell people the message that he has rescued us.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1969**  The Investiture (when he was given his title) of Prince Charles (now King Charles III,) as Prince of Wales took place at Caernarvon Castle on 1 July 1969. A headline in the 28 June *War Cry* said, ‘Good health and every blessing in the future to the Prince of Wales’. A brief message followed:  ‘From the early beginnings of our Movement the Salvationists of Wales have always retained a great affection and loyalty to the Crown. Their happiness and unbounded admiration will be enthusiastically displayed to our Prince on this happy day. May “The Prince of Peace” honour and bless the ceremony, and the heartfelt prayers of Welsh Salvationists everywhere will be, “Long live the Prince of Wales”.’ \*  The same *War Cry* included a message from the Secretary of State for Wales, the Right Honourable George Thomas MP:  ‘The Salvation Army is a much-admired movement in Wales. Its work of witness and welfare has endeared its followers to the Welsh people, winning their respect and affection.  ‘It is a movement that believes in practicing what it preaches; its work in the social field is so well known that like so many other good things it is almost taken for granted. I am very pleased, therefore, to have this opportunity to put on record my own unbounded admiration for the work The Salvation Army does, not only in Wales, but throughout the world, and to send my greetings to its followers and supporters everywhere.  ‘The Salvation Army has never held back when disaster has overtaken a Welsh community or in times of distress. It is fitting that it should now join us in our celebrations of the Investiture of His Royal Highness, Prince Charles. Greetings and good wishes to you all.’  Later in the year, a sponsored walk from London to Skewen raised funds for a new hall. When the opening and dedication of the hall took place in March 1972, the brochure recorded what had happened:  ‘From the warmth of a lovely June evening, the building committee, realising the need to raise a large sum of money quickly, agreed to a suggestion from one of the committee men to hold a sponsored walk from London to Skewen, a distance of about 193 miles, with the aim of raising a possible £1,000. The walk was arranged from Thursday 4th September to Monday 8th September 1969 with four participants namely: Brothers Elwyn and Ken Batt, Bram Knuckey and Don Lewis.  ‘General Frederick Coutts was at the International Headquarters to send them on their way and so began the long walk home. They were accompanied by a car and averaged 40 miles a day. Being supplied with meals on route and staying with fellow Salvationists, they arrived home at midnight and for the last few miles were accompanied by the corps flag being carried in front of them. A fantastic reception awaited them and hundreds of people, despite the late hour, lined the main road to welcome and cheer them back. Each participant was interviewed and photographed before proceeding to the hall for a well-earned foot bath. The amount raised considerably succeeded the original target.’  It was said that the HTV cameras were waiting for the walkers at Hirwaun and one of the number who had been using a walking stick for the previous two days threw the stick away when he saw the cameras!  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for the Salvationists at Skewen Corps as they continue to bring Jesus to their community. |

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| **Story 97** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **22**  **September** | **Praying for the Welsh community in Patagonia** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 97:12**  ‘All you righteous people, be happy because of what the Lord has done. Thank him because he is holy.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1970**  The 14 March 1970 *War Cry* carried an article titled: ‘For the Welsh in Patagonia’:  ‘A number of references have been made to Major Edward Watkins and his work for the Welsh community in Patagonia… After homeland furlough … the Major and his wife left the UK for Buenos Aires on Thursday, February 19. From the capital of the Argentine, they will have a further 1,000 miles to travel before reaching their centre of operations at Trelew in the heart of the Welsh-speaking community.  ‘Following up on their attendance at the Investiture of the Prince of Wales at Caernarvon, where they represented the Welsh people of Patagonia, they were asked by the Patagonia Welsh Society in Wales to take back with them an investiture chair for presentation to the community in Trelew. They also carry with them a message of greetings from the Secretary of State for Wales, the Rt Hon George Thomas MP … this concludes with the wish, “May your love of Wales and the language long survive.”  ‘Major and Mrs Watkins are also taking back with them samples of soil from the 13 counties of Wales: these will be placed in the Welsh national memorial at Trelew. They are still hoping that some Welsh-speaking persons will consider offering for work in Patagonia, where there is urgent need for ministers and teachers.’  The International Heritage Centre records say: ‘Edward Owen Watkins had been a farmer and a soldier of Pwllheli corps. Welsh speaking, he was also fluent in English and Italian. After serving in 12 corps in 14 years, together with his wife Margaret, he went to serve in South America.’  Major Susan Jones, a former divisional leader, recalls:  ‘Perhaps the most significant memory of our time in the South and Mid Wales Division was the honour of being invited to travel to Patagonia to share in the 150th anniversary of the Welsh Migration. We learnt the story of Reverend Michael D Jones as he, and fellow Welsh men and women, set sail on the *Mimosa*; bound for a new life, where the preservation of the Welsh culture would be paramount.  ‘As we joined our brothers and sisters in Trelew, we celebrated something that was most wonderful. Each of the meetings began with the singing of the Argentine National Hymn in Spanish and ended with the singing of the Welsh National Anthem in Welsh.  ‘We could speak only a few words in Welsh and even fewer in Spanish, but the visit was a reminder that wherever we are in the world, the people of God share a common language and that is the language of love.  ‘I give thanks to God for three wonderful appointments in South Wales, the opportunity to celebrate the 140th anniversary of The Salvation Army in Wales, the people we met and the places we were able to minister and for the fact that God’s Spirit is still moving on the hearts of the people of Wales.’ |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * It is truly a joy that the Welsh Language is still used by Welsh speakers in Patagonia. Pray for those who are sharing their love of Jesus within that community. |

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| **Story 98** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **23**  **September** | **Praying for families** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 98:7**  ‘The sea and everything that is in it should shout to praise the Lord! The earth and all those who live in it should shout as well!’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1971**  An article in *The Deliverer* magazine of Sep/Oct 1971 read:  ‘Now that there is a less severe attitude towards unmarried mothers, many of them stay in their own area to have their babies instead of going away to other towns. Many more mothers are keeping their babies, too. Of the babies born in the city of Cardiff in 1969, 89 per cent were kept by their mothers, 9 per cent were adopted and the rest fostered.\*  ‘Mostly it is mothers in the 15-20 age group who, wishing to keep their babies, find it difficult to find accommodation. These are girls who can be helped over this difficult period at Northlands. They will be allowed the maximum length of stay of two years and during that time will be taught how to care for their babies and to look after their own rooms. Should they wish to find a place of their own, every help and encouragement will be given.  ‘Commissioner Julia Tickner, Leader of the Women’s Social Services, showed how there had always been a willingness to adapt to changing needs. The extending of Northlands to include a Mother and Baby Home and Day Nursery was an up-to-the-moment example.’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for those families that are supporting single parents to raise their children. |

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| **Story 99** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **24**  **September** | **Praying for those who find refuge in new communities** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 99:9**  ‘Praise the Lord our God! Go and worship him on his holy hill, because the Lord our God is holy!’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1972**  ‘The Vietnam War (1955-1975) was in its final stages in 1972. Most of the US ground forces had been withdrawn. The Salvation Army was involved in providing relief in Vietnam; for instance, the Australian Red Shield Services and an American team involved in social work (for which, members of the team were awarded the distinguished medal of Xa-Hoi-Boi-Tinh by the government of Vietnam for work in social welfare field).’  (*Beyond the Battlefield* by Barbara A Exline)  In the May/Jun 1972 *Deliverer*, next to a photograph of a young Vietnamese woman, was the following: ‘This young woman from Vietnam is in this country to complete a course of journalism at Cardiff University. Her first contact and knowledge of The Salvation Army was when she was recommended to Northlands so that her new baby could be cared for while she continues her studies. She is deeply grateful at being so accommodated and hopes, before rejoining her husband in Vietnam, to see more of the Army so as to write about it.’  It was a small act of kindness to this young Vietnamese woman, compared to the great tragedy of the Vietnam war, but an example of how small things can play a significant part in the human story. \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * There may be refugees or others seeking refuge in your community. Pray that they will be supported and helped where possible by The Salvation Army. |

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| **Story 100** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **25**  **September** | **Praying for creativity** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 100:5**  ‘Yes, the Lord is good. He always loves us as his people. He always does what he has promised to us and to our descendants for ever.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1973**  William Cooper (British Commissioner 1964-1969) was a forward-thinking officer who was willing to experiment. (For instance, he started the Holiday Plus Fellowship at Butlins). In 1965 he set up the first Area Command at Swansea. It was probably a ‘pilot’ scheme, because six more Area Commands were set up the following year, one of them being Wrexham. Three more were added in 1967. This experiment was ended in 1971. It would have taken a year or two for the corps and particularly the central corps – eg Swansea and Wrexham – to readjust after such an experiment. (The Area Commander was also the corps officer of the central corps). \*  According the Dispositions of Forces, (positioning of officers) 1965-1971, the two Welsh Area Commands were made up as follows:\*  *Swansea Area Command*: Swansea Citadel, Aberystwyth, Ammanford, Gorseion, Llaenlly Citadel, Llanelly Dock, Milford Haven, Morriston with Clydach Outpost, Pembroke Dock, Skewen, Swansea High Street, Swansea Plasmarl, Tenby.  *Wrexham Area Command:* Wrexham, Caernarvon, Cefn Mawr, Chester, Coedpoeth, Connah’s Quay, Holyhead, Oswestry, Rhosllanerchrugog, Shrewsbury, Welshpool.  A March 1973 newspaper cutting in the Connah’s Quay Corps history book has the headline, ‘Long March for the Band’, with the report:  ‘Three members of Connah’s Quay Salvation Army corps were expected back on Deeside last night – a day ahead of plans– after completing a 150-mile sponsored walk from Carlisle.\*  ‘The walkers, Capt Ken Jefferson, Bandmaster Neil Wilcock and bandsman Bryn Hargreaves, are said to be extremely tired but in good spirits. They set off from Carlisle on Easter Monday to raise money for the local Salvation Army band and were due back on Deeside today.  ‘The three marchers ... did the 150-mile march in 48 hours. In the first 24 hours they walked 62 miles with only four hours sleep. The three men were joined in Southport by 18-year-old Colin Snead from Connah’s Quay, who joined the march to Deeside.’ \*  \*Paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for creativity in thought, word and deed that tries to help corps with their ministry to the communities in which they find themselves. |

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| **Story 101** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **26**  **September** | **Praying for The Salvation Army throughout Wales** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 101:1**  ‘I will sing and praise you, Lord! I will sing about your faithful love and your justice. |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1974**  The *War Cry* of 16 November 1974 carried a report of the Welsh Centenary Congress titled, Sixty-Eight Surrender During Welsh Congress’:  ‘Although the morning sunshine broke into the heavy downpour by the time more than 1,000 Salvationists gathered to form for their march in Museum Avenue, Cardiff, this in no way lessened their enthusiasm or sense of occasion as they marched through the streets of Cardiff towards the Sophia Gardens Pavilion.  ‘Every corps in Wales was represented … The Centenary Festival of thanksgiving opened with a presentation of flags from corps in Wales … Major William Davies, of Swansea Citadel, referred to the wonderful works of God through the history of the Salvation Army in Wales and called upon all present to be available for service in the future, however costly this might be…  ‘Following the General’s opening remarks, time was spent in a silent tribute to Bandsman Dai Barry of Abercarn, who, whilst carrying the corps colours during the march of witness in the afternoon, was promoted to Glory. Throughout the Sunday, the Abercarn corps flag held a special place of importance, in reminder of the faithfulness of a loyal Salvationist, representative of so many who serve their Lord faithfully.  ‘The contributions made during the programme, whether from the united bands or the centenary chorus (both conducted by Major George Whittingham), or in the youthful but characteristic contributions of the Welsh School of Music … reminded many of the loyalties which have helped keep the work in Wales for so long.\*  ‘Salvationists from North Wales, Wrexham Band and Connah’s Quay timbrellists – also contributed to the festival programmes…  ‘In the holiness meeting General Coutts clearly gave definitions, not only of the doctrine of holiness but of the experience of walking with Christ.’  The same *War Cry* included a ‘Message to Wales’ from the British Commissioner, Geoffrey Dalziel:  ‘I write not only from historical fact but also from personal experience. Mrs Dalziel and I have marched those same streets with Welsh comrades in the years of depression, when it was the song on the lip that kept hope alive in the heart and on into the early war years when we could join in rendering service to the needy in those dark days.  ‘When stationed at Williamstown, in the Rhondda Valley, we climbed a hillside one early morning to catch a first glimpse of the dawn as it shot its glory into the sullen sky and with that joy in our hearts we could descend to the darkness and depression of the valley below but with this vision splendid always before us.\*  ‘So, the radiance of an inner glow has kept the fires burning in the hearts of Salvationists from Wales and in this centenary year we rejoice in the energy of the witness being made and believe the second century can see some of those greater things for which we all pray.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for ‘the radiance of an inner glow’ as Commissioner Dalziel put it. * Pray that the ‘fires burning in the hearts of Salvationists’ will continue to glow with vitality in this our 150th celebration year. |

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| **Story 102** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **27**  **September** | **Giving thanks for those who have influenced our lives** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 102:1**  ‘Lord, please hear my prayer! Listen to me when I call to you for help.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1975**  A tribute to Major Ernest Bentley, recently promoted to Glory, appeared in the 25 January *War Cry*:  ‘When the corps at Skewen was reopened, among a number of converts were five brothers of whom Ernest Bentley was one … he was an able musician and was well-known for his concertina playing.  In St Peter Port he formed a youth orchestra, and all through his years of active service and into retirement he wrote and produced demonstrations for young people … but he will be best remembered for his explanation of the Scriptures, which he loved to preach and teach.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Reflect on and give thanks for the people who have influenced your Christian life and service. Ask yourself how you might be able to influence others to follow the Jesus you love? |

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| **Story 103** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **28**  **September** | **Praying for Newport** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 103:8**  ‘The Lord is kind to people and he forgives them. He is slow to get angry and his love always continues.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1976**  On the back page of 1 May *War Cry* there was a feature called ‘One Man and His Work: Scenes from the life of Lieutenant Stuart Day, commanding officer at Newport Central’, consisting of five photographs with the following descriptions:\*   * The lieutenant prays with a 92-year-old woman in her home. * Collecting bread from a local supermarket to be distributed to needy homes. * The lieutenant and his wife lead a Sunday morning meeting. * The lieutenant in his office, interviewing two women who have requested help. * Selling the *War Cry* in a public house.   \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for the corps in Newport and its witness to the city. Thank God for all those who find succour through the provision of the café and charity shop. * Pray also for the work of the Homeless Services Unit and its outreach work in the city centre. |

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| **Story 104** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **29**  **September** | **For passion for our local communities** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 104:33 and 34**  ‘All my life, I will sing to praise the Lord. I will always sing songs to praise my God, for as long as I live. I want my song to make him happy. I will be happy, because of what the Lord has done.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1977**  Lieut-Colonel George Pilkington (R) recalls the early days of Rhyl Corps:  ‘Majors Doris Langley and Maggie Singleton had been in a car accident and were out of an appointment. When they were feeling better, they asked if they could visit Salvationists who lived in North Wales, which was agreed.  ‘One of those Salvationists had moved from Romford to Rhyl for work. He attended churches in uniform and met other Salvationists. He was the inventor of a gathered community that first met for worship in his home. He wrote to the divisional commander, Major William Layton, based in Liverpool. He informed the major that worship was now taking place in the town’s silver band room in Windsor Steet, which was being hired. (This is where the Salvation Army hall is now located.) He requested that an officer come to preach. This is the point where local initiative and central leadership came together. Majors Doris Langley and Maggie Singleton were appointed to Rhyl.\*  ‘Captains George and Vera Pilkington were appointed to Rhyl on 2 June 1977. The British Commissioner, Geoffrey Dalziel, was a determined encourager from London to us as officers and the corps people… The joy of new converts, together with more Salvationists coming to live in the area, resulted in growth in numbers and an increase in programme activities. Summer open-air ministry would see meetings on the seafront with hundreds listening, one of the attractions being a soldier who sang in Welsh accompanied on her guitar. The first bilingual wedding in the corps took place when she married.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray that the Lord will infuse us with passion for our community and vision to see how best we can serve it. |

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| **Story 105** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **30**  **September** | **Praying for Nantymoel** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 105:4**  ‘Ask the Lord to help you. Ask him to give you strength. Always try to be near him and worship him.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1978**  The International Heritage Centre (IHC) records say:  ‘On June 6th, 1978, Treharris corps officially opened and dedicated their new building. The corps folk marched from the site of their old hall to the new hall where they were received by the civic party. The opening song, ‘Heavenly Father, thou hast brought us/ Safely to the present day’, was sung to the Welsh tune of “Hyfrydol”.’  The IHC also states:  ‘On September 7th, 1978, a coal hewer (someone who digs for coal) from Nantymoel was promoted to Glory. Some years earlier, a miner from Brymbo was also promoted to Glory. Both had left the mines in response to their call to officership.  'The former, with the impressive name of Thomas John Charles Bramwell Mills had served at fifteen corps, eleven social service appointments and spent two years on war work.  ‘The latter, Thomas Lloyd Pritchard, served in at least eighteen social service appointments before being transferred to Salvationist Publishing and Supplies.’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for those who continue to witness for Jesus in Nantymoel. |

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| **Story 106** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **1**  **October** | **Praying for Cardiff Canton** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 106:1**  ‘Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! Thank the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love will always be with us.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1979**  In *Forth in Thy Name: A History of Cardiff Canton Corps 1879-1979*, Keith Griffin records the following testimony from Mrs Annie Jarvis, No 1 on the soldiers roll:  ‘I count it a privilege to send greetings to my fellow comrades, and to give my testimony on this, the centenary of the Canton Corps, where as a child of ten I gave my heart to the Lord Jesus. It is 75 years ago, but the memory of that Saturday night is as fresh as ever. The next day I was so happy I had to tell my school friends about it, but I am afraid they did not understand what I was talking about; but I knew, and since that Sunday in November 1904 I have tried to be his follower, falling far short of what I had wanted to be, but always being certain of his love and forgiveness.  ‘How can I ever thank God for saving and keeping me through all the various experiences of life! I have had much joy and happiness – sorrow and disappointments, too, such as come to all: but with Jesus walking beside me, I have been able to appreciate the joys and, in sorrow, have felt his everlasting arms around to support and comfort me. I must mention, too, how grateful I am for so many opportunities for witnessing that have come my way through wearing Salvation Army uniform; also, for the joy my husband and I had working with the young people.\*  ‘Now, in old age, missing loved ones and friends with whom I enjoyed sweet fellowship, I know in the loneliness I am not alone; my Lord is “ever near to bless and cheer”. To him my heart is full of gratitude, so very sincerely I say, “Thank you, Lord.”  ‘To Him be the glory! Praying that God will richly bless our corps in the future, as he has done so often in the past.’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Having read the testimony from Mrs Annie Jarvis, take time to reflect on that moment when you gave your heart to Jesus and thank him for his continuing love to you. * Pray for Cardiff Canton, that they will be blessed and will glorify God in all that they do for him. |

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| **Story 107** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **2**  **October** | **Reflecting on the past** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 107:2**  ‘Everyone that the Lord has rescued should tell others. Tell them how he has rescued you from the enemy's power.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1980**  Commissioners Mike and Joan Parker (R), former divisional leaders and corps officers in South Wales, write:  ‘In response to the Aberfan disaster on 21 October 1966, Cadet George Price – who together with his wife had been appointed to Treharris Corps for their summer appointment, and whose district included Aberfan –started what was to become the Annual Aberfan Festival, which raised funds for work in the community.  ‘The fifth anniversary of the festival took place in 1980. Throughout the years, this event received the support of Salvationists from well outside the area, including the band from Bristol Easton Corps. The Aberfan Community Centre was filled for many years. The festival was a joyous occasion, attracting many local residents, but also included moments of reflection regarding the tragedy of 1966 when 144 people died, 116 of whom were children from Pantglas Junior School.’  In 1980, Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones preached his last sermon… A former Harley Street physician, he brought his undoubted diagnostic skills to the pulpit. He was wary of emotionalism but was passionate for the gospel – his preaching ministry being described as ‘logic on fire’. Christopher Catherwood wrote:  ‘Lloyd-Jones was a rare combination of great intellect and fiery emotion, and it was these two strengths that gave his life and ministry its special power and impact. It goes back to his Welsh upbringing – indeed, he cannot really be understood in human terms apart from his Welshness. He had a prodigious knowledge of Church history (by which he set much store).    ‘Throughout his ministry, Dr Lloyd-Jones was to urge Christians again and again to know their history, especially that of the Church.’  His respect for Church history is evident in an extract from his foreword to *Evangelicalism in England* by EJ Poole-Connor: ‘We have a long and glorious history which did not start with the visits of DL Moody to this country, nor even with John Wesley. We are inheritors and custodians of a priceless heritage.’  As we consider our own long and glorious history, we do well to remember that we also are inheritors and custodians of a priceless heritage. The story has a remarkable past and a future yet to be written.  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Give thanks for our inheritance in Christ and know that he will be our source of joy and strength as we move into the future. |
| **Story 108** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **3**  **October** | **Praying for Risca** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 108:13**  ‘With God's help, we will win! He will beat down our enemies for us.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1981**  Pontymister Corps, which had a successful young people’s work and a growing community around it, and Abercarn Corps, which had excellent music sections, had combined to form Risca Corps under the leadership of Lieutenants Mike and Joan Parker. The Risca Corps history book records what happened when the new corps staged the Gowans and Larsson musical, *Hosea*, on 18 to 21 November 1981:\*  ‘After approximately two months of hard work by the songster brigade and other participants the production was a spiritual and financial success. On four successive evenings the musical attracted a total audience of almost 1,000 people and over 30 commitments were visibly made – indeed a miracle.    ‘We are unaware of the soldier who has taken the time and trouble to write to General Arnold Brown but it is heartening to know that he has been made aware of the developments at Risca.’    My dear comrade,  I was very encouraged to receive and read your letter and learn that the Spirit of God is working so wonderfully in your corps.  On the evening before leaving office I can only hope that prayer, faith and hard work will bring about a bigger hall that you seem to need so much.  I am passing your letter to the British Commissioner who, I know, will share my satisfaction at receiving such a heartening report from Risca Corps.  May God continue to bless and be with you.  Yours sincerely  Arnold Brown  *9 December 1981\**  Mike and Joan Parker, now retired commissioners, give more information about the musical and the corps:  ‘A production of the musical *Hosea* saw whole families attending the event, then worshipping at the corps and eventually coming to faith. One of those families was featured in the congress held in London in 1982. Several years after the corps combined it was able to move into its new premises on the same site as before and continues to this day as an energetic and community-based corps.’\*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray that God will continue to bless the Army’s ministry in Risca. |

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| **Story 109** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **4**  **October** | **Praying for those who respond to God’s call to officership** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 109:30 and 31**  ‘I will thank the Lord with a loud voice! I will praise him, in front of a big crowd of people. He stands beside poor people, and he is ready to help them… So I will praise the Lord.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1982**  On 25 June 1982 Brigadier Ivy Roberts (née Lewis) was promoted to Glory. She came from Dinas Rhondda and left Cardiff 5 to enter training at 24 years of age. A romantic friendship with a young officer came to nothing. However, she found love, and married six years into her retirement. She packed a lot into the year between, as shown by the following list of appointments provided by the International Heritage Centre:  1935 London  1938 Southsea  1939 Southampton  1942 Bradninch  1944 Edinburgh  1946 Cardiff  1948 Dundee  1949 Cheltenham  1949 Sheffield  1950 London  1950 Johannesburg (Women’s Hostel)  1951 Johannesburg (Boys’ Home)  1952 Johannesburg (Girls’ Home)  1954 Johannesburg (Unmarried mothers’ Home)? Inglenook  1958 Buxton  1959 Bristol  1960 London (Employment Agency)  1961 London (Children’s Home)  1962 Liverpool  1967 Brighton (Hassocks)  1970 Retirement  \*Paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for the officers you know. Maybe take time to send them a text, email or hand-written card telling them that you prayed for them on this day. |

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| **Story 110** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **5**  **October** | **Praying for northeast Wales** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 110:1**  ‘The Lord God said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right side until I win against your enemies. Then you will be able to put your feet on them.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1983**  Here are some of the headlines from a Welsh edition of the *War Cry* that appears to have been produced for the Llangefni Eisteddfod in 1983. The focus was mainly on northeast Wales. (The English translation is also shown.)  Cymru I’r Iesu (Wales for Jesus)  *Gad Lef* (*War Cry*)  Eisteddfod Llangefni 1983 (Llangefni Eisteddfod 1983)  Cyfarchiad Douglas H Rayner Gadlywydd Adrannol (Greetings: Douglas H Rayner Divisional Commander)  Ymgyrchu Yng Ngogledd Cymru Yn 1983 (Campaigning in North Wales in 1983)  Diwygiad yn Rhosllanerchrugog (Revival at Rhosllanerchrugog)  Arloesi yn Llandudno (Innovation in Llandudno)  Mwy Am Y Diwygiad (More About the Reformation)  Golygyddol (Editorial)  RHYL yn dal I fynd (RHYL is still going)  Ynglyn a Chefn Mawr (Regarding Cefn Mawr)  Mini Bws (Minibus)  *Gwaed A Than*: Llyfr Newydd ar hanes Byddin yr lachawdwriaeth (*Blood And Fire*: New book on the history of The Salvation Army)  Hanes Cynnar Y Fyddin (Early History of the Army)  Hanes Y Fyddin Yng Nghymru, gan John Morris, Coed-poeth (History of the Army in Wales, by John Morris, Coedpoeth)  Major Peter Mylechreest (R), a former corps officer at Llanelli (not in northeast Wales!), writes:  ‘When in 1983 Llanelli Borough Council announced the compulsory purchase of The Salvation Army Citadel for road development, the corps wanted to have a larger, purpose-designed building that was fit for both worship and community work. The plans were more than the finance offered by the local authority. So, the corps undertook a whole range of fund-raising activities.\*  ‘Among these were sponsored solo parachute jumps by the commanding officer, the corps secretary, and the assistant corps cadet guardian. They received instruction at Swansea airport on how to control the parachute, the proper way to land and when to pull the emergency ripcord if anything went wrong!  ‘Now ready to make their debut jump, the three of them walked to the single-engine plane to the sound of a band ensemble playing, “Nearer my God to Thee”. Fortunately, everything went to plan. The local newspapers had headlines of: “Heavens above, it’s the Salvation skydivers”, “Coming in on a wing and a prayer” and “Salvationists put faith in a sky dive”. Even the *War Cry* had a feature called, “A leap of faith”. \*  ‘The sky dive raised a large amount of money and gave valuable free publicity regarding the work of The Salvation Army. Commenting on the experience, one of the three said, “The view over the Gower was incredible.” Another said, “It was so peaceful.” The third observed with a smile, “It certainly took your mind off work!” \*  ‘Three years later, in 1986, the new building was officially declared open and free of debt.’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray today for all those bringing glory to God in northeast Wales. |

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| **Story 111** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **6**  **October** | **Praying for those affected by strike action.** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 111:10**  ‘If you want to live in a wise way, respect and obey the Lord. Everyone who lives in the way that he teaches will understand what is right. People should praise the Lord for ever!’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1984**  Lieut-Colonel Sandra Moran (R), a former corps officer and divisional leader in South Wales, writes:  ‘During the time that Peter and Sandra Moran were the officers at Treharris (1980-1984), the corps was still holding the annual Aberfan Festival. The community had a strong bond with the corps and always supported the festival well. As well as the senior corps, the young people – band, singing company and timbrels – took part with enthusiasm and obvious enjoyment. This made the festival both a remembrance of those affected by the disaster, but also a celebration of the youngsters of “today”. Some of them testified about their experience of Jesus, and it was always a moving experience.’  Major Peter Mylechreest (R), a former corps officer in South Wales, writes:  ‘The mood was low in many South Wales towns, particularly in the valleys. Unemployment had rocketed. Firms associated with steel production had closed and now many coal mines were under threat of closure.  ‘The government of the day had been against trades unions. It came to a head with major industrial action in Yorkshire against the proposal of the National Coal Board to close most of the collieries in Britain. The strike spread to all collieries, including those in South Wales. But the strike was ruled illegal in September 1984, as no national ballot (vote) of the National Union of Coalminers members had been held.\*  ‘There were violent battles between demonstrators and the police, who had been brought in to protect miners who chose to continue to work. The year-long strike ended in a certain victory for the government, and even greater poverty for the miners and their families.\*  ‘The Salvation Army found itself in an awkward situation. It has always, in principle, been apolitical. But here were families suffering from reduced incomes because of political action. To ignore these folk was to betray our “heart to God, hand to man” motive. But to be seen supporting illegal riots was breaking the law of the land.  ‘Prior to the miners’ strike most corps had offered support for those in need. Now the numbers had greatly increased. A large nationwide store had for some years given surplus perishable goods to The Salvation Army for those in need. Now, believing that feeding the families of miners was only prolonging the unrest, they withdrew their help. There was no official statement published by this firm, but their extra produce was no longer available for distribution. Corps struggled to help a divided community. In the end came the closure of almost all pits, and yet further unemployment.  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * We have seen more strike action taken in recent years. Pray for those involved in and those affected by these strikes. * Pray that there will be a solution for all concerned. |

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| **Story 112** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **7**  **October** | **Praying for Cardiff Grangetown** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 112:1**  ‘Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! When someone respects the Lord with fear, God has blessed that person! He is happy to obey the Lord's commands.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1985**  Then 2 March *War Cry* included a testimony from Mrs Doreen Rogers of Cardiff Grangetown, titled, ‘Doreen’s found her calling:  ‘Before I discovered The Salvation Army my life was very ordinary. I was a wife and mother, having three small children. I went to church most Sunday evenings but if one of the children was ill, I was quite happy to have a reason to stay at home. I was in the church choir because I thought it was right to give something to church life.\*  ‘My working life consisted of being a nurse on a elderly ward. There I felt I needed to be “one of the girls” and my language was less than the best. Somehow, I felt that my lifestyle was all wrong but still didn’t want it to change.\*  ‘One day my daughter asked me if she could go to The Salvation Army. Apparently, Captain Hughes had been to school to conduct an assembly and my daughter had become interested. Eventually all three children decided that they would go, so I decided that I must try it too.  ‘The first time seemed very strange. But I went back again. On that second occasion I heard God speaking to me and I knelt at the mercy seat to give my life to him. On Easter Sunday 1984 my son and daughter became junior soldiers, and I was sworn in as a senior soldier. God had given me a new start in life.  ‘At work I found it very difficult. I wasn’t “one of the girls” anymore. They teased me because I had become a Salvationist, yet gradually they had to accept that there was a change in my life.  ‘The Christian life is all about growing and I had to discover this for myself. Listening to some music one day recently I became aware that there was more for me to receive, and I allowed the Holy Spirit to take control of my life. Now I feel so secure because I have Christ at my side. It’s great. Incidentally Mark and Ruth now belong to the young people’s band and singing company and four-year-old Sharon can’t wait to be a junior soldier!’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for Cardiff Grangetown Corps as it blesses its surrounding community. * Pray for people you know who are newcomers to the Army. Pray that they might be encouraged in their faith journey. If you do not know of any newcomers, is there anybody in your life that you might invite to join you in worship? |
| **Story 113** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **8**  **October** | **Praying for Llanelli** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 113:4**  ‘The Lord rules over all nations. His glory is great higher than the heavens!’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1986**  Major Peter Mylechreest (R), a former corps officer at Llanelli, writes:  ‘In 1986 soldiers and officers from the South Wales Division and beyond gathered at the recently opened new hall at Llanelli for the funeral service of corps officer Mrs Captain Ann Mylechreest.  To know Ann was to love her, and many people did. Her warm personality – coupled with a great sense of fun – won her friends all around the territory. But there was more to Ann than just good company. She was convinced of the truths of the gospel, she loved the Saviour and was keen that others would read and understand the Scriptures, indeed that the “world would taste and see the riches of his grace”.  ‘Although musically trained and able to sing a wide range of complicated music, Ann always chose simple melodies with a clear Christian message in order that God might be glorified, and people truly blessed. She would happily be singing “knock-about” songs as part of the entertainment team at the Holiday Plus weeks at Butlins, and then deeply devotional songs at officers councils. Ann had the unusual honour of singing solos in meetings led by each of six successive Generals of The Salvation Army.\*  ‘As an officer she had served in London, Sussex, and the training college. Her home corps was Portadown in Northern Ireland, so her knowledge of the political/religious situation was a great asset when appointed to Londonderry and later to Belfast during “The Troubles”.  ‘Ann became the area guide director for the Liverpool and North Wales Division and was loved by lots of girls. But her happiest appointment was at Llanelli where she felt and saw her own ministry blossom, especially among women. Then she was diagnosed with terminal cancer. The corps folk were hugely supportive, while she in turn encouraged them with her faithfulness. Ann went to be with the Lord peacefully and with dignity.’ \*  The Maesteg Corps history book records: ‘In October 1986 we had a meeting to celebrate the use of our old drum throughout the years. Our “No 109” drum was presented to our guests for the weekend, Major and Mrs Johnson, who took it back to London for forward transport to Pakistan for use in the Army there. Members of the YP and senior corps had previously taken part in a “fun run” to raise money for the Army's work in Pakistan.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for Llanelli Corps and its outreach into its surrounding community. |

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| **Story 114** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **9**  **October** | **Praying for those who need practical aid** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 114:1 and 2**  ‘God led Israel's people out of Egypt. Jacob's descendants left that foreign land. Then Judah became God's special place for his people. There  he ruled over Israel's people.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1987**  Lieut-Colonel Sandra Moran (R), a former corps officer and divisional leader in South Wales, writes:  ‘The Salvation Army was respected and admired in Swansea. One year the council suggested that the word “Christmas” should be replaced by “Winter Festival” as it may be offensive to other religions. This caused so much public protest that it was almost immediately shelved. Then it was suggested that The Salvation Army was having preferential treatment by being allowed to play carols in the town centre. Again, the public protested. Some of the privately owned shopping outlets allowed us to play on their property. By the following year things had returned to normal.    ‘The best memory of the public’s support for me, though, was when a gentleman approached me one Saturday afternoon, when we were carolling, and I was feeling a bit tired. He said “I am a Christian, and I so appreciate all The Salvation Army is doing in Swansea. The Lord told me to give you this as a thank you.” It was a big box of chocolates and, of course, I shared it with the rest of my colleagues!’  Major Peter Mylechreest (R), a former corps officer in South Wales, writes:  ‘Wales is famous for its beautiful mountains. However, in 1987 a different sort of mountain was reported by the media – the butter mountain. This was a huge supply of surplus butter held by the European Union due to government involvement. The agricultural policies were designed to stop prices changing for farmers and consumers and to ensure that there was enough produce all the time. However, production varied from year to year, so in most years there was an excess.\*  ‘The UK government announced that they would be willing to distribute the excess produce to the unemployed, pensioners and those on welfare benefits. Non-governmental organisations, including The Salvation Army in Wales, were asked to help…  ‘Having gathered various churches and voluntary organisations in one South Wales town, the Army took responsibility as the main distributor for that district. An empty shop in the centre of the town was commandeered and volunteers gave out free butter to those eligible – 24 tons in all. That was some mountain!’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * We are grateful for the way in which others trust us with the distribution of items that are seen as practical aid. Pray that, as food banks and other ways of giving out supplies that were unwanted, to increase, we will have the volunteers to enable this to be done with love. |

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| **Story 115** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **10**  **October** | **Praying for children’s ministry and summer camps** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 115:15**  ‘I pray that the Lord will bless you all. He is the one who made the whole universe.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1988**  Coedpoeth Corps history book records various events of 1988:  ‘A coach was organised to take corps members to Warrington for the annual YP presentation festival, our young people were successful in winning the divisional Bible quiz. The trophy was given by Divisional Commander Major D Rayner.’  ‘Lieut Harris took a coach full of disadvantaged children from the St Helen’s area for a week to Sunbury Court.’\*  ‘Lieut Main took our meetings, also Lieut Mrs Main later in the year.’  ‘The band still busy with the Remembrance service at St Tydfil’s and our CO leading.’  ‘Carolling improved to £911.24 and children did very well at the carol service.’  ‘The Band played carols at Ruthin, Mold and local villages. They also took part in the television programme “Arwyddion Ffyrdd” on S4C outside the Theatre Clwyd, Mold, and Mr and Mrs John Morris spoke of the work of The Salvation Army at Christmas time.’  ‘Our young people took an important part in the divisional carol service at the Memorial Hall, Wrexham.’\*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray for all those involved in children’s ministry in the Wales Division. * Pray that those leading and staffing summer camps will be energised and encouraged in their work. |
| **Story 116** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **11**  **October** | **Praying for open-air and street ministries** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 116:1 and 2**  ‘I love the Lord, because he heard me when I called to him. He listened carefully to me. When I need help, I will always pray to him, for as long as I live.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1989**  *The Deliverer* for July/August 1990 reported a ‘miracle on the beach’ that occurred in summer 1989:  ‘It was one of the very few hot, sticky days of August last year. As the minutes ticked by I started to prepare for our open-air meeting on the pier at Bangor, North Wales… I became aware of a visitor to the area. He began talking about the magnificent view from the pier, which takes in the unspoilt places of the Menai Straits, right down to Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr to the Great Orme at Llandudno.  ‘It was while talking and preparing that he was persuaded to stay for our meeting which was due to start at 7.30pm.  ‘We began with a grand crowd singing “Since Jesus came into my heart”. All seemed to be going according to the organised meeting plan. It wasn’t until the listeners were asked for some favourite hymns that the man to whom I had spoken previously made his way forward and asked if he could say something.  ‘Very nervously he approached the microphone and with a broken voice wept and told of his condition as an alcoholic and his need to be able to stop drinking. Would we pray for and with him? \*  ‘As we prayed we sensed the presence of God. Amid the busy setting, the natural noise of the location and the people wandering around, God’s voice spoke, and this man became a new creation in Jesus Christ.\*  ‘A Christian from another church who had been “down that road” identified with the broken man, took him aside and gave him some advice, while we continued with our service, with a deeper sense of awe and praise.\*  ‘The man who had come forward was now on his way back to his holiday home certain of God’s forgiveness and presence to help him in his area of need… And so we all claimed in faith a new brother in Christ. Indeed, it was true… I saw a miracle happen on Bangor pier that night.’ \*  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Open-air outreach and street ministry are part of the Army’s DNA (what makes the Army). Pray for those engaged in these ministries. |

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| **Story 117** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **12**  **October** | **Praying that God’s love may be at the heart of marriages and relationships** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 117:2**  ‘The Lord's faithful love for us is very strong. He will always do what he has promised. Praise the Lord!’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1990**  The 29 December *War Cry* carried a short article titled, ‘Love Is Great: Viscount Tonypandy’s reading changed lives’:    ‘It’s nearly ten years since George Thomas, former Speaker of the House of Commons, read the lesson at the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana. He has since moved on and is now known as Viscount Tonypandy.  ‘But he still receives letters about the reading he used on that occasion. He told the *War Cry*, “I received another one only last week. Because the wedding service was televised, people noticed what a beautiful reading it was. Thousands of letters arrived asking me which book the reading came from. So, I told them it came from the Bible – much to the surprise of the people who had written to me.” Viscount Tonypandy – a Methodist lay preacher – then recommended his inquirers to read the Bible for themselves.  ‘The passage he read was from I Corinthians 13 and is commonly known as the “love chapter”.  ‘“In their letters, some people said that the reading had changed the course of their lives,” continued Viscount Tonypandy. “I took that to mean that some people who had felt like giving up – perhaps on their marriage – were encouraged by the words to try again. To make a new decision . To search for the depth of love in their own lives.” \*  It was George Thomas MP who had spoken so warmly of The Salvation Army in Wales, and beyond, at the time of the Investiture of Prince Charles as the Prince of Wales in 1969 (see Day 96).  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Read 1 Corinthians 13. Pray that love might be the mark of all the relationships that you know of and participate in. |

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| **Story 118** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **13**  **October** | **Praying for brass bands and those who minister through music** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 118:28**  ‘You are my God, and I will thank you. You are my God, and I will say how great you are.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1991**  On 28-29 September 1991 Abertillery Band celebrated its centenary. One of the highlights of the band’s history from seven years earlier had made the local paper, the *South Wales Argus*, in May 1984:  ‘This Saturday Abertillery Salvation Army Band have an important date at the Royal Albert Hall … the equivalent of Newport County contesting the FA Cup at Wembley.  ‘It’s not that Abertillery are bottom of the band league, rather that they’ll be with most important in Salvation Army circles – the International Staff Band, for example, who broadcast regularly and are recognised as among the country’s top brass bands, the popular bands from Bournemouth and Manchester, the International Staff Songsters and a five hundred strong male choir drawn from other bands all over the country.\*  ‘The band now numbers thirteen, seven male and six female, including two sisters, two brothers and a brother and sister…  ‘But in contrast to the glamour of the big day, Sunday morning will find them at one of the hospitals or old people’s homes in the area to realise their reason for being – to spread the gospel message.’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * We are blessed with some wonderful musicians in The Salvation Army. Sometimes we might take this for granted. Pray for all those who commit their lives to helping us in worship and spreading the gospel message through their gift of music. |

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| **Story 119** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **14**  **October** | **Praying for Aberystwyth** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 119:170**  ‘I ask you to be kind to me, so please listen! Keep me safe, as you have promised to do.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1992**  The 29 February *War Cry* told the story of a couple at Aberystwyth:  ‘Mark and Susan Mainwaring had reached the end of their patience. Their car had been stolen, interest rates had greatly increased and, after three months of pain and anxiety, Mark’s father had died. “It was the end of 1989 and we were only too happy to watch the final seconds of the year tick by,” recalls Mark, a solicitor with the local authority in Aberystywth. “It had been a difficult year, to say the least.” \*  ‘The frequent journeys to Mark’s mother’s house, the pressures of a demanding job and their deep sorrow had taken their toll. Mark had become ill. But he didn’t realise the seriousness of the situation and continued working as usual until the pains in his chest became too severe. They were diagnosed as pleurisy.  ‘“We were only a week away from Christmas – our first without a much-loved grandad,” says Susan, “but we were too tired and depressed to enjoy it. We were just drifting towards the end of the year and, we hoped, towards happier times.” \*  ‘Although Mark and Susan were members of a local church and felt duty-bound to attend services occasionally, they didn’t really feel that they belonged. Five years previously, Mark had been through an unhappy experience that had shattered his faith and made him feel uncomfortable at church. He felt he was lost in a spiritual wilderness. With some difficulty, Susan persuaded him to try a different church, but Mark couldn’t find the peace he had once known.\*  ‘On the first Sunday of 1990 Susan went along to The Salvation Army in Aberystwyth. She was convinced that Mark would “feel right” at the Army and persuaded him to attend a meeting with her the following Sunday.  ‘“We decided not to take our two children, even though we thought there might be a band, or at least some tambourines for them to enjoy,” continues Susan. We were rather surprised – a little disappointed, in fact – to find only a handful of people, and there wasn’t even a pianist!”  ‘But they were welcomed enthusiastically – and Mark, being a pianist, was quickly shown to the piano. Susan couldn’t tell whether Mark was enjoying the service or not. “But I needn’t have worried,” she says. On their way home they were both a little careful. “We didn’t want to make another mistake,” Susan continues, “but there was never really any doubt that the Army was absolutely right for us.” \*  ‘New friendships were formed, and when Mark and Susan were welcomed as uniformed members later that year, nearly 40 people were present. “Becoming Salvationists has added a new dimension to our lives,” they say, “and our pleasure is bound up in serving God in The Salvation Army.”’  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Pray that God will continue to lead new people to worship and soldiership at Aberystwyth Corps. |

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| **Story 120** | **Dyma Gariad 150 Stories** |
| **15**  **October** | **Praying for northwest Wales** |
| Image result for clip art bible | **Psalm 120:1**  ‘I cried to the Lord to help me in my trouble. He answered me.’ |
| **Tell**  the  Story | **1993**  In 1993, three years had passed since officers were appointed to the northwest Wales area with a instruction to start a worshipping Salvation Army community. A great deal of planning had been done by previous officers which had helped to build up community links and so it was in 1990 that they received that nudge from God to ‘get things started’. If they were going to step out in faith then it was to be done in big style!\*    Arrangements were made for a spectacular launch – the International Staff Songsters were invited for the weekend which included a civic reception, a festival in Bangor Cathedral, a united church service at Bangor University alongside an afternoon gathering at the National Trust Penrhyn Castle for 100 personally invited guests. The whole weekend proved to be a great success. The following Sunday, worship meetings were started in the community centre in the village that was dominated by the county hospital, Ysbyty Gwynedd.\*    That first Sunday of Gwynedd corps saw them with no music and no idea if and who would attend. They didn’t get the hundreds of attendees that they had seen the previous week – rather 13 brave, uncertain people who didn’t normally go to church came. True, some thought it would be similar to the events of the previous week, which it wasn’t, but they were delighted with those who came, hoping that they could build on this sign of rewarded faith. Fourteen people came the following week (three of the initial attendees never returned) and gradually, by simple word of mouth and printed invitations to share on special occasions, the fellowship grew, many of whom travelled many miles to attend.\*    Over the next three years Sunday worship was started, commitments were made and, despite distances, weekday events were requested – a Bible Study, a ladies fellowship and, of course, activities for the children. As the fellowship grew (approximately 30-40) so did its impact on the area – neighbours started attending, not as a result of encouragement by the officer but by those who regularly attended asking friends and family to join them in this new, exciting venture!    In 1993, having been in the appointment for six years, it was time for the officers to move on. Preparations were made for the fellowship to continue to grow under new leadership, but for the pioneering officers what a joy and privilege it was to consider the way in which everything came into place, alongside the individuals who committed themselves to this new corps, demonstrating and recognising that by stepping out in faith the Kingdom grows!  \*paraphrase |
| **Praying hands praying hand child prayer hands clip art image 6 8 ...** | **Prayer**   * Thank God that The Salvation Army is still blessing northwest Wales in these days. |