

on fire

mission and ministry

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Summer Carnival

Bramwell Booth shares his experience at an all-night of prayer in 1878 in Stockton.

“Then we went to prayer and, oh, such praying, such desperate determined calling upon Jesus to manifest his almighty, sanctifying power. It was answered. First one and then another began to praise God—began to shout, or laugh or cry.

‘After refreshment, we resumed at 1.45 am. During the singing of the chorus, ‘Washed in blood and filled with glory,’ several, both men and women, fell to the ground, overcome with the power of the Holy Ghost.

“Then we had testimony and exhortation. Everyone knelt. Heaven drew near to earth. The glory of God filled the old theatre... and many in our company fell on their faces. Others looked on and shouted, or cried and laughed. No one seemed to be leading in prayer and yet all seemed to be praying.’

~ From John Larsson, *Spiritual Breakthrough*, pp. 70–71



There is a wonderful rhythm to the year, marked by changing seasons, school terms, sporting events, and cultural and religious occasions. The New Year is a transition between endings and beginnings and is a natural time to reflect and make changes—whether they are resolutions, work-related or personal.

The Editorial Department begins this year with several changes and welcomes a number of new staff. The role of editor-in-chief (EIC) has expanded and now includes Salvo Studios in its brief. Consequently, media producer David Cairns has moved into our office. Dr Bruce Redman joins us as the new editor-in-chief and you can get to know him in our profile on page five, written by Jessica Morris. Jessica is our new *On Fire* journalist and will be taking up the role previously held by Ryan English. Also joining the *On Fire* team is graphic designer Esther Cho.

Kidzone has exciting New Year's news with the birth of little Mason to graphic designer Kelly Powell in January. Rebecca McDonald has joined the *Kidzone* team during Kelly's maternity leave.

I now take up position officially as editor of *Onfire* with an additional new appointment of assistant EIC.

Even changes that are welcomed and anticipated come with a little sadness, as they often include farewells or moving on from the familiar. Successful change incorporates allowing time to appropriately acknowledge what has gone before and giving permission to move on. This often includes laying down what has been previously carried, to free up full investment in what is to come.

Paul resolutely embraced Christlikeness and holiness, and encourages us to lay down anything in our lives that hinders this:

'Not that I have already obtained all this... But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you' (Philippians 3:12–15 NIV).^o



June Knop

Captain June Knop
Editor

www.salvationarmy.org.au www.facebook.com/onfiremagazine www.twitter.com/onfiremagazine

International Headquarters:

101 Queen Victoria St, London EC4P 4EP.
André Cox, General

Australia Southern Territory (NT, SA, Tas., WA, Vic.): 95–99 Railway Rd, Blackburn, Vic.
Floyd J. Tidd, commissioner, territorial commander

To view the International Vision Plan, go to <http://sar.my/one>



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EDITORIAL

National editor-in-chief Dr Bruce Redman
Editor Captain June Knop
Editorial assistants
Captain Bron Williams, Jessica Morris
Proofreader Dawn Volz
Designer Esther Cho

Advertising Jan Magor,
jan.magor@aus.salvationarmy.org

Annual subscriptions within Australia \$42.00 p.a. Overseas and airmail rates on application. Subscription inquiries Sue Allensby, sue.allensby@aus.salvationarmy.org

All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, *On Fire*, at the below addresses. Phone: (03) 8878 2303; Fax: (03) 8878 4816; Mail: *On Fire*, PO Box 479, Blackburn, Vic. 3130; email: onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org

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Word for Word

Commissioner
Floyd Tidd

When Jesus invited a couple of fishermen to leave their nets and follow him, he told them he would take these fishermen and make them 'fishers of men'. When they chose to follow Jesus, they left their business behind and his business became their business: people.

People were at the centre of everything Jesus was about. People matter most to Jesus—people celebrating, people in need, people in crowds, people all alone, people lost and people seeking.

Jesus knew the Father's heart was for people. He told stories of a lost coin, a lost sheep and a lost son to illustrate the Father's heart for people who were lost without him.

Jesus looked at people and saw the potential of who they could become. He didn't see people simply for who and where they were in the moment he met them, he saw the outcome of a life transformed by his influence upon them.

Jesus looked at people from an eternal perspective and longed for them to understand the plan and path for them to enjoy eternity with God.

People are at the heart of The Salvation Army—the people we serve and the people who serve. People are our 'core business' and our engagement with people is motivated by a desire to help them find freedom, hope and live life to the fullest.

People are our business because they are our Father's business. Therefore, we are committed to welcoming and serving all people without discrimination. We value the gifts and experiences of everyone.

Knowing the transforming influence Jesus brings to life, we offer people opportunities to explore Christianity and grow as followers of Jesus. We seek to see in each other God's gifted potential and encourage each other to become all God has in mind. We work together to assist one another in discovering and being involved in best fit-for-mission opportunities.

At the age of 12, when he was found by his parents in the synagogue, Jesus told his mother that he 'must be about his Father's business' (Luke 2:49). Today, we too as followers of Jesus must be about our Father's business.

Regardless of what we do to make a living, it must be rooted in the investment we make in the Father's business of people. This is an investment that will outlive our own lives.

What does it look like to be about our Father's business for you this year? ◦

“
Knowing the transforming influence Jesus brings to life, we offer people opportunities to explore Christianity and grow as followers of Jesus.”

People of influence

When I speak of influence, what comes to mind for you? Who comes to mind? What has that influence looked like?

For me, people of influence include Mother Teresa—a beautiful, gentle woman who cared for those with nothing.

General Eva Burrows also; she led The Salvation Army worldwide but also spent time on the streets of Melbourne with those who needed someone to care for them.

One strong image is of her brushing the tangled, dirty hair of a homeless woman as she sat waiting for church to begin. People who have a positive influence in our lives are those who walk with us.

They have helped to shape our values and beliefs through who they are, which is reflected in the way they live. These people become role models as we journey through life, facing all that is thrown our way.

As we grow, develop and encounter new experiences in the seasons of our life, we reflect the influences that others bring to us. Scott Adams, creator of the Dilbert cartoon character, says, 'You don't have to be a "person of influence" to be influential. In fact', he says, 'the most influential people in my life are probably not even aware of the things they've taught me.'

Matthew 5:14–16 tells us, 'You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.'

We all have the potential to be an important influence to our families, our friends and also those in our workplace and ministry. As we let our light shine, it is important that this light brings measured responses when we feel frustrated, gracious responses when we feel hurt, considerate responses when we are angry and appropriate responses when the behaviour of others would perhaps not warrant it.

As Christian leaders, we have the opportunity, the responsibility and the privilege to ensure that the influence we bring lightens the pathway for another. This will only be possible as we continually allow God to re-create us from the inside out. As we allow him to do this, people will see who we really are and not who we want them to think we are.

What we do will be of greater influence than we will ever know. Keep in mind that 'what we do speaks so loudly, others can't hear what we are saying. The challenge is to keep on matching the speaking with the doing.' ◦



Colonel Karyn Rigley

Territorial secretary for women's ministries

Note: The first paragraph of Lieut-Colonel Vivien Callander's October column was inserted at the beginning of Major Greg Morgan's December column. *On Fire* sincerely apologises for this oversight.

Man on a mission

Jessica Morris talks to Dr Bruce Redman about his new position as editor-in-chief and finds out about his passion for media, mission and ministry.



New Year signals the time for change, something we know all too well as many officers receive new appointments, giving corps and departments the opportunity for growth. This

has been particularly relevant in the Editorial Department at THQ this last month, as we welcome Dr Bruce Redman as the editor-in-chief (EIC) of the National Editorial Department. Our previous EIC Captain June Knop will be stepping in as assistant editor-in-chief and editor of *On Fire*.

Moving on from the position of media relations director for the Australia Southern Territory, Bruce brings a new level of professionalism and quality to the department.

'I'm really honoured to be in this position,' he shares with *On Fire*. 'Growing up, I had never really thought there'd be a possibility I'd work for the Army... There are new opportunities in this position as EIC. What I get excited about is that I can once again use my creative skills in terms of the publications and productions.'

An accomplished filmmaker and award-winning media producer, Bruce brings over 30 year's experience to the Editorial Department. A Salvationist since childhood, Bruce's Salvo heritage goes back four generations, his great-grandfather establishing Bruce's love for print and the Salvo mission.

'My great grandfather was a Salvationist [and] worked his whole working life for the Melbourne *Herald*... Joseph Henry Shaw was his name. Newspaper was his life and my grandfather, William Booth Shaw, before he went to the training college also went to *The Herald*. So there's a background there, there's print in the blood,' says Bruce.

Born in Melbourne, Bruce attended Moreland Corps as a child before settling in Brisbane to finish his schooling, and where he attended Brisbane City Temple. Forming the Brisbane Street Level Mission with his wife Anne in 2005, the Salvationist call for justice and mercy is at the heartbeat of his personal and professional life.

'I grew up with grandparents who were very well-known officers in the Southern Territory. Brigadier William Booth Shaw was a very famous Red Shield officer during the war and Thelma was his wife. She was wonderful. They were a huge influence on me,' he says affectionately.

'I'd come to see my grandfather and I got a bit of a taste for The Salvation Army's work with homelessness. I also worked as a volunteer for the Youth Outreach Service in Brisbane which was for homeless youth. My wife and I had a very distinct calling to work with the homeless

in Brisbane, particularly in Fortitude Valley.'

Bruce began working for the ABC as a trainee in 1983. This prepared him for a career in the industry that ranged from documentaries and news programs to more than 300 commercials and international television shows.

During his time at the ABC, Bruce received a Thorn-EMI award for his work in editing for *7.30 Report*. He was one of the original producers/directors for *Australian Story* and spear headed the documentary *Family First—A Federal Crusade* for ABC TV which aired on *Compass*.

'It was certainly a highlight in my career,' says Bruce. 'I call it guerrilla documentary; it was just me running around with a camera.'

Further melding his passion for media and ministry, Bruce worked on the Channel 7 TV series *Choices* in 2007, featuring Garden City Christian Church, now Hillsong church.

As an academic, Bruce has taught at Bond University, Griffith University and University of Queensland, where he taught in the School of Journalism and Communication, receiving his PhD in Media in 2011 for his publication on guerrilla documentaries.

Talking to Bruce, it is evident that this man is a visionary. Whether it is the life of a homeless youth, a blank screen or an empty page, he sees what could be and then makes it happen. 'I'm a vision person because I suppose I'm a visual person—that's been my thing and I get very distinct visions of the way things can be and should be and that's what I work towards,' he shares.

'I'm still forming that vision [for the Editorial Department], but it's very clear that we are overdue in terms of our online presence and our social media engagement. I see my role as being about empowering the very professional team that we have to be able to do their best work.'

With his new portfolio covering Salvo Studios and all Salvo publications including *Warcry*, Bruce Redman is a man on a mission and he's here to leave a legacy.

'It's a huge responsibility to make sure the legacy of 137 years is carried on,' he says. 'A lot of this is about legacy and about enhancing that. [It's about] bringing this legacy to a new audience, allowing people to be able to engage...more than we have in any other time in history.' °





“Summer Carnival is designed to be fun and we definitely want the young people to have a sense of community.”



Summer Carnival

Youth resource writer Anthony Castle reports on the Australia Southern Territory's Summer Carnival 2016.



Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them' (Exodus 25:8).

God loves camping with his people. In Exodus 25, God instructs Israel to construct a special tent, the tabernacle, where they can experience his presence while journeying through the wilderness. The tabernacle was the dwelling place for the presence of God from the time of the Exodus from Egypt through to the arrival in the land of Canaan. Camping with God is certainly something the youth of the Australia Southern Territory know a little about, as Summer Carnival enters its fifth year.

Summer Carnival is the annual Territorial Youth Councils and has become renowned over the last five years for its camping experience. Young Salvos from all over the territory gather to camp out in tents, shower in mobile bathroom trucks and worship in a colourful big-top tent. The smell of sweat, sunscreen and Subway sandwiches has been a big part of the Summer Carnival experience in years past. Things have been changing a little for Summer Carnival, however, with this year's event held at Phillip Island Adventure Resort.

'The new venue is great,' says Captain Craig Farrell. 'It has dormitories and bathrooms and on-site activities like a giant swing, a flying fox and canoes. The resort has swimming pools, playgrounds and dining rooms. The auditorium looks pretty cool too.'

While some things have changed, Summer Carnival still gathers some of

the best Salvo speakers from around the world to communicate the message of God's love with the campers

'We have the territorial leaders speaking here. They always do a great job of opening and closing the event and setting the tone,' Craig explains. 'We flew out Major Danielle Strickland from the United States and, of course, our long-time friend Fulton Hawk was back.'

Almost a year is spent developing Summer Carnival's team-based games, Corps Cadets books and worship music, and the formula has proven that it gets results. The 2015 event saw 443 people attend and 31 young people make decisions to follow Jesus for the first time. A further 41 young people recommitted to follow Jesus, 10 young people were called to be soldiers and four young people were called to be officers. The number and nature of decisions made in 2016 are similar.

'Summer Carnival is designed to be fun and we definitely want the young people to have a sense of community,' Craig says. 'We also want them to respond to the Good News. Summer Carnival isn't just a week away. It gives young people the opportunity to make decisions for Jesus and to then go and make changes in the world.'

Summer Carnival has seen a big response to the preaching so far, even if the overall approach to the event has changed. Many campers might miss the big-top tent, but they haven't missed out on God.

'The Youth Department had a lot to live up to,' explains guest speaker Fulton Hawk. 'Some might have wondered about

the change of approach, but the Spirit of God is here regardless of whether there's a big-top of not. Summer Carnival just gets better every year.'

As Summer Carnival 2016 wraps up, the countdown to next year's event is about to begin. Plans are already underway for the message, music and fun of Summer Carnival 2017.

'Regardless of where we do the event. Summer Carnival always camps out in the presence of God,' Craig explains. The Youth Department has always taken it one event at a time and nothing is set in stone. One thing we're certain of is that Summer Carnival 2017 will be the biggest yet.'

Spiritual outcomes

Summer Carnival may be a fun camp, but it is designed to make Christians, Salvos and officers. Don't be fooled by the dancing, swimming and games, this is an event with aims and methods for real spiritual outcomes.

'The spiritual aim is that young people would come to follow Jesus,' says Craig. 'We want them to form a full understanding of his love and his Kingdom. Campers experience the work of the spirit in big ways and that all begins the year with the spiritual framework.'

The spiritual framework is the teaching and theology behind Summer Carnival's message. The spiritual framework presents a theme that is communicated throughout the Corps Cadets books, dorm devotionals, worship lyrics and sermons at the event.

'The spiritual framework focuses on

the basics and that's salvation, holiness and mission,' Craig explains. 'We don't just want them to learn about these things, but to really experience repentance and forgiveness, healing and holiness and to commit to act on it all.'

A different theme is written every year, but the approach is always drawn from Mark 1:15 where Jesus announces the Good News of the Kingdom and calls for belief and repentance.

'The Department of Youth discusses how we can communicate the Good News in new ways,' Craig points out. 'We go over the parables and examples from Christ's ministry. We read and talk and pray about how we can best communicate the love of God and the nature of God's Kingdom.'

The theme for Summer Carnival 2016 was, 'For a broken world, the Good News is love'.

'The theme has three main points throughout the week,' Craig explains. 'God's love saves us, God's love heals us and God's love is for everyone. These points are expressed in every small group, song and sermon the campers encounter.'

At Summer Carnival 2016 the response from campers has been powerful, with young people encountering the Spirit of God in tangible ways.

'Kids get saved and healed,' Craig shares. 'They make important decisions about mission and their lives are changed. For us, it's a blessing because we get to see the theme come true. The Good News really is love.'



“We want them to form a full understanding of his love and his kingdom.”

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Good Noise and the Good News: New album from the Summer Carnival Band

'If standing on my head and beating a tambourine with my toes will win a soul for Jesus, I will do it' (William Booth).

For five years the Summer Carnival Band has produced a unique, high-energy brand of pop, rock and hip-hop for the annual Youth Councils. Older Salvos might think of The Joystings, The Salvation Army's pop group from the 1960s, as a reference point, but the Summer Carnival Band is far noisier. The Joystings were formed as a response to the rise of rhythm and blues and the Summer Carnival Band continues that tradition by using everyday music to share the Good News.

'Using music for outreach is our tradition,' says band frontman and youth pastor Nathan Casey. 'But we can't confuse our culture with our mission. It's not a type of music that's our tradition, but using it to share the Good News. The Summer Carnival Band does what it does, because we're actually speaking the language of the culture around us. When we use music in outreach, we ARE The Salvation Army.'

The Summer Carnival Band has worked hard to produce new material every year. The album for 2016 has been released to the biggest response yet.

The new Summer Carnival album can be heard on Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/corpscads>

The new material can also be purchased on iTunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/album/summer-carnival-2016-music/id1072349896>

“It's not a type of music that's our tradition, but using it to share the Good News.







June Knop
Editor

One of my pleasures working in the Editorial Department has been having access to material written by the Booths. This year we will be adding a new historical feature, Basically Booth, which will cover articles by various members of the Booth family on topics pertaining to spirituality and their views on spiritual gifts. I hope you enjoy their insights as much as I have.

The Salvation Army and Physical Healing— General William Booth, 1910

The subject of Faith Healing, or Divine Healing as it is sometimes called, has of late obtained some prominence and certain views have been put forward with regard to it which are contrary to our Orders and Regulations and opposed to the teaching of scripture, and which, if received amongst us, would be calculated to create controversy, and thereby interfere with the peace, power, and progress of the Army.

The following are the main propositions contained in our Orders and Regulations for Field Officers on the subject. (Part 1. Chap. 4. Sec. 2):

Part Two

If all this had not been our experience as an Army, if we did not believe in the power of prayer, and see the proofs of it, how could we say that we are in the line of the Apostles? How could we believe that we are true followers of Jesus Christ? How could we have claimed to have received the Holy Spirit? Blessed be God, it is true, and we are of those who can affirm, in the face of an unbelieving world and a doubting church, that our God is the hearer and the answerer of prayer.

And here let me remark in passing that I strongly desire that these instances of divine interposition should greatly increase and multiply amongst us. The first, the main object, for which the Army exists is the bringing of lost sinners to God, training them in holiness of heart and life, teaching them to fight for him and leading them onward in the great

conflict with earth and hell, until they are called to join in the host of the redeemed.

That, I say, is the object for which the Army exists, but alas, the world, absolved with its vain pleasures and pursuits, cares for none of these things and the performance of such miracles of faith as those to which I have referred is a powerful means of arresting attention to the claims of Jehovah and the realities of religion.

Men and women who have been the subjects of these remarkable manifestations of divine power are sometimes spoken of by us as 'Tro-phies of Grace.' They are to be found, as I have said, in almost every corps throughout the world, where they not only command the attention of the multitudes who are without God, but compel a measure of faith in him and in eternal things.

Therefore, oh my comrades, I want you to labour mightily for their multiplication. To this end, I beg of you to urge upon each other the duty of Believing Prayer, the danger of this age lies in the direction of scepticism rather than fanaticism, terrible as the latter folly and deplorable as are the consequences suffered by the

community where it holds its frenzied sway. Believing too little, rather than too much, is the evil we have most cause to dread. Oh, Lord, increase our faith! See to it then, my comrades, that you consider the necessity for more faith, and strive night and day, both in public and in private, to cast yourselves more fully on God than you have ever done before in all the exercises of your Salvation work indeed, in all you think, and speak and do for a richer supply of this urgent need:

(a) Bring more faith into your praying. Do not be content with merely telling God about your wants or expressing your desires, or even in reminding yourself of his ability and willingness to supply your needs, but take hold of his word, and believe that he does, there and then, if it be his blessed will, give you the things for which you ask.

(b) Bring more faith into your singing. Follow the rule I have given you for prayer. Oh, what a help our precious songs ought to be to the exercise of faith. Sound the chorus over and over again; not for the mere pleasurable excitement caused by the repetition of the music, or for stirring



With all our hearts we hold that God is the answer to Believing Prayer.”

that God has been graciously pleased, in answer to Believing Prayer, to go out of his usual way in order to work marvels on behalf of our people. Some of these occurrences have been so striking, and so unmistakably of the divine operation, that entire communities have wondered at them. Amongst other remarkable things of this character have been:

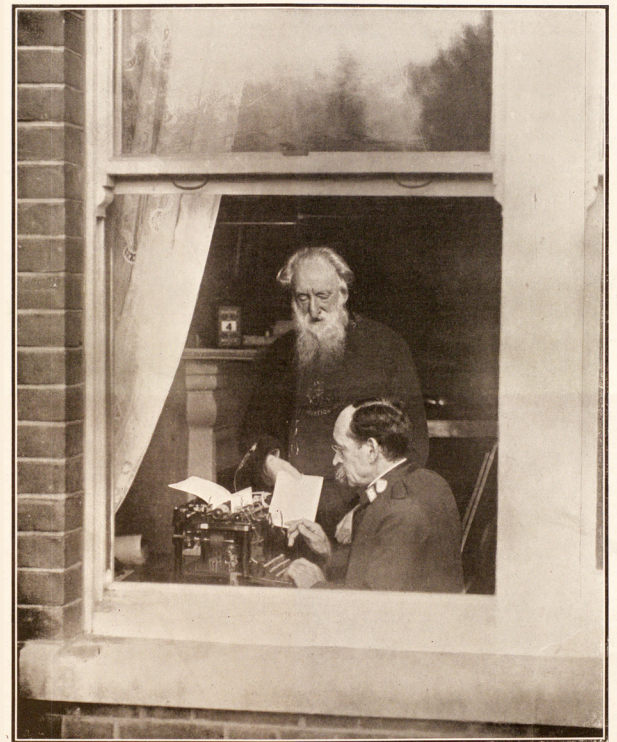
(a) The conscious forgiveness of men and women who have lived long years in the practice of the basest kinds of sins. Has not this been the wonderful work of God? For who can forgive sins but God only?

(b) Deliverance from the bondage of the most degrading evil habits, such as: the curse of drunkenness, which has reduced men lower than the level of the beasts; the power of the unclean lusts and passions, which has brought them lower still; the cruel mastery of opiates and other unlawful appetites, which has made them slaves without a ray of hope; the power of hatred and revenge, which has gone near to make them in outward acts what they already were in heart, murderers on earth and ready to be fiends in hell; and many other equally blighting and deadly sins.

(c) These have been diseases that no human power could modify or cure. Magistrates, prisons, doctors, human sympathy, love, the strongest resolutions, and indeed every other form of earthly remedy known to man, all combined have failed, but God has succeeded in effecting the desired cure.

(d) Deliverance out of temporal distresses, such as poverty, persecution and other like afflictions. I question very much whether there has been a people since the Israelites of old who have been more favoured with marvellous manifestations of God's power in the rescue of comrades from difficulty of one kind and another in temporal affairs, than we have been privileged to witness. In matters relating to family troubles, in dark perplexities concerning our future path, in crushing burdens of poverty and want, in the fiery trials of slander, in the furnace of awful temptation and persecution, when every door has been closed and every human help cut off, we have seen our people again and again gloriously delivered by the hand of God, in answer to the prayer of faith.

(e) I do not believe that there can



THE GENERAL OVERLOOKED: THE HEAD OF THE SALVATION ARMY PHOTOGRAPHED THROUGH HIS STUDY WINDOW.

be a corps of The Salvation Army, at home or abroad, in which such signs and wonders have not been wrought.

(f) And then, have not marvelous cures of various dire diseases been wrought amongst us also?

(g) Have we not seen men and women and little children raised up from the borders of the grave, and restored to health and vigour, in answer to the prayer of faith? Have we not seen cures effected in a moment when every human means has been tried, but tried to fail? When kindred and friends have been in absolute despair, and when the sufferers themselves had concluded that there was no healing for them in this life, has not God appeared to them, and have they not been raised up, to go in and out amongst us again praising him, and are not some of them with us to-day, have not some of them since passed away, glorifying the prayer-answering God on triumphant dying beds? ◊

To be continued.

As published over several 1902 editions of The War Cry



Melbourne Staff Songsters

SHARING THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH MUSIC



Most Salvationists will have heard of the Melbourne Staff Songsters (MSS). Some will have seen them on the 'big stage' at territorial events but

much of the ministry of the songsters is away from the spotlight. It is in small and large corps, in rural communities and the city, where the songsters do their best work.

The group is made up of Salvationists from around Melbourne and country Victoria. Some are officers, some are employees of the Army, but there are also nurses, teachers, factory workers and accountants. They come together out of a shared love for God and a desire to share that love through music. Rehearsing weekly, they are committed to monthly engagements including visits to corps and participation in local community events, concerts and fundraisers, as well as those 'big' events.

“But it’s not just about the music.”

‘It really was a great day,’ says Lieutenant Judy Shaw, corps officer at Castlemaine. ‘I have had so much positive feedback about how encouraged people



were. Everything flowed so beautifully and fitted together in a way that was meaningful for everyone. It was especially significant for Neville (accepted as an adherent in that meeting). He felt like he belonged. The theme of encouragement really touched people in the corps who have been struggling; people have called me and taken me aside to say that it was exactly the right word for them.’

As a result of the ministry of the MSS at Rochester, one gentleman, Malcolm, inspired by the singing and the testimonies, decided he wanted to become a senior soldier.

Lieutenant David Allman, corps officer at Rochester, said, ‘It was a great weekend of worship and fellowship; everyone was very friendly and mingled well with the corps folk.’

Brimbank Corps has a special investment in the group, with eight songsters, including Songster Leader Merryn Steel, coming from the corps. It was a delight to be able to host a ‘Sing it Up’ weekend there and partner with the corps in their ministry in the community.

Filomena Tarante and her family attended The Salvation Army for the first time on that weekend and have stayed since then. Lieutenant Kimberley Ashmore, assistant corps officer, interviewed Filomena.

Why did you come to The Salvation Army in Brimbank?

‘My daughter sings in the school a capella choir that Merryn Steel directs and had an opportunity to perform with the choir at the songsters concert. Hence my and my family’s first exposure to this incredibly gifted and encouraging group of people. I was so incredibly overwhelmed and inspired that I couldn’t contain my emotions.’

What was it that made you stay?

The Staff Songsters were absolutely amazing, and hearing these talented people, of all ages, perform in front of me was totally unexpected and a breath of fresh air. The messages received, singing and music delivered, were so personally inspiring, that I was beside myself.

‘I was equally surprised when invited to stay for lunch after the concert. It was incredible to watch how everyone collaborated to transform a large, open, empty, space into a lovely, organised celebratory dining room. The people were so warm and welcoming that I really felt ‘at home’. Everyone was so friendly and approachable and it was a way for me to personally reconnect with God. We started coming to church more frequently and now, my children and I look forward to coming to church every



🕒 *Melbourne Staff Songsters (MSS)*

“It is a passion of mine to be able to bring the joy of singing to the wider community.”



Sunday to hear more messages of God’s love. At the end of the service and lots of wonderful singing and live music, we all come together and socialise over a cuppa.’

The newest member of MSS (at the time of writing) is Jenni Williams of Box Hill Corps. Jenni says, ‘I was attracted to the MSS because it was a new avenue in which to serve God doing something I enjoy—singing. I knew some songsters who said there was a need for new members and my family encouraged me to be part of the group. There is quite a mixture of people in the group and they have made me very welcome.

‘My corps officer prayed for me and most sincerely said that being part of such a group means that I have a responsibility to not only give of myself in ministry through the MSS but also learn and receive from God and others as we worship, and spend time with communities of people from all different walks of life. Belonging to a group of singing Salvos is a joyful honour.’

‘Are you still in the songsters?’ was the perennial question asked of Marilyn Hewitt. Well, Maz, as she is affectionately known, can answer ‘No’. Retiring after 29 years’ service, Marilyn says, ‘I can honestly say that I have loved being part of this group—the friendship, laughs, tears and special moments have been a real blessing to me. Being in this group has encouraged and helped me when things got really tough—especially with personal health and church issues. I have felt loved, allowed to be myself and enjoyed singing with you all.’

Merryn Steel has been the MSS Leader

since January 2015; however, she has been a member of the group for 17 years, serving as deputy leader for 10 years. She was also songster leader at Northcote Corps for 24 years. Merryn has a Bachelor of Music and currently conducts six choirs, including two children’s choirs at the campuses of Sydenham-Hillside Primary School, as a community project of the Brimbank City Corps.

Merryn shares, ‘It is a passion of mine to be able to bring the joy of singing to the wider community as I believe the benefits have far reaching effects on general well-being, mental health, social inclusion and academic achievement. To be able to do this as part of The Salvation Army provides great opportunity to connect with our local community and provide support and other services where needed.’

Merryn believes that, as well as ministering through music, the MSS has a role to play within the broader Salvation Army in encouraging adults and children to articulate the Gospel through music in ways that connect with others.

From January 2015, Majors Paul and Wendy Hateley will be the new executive officers. This will be in addition to their already busy roles. Paul is the territorial public relations secretary (THQ), while Wendy serves as executive manager, chaplaincy and mission at Employment Plus. Paul and Wendy are experienced, passionate and relational people of God.

Have you ever considered becoming a member of the Melbourne Staff Songsters? Would you like the group to visit

your corps or community? We invite you to send expressions of interest to mss@aus.salvationarmy.org.

Major Heather Jenkins



🕒 *Merryn Steel*



🕒 *Filomena and kids*



🕒 *Paul and Wendy Hateley*

 MARK 14:32–52

The betrayed Jesus

Geoff Webb shares a series on Mark's Gospel, focusing on special words or phrases that give insight into Jesus, his mission and his call to be his disciples.

Despite the seriousness of the Gethsemane events, there are comic elements too. We see Jesus 'betrayed' several times by people who were supposedly his followers.

Jesus prays and returns to the inner circle of disciples, but they are unable to stay awake—not once but three times! After the first embarrassment, they would surely have taken precautions not to let it happen again. Matchsticks anyone?

Jesus then announces his betrayer, and Judas appears on cue with the arresting crowd. Judas has brought them to a lonely place where Jesus would have few sympathisers. The arrest is also made easier in the darkness with Judas' kiss.

In the original language of Mark there is a difference between the kiss as planned (vs 44) and expressed (vs 45). In the latter case, it could often imply tenderness and repeated kissing. It may be possible that Judas' response indicates a measure of repentance for his betrayal.

Initially, Judas intended to betray Jesus with a kiss but,

when he encounters Jesus, his embrace changes or even intensifies. Still, he remains the betrayer and disappears from the narrative.

Brief but ineffectual swordplay by an unnamed person results in a severed body part lying in the dirt while Jesus conducts a conversation with his captors over it (verses 47–49).

Jesus, a respected and popular teacher, has been cast as a robber. But Jesus inverts the roles of the arresting party by suggesting ironically that the 'subversive' nature of his capture renders his would-be captors like robbers themselves.

They have come with clubs and swords, although weapons of violence are unwarranted—his followers are unable to support him, far less defend him.

The 'trigger' phrase that Jesus utters about Scripture being fulfilled causes the immediate flight of his disciples. A mysterious young man flees naked, with all the humour that such a flight evokes. This disciple's flight is a form of 'betrayal'.

Had we been there, would we have followed Jesus or betrayed him by our actions?

Gethsemane prompts us to consider how genuine, courageous and resolute our own commitment to follow Jesus is. ◦



Major
Dr Geoff Webb
is the Western

Victoria divisional
commander and
vice-chair of the
Army's International
Theological Council

Never give up on the kids

Barry Gittins uncovers the reason for Alan Steven's success with Ingle Farm's social programs.

In December 2015, Ingle Farm Corps celebrated the contribution of Alan Steven, who was the director of the corps' extensive social programs for 19 years. Alan had oversight of the Burlendi service for homeless youth and 'Muggy's network', which looks after up to 60 'guardianship' youth for the state government at any one time.

Instrumental to the success of working with these young people is the corps' Rev (Revolution) youth congregation, which offers acceptance, friendship, community and spiritual support.

'The notion of having a corps running social services was radical. It still is to some. Many corps back then would do a little bit of ER (emergency relief, food vouchers etc.) and have a thrift shop up and about. But to actually have government funding for homelessness services was unique,' Mr Steven said.

Divisional commander Lieut-Colonel Ron Clinch said the success of Muggy's was 'because Alan Steven ran it. Alan was that classic conduit; a person who links a corps and

their shared program mission'.

Alan focused on the individual. 'Every kid should be treated differently, with case plans written specifically for the individual. There is no sausage machine at Ingle Farm. We do what it takes to get kids through and we don't give up on them at any point,' he said.

Corps officer Captain David Collinson said that much of Ingle Farm's success at helping youth and the community 'is the result of Alan's faithfulness over the past 19 years. He has continually chosen and trained the right staff members; the best staff members for this place. He builds them up and hardly ever chooses a "wrong" person who doesn't fit. It's a real skill.

'Kylie and I have been observing closely, trying to work out why this place is so effective and why integrated mission works so well here...staff members love working here; it's a genuine connection with them as individuals and they are committed to the kids they work with to an inspiring degree.

'The social staff members' catchphrase, taught over the years by Alan, is "We never give up"—very Churchillian, but it's true. They don't,' Captain Collinson said. ◦





MESSENGERS OF THE GOSPEL

In what ways have you experienced God's call and direction in your life? How did you recognise God in these experiences?

Lieut Colonel Debra Stevens, Territorial Candidates Secretary



Ben Anderson 😊 feeling peaceful at Melbourne, Victoria



I have always had a sense of God's calling on my life to be a Salvation Army officer. I can remember going to the grade one 'dress up as your future job' day as a Salvation Army officer, complete with Bible, songbook and some coins for the collection!

God confirmed my calling through spiritual experiences at the 2000 Creative Arts camp and from then on I never doubted that God had called me to lifelong service as an officer. However, when I should enter training was never clear.

I went on to graduate from Melbourne University with an Arts degree and a Diploma of Education. Despite this, I thought I wouldn't end up teaching as, at the time, my corps was without a youth pastor and I was convinced that this was my path to officership. This did not occur and for a time I wondered what God had planned for me.

I now believe that God closed that path to guide me to my current job at Oxley Christian College. This experience has equipped me for my calling as an officer.

I have peace that, while I have followed God's leading through my teaching vocation, now is the time to be obedient to the calling that was laid on my heart so many years ago.



Jaimee Anderson 😊 feeling brave at Melbourne, Victoria



When I finished high school I wasn't sure what to do next. I prayed for God to direct me, but I didn't get an answer I could recognise.

After struggling through a year of agricultural science I prayed again for direction, but by this time I had become much better at recognising God's voice. He led my thinking from studying biology to human movement/teaching. Soon after I graduated and began teaching, I discovered that this was the vocation for me. I truly believe that being a teacher is

the calling God has put on my life.

The hardest thing God has led me to do is become an officer. I have often asked God to check if he's sure that this is how he wants me to serve him, but he continues to confirm this in his gentle but reassuring way.

As much as I am still terrified by what this path will ask of me, I know that I couldn't think of any other way I could find fulfilment in this life than by following God's direction.



Gavin Jones 😊 feeling determined at Gawler, South Australia



For most of my life I didn't have any religious belief, but I knew there was a greater power. I came to faith in 2011, after simply attending church to keep my wife Jodie happy, and eventually ended up operating the audio-visual equipment for the church.

During a service in Gawler Corps, I felt a slap across the back of my head and heard a voice telling me, 'It's time to wake up, I am real and always have been.' At first I thought it was somebody behind me, but there was nobody there.

Then the tears came and I couldn't control them. After the service I gave my life to Christ.

I wasn't used to hearing God's voice, so when I felt an overwhelming sense that I was meant to go to college to become an officer, I kept it to myself. This feeling grew stronger after making the decision to become a soldier and God confirmed this in several ways.

Since coming to faith, I have realised that there is more to life than just a pay packet to cover the family bills. When I look back at the experiences in my life and the places they have led me, I can see that I have been on a journey and I have finally realised, with a little gentle persuasion, where I have been heading.



Jodie Jones 😊 feeling focused at Gawler, South Australia



In 2008, my husband and I—along with our two sons aged 11 and 15—moved interstate for a new job and to spend more time together as a family.

However, rather than enjoying freedom from the commitments and demands we had always juggled, we all struggled to adapt. We had financial and property troubles, health scares, issues at school and a son-in-law in trouble with the law.

At my wits' end, I vehemently announced to anyone who cared to listen, 'I can't do this on my own any more!' Instantly I heard a voice respond, 'You're not alone. You never have been.' Even though I had never heard it before, I knew that this calm, authoritative and reassuring voice was God.

That moment was the beginning of my true relationship with God and Jesus. I contacted a local corps where I have continued to learn and grow in my relationship with God. Since then I have become a Christian pastoral support worker.

I still have doubts about my own ability, especially when I realise how much I don't know. But then I remember that God equips those who obey his promptings and he helps us to grow in the process. I have learnt that it is not my strength or my knowledge that is needed. God's strength, power and will are what matter and I have decided to try to trust and obey.



Heather Stamp 😊 feeling peaceful at Werribee, Victoria



My calling into ministry began when I was still participating in Kids Church as a child. I expressed a desire to help out at the time and was given minor tasks to complete each week. I also felt an urge to become more knowledgeable in the area of children's ministry. Today, I can pinpoint those first few years of learning as the beginning of that call on my life.

While on a youth camp I had been struggling with what full-time ministry would look like for me. I went forward for prayer one night and the idea of officership come into my mind. I felt a peace about that answer like I hadn't felt before.

That night, my husband and I both knew that God had found the right time for us to go to college to become officers.

I find that, through continued education and understanding of who God is in my life, I can reflect on the times when God has been placing a calling on my life. I feel that I have heard God so much that I can recognise his clear communication and follow his way.



Peter Stamp 😊 feeling expectant at Werribee, Victoria



I grew up in The Salvation Army attending Mildura Corps in Victoria. I don't know if it was the roar of the band or the beat of the timbrel, but I was sold out for the Army before I was even born.

As I grew, I started feeling a calling to serve God with my life in a greater capacity, but I wasn't sure what I was being called to. After I finished high school, I attended a Victorian Creative Arts camp in Melbourne where I was challenged to pray a dangerous prayer. This prayer was about offering my life to God and promising to follow him when he calls.

The day after the camp I received a phone call offering me a job making roller-shutters in a town called Werribee. It wasn't God on the other end of the phone, but I knew this was God following up on my prayer.

I moved to Werribee and, after two years working in a factory, God unveiled the next part of his plan for my life when I was employed as the youth pastor at The Salvation Army Werribee Corps. Serving God full-time in this position has been a great privilege and now, after nine years, God is once again calling me—this time with my wife, Heather—to the next chapter of our lives: officership.



Chelsea Wilson 😊 feeling excited at Perth, Western Australia



God asked me to become a leader in The Salvation Army at Commissioning in 2007. Our family had all gone to Melbourne for the event but, with two young children at the time, I hadn't been able to attend many of the sessions. My mother-in-law kindly came home on the Friday evening and put the children to bed so that I could join Darrell at the evening service.

Within a few minutes of being there, I began to feel very emotional and it was one of those moments that I can look back on and know clearly that God was speaking to me. There was no-one asking and there was no music playing—this is what made it clear that it was God. I had not expected it or wanted it.

Becoming an officer was not on my agenda but it was on God's and when I know it is God asking I am going to listen. I trusted him and am so thankful I did. We were warranted as envoys back in 2008 and I will begin to train as a cadet-in-appointment with the Messengers of Light session. I am going into my ninth year as an officer and my sixth year here at Rockingham. I love where we live, I love what we do and I am so excited for what God is doing in our community.

MEET THE AUX.-LIEUTENANTS



Mitchell Stevens
Auxiliary Lieutenant
at Floreat

'In my role I get to enjoy preaching on Sundays, developing relationships based on our mutual faith and to empower future leaders to live out God's word. This is what gives me enjoyment as an Auxiliary Lieutenant.'



Sally Stevens
Auxiliary Lieutenant
at Floreat.

'We've been immersed in the rhythm of ministry, knowing it as a lifestyle...for families it's a great opportunity to help understand and get used to this way of life.'

'It inspires me to be more responsive to God's calling every day. It also equips me with a stronger sense of responsibility in fulfilling what God has called me to do, and empowers me to serve as an obedient follower and servant of Christ.'



Alan Wu
Currently serving
at Surrey Hills

'I love being able to have practical experience working in different corps, and being an Auxiliary Lieutenant definitely highlights the importance of on-the-ground work and putting words into action.'



Amy Wu
Currently serving
at Surrey Hills

'My family life does not allow me to go to college full-time just yet, so Auxiliary Lieutenancy has offered me a chance to follow God's leading and be appointed to a place...which is where God wants me to be right now.'



Graham Kennedy
Currently serving
at Hamilton

'For a long time The Salvation Army needed to explore different ways for people to step into a leadership role. This is a fantastic way to equip people who know what God is calling them to do. If you are reading this, and you know God is calling you to serve him in ministry then this is a fantastic opportunity for you.'



Andrew Webb
Auxiliary Lieutenant
serving at Sunbury

'The rank of Auxiliary Lieutenant opens up doors for more people to serve in full-time ministry with The Salvation Army, while being able to serve in a way that is authentic for them in their relationship with Jesus.'



Caleigh Kennedy
Currently serving
at Hamilton



On the mission field

Send

Explore the Calling

Many officers start their journey of ministry with a simple act of exploring how they can be faithful to God's call to worship him and serve others.

At Territorial Headquarters, we have a dedicated team who will help you discover the different ways you can serve God on the frontlines of ministry.

AS AN OFFICER, YOU WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE GOD AND OTHERS IN A RANGE OF DIFFERENT MINISTRIES.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Most cadets undertake:

- Two years education and residential living at Catherine Booth College
- Theological and ministry training
- Ministry placements
- Coaching and mentoring in the field

If you have a growing sense that God is calling you into full-time ministry or feel led to serve him in some way, we invite you to have a chat with us over a cuppa and we can explore the call together.

TO FIND OUT MORE



SPEAK

to your Corps Officer about Officership



TALK TO US

Call Lieut-Colonel Debra Stevens
Territorial Candidates Secretary:

Phone: (03) 8878 4518

Email: candidates@aus.salvationarmy.org



FIND

out more details at:

SArmey.org.au/explorethecalling



FILL OUT YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Send your form to:

Territorial Candidates Department
PO Box 479 BLACKBURN 3130

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR FUTURE SERVICE

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Given Name(s) Surname

Home Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____ Mobile: _____

Corps: _____ Corps Officer: _____

Date Converted: _____

DECLARATION

- I want to follow God's specific will for my life
- I want to explore future service possibilities within The Salvation Army

Signed* _____ Date _____

Print Name _____



PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO:
TERRITORIAL CANDIDATES
DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 479 BLACKBURN 3130

*I am aware that this Expression of Interest form does not ensure my acceptance as an Officer or Auxiliary Lieutenant.



WAIT ON GOD

by General André Cox

I f I could deliver three words of advice to Christians for 2016, it would be this: Wait on God.

As Salvationists, we live busy, chaotic, sometimes even dysfunctional lives. This dedication to our work can be a very good thing; after all, the need of the world is only getting bigger. We should absolutely be committed to our tasks and responsibilities.

But there is a danger in putting all of ourselves into our roles if it keeps us from being in God's presence, or it keeps us from opening our minds and hearts to Him. It can be difficult to switch everything off, and just be with God. We don't give ourselves that luxury very often.

I wonder sometimes if our lack of waiting, listening, and learning is a sign of overconfidence. We think we are clever enough to do everything by ourselves. After all, look at the amazing gifts that God has given to The Salvation Army. But we will hit a brick wall if we think that the Army's continued success can only come from us.

After a routine check-up from my doctor early in 2014, I was told that I might have either cancer or tuberculosis. The doctors said to me that unless I underwent a serious operation immediately, I would have 12 months to live. The fact that I was General of The Salvation Army changed nothing. The insignia,

the 'bling' on my uniform and on my shoulder, meant nothing in that moment. I wasn't standing before God as an officer, but as André Cox, just a person as he made me.

We all know that one day we will die, but when someone puts a time limit on your life you realise all the things that you would still like to experience. You realise that you may be too driven by your itinerary or your routine. You realise how much you still want to experience God's love in your remaining time.

I know it is sometimes hard to see and experience the hand and presence of God, but let us never become so busy that we forget to live our lives in his presence. It will keep us from being the best version of ourselves that we can be. And the best version of us can only be attained through a strong relationship with the Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Remain in me, as I remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.' If we follow those words, our lives will also bear fruit.

Psalms 25:21 reads: 'Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait on thee.' I pray that, in the business of your lives, your days will also be filled with seeking, listening, and waiting on God. ◦

(Reprinted from SA Connects—USA)

**“I wasn't
standing
before God
as an officer,
but as André
Cox, just a
person as he
made me**



MORE THAN THIS

As we approach the National Day of Prayer and Fasting on 7 February, when Christians will stop and pray for revival and transformation across Australia, Captain Craig Exon, EVD divisional youth secretary, and Captain Sarah Eldridge, CO of Healesville Corps, share the amazing impact of prayer they have witnessed—particularly at youth camps.



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations..."

EPHESIANS 3:20-21



What if this verse became a reality in front of your very eyes? This has been our experience for the last 18 months in the Eastern Victoria Division, Youth and Children's Department.

We began with a commitment to pray and seek God for what he wanted to do through the youth and children's ministries across EVD. The more we prayed the more we were able to step into the spiritual authority God has given us.

Our first major change was to allow God to have his way and free rein in every event we were responsible for. That meant allowing God to work in ways we perhaps weren't ready for, but we made a commitment to allow him to move and made sure we explained everything using Scripture. Doing this meant God had all authority and we just allowed him to move.

We set about building a culture of freedom in spirituality, giving value to the experiences of Christ that we were seeing, and not devaluing anything we had seen in the past. Many young people and leaders were then able to experience God in ways they never had before. However, it was more than spiritual freedom, as many young people were finding freedom in

their everyday circumstances of broken homes, lives and relationships they had been suffering through, without hope, for a long time. Leaders and young people alike stepped into this new freedom with passion and allowed God to use it to speak into the lives of others.

The more we prayed, the more we realised that God was doing far more than we were praying for. It was clear that, while we had a heart for transformation, God had even greater things in store for the division.

Several young people began experiencing prophetic visions and were confident enough to step out and pray for their friends and leaders. Always with the guidance of senior leaders, young people were hearing God's voice through their peers and God just moved more powerfully than we could have imagined. Youth as young as 15 and 12 were praying with, and for, leaders and officers and seeing God break through in such powerful ways.

Perhaps the best examples of this are from Rev camp in 2015, the 2016 Summer Carnival and summer camp.

Holy Spirit moved in a way we haven't seen before, with youth and leaders ministering to, and with, each other. Holy Spirit anointed our ministry at camp, with youth as young as 12 and leaders prophesying over one another—youth and leaders created space for the spirit to move to receive supernatural healing. Youth and leaders alike testified to the tangible presence of Holy Spirit through our time at camp.

Rev Camp carried the theme of freedom. We could never have imagined what God had in store for us.

After an afternoon of ice-breaker games, the atmosphere of community among the youth and leaders grew rapidly. Our first group session, 'If the Son sets you free, you are free indeed', set the tone for spiritual transformation for the camp. From this first session God took over the agenda of what we had planned and continued to reveal to us where to go during the worship and teaching sessions.

Each day we trusted that God would lead our speakers and leaders to a place where the Holy Spirit could move in the lives of our youth and leaders. Every group

session saw more youth responding to the power of Jesus in their lives.

The small group sessions were built on the truth that freedom was available for all. God wants us to be free from our past, traditions and sins, free to be all that he wants us to be, and released into mission in his Holy Spirit power. Using props such as chains, paint and T-shirts, we were able to explore the power of freedom in each other's lives and journeys.

Sessions were highlighted by campers and leaders receiving freedom from darkness to freedom in Christ, by youth from varied backgrounds who have wrestled with significant consequences of life choices; finding freedom for the first time in their lives. Youth who went deeper and continued to step into new-found freedom and acceptance from God who loves them and people who care for them.

It is exciting that six months on, God has continued to pour himself out amongst our youth. At Summer Carnival in 2016, 90 young people from EVD attended and 45 made significant responses for Christ! Again, young people prayed and prophesied with each other and led each other to Christ. Young men were made free from their past and one youth experienced God in such a supernatural way that he was able to see the spiritual battles happening around him—very overwhelming experience for most adults, let alone a 15-year-old.

Some of these young people were able to serve on our summer camp teams, where they were also part of leading young people from unchurched backgrounds to an understanding of God's love for them and into a friendship with him.

The exciting thing about all of this is that God is certainly not finished with us and we continue to allow him to move in any way he needs, to bring more young people to Christ and see the Kingdom advanced. It is certainly all his doing and he gets all the glory and credit. All we have done is been obedient and allowed him to have his way—for this we give him praise! We pray that we will do more again in 2016 and bring a new wave of people for the Kingdom.

COMMISSIONER DON CAMPBELL



Former territorial commander Commissioner Donald Campbell was promoted to Glory on 14 November 2015, from Cherrybrook Christian Care Centre (NSW) at 92 years of age.

Don's long and fruitful life, spent mostly in southern Australia, began in Young, NSW, in October 1923. Following his father's death, the family moved to Don's grandfather's home in Manly. Foundations for his future life were laid here, in experiences at the Manly Baptist Church, with Scripture Union, and later at Sydney Boys High School.

Work in a bank preceded enlisted service in the 2nd Australian Infantry Forces. While in Western Australia during the years of WWII, Don met Crystal, and they soon sensed God's direction for their lives together in The Salvation Army. Crystal joined the Liberty session of cadets in 1944 and Don entered the Fearless session in 1945—both from Highgate Corps.

Don's first appointment was at Rochester Corps. Marriage followed in 1947 and led to a shared ministry at Sandy Bay. From 1948 through to 1957 five children were added to the family—Helen, Marion, Craig, Ian and Laurel.

Early officership included corps at Invermay, Collie, Geraldton, Mount Hawthorn, Albany and Maylands. Appointments in youth work in 1961 (Western Victoria) and public relations in 1963 (THQ) followed. Corps leadership at Norwood and Adelaide Congress from 1966–1969 was a significant period, as the family grew in their faith and followed their own pathways.

From 1970–1978, Don contributed much in the leadership of Tasmanian and Melbourne Central divisions, then became training principal for four years. Cadets in that time remember his strong personal interest in them which did not cease when they became officers.

Don and Crystal shared ministry in all their roles, including their last appointments in territorial leadership in New Zealand (from 1983) and in Australia Southern Territory (from July 1986 to 1989).

In retirement they moved to Glenelg in South Australia where Don was almost as busy in retirement as in his active officership. After living in Glenelg for 17 years, failing health led to a shift away from the Australia Southern Territory to stay with their daughter, Helen, with a final move to the care centre in Cherrybrook.

The funeral was conducted by son-in-law Major Jim Weymouth at Dural Corps on 17 November. A thanksgiving service was held at Camberwell Corps in Melbourne. Meaningful tributes and open reflection from children, grandchildren, former colleagues and friends recalled a faithful servant of the Lord, who devoted his natural abilities and strength of character to God. Notable were his enthusiasm, steadfast focus, attention to detail, interest in others and a strong belief in God's purposes for The Salvation Army. His humble and often hidden acts included pastoral ministry, even to the end of his days.

Helen, Marion, Craig, Ian, Laurel and the wider family each give thanks for such loving and devoted parents. Their 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren will continue to tell their story. ◊

MAJOR NOEL STANLEY BLEGG



Major Noel Stanley Blegg was promoted to Glory from the Ballarat Hospital (Vic.) on 9 January 2016 after he had a fall. He was 96 years old.

Noel grew up in Tasmania and became a woodworker after completing his schooling. He was employed by the Lamina Case Co., Hobart, for five years before he heard and responded to the voice of God calling him to full-time service as a Salvation Army officer. He entered the training college in March 1939 as a 19-year-old cadet in the Dauntless Evangelists session and was commissioned 8 January 1940.

Noel's first appointment was as assistant corps officer, Yarloop (WA), followed by appointments at Manjimup, Bassendean, Kellerberrin and Busselton. Noel was then appointed to Victoria Park and in 1943 married Captain Catherine Drake. The following year they moved to Tasmania and took up an appointment at New Norfolk Corps.

After a term at Newtown Corps they moved to Victoria and served at Ringwood, Bairnsdale, Burnley and Footscray West. Due to the prolonged illness of one of their children they resigned from officership in 1949. However, they served as envoys at North Melbourne and Moonee Ponds for the next 18 years.

In 1966, while watching their daughter, Cadet Heather, marching at Congress, Noel and Cath felt the call back to officership and were reinstated in 1967. They were appointed to Stawell Corps. This was followed by corps appointments at Ballarat West, Mitcham and Reservoir. In 1972, they were appointed to the Social Department with a nine-year term at The Anchorage, Victoria, the last two years as superintendent. Their final appointment was to Sunset Lodge Senior Citizens Residence (SA) as manager. It was from this appointment on 1 November 1984 that they entered retirement.

They were happily retired for the next 24 years, enjoying time with the family and growing beautiful roses, among other things, in the garden at their unit in Glen Iris.

Cath was promoted to Glory on 7 February 2008. Noel battled on independently until, due to failing health, he moved into care in Ballarat to be closer to family members.

Our love, sympathy and prayers are with his children Ruth, Heather, Jenny and Peter, their spouses, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and extended family and friends.

A thanksgiving service for the life of Major Noel Blegg was held at The Salvation Army Ballarat Community Church, conducted by Commissioner Raymond Finger on 18 January at 1.00 pm.

'Take my love; my Lord I pour at thy feet its treasure-store; Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.'
Frances Ridley Havergal (SASB 525:6). ◊

MAJOR BARBARA JOY EDWARDS



Major Barbara Edwards was promoted to Glory in Adelaide early on Wednesday morning 6 January, with some of her family members and the retired officers chaplain by her side. She was 87 years old.

As a young girl, Barbara was brought up in a strong Christian family in Glenunga. She went to Unley High School before going to the University of Adelaide Teachers College to train as a teacher. She was a teacher for over four years. In response to a higher calling from God, Barbara gave her life to him in full-time service to become a Salvation Army officer.

She entered the Melbourne Training College from the Unley Corps on 25 March 1953, joining the other cadets in the Heralds session. She was commissioned on 11 January, 1954.

Barbara was appointed as assistant corps officer at Kent Town in South Australia before she sailed for the Caribbean Territory on missionary service at Listowel Boy's School. After two years, she returned to Australia, in October 1957, and took up an appointment in the THQ Women's Social Office in Melbourne. She was next appointed to Hillcrest in Western Australia, then back to THQ in the YP department, responsible for the Postal Sunday School.

She spent some time in the Education and Candidates Departments before moving back to Perth in the Men's Social Office. Her next appointment was as Divisional Secretary in West Australia, then Divisional Secretary in South Australia. On 13 January 1977, she was appointed as secretary at the McBride Hospital before moving to Sunset Lodge in South Australia as bookkeeper, for the final seven years before entering honourable retirement on 1 June, 1988.

Barbara was a very quiet and gentle lady. She radiated a sense of peace that came from her love of her Lord and Saviour and the perfect peace he brings. Although limited in her physical strength, she gave her all in service. She was committed to her work and was widely known for her meticulous attention to detail in all she did. Her Christ-like gentleness was felt by the people she looked after and many others with whom she came in contact. She was also a gifted musician and could converse in French and Spanish.

Our love, sympathy and prayers are with her brother-in-law Graham Pitman, niece and nephews Sue, David and Mike, and extended family and friends.

The funeral was conducted by Major Reno Elms on 15 January, at Unley Salvation Army.

'At peace with my God, and how can it be except by the love of Jesus for me. Anxiety gone, sins under the blood, and I am at peace, at peace with my God.'

Richard Slater (1854–1939). ◦

IRIS MAY BOTT



Iris May Bott (nee Inglis) was promoted to Glory on 22 November 2015, from the Austin Hospital, Heidelberg (Vic.). She was 89 years of age.

Iris May was born to officer parents in Bundaberg on 20 March 1926, being the fourth of five children to George and Eva Inglis—Robert (who lived for only a couple of days), Frank, Gordon, Iris and Eva (Win).

As a child of Salvation Army officers, she came to understand that the family would be on the move whenever they received a letter appointing them to another corps or position somewhere in Australia. As a result Iris attended many different schools and corps where strong, lifelong friendships were made.

In 1941 her parents were appointed to Preston Corps. It was during this time that Iris began a friendship with Jack Bott which developed and they were married at Preston Corps on 5 October 1946. On 22 November 1950, they welcomed their only child, Evanne—a gift from God, as they would say.

During her life Iris worked at a number of occupations—tailoring, factory worker, kindergarten helper and in floristry.

She loved The Salvation Army as her church. She was actively involved as a corps cadet, primary teacher and singer. Iris had a strong faith and a great love for her Lord. In her own quiet way throughout her life she would tell people of her faith.

Iris had the gift of hospitality. Over the years, Iris and Jack's home was open to those who needed meals on a Sunday and on practice nights—owing to time restrictions for people to go home and back again. There were times also when they opened their home to those who needed a place to stay for a short while.

Jack, her lifetime partner, passed away on 2 October 2004. They were always a team and now there was only one. Iris daily indicated just how much she missed him. Owing to her own health problems, Iris went into residential aged care at Emmavale Gardens, Lower Templestowe in 2013. She was much loved by the staff and residents. At all times she was a Christian lady ready to offer a warm and friendly word to anyone.

On Sunday 22 November 2015 Iris's Lord and Saviour took her home to her heavenly reward. God gave Iris and Jack a gift of a daughter on that same day in 1950. He thought it was timely that his gift to Jack would be to reunite them on this day so that together they could celebrate the birthday of Evanne, their 'gift from God'.

'Jesus loves me he will stay close beside me all the way; If I love him, when I die, he will take me home on high. Yes, Jesus loves me—the Bible tells me so.' ◦



HAVE YOU RECENTLY BEEN BEREAVED?

Please don't forget to submit a tribute and, if possible, a photograph, to
On Fire, PO Box 479, Blackburn 3130,
or email: onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org

Ⓢ BEECHWORTH, VIC.

CAPTAIN PAULINE MIDDLETON

It has been more than eight years since new adherents became part of Beechworth Corps.

However, on Sunday 27 September 2015, eight people—Lorraine Webb, Jim and Helen Kenney, Heather and John Goldsworthy, Nancy Sikora, John Weldon and Laurie Horder—were accepted as adherents and Heather Horder renewed her adherency.

L-R: Captain Pauline Middleton, Helen Kenney, Lorraine Webb, Jim Kenney, Heather Goldsworthy, Nancy Sikora, John Weldon, John Goldsworthy, Fred Simmons (flag bearer), Laurie Horder, Heather Horder. Major John Freind



Ⓢ On Sunday 4 October 2015, Peter McKeachie accepted adherency.

Each adherent identified as a believer in Jesus Christ, seeking to follow and be like him, calling Beechworth their spiritual home.

L-R: Peter McKeachie, Fred Simmons (flag bearer), Captain Pauline Middleton



Ⓢ GOLDEN GROVE, SA

MAJORS BEVERLEY AND PAUL BEESON

Donna Penney, Robyn Lingard, Cynthia Wilson, Michelle Thredgold and Suzanne Jeffries were enrolled as adherents on 23 August 2015.

On 13 September, 2015, Craig and Kerri-Ann Sweet and Perri Bradshaw accepted adherency at Messy Church. The event was witnessed by 70 people including Kerri-Ann and Craig's two children Kahlea and Bradley, Kerri-Ann's parents, Perri's husband David, and their two children, Holly and Daniel.

Ⓢ BENALLA, VIC.

LIEUTENANTS RACHEL AND SEAN ATTARD

At the meeting on 30 August 2015, Jenni Kneebone, Pauline Braithwaite, Edith Tszanz, Lorraine Bethke and Errol Bethke were enrolled as soldiers by Lieutenants (now Captains) Rachel and Sean Attard.

These new soldiers were proud to don their uniforms for the first time, letting the world know that 'they mean business!'—as they allow God to lead their lives and serve people around them.

L-R: Jenni Kneebone, Pauline Braithwaite, Edith Tszanz, Lorraine Bethke, Errol Bethke, and Lieutenant Sean Attard



Ⓢ GEORGE TOWN, TAS.

CAPTAINS DEAN AND KAYE HILL

Andrew Parkes stood proudly beneath the Army flag when he was enrolled as a soldier on 4 October 2015.

He testified that over many years his life had been influenced by faithful officers and friends, and felt that the time was right for him to take this next step in his walk with God.

L-R: Captain Dean Hill, Andrew Parkes, Captain Kaye Hill



L-R: Donna Penney, Robyn Lingard, Cynthia Wilson, Michelle Thredgold and Suzanne Jeffries



L-R: Craig Sweet, Kerri-Ann Sweet (in the pink top) and Perri Bradshaw



⬆️ **BENALLA, VIC.**

CAPTAINS CLYDE AND MARGARET COLLS

On 6 December 2015, after more than six months of preparation, Tim Freund was commissioned as the new CSM for Murray Bridge Corps.

Supported by his wife Myrtle and their two sons, Malachi and Theodore, and, after recovering from major surgery, Tim looks forward to being far more involved in the ministry of the corps.

L-R: Captain Clyde Colls, CSM Tim Freund, Captain Margaret Colls and Kaye Hopper (holding the flag).



⬆️ **PRESTON, VIC.**

MAJORS BRETT AND SALLY-ANNE ALLCHIN

Starting with just three people meeting to read the Gospel of Matthew and have dinner, Tuesday evening fellowship meetings have steadily grown to a regular gathering of 20 to 25 people.

At the conclusion of the study of the Gospel of Matthew in August, 2015, eight people from Iran, India and Taiwan accepted Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour.

Others who attended the fellowship have matured as followers of Christ.

⬆️ **MORNINGTON, VIC.**

CAPTAIN COLIN LANE

On 27 October 2015, Carolina Diaz, Rosalie Paul, Graeme and Margaret Woodhart, Kathy Radisson, Jade Vidal and Beck Sinclair were enrolled as adherents.

Over 11 weeks the doctrines of The Salvation Army had been unpacked so that the people of Mornington understood what Salvo values and beliefs are. It looks as though 2016 will be an exciting year.

L-R: Lieutenant Sean Mapleback, Carolina Diaz, Rosalie Paul, Graeme Woodhart, Margaret Woodhart, Kathy Radisson, Jade Vidal and Beck Sinclair



⬆️ **RETIREMENT OF THE BARNARDS**

The retirement and celebration of the active service and ministry of Lieut-Colonels Jenny and Rodney Barnard was conducted on 6 December 2015 at Adelaide Congress Hall by the territorial leaders Commissioners Floyd Tidd and Tracey Tidd.

The Barnards were commissioned as officers in 1982 and served in corps, divisional and territorial appointments in the Australia Southern Territory, and for two years at divisional headquarters in Exeter

(United Kingdom).

Lieut-Colonel Rodney's final appointment was as secretary for business administration and Lieut-Colonel Jenny, prior to her appointment with Salvo Stores in South Australia, was assistant secretary of personnel.

Recorded tributes from former associates and colleagues were screened at the meeting and certificates of service were presented by the territorial leaders.



⬆️ **TASMANIA DIVISION**

MAJORS GAIL AND RICHIE WATSON

On Thursday 24 August 2015, Hobart's Lord Mayor Alderman Sue Hickey, and 46 other government and business leaders, went without warm beds to raise more than \$40,000 for The Salvation Army's 'Street to Home' program.

As well as sleeping out, the group went on a mystery bus tour, stopping at New Town Salvos Store to take part in a 'dressing for a job interview on a \$30 budget' exercise.

From there, they visited areas in Hobart where people sleep rough. During the bus trip, two former homeless people helped by the 'Street to Home' program shared their personal journey.



➤ VICTOR HARBOR, SA

LIEUTENANT AMANDA HART

On 11 October 2015, three new local officers were commissioned.

Ivan Dohnt was commissioned as corps treasurer, taking over from Major Paul Such who was thanked for his commitment to this role and the corps council over the past eight years.

Jeanette Dohnt was commissioned as junior soldier sergeant, and Samuel Shepherd as assistant junior soldier sergeant.

L-R: Lieutenant Amanda Hart, Ivan Dohnt, Jeanette Dohnt, Samuel Shepherd, colour sergeant David Inns



➤ WANGARATTA, VIC.

Over the weekend of 31 October–1 November, 2015, Wangaratta Salvation Army joined with other local churches to celebrate the annual Wangaratta Jazz Festival.

Performing at the Saturday night concert in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and at the combined outdoor church service on Sunday morning, the Salvos Big Band entertained the crowd and provided accompaniment to the songs.

➤ WARRAGUL, VIC.

MAJORS CHRISTINE AND JEFF WALLER

On 6 December 2015, Warragul junior soldiers led the morning worship service with the theme: What does Christmas mean to me?

During the service, Major Christine Waller enrolled Jacinta Gordon and Chris Impey as junior soldiers.

L-R: Pauline Still, Jacinta Gordon, Chris Impey, Major Christine Waller.



➤ WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

MAJOR WAYNE PITTAWAY

The Flying Padre for the North West of Western Australia literally took off, when on Monday 5 October 2015, Captain Niall Gibson flew to visit a station south of Port Hedland as the beginning of this much anticipated ministry.

Captain Gibson said it was a great privilege to sit and listen to the folk in their isolation.



⊙ MARYBOROUGH, VIC.

CAPTAINS ANDREW AND KELLY WALKER

Special SAGALA awards were presented on 27 September 2015.

Colonel Graeme Rigley presented Jessica Walker with the General's Award—the highest award in SAGALA, and issued from IHQ. To achieve this award, Jessica completed 30 badges, fulfilled at least three leadership tasks and sat an interview with Major Mim Adams.

Major Adams made the second presentation of the Southern Cross Award to Seth Aitken.

⊙ WESTCARE, VIC.

PETER MULHOLLAND

On 28 October 2015, The Salvation Army Westcare launched its 'Season for Change' 2014–15 Annual Report.

Westcare's general manager, Peter Mulholland, highlighted key changes in leadership, funding announcements and positive outcomes for young people.



⊙ SPRINGVALE, VIC.

LIEUTENANT SUYI XIANG

When Wu Jie Grace was accepted as an adherent, her parents came from China to attend the celebration and to hear how God has impacted her life.



Istanbul bombing

On Tuesday 12 January, Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Womens Ministries for the Eastern Europe Territory, Lieut-Colonels Jostein and Magna Nielsen, were caught up in a terrorist bomb attack in Istanbul, Turkey.

Lieut-Colonel Jostein suffered a knee injury, while Lieut-Colonel Magna was uninjured but shaken by the experience.

Lieut-Colonel Jostein said, 'I first heard a bang that I think is what detonated the bomb. After that came the real bang, I felt that my knee stopped working. There were human remains all over the place.'

His wife added, 'It was a great shock. One does not think that such things will happen when you are sightseeing.'

L-R: Lieut-Colonel Magna Nielsen, Lieut-Colonel Jostein Nielsen



The Salvation Army
The Salvation Army New Zealand National Youth Band in Concert

23rd /24th April 2016
 Mooroolbark Salvation Army

April 30 – May 1
 Perth Fortress Salvation Army

⊕ **APPOINTMENTS 3 DECEMBER 2015:** Auxiliary-Lieutenant Andrew **Webb**, corps officer, Sunbury Corps MCD. | **EFFECTIVE 13 JANUARY 2016:** Majors: Winsome **Merrett**, chairman, Victoria State Council; Gary and Julie **Grant**, corps officers, Bayside Plant EVD; Lynda van **Gaalen-Prentice**, senior chaplain, Adult Services Network, SSCV; Adye **Viney**, senior chaplain Northern & Western Regions, SSCV; Kirsty **McKenzie**, administrative officer, WVD; Karen **Walker**, ministry assistant, Ringwood Corps EVD, additional appointment; Peter **Walker**, corps officer, Ringwood Corps, EVD; Colin **Eldridge**, chaplain and team leader, Melbourne Magistrates Court SSCV, title change; Captains: Christine **Abram**, corps officer, Wodonga Corps CVD; Michelle **Davies-Kildea**, chaplain, Crisis Services Network SSCV; Mary **Liu**, assistant to Chinese Liaison Officer, PRD; Erica **Jones**, divisional social justice co-ordinator, WAD, additional appointment; Scott **Norman**, regional military chaplain, Leeuwin Barracks, WA; Genevieve **Peterson**, training officer, School for Officer Training, Catherine Booth College, additional appointment pro tem; Nigel **Platts**, chaplain, Adult Services Network, Foley House, SSCV; Catherine **Spiller**, co-ordinator of First Five Years Program, School for Officer Training, Catherine Booth College, additional appointment, pro-tem; Rosemary **Massey**, corps officer, Wonthaggi Corps, EVD, additional appointment; Catherine **Spencer**, program support officer, SSCV, title change; Lieutenant Marie **Kovacs**, chaplain, Adult Services Network, The Open Door, SSCV. | **EFFECTIVE 1 MARCH 2016:** Lieutenant Paul **Chen**, assistant corps officer, Manningham Corps, EVD.

⊕ **GOOD NEWS**
The Territorial Candidates Secretary is pleased to announce that the following were accepted to train in the Messengers of the Gospel Session: Envoy Chelsea Wilson, Rockingham Corps WAD.
The following were accepted as Auxiliary Lieutenants: Andrew Webb, Sunbury Corps MCD

⊕ **LONG SERVICE AWARDS**
25 YEARS, 12 JANUARY: Majors: Miriam Adams, Marjory Ellis, Stephen Ellis, Brendan Nottle, Sandra Nottle, Glenda Savage, Judith Soeters, Peter R. Walker, Peter Wood. | **30 YEARS, 11 JANUARY:** | Lieutenant-Colonels: Robyn Clinch, Ron Clinch. Majors: Jenny Begent, Annette Coleman, Michael Coleman, Reno Elms, Ros Elms, Beth Holman, Eddy Holman, Geoff Ledger, Darryl Robinson, Kaylene Robinson. | **35 YEARS, 12 JANUARY:** Majors: Peter Anderson, John Freind, Wendy Freind, Brad Halse. | **40 YEARS:** Commissioner Aylene Finger, Majors: Ron Cochrane, Jim Weymouth.

⊕ **RETIREMENTS**
EFFECTIVE 13 JANUARY: Lieut-Colonel Jenny Barnard; Majors: Margaret Cochrane, Mervyn Lincoln, Bunita Pittaway; Captain Kaye Barber. | **EFFECTIVE 1 FEBRUARY:** Major Geoff Ledger, Envoy Duncan Locke. | **Active Retired, concluding 13 January:** Majors: Alan MacDonald, Margaret MacDonald; Captains: Dean Hill, Kaye Hill; Envoy Heather Sheaf.

⊕ **PROMOTIONS**
To Major: **EFFECTIVE 2 DECEMBER 2015:** Michelle Gibson; **EFFECTIVE 10 JANUARY 2016:** Quentin Castle, Cameron Horsburgh, Trudy Horsburgh, Allan Morrison, Glenda Morrison, Allison Platt, Scott Smallacombe, Andrew Walker, Kelly Walker, Charles Watson.
To Captain: **EFFECTIVE 12 JANUARY:** Sean Attard, Rachel Attard, Monty Bhardwaj, Mera Bhardwaj, Russell Butcher, Robert Champion, Erica Cossington, Sarah Eldridge, Fiona Kean, Matt Kean, Susan Lamotte, Paul Lorimer, Robyn Lorimer, Adam Mackenroth, Catherine Mackenroth, Simon Mapleback, Adam Peterson, Andrew Stringer, Kirsty Stringer.

⊕ **BIRTHS**
Majors Ron and Lyn Cochrane have welcomed a new granddaughter, Billie, born to Jeremy and Heather on 3 January 2016. | Majors Alan and Marilyn Jenner have welcomed a new granddaughter, Louise Jenner Regan, on 30 December 2015. | Lieutenants Jacqui and Jeff Milkins (WAD) have welcomed the arrival of their son, Oliver Victor Milkins, on 23 November 2015. Proud grandparents are Majors Alan and Denise Milkins (MCD). | Major Gaylene Walker (EVD) has become a grandparent again. William Walker was born to

FEBRUARY 2015

Commissioners Floyd and Tracey Tidd

- ② Welcome Dinner to Cadets and Aux-Lieutenants
- ④ Installation State Social Command
- ⑦ Catherine Booth College—Cadets In Sunday Service
- ⑦ Welcome to Cadets
- ⑦ Territorial Executive Council
- ⑩ CBC Public Lecture—Opening/Dedication of CBC Library
- ⑬ Installation of TAD divisional leaders
- ⑯ Welcome dinner at ATLC delegates
- ⑳ Officers first year reviews
- ㉔ Cabinet retreat

Colonels Graeme and Karen Rigley

- ② Welcome Dinner to Cadets and Aux-Lieutenants
 - ④ Installation State Social Command
 - ⑦ Catherine Booth College—Cadets In Sunday Service
 - ⑦ Welcome to Cadets
 - ⑦ Territorial Executive Council
 - ⑩ CBC Public Lecture—Opening/Dedication of CBC Library
 - ⑭ Installation of Lieut-Colonel Sam Pho—National Secretariat
 - ⑯ Welcome dinner for ATLC delegates
 - ㉔ Cabinet retreat
- Melbourne Staff Band
- ⑦ Welcome to Cadets
- Melbourne Staff songsters
- ⑦ Welcome to Cadets
 - ㉔ Kaniva/Broughton Corps (WVD) Harvest Celebration Weekend

Aydan and Beth on 14 December 2015. | Majors Brian and Jenny Pratt (EVD) welcome the birth of their granddaughter, Grace Jennifer, born on 17 November 2015, to daughter Kerrie and son-in-law, Josh.

⊕ **BEREAVEMENT**
Major Karen Hill (SAD) was bereaved of her father, Mr Robert (Bob) Wilson, who passed away in Mount Gambier on 14 January, at the age of 90 (father-in-law to Major Graham Hill (SAD)). The funeral service for Robert Wilson was held on 20 January at the East Gambier Uniting Church, conducted by Major Karen Hill. ◦

BETHESDA NURSES CIRCA 1959

Bernice Jean Maddron (nee Valentine in Sydney, formerly Davis in Melbourne) is seeking contact with anyone who did their general nursing training at Bethesda, Richmond (Vic.), or midwifery training at Bethesda Marrickville, Sydney.

Please contact Jan Magor on (03) 8878 2304 or email jan.magor@aus.salvationarmy.org.

Wholly committed

Salvo Publishing's latest book, *Holy! Nine lies, half-truths and outrageous misconceptions about the most radical experience you've never lived*, is hot off the press. Co-author Captain Peter Brookshaw tells Dawn Volz about his hopes for this 'punchy, easy-to-read' book about holiness.



How did you and Major Stephen Court* come up with the inspiration for this book and its provocative title?

Stephen and I thought it was time for another book on holiness, but not just to fill the gap on the shelf of a theological library. That's not the genre or the aim. The provocative title matters to us, because we want to spur people on to read. We want everyday, ordinary followers of Jesus (like Stephen and me) to read, digest and embrace a subject that is enriching and life-changing.

Tell us a little about the content of the book and what you're most excited about.

We reveal nine lies, half-truths and outrageous misconceptions about holiness. *Holy!* is short, punchy and provocative and will get you talking. You might even disagree with some of it, but the more you wrestle with core subjects that underpin your faith, the better. I am excited about releasing a title that has potential to stir up a desire for living wholly committed to Christ.

What kind of readers do you think will be most impacted by the book?

Firstly, my grandma! Secondly, those who are willing to engage with a punchy, easy-to-read book that will press buttons and challenge strongly held views. I think many are up for that challenge.

Do you think the experience of holiness needs more emphasis in The Salvation Army of today?

Holiness is like a can of spaghetti. When the Holy Spirit moves in your life, the spaghetti doesn't remain in the can. You can't bottle the spaghetti back up. Just like what happens to my two-year-old daughter, the spaghetti will cover you from head to toe. The Spirit of God transforms you. You become fully committed to the plans and purposes God has for your life. You live and love like Christ. The Salvation Army needs that.

Which of the Salvation Army writers on holiness do you most admire?

I admire those who are writing engaging,

thought-provoking works today. While I admire the Brengles, Coutts and Booths of The Salvation Army, I am deeply encouraged by Christians today who seek to challenge unjust bureaucratic structures, who call people to radical expressions of servant-hood, or who serve the forgotten ones in the midst of a comfortable middle-class society. I admire holiness writers who are pragmatic, self-sacrificing leaders wholly committed to the mission of God. I know a few.

What do you hope *Holy!* will achieve?

You might sit on the recliner and read this book in one sitting, though you need to understand that if you want to change the world, you have to get off the couch. As John Wesley once remarked, 'There is no holiness without social holiness.' I never clicked on what that meant until I realised that holiness which fails to impact society as a whole is a watered-down version of holiness. So ultimately, I hope this book will spark a passion for living for Christ, with a heart that wants to see a world transformed by Christ.

Now you've got your first book under your belt, are there any plans for more in the future?

I have more books in me than mince pies, though we all know not everyone likes the content of a mince pie. That is the challenge. I fear I will write a book that is released at Christmas, half-price by February and out of date by March. But God is stirring my heart. I hope to write things in the future that inspire and provoke, that mobilise and re-energise; a book or two that will spark a Spirit-filled, Christ-centred missional focus on reaching the world for God. °

Holy! Peter Brookshaw and Stephen Court. Cover design by Jo Brookshaw.

Available from Salvation Army Supplies, 1800 100 018, www.aus.salvationarmy.org

*Stephen Court is mission strategist for Los Angeles County in the USA Western Territory.

“We want everyday, ordinary followers of Jesus to read, digest and embrace a subject that is enriching and life-changing.”



CD **Just Kids** ★★★★★½
Mat Kearney



When I first picked up Mat Kearney's new album, I thought this US singer-songwriter was a children's artist, due to the album's title. But this is no kids' music—it's an album of mature pop songs.

On this, his fifth album, Kearney has put together a variety of songs from hip-hop to ballads, genuine pop tunes to songs with a hint of rock. The album taps into our nostalgic side, and would be ideal to listen to as you sit in your favourite place recalling experiences of the past.

The title track, 'Just Kids', is quality. The song, 'One Black Sheep', tells a story common to many of us and the duet, 'The Conversation with Young Summer', is beautiful.

Despite being released on contemporary Christian label Inpop records, curiously there is not a single mention of Jesus and not even any covert references to matters of faith.

This is a quality album of great songs from a US Christian artist likely to appeal to a wide age spectrum. ◦

Colin Lane

🛒 *Just Kids* is available at Koorong for \$19.99.

book **BOUNDLESS - The Experience** ★★★★★
The mission was for four photographers from across The Salvation Army world to record the vast array of events within Boundless 2015, the 150th anniversary congress in July.



This involved capturing the moments, faces, flavours and the essence of excitement generated by 15,000 like-minded people from more than 126 countries gathered in one place for five days of celebration, contemplation and consideration of the past and future of the Army.

The images were used for a Boundless daily newspaper, Salvation Army websites, social media (including an online Flickr repository) and a premium coffee table book to stimulate the memories of attendees and online viewers and to inspire the rest of the Army world.

As one of the four 'shutterbugs' on the team I believe that the 164-page production effectively captures the international Army of 2015. A foreword by General André Cox refers to the book as a 'reminder of the grand spectacle and mass gatherings as well as friendships formed and challenges accepted'. ◦

Bruce Redman

🛒 *Boundless—The Experience* was produced by Salvation Books (IHQ) and is available from Trade. \$42.00.
[A collection of Bruce Redman's pictures set to Phil Laeger's 'Soldier's Hymn' is available at <https://youtu.be/klcXifSKhII>]

DVD /CD **OPEN HEAVEN/River Wild** ★★★★★
Recorded at the 2015 Hillsong Conference, this DVD/CD set features new worship songs by Reuben Morgan, Mary Sampson, Ben Fielding, Taya Smith, Jad Gilles and Joel Houston.



OPEN HEAVEN/River Wild is presented with the attention to detail and high production quality we have come to expect from Hillsong, and the songs are reflective of its focus and style. ◦

Bron Williams

🛒 Available from Hillsong: <https://hillsong.com/store/worship/open-heaven-river-wild/>, CD \$24.99, DVD \$39.99.
To win one of five DVD/CD sets (one in each state or territory), email OnFire the answer to this question by 20 March: In which year was OPEN HEAVEN/River Wild recorded? Please indicate in your email the state you live in.



Hope for a lifetime

Life in rural Myanmar is a daily toil for labourers, fishermen and mothers caring for children in the village, as they exist on an income of around 80 cents a day. This leaves little room for dreams of a better future.

Among the children, however, hope stirs as access to education for a new generation is drawing closer.

In many of the villages, schooling is basic and children barely learn to read and write before they begin to work full-time. Middle and senior education is only available to those who can afford to travel long distances and pay fees to attend.

Biak wants to study and become a teacher. Her mother suffers with poor health and her father is a full-time carer for his wife and their six children. He does odd jobs when he can, but cannot afford the cost of education for Biak.

In Myanmar, The Salvation Army provides educational support in the form of local tuition programs that provide help for low income families. Education opens the door of opportunity for these young lives and starts them on the way to a brighter future.

We currently have dozens of children such as Biak waiting for support in these tuition programs. ◦

🛒 From just \$35 a month you can provide hope for the future for children with a lifeline of education.

To find out more, contact the child sponsorship team:

(03) 8878 4543

PO Box 479, Blackburn Vic. 3130

childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy

a friendly word from the dept. of youth

How to start the school year right

Are you sad about school starting again? Is this the end of your summer and all the good things it contained? Wrong! This is your opportunity to kick off 2016 and prepare for the year ahead. Here are a few tips for starting the school year right.

Be alarmed! First buy an alarm clock. Second, question why you bought an alarm clock when just about every phone does the same thing.

Anyway, set an alarm to wake up on time. Set it the week before school starts. That's right, get up early a week before school begins so you can form the habit. Set an alarm to remind you when go to bed too. Be alarmed and get some sleep.

Do food. Make sure you eat properly. After you wake up, eat breakfast (fruit or cereal, not something that tastes like chocolate...or is indeed just chocolate). Also, before you leave for school, make lunch. Like actually make a sandwich or a wrap and remember to take fruit and water (go crazy and take a carrot too). Your body and brain depend on your stomach. Do food and eat properly.

Space exploration. Organise your study spaces before the work begins. Clear off your desk and sort out your relevant shelves/drawers/boxes.

You really need the headspace and actual space to get study right, so get rid of the junk and distractions. That goes for your schoolbag too. Clear it out, wash it if need be and sort your books and pens. Explore your study space and get it organised.

Closing par. Why be sad about school starting when you can be prepared instead? Have a think and make sure you start the school year right.



News



New Year's resolutions

At the beginning of the year we often make resolutions for the future. We think about what we want to achieve and how we might go about that. Here at the Territorial Youth Department, we don't do resolutions because our vision for healthy youth ministry does not change.

First, we want to see more young people following Jesus. Our aim is to make more disciples and see the lives of today's youth transformed as they make decisions for Christ.

Second, we want to see more young people becoming Salvos. Our aim is to make more soldiers and see the potential of today's youth influence The Salvation Army's mission.

Third, we want to see more young people considering officership. Our aim is to make more candidates and see more youth considering lives of service and mission.

What can we offer to help grow healthy youth ministries in this territory?

We offer resources for evangelism

and discipleship. Friday Night Fun can help you build a youth group and Corps Cadets can help you disciple a group of young people.

We also offer events for young people. Events like Summer Carnival can create constructive momentum for divisional youth ministries and host decisions for faith and ongoing discipleship

Finally, we offer support for youth ministers. The annual Leaders' Lounge Youth Ministers Conference and our Youth Ministry Assistance Plan (Youth Map) can help build the capacity of leadership.

So, if your resolution is to help grow healthy youth ministries this year, then drop us a line to find out what we have to offer.

The Department of Youth

P.S. We can be contacted about our resources and events via email at the following:

corps.cadets@aus.salvationarmy.org

summer.carnival@aus.salvationarmy.org

MCAC

MUSIC AND CREATIVE ARTS CONFERENCE



GUEST: WILLIAM HIMES (USA)
FRIDAY 18 & SATURDAY 19 MARCH 2016

Friday: Gala Dinner 7pm–9.30pm
 Entertainment—The Salvo Big Band

Saturday: 10.15am–5.30pm brass,
 vocal, contemporary electives/rehearsals

The Salvation Army
 17-23 Nelson Road
 Box Hill, Victoria

(interstate travel subsidies available)*
 contact creativearts@aus.salvationarmy.org

MCAC CONCERT Saturday 19 March 7pm

FEATURING: Melbourne Gospel Choir, Cameron Semmens (Performance Poet),
 South Barwon Band, Preston Youth and Children's Choir

Registrations and more conference costs go to: www.salvationarmy.org.au/cad

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