

# onfire

*mission and ministry*

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AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN TERRITORY  
STRATEGIC VISION  
2016–2020

## STILL FIGHTING

*While there yet remains one dark soul without the light of God*





# COMMISSIONING ORDINATION & SENDING OUT MESSENGERS OF LIGHT SESSION

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**T**he Salvation Army was blessed with visionary founders who understood that bringing many people into a relationship with Christ required the removal of barriers created by physical human need.

This month we feature the second component of Commissioner Floyd Tidd's strategic plan for the territory—integration. David Collinson and Stephen Robinson help us consider this as they share the amazing relationship between corps and social program at Ingle Farm (SA) and The Beacon (WA).

But who could sum it up better than William Booth himself?

'I claim [urgency] for the lost...the outcast...the disinherited of the world.

'Who are the lost? Reply, not in a religious, but in a social sense, the lost are those who have gone under, who have lost their foothold in society...the starving and the homeless, the poor...those who exist by vice...and crime.

'I must assert in the most unqualified way that it is primarily and mainly for the sake of saving the soul that I seek the salvation of the body. But what is the use of preaching the Gospel to men whose whole attention is concentrated upon a mad, desperate struggle to keep themselves alive?

'...bring[ing] new moral life into the soul of these people...should be the first object of every social reformer...

'To get a man soundly saved it is not enough [however] to put on him a pair of new breeches, to give him regular work, or even to give him a university education. These things are all outside a man, and if the inside remains unchanged you have wasted your labour.

'In many cases I shall succeed, in some I shall fail; but even in failing of this my ultimate design, I shall at least benefit the bodies, if not the souls, of men; and if I do not save the fathers, I shall make a better chance for the children.'

William Booth 1890  
International Headquarters, London.  
From *In Darkest England and the Way Out*



*June Knop*

**Captain June Knop**  
Editor

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For 2 November to 29 November,  
the required reading is  
**Hebrews 12–1 John 5**

The Salvation Army | Australia Southern Territory | WILLIAM BOOTH, Founder

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## Word for Word

Commissioner  
Floyd Tidd

This October marked the commencement of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse public hearing, Case Study 33 in Adelaide. This has been a challenging time for all involved. We have, and will continue to work closely with the Royal Commission in every aspect of their work and welcome their findings and recommendations as they continue to be released.

As hard as it has been for Salvation Army personnel directly involved, we must acknowledge the bravery and courage of all the former residents who attended and shared their accounts at the Royal Commission. Being present at the hearing, I have been distressed and deeply moved by what I have heard. Through the willingness of the survivors to share their statements, we and many other institutions are able to improve practices and procedures to ensure that this abuse is never repeated.

I would like to say to all the survivors on behalf of myself personally and The Salvation Army, I am profoundly sorry. I am acutely aware that no words can erase the damage that was done to any individual abused in our care. I can imagine for many it may seem like my words are 'too little, too late'—yet I can assure the survivors, members of The Salvation Army, supporters and the general public my words come from the heart. I have already met with some former residents and I extend the invitation to any other survivor who wishes to tell me in person what happened to them while in our care.

In late September a National Leaders Conference was held in Geelong, which brought together territorial and divisional leadership. On the Sunday night, there was a time for dedicated worship. We all prayed with heavy hearts for survivors and reflected upon experiences of those who suffered and who were robbed of their innocence.

We are grateful for the work being done by our Professional Standards Unit around the protection of all children and vulnerable people in our care. Any employee or volunteer over the age of 16 who has a role requiring direct ongoing contact with young people must obtain a police check, which is required to be updated every three years. In those states where they are available, such persons must obtain a 'Working with Children' check and also have this regularly reviewed. Each person must also complete ChildSafe training which provides materials, resources and structures to assist in the creation of safe environments, filled with safe people staffing safe programs (SP3).

Let me be clear: this is not the end of our commitment to working with anyone who was a former resident at one of our children's homes who may have been abused in any way. We will continue to work with survivors and those affected by the events of this period in our history to provide healing and wholeness.°

“  
...on behalf  
of myself  
personally  
and The  
Salvation  
Army, I am  
profoundly  
sorry.”



**HILE THERE IS ONE DARK SOUL,  
WITHOUT THE LIGHT OF GOD...  
ST'I'LL FIGHTING.**

Light has the ability to travel in straight lines, as we see it emanating from searchlights or in laser beams. Light can also disperse like a wave, flowing across space and around obstacles, bringing light to dark places.

One of the three key strategic directions for the territory's new strategic plan is integration. The Salvation Army lives out its mission as an expression of the mission of God and a reflection of the Gospel. We are people who are sent into the world, like Jesus, with a mission and to serve. Jesus called his followers to own and live the identity he defined as being 'the light of the world'. Therefore we go, we go to love, we go to serve.

John Stott has written that, 'The Gospel lacks visibility if we merely preach it, and lacks credibility if we who preach it are interested only in souls, and have no concern about the welfare of people's bodies, situation and communities. Yet the reason for our acceptance of social responsibility is not primarily in order to give the Gospel visibility it would otherwise lack, but rather simple uncomplicated compassion. Love has no need to justify itself. It merely expresses itself in service whenever there is need.'

From its earliest days to its contemporary expressions around the world, The Salvation Army has sought to hold together evangelism and social action. William Booth, in responding to the invitation to offer social operations without his religion, said: 'If you want my social work, you have got to have my religion; they are joined like Siamese twins—to divide them is to slay them.'

The new territorial strategic vision fully embraces an integration of our expressions of ministry, in a manner that reflects light cascading across the landscape of our communities—bringing light to dark places. The Salvation Army provides a doorway to hope through a social response and a doorway to faith. Both are offered in the spirit of Christian love as outlined in our stated values of hope, justice, compassion, community and human dignity.

As we travel across the territory we are inspired to see expressions of The Salvation Army that reflect an integration that is greater than programs connecting. We see people connecting with people. We see faith, hope and love integrated into the interactions which bring people together. We see people discovering together the richness and the reality of the Gospel of Good News for everyday living.

Let me encourage you to 'let your little light shine'—where you are and where God leads you. While one dark soul remains without the light of God—we're St'I'll Fighting.°

Commissioner Floyd Tidd





## Getting creative about helping others

'Hope through Community,' the theme for the 2015 Self Denial Appeal, was inspired by the words of Jesus, 'This is what the Kingdom of God is like'.

**A** man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how...' (Mark 4:26–29).

We have hope and the world has hope because the Kingdom comes. We may not know how the Kingdom grows, but we do know that we, like the farmer, are called to action, to scatter the seeds and to do our part while trusting God to do his.

The Self Denial Appeal is the Army's annual tri-territorial fundraising and awareness campaign for overseas mission. All Salvationists and corps members are encouraged to give one week's salary on Altar Service Sunday, with all funds raised going towards those in need.

While for many the Self Denial Appeal is a tradition, for others it's a new practice that's being embraced. This year the generosity of Salvationists in our territory

came to the fore. Not only did they respond well to the Self Denial Appeal, they also gave generously to two additional crisis appeals within the same month—the Vanuatu Cyclone Pam Appeal and the Nepal Earthquake Appeal.

The total raised for all three appeals was in excess of \$1.8 million, an increase of \$200,000 (11.93%) on the 2014 Self Denial Appeal. I thank God for the generosity of our people and their willingness to go the extra mile in their giving to help those caught up in the most awful of circumstances.

The word 'hope' resonated with Salvationist in last year's campaign, so the 2016 appeal will continue the theme, 'One Family, One Hope'. Salvationists embody the theme through a sense of belonging to a wider church family, which includes the individuals overseas who are supported by the Self Denial Appeal.

From Sunday 14 February to Sunday 20 March next year, a six-week video series will be screened in corps across the Australia Southern and Eastern Territories, and the New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga Territory. The series will feature 14-year-old Nigel, who has been blind from birth and has been given an education through The Salvation

Army School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Jamaica.

Thein Aye from Myanmar will then share how the Army provided her with two small loans to purchase goats and ducks, through which she has earned enough money to feed and educate her children and grandchildren.

Next, Salvationists will hear of the inspiring work being done by Dr Nicolai Caraman, who provides medical aid to the poorest communities in Moldova. Aruna then shares that coming into contact with The Salvation Army saved her and her daughter from a life of prostitution.

For those who would like to give one week's salary to the appeal but struggle to achieve that in the six-week intensive campaign, there's an opportunity to set up an ongoing regular plan. Go to [www.selfdenial.info](http://www.selfdenial.info) to set up a regular giving plan and to give online. If you would like to speak to someone about giving online, contact Peter Webb at Territorial Headquarters on (03) 8878 2414.<sup>o</sup>



**Major Peter R. Walker**  
is the territorial Self Denial Appeal  
co-ordinator



# Integration

NO MATTER WHAT PART OF THE SALVATION ARMY WE ARE INVOLVED IN, WE ARE NOT ON OUR OWN—WE ARE PART OF EACH AND EVERY COMMUNITY WHERE AN EXPRESSION OF THE SALVATION ARMY EXISTS.

**I**t doesn't matter by which 'door' a person enters The Salvation Army, it is the right one.

Some find hope through our social response which becomes the start of their pathway of faith. Here, our service to the community delivers best-practice service and a network of faith which connects people with others through diverse and emerging ministries.

Others enter through the corps door and find vibrant local communities of Christian faith, worship and service that engage with the community.

Our four mission intentions of transforming lives, caring for people, making disciples and reforming society are an integrated vision—rather than four separate outcomes—which find expression in the diversity that is The Salvation Army.



**Ingle Farm, South Australia**

William Booth had an image of The Salvation Army being like a bird with two wings.

**W**ith one wing it preaches the Gospel of Jesus Christ. With the other wing it meets human needs in Jesus' name without discrimination. Booth said that unless both wings are in operation, the 'Salvation Army bird' will not fly.

The Salvation Army bird is in full flight at Ingle Farm, north of Adelaide.

The Salvation Army Ingle Farm which has an \$8 million budget, 95 employees, and 115 volunteers with an outward focus, is making a real difference to the lives of people in our local community.

Ingle Farm integrated its social and

corps programs from its establishment over 30 years ago. During this time, many have come seeking help but then discovered a personal relationship with Jesus.

Burlendi is a homeless youth shelter funded by the Government which, with one wing, provides accommodation for young people between the ages of 15–18 and, with the other, runs REV on Friday nights.

REV is a radical youth church led by Envoy Nath Casey, where young people come to faith on a weekly basis.

The beauty of this two-winged bird is that both wings are trying to help young people get their lives back on track, providing somewhere for them to sleep and giving them a sense of family. It also gives them access to a team of social workers, youth workers and volunteers, all of whom are invested in the process of adding value to a young person's life.

Megan Casey, manager of Youth Homeless Services, says, 'The point of integration is that Burlendi provides a family but REV also provides family—really, we are one big family!'

True integration is about staff and

leaders working together, understanding the value of a person and helping each individual be a part of our church family via the many entry points we have.

Over the years, many people have dropped into the Ingle Farm hall, had an interview for emergency relief and then been invited to be part of a group that meets on site.

Those groups include REV, Patchwork Plus, First Steps Playtime, Messy Church, Companion Club, Just Brass, Jrev, mainly music, our open band and singers groups, and Home League.

As the corps officer, I'm realising that a group which is friendly and accepting—with leaders that are non-judgmental and welcoming regardless of race, class, age or gender—is a truly Kingdom approach to ministry.

Our staff, leaders and volunteers have developed a DNA that is focused on others, and know that investing in the lives of people changes the community we live in.

My prayer is that we continue to be the healthy two-winged bird that is The Salvation Army Ingle Farm—an amazing team of people which continues to help others with their physical needs but also gives them a sense of community, as they are welcomed into our spiritual family.

*Captain David Collinson*

**“...many have come seeking help but then discovered a personal relationship with Jesus.”**







### Crisis Services Network, Western Australia

The Salvation Army's social services program has experienced a new wave of understanding of our mission of transforming lives, caring for people, making disciples and reforming society.



God is calling us, as his people, to become intentional about our mission, so that people of all cultures may come to know that they are loved by God.

Stephen Robinson, general manager of Crisis Services Network (CSN), says, 'TSA's mission isn't just something that is displayed on our walls—it drives and guides our planning, words and actions.'

'Increased intentional chaplaincy support is built into the foundation of the CSN and, together with the opening of The Beacon Centre on 22 February 2014, shifted the atmosphere, bringing with it a strong presence of the Holy Spirit.'

Bev Wilson, manager of The Beacon Homelessness Services, says the new and revised model of homelessness through case management has brought back a one-on-one approach, where staff members walk beside residents—training, equipping and transforming lives.

'The Positive Lifestyle Programme (PLP) has become an amazing tool in our case management model, touching the hearts of clients who have begun a journey of change.'

'Many leave this place different, with a sense that they have been changed inwardly,' Ms Wilson says.

Within three months of opening its doors in 2014, The Beacon had its first soldier sworn in at the Perth Fortress Corps—Ron Honey.

Ron, who has lived with depression, anxiety and panic attacks for most of his life, says it is an honour to serve Jesus Christ.

'I am humbled to be an instrument in spreading God's love into the hearts of the lonely and disadvantaged in our community. If I had to summarise my journey, it would be entitled "A passage from a hell-hole to Christianity".'

CSN's Harry Hunter Residential rehabilitation centre in Gosnells has a long history with the Perth Fortress Corps, witnessing restoration on a daily basis.

Clients overcoming addiction have linked to the corps through connect groups, when corps members go to the facility to talk to them and show them the life possible when you walk with a loving God.

Mark Curtis, a previous resident, was given a vision of a community garden where he could teach others basic biblical principles of sewing and reaping.

Mark says the Garden of Hope project bears

**“Many leave this place different, with a sense that they have been changed inwardly.”**

testimony to God's faithfulness.

'Everyone has God's seed in them. For some, this seed is still dormant. We need to love and sow the love of Jesus into others' lives,' Mark says.

Music has always been the heartbeat of The Salvos. People from The Beacon have joined the choir at Perth Fortress and became a part of a family when they no longer have a family of their own.

Courts and prison chaplaincy also play a vital part in connecting our program to hurting, distressed and lonely people.°

Stephen Robinson



# STILL FIGHTING

AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN TERRITORY STRATEGIC PLAN 2016–2020  
Pick up your copy from a corps today.





# Heaven-sent ones

IN THIS SECOND OF A SERIES ON **EMERGING FAITH COMMUNITIES**, CAPTAIN PETER HOBBS SHARES WHAT GOD'S BEEN DOING ON THE BELLARINE PENINSULA AS PEOPLE LEARN TO TRUST THIS QUITE DIFFERENT EXPRESSION OF THE SALVATION ARMY.



When God called Di and I to be Salvation Army officers, the calling was very clear. We had surrendered our lives to Jesus, giving up our all to follow and in the process doors closed, doors opened and we were thrust through them.

Arriving at the training college, we knew we were sent to the right place for us. Throughout training, God stirred up our hearts to return to the roots of our heritage—being partners in the mission of the Trinity.

In December 2009, we were appointed to the Bellarine Peninsula to start Bellarine Salvos. We felt strongly called to return to the basic mission of Jesus, the Great Commission, and simply make disciples wherever life happened. By that we meant being Salvationists who followed Jesus and took the great commission seriously.

We loved Jesus with all our hearts and immersed (baptised) the community we were sent to in the reality of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. That in simple English means to love God and share that love with others—empowered by the Spirit to be like Jesus—and be patient, kind, joyful, peace-makers, faithful, gentle and self-controlled. We willingly gave our lives to God as an offering and went about life embracing what God had for us.

When you're in a community lacking hope and you let the reality of Jesus shine, it doesn't take

long for people to start taking notice. Every day we committed to prayer and set our phone alarms to go off at 10:02 am—this is based on Jesus' command in Luke 10:2b—where we are asked by Jesus to beg God to raise up workers for the harvest.

As officers, we came in contact with a well-being worker at a local primary school. This connection led us to a family in St Leonards. The Salvation Army was birthed around a few families we gathered together at St Leonards Primary School, in what we called a family gathering.

As the concept of church as we know it is far from the minds of the majority of Australians, we steered away from religious terms like church and simply loved people. Family gathering best described what was happening; this new family of God getting together. In the gathering we would model a new reality to this community by eating together and encouraging spiritual connection to Jesus through praying and sharing stories of Jesus but, most importantly, we genuinely and unconditionally showed this family the living reality of the love of Jesus. We were the Word in flesh and stayed with them.

This gathering connected us to a whole range of people and needs. Di and I, and many others from the community who have joined our ranks, have spent the past five years journeying with people in the good, bad and ugly times.

People learned that we could be trusted and



it's this trust foundation that has helped so many springboard into a new life. As people started to trust us and this emerging missional community, some chose to follow Jesus and their healing process flourished. We have seen a rape victim find healing and justice, a woman experiencing domestic violence get out of the situation and grow, people bound in spiritual abuse and religious legalism detox and find healing, and countless other broken people healed and empowered to be the awesome people they were created to be.

One day I visited a young couple and when I entered the house a window blind fell down. They later told me that it was this moment that changed their lives. They said, 'It was like a peace and light came into our lives...something dramatically changed in our lives that day and made us peaceful.' I was able to laugh with joy because I was witnessing firsthand the reality of God's coming Kingdom. We then shared stories of Jesus in the New Testament, showing that when Jesus showed up lives were transformed. Other than a swear word, this couple had never heard of Jesus Christ and his plan for the salvation of creation.

Over time we shared that Di and I were also followers of Jesus and he had sent us to their community to continue his work of making Heaven on Earth. Thanks to God, this couple are being sent and equipped as followers of Jesus and are part of our Salvo Family. Cathryn helps teach



**We felt strongly called to return to the basic mission of Jesus, the Great Commission, and simply make disciples wherever life happened.”**



**Captain Peter Hobbs**  
is the planting officer at  
The Salvation Army Bellarine  
Penninsula Corps Plant.

junior soldiers and, just the other week, she was teaching about how the Holy Spirit can transform our lives and guide us on paths that are best for us. God is using people like Cathryn, and many others in our community, to take the reality of Jesus to their family, friends and social networks.

Multiple missional communities are forming around transformed lives, expressed as the Bellarine Salvos. The presence of Jesus is in this spiritual family on mission together—otherwise known as a corps or church.

Di and I are yet to preach a sermon to our community and quite often we're not seen as 'Army' or a 'real corps' because we are yet to lead a traditional Sunday meeting. However just last week, at our fifth anniversary celebration, we enrolled another four junior soldiers and three adherents. Our spiritual family is over 100 strong and approximately 95% are new Christians (not from other churches or corps), ranging in age from kids, teenagers and young families, to middle-aged and seniors. All are learning to be the presence of Jesus in our community.

We tapped into the mission of God, who was able to reach unchurched people because we obediently went where he sent us. God is continuing to raise people who will partner with him in his mission to see others raised up, working to make this world like Heaven. What is the Spirit saying to you? Are you brave enough to respond to the invitation?°



➤ L-R: Captain Colin Lane with team members Kelcy Forrest, Holly Phillips, Mia Sharp, John McPherson, (not present), and Salvo Schools Development Representative Lucinda Young.



## Out of sight, but not out of mind

The Salvation Army's Hidden Others short film competition has ended, with a group of students from Bayside Christian College taking out the top gong.

**A** recent study conducted by Swinburne University found that—while the most common age for teenagers to run away from home was 14—teens most commonly began describing themselves as 'homeless' at 16. These figures suggest that many young people aren't aware that they are homeless and don't seek help.

The competition—which launched this year—attempted to tackle this disconnect, asking people between 12 and 18 from around Victoria to create films that raise awareness of youth homelessness in Australia and challenge some of the stereotypes around the issue.

'Young people were invited to create a short film that challenged the "sleeping rough" stereotype and demonstrated the causes of youth homelessness and the different ways young people experience it,' says Jayne Campbell, The Salvation Army's schools development manager for Victoria.

'Bayside's students responded with an engaging, thoroughly informative and superbly filmed story. Our judges were simply blown away,' she says.

The winning entry explores some of the different causes of youth homelessness in our country as well as how homeless youth go about finding a place to sleep.

'There are over 32,000 homeless people between the ages of 12 and 24,' narrates Holly Phillips. 'Only 6% of homeless people living in Australia experience rough living, such as those you see on the streets...17% of young homeless people in Australia rely on couch surfing.'

The video also looks into the reasons why young people leave home in the first place.

'There are many issues that can lead to one becoming homeless. In Australia, domestic violence is the leading cause of homelessness,' says the winning video.

Jayne Campbell agrees, saying, 'Domestic or family violence is the number one reason young people escape from their home to find an alternative place to stay safe; this is never as easy as it sounds and without support can lead to a lifetime of disadvantage.'



To view the winning film and the other finalists, visit [www.facebook.com/YHMDFilmCompetition](http://www.facebook.com/YHMDFilmCompetition).

**Bayside's students responded with an engaging, thoroughly informative and superbly filmed story."**



**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



✓ INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S LEADERS  
5–13 September 2015, Sunbury Court, London.

# Right at the heart



◀ Delegates at the conference from the Pacific Zone, including Captain Craig Farrell (centre) and Lieutenant Sonia Jeffrey (5th from right, front row)

**I**s there a collective noun for a group of territorial youth and children's leaders?

Whatever our title, 90 of us, translators in tow, converged on the hallowed Sunbury Court in response to the General's invitation. Ably led by Major Janet Robson (IHQ), Captain Craig Farrell and I engaged in eight days of remarkable global connections around issues confronting The Salvation Army and its work with young people. We had a lot to discuss.

The big question posed by the General on the first day was this: How do we place young people—in particular, children—right at the heart of all we do? Have we, buried in our cultural layers, pushed them to a place 'out the back' where, although very well catered to, they are still seen (on special occasions) and not heard. Have we, unintentionally, in wanting to provide 'more' for young people by entertaining them, in fact provided less? How are we safeguarding children that, in our best efforts to care, we are made accountable at every turn?

Every discussion was underpinned theologically at our morning Bible study, taking us deep into the Marcan texts of Jesus' interaction with children. Professor Joyce Mercer, of

Virginia Theological Seminary, gently broke open the word daily to provide a framework for each keynote speaker. Jesus' rebukes for harming children and his deliberate choice to place them 'in the centre' came as a renewed revelation for many delegates.

Topics that followed during the week included The Gospel and Culture (Kris Kandiah, London School of Theology), Child Theology and Discipleship (Dr Rebecca Nye), Transforming Focus (Jo Clark, IHQ), and Justice and Gender (Colonel Geanette Seymour).

The most confronting day came mid-week, when General Cox returned with the five IHQ zonal leaders to present his keynote speech, The Accountability Movement. Pulling no punches, General Cox spoke frankly about physical and sexual abuse in The Salvation Army, pointing to this territory's current Royal Commission, and a zero tolerance stance against corporal punishment in children's homes and schools across The Salvation Army. With tears in his eyes, the General challenged us to embrace Kingdom culture above the culture of our nations—and above any culture of rank

or secrecy in The Salvation Army.

The General's words did not fall on deaf ears. The next day was spent with the best in the business—Ian Elliot and Dean Juster, who led us through the minefield of clerical abuse as Ian shared his experiences setting up safeguarding practices in the Catholic Church in Ireland. Each territory agonised over its own responses and practicalities.

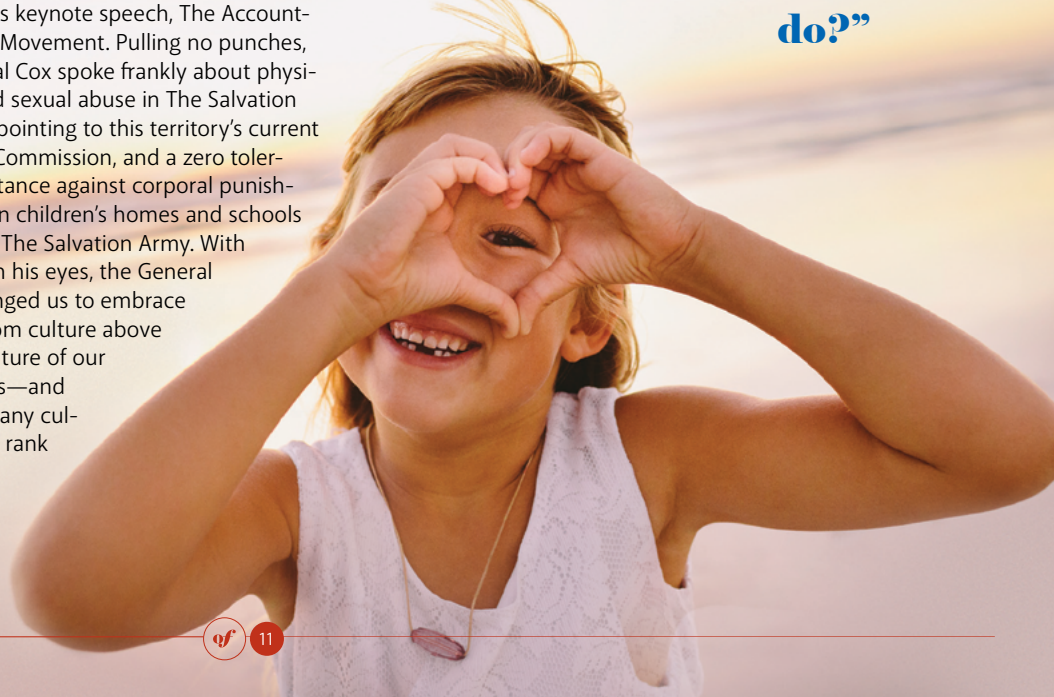
Our heavy week also had moments of great joy—exuberant worship, great food, a day in London. We rounded the week off with a very large campfire and shared singing. It was the perfect end to a remarkable experience.

The Chief of the Staff led our final gathering. Commissioner William Roberts challenged us to be 'Right at the heart'—a call to personal holiness. It was a timely reminder that ministry demands the greatest level of accountability so that 'none of these little ones will be lost'. (Matthew 18:14)°

“  
**How do we place young people—in particular, children—right at the heart of all we do?”**



**Captain Sonia Jeffrey**  
is the territorial children's ministry secretary



# Belonging communities

'Where everybody knows your name.'

While we were serving as corps officers of a relatively large corps, folk were encouraged to wear name tags so as to facilitate fellowship and integration and I soon discovered that not everyone likes to wear a name tag!

The ongoing question was, 'How long do you need to attend before you are asked if you would like us to order you a name tag?'

A young woman started attending the corps, having been encouraged to do so by the chaplain assigned to the homelessness network where she resided. After a month or so of her attending I asked if she would like me to order her a name tag. A few weeks later, in the foyer, before the meeting I handed over the name tag, not thinking much about it, but as I did so her eyes filled with tears as she said, 'This is the first time I have ever belonged anywhere.'

The TV comedy *Cheers*, set in a pub, is all about the importance of a welcoming, belonging and respecting community. The theme song says it all:

*Making your way in the world today takes everything you've got.*

*Taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot.*

*Wouldn't you like to get away?*

*Sometimes you wanna go where everybody knows your name*

*And they're always glad you came.*

*You wanna be where you can see our troubles are all the same.*

*You wanna go where everybody knows your name*

How come that didn't make it in to our new song-book?

Just a few weeks ago I attended a corps in Tasmania for a seminar. The spirit of community was palpable as people from all walks of life mingled in the foyer and sat chatting in the on-site cafe. And a man was lying on the seat in the foyer, dozing, clasping a cake of soap in his hand, waiting to have a shower on the premises...and as they passed everyone spoke to him by name.°

☞ MARK 12:38–13:37

# The critical 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.

This passage is often discussed from verse 42 onwards concerning the 'widow's mite'. The conclusion often drawn is that the woman is commended for sacrificial giving, but a closer reading of the passage suggests otherwise.

Jesus has just finished warning the disciples against the scribes because, instead of holy living, they engaged in self-righteous and unjust practices (vv.38–39)—including 'devouring widow's houses' (v.40). This relates to the scribes pressing widows to give to the temple beyond what was reasonable, resulting in the widows becoming vulnerable in a society that didn't have any form of social security.

Now Jesus sits opposite the temple treasury (v.41). In Jesus' time, it was common to sit to teach (whereas we usually stand these days). Sitting opposite was a common indication of some hostility to, or criticism of, something. Jesus' opposition to the temple has been clear from when he cleanses the temple (Mark 11), condemns temple abuses (Mark 12) and predicts the temple's destruction (Mark 13). So Jesus observes what happens, watching the people put money in the treasury—including some who were very rich.

Jesus sees the widow put in two mites (among the smallest of coins). He teaches the disciples, commenting that she put in her entire living. Is Jesus commending such action as 'sacrificial'? Unlikely, in light of his earlier comment about devouring widow's houses.

More likely, Jesus is criticising the injustice that forces the woman to give beyond what was reasonable. Jesus leaves the temple immediately afterwards (13:1) and predicts its complete destruction (13:2). Then follows Jesus' prophecy of future events—some which would occur fairly soon, others probably at a later time. In verse 28, Jesus links back to the fig-tree—symbol of Israel—that he cursed in chapter 11.

While we may not often think of a critical Jesus, he did not hesitate to condemn injustice, self-righteousness or religious abuses. Under his critical gaze, we do well to heed his calls to justice and holy living.°



Lieut-Colonel Vivien Callander  
is the secretary for personnel



Major Dr Geoff Webb is the Western Victoria  
divisional commander and vice-chair of the Army's  
International Theological Council



✓ 29 November 2015, Kensington, Vic.

# Festival of Mission

The question before The Salvation Army—moving into a future built upon 150 years of service—is not so much whether The Salvation Army has a mission, but does the mission of God have an Army available to God for his purpose.

**I**t is clear that God is about his mission, and doing new things to see that mission accomplished. An evening, entitled 'A Festival of Mission', provides an opportunity to explore together where God is at work and how to align ourselves with God's purpose and plan today.

God has demonstrated his commitment by sending his Son into

the mission field, obedient to the Father and prepared to sacrifice. God continues to demonstrate his commitment to his mission by sending his Holy Spirit to be present in the world and with believers accepting the Great Commission. God is doing a new thing in his Salvation Army through lives committed and obedient to the Father and prepared to sacrifice.

As part of the Commissioning weekend events, we look forward to celebrating as a gathered Army committed to the Great Commission, in this Festival of Mission. I look forward to greeting you and sharing with you. Plan now to share in the open house and displays starting at 5.00 pm, with guest artists and speakers presenting from 5.30 pm until 7.30 pm. The venue will remain open until 9.00 pm for continued open house and sharing.

The venue is 2 Chelmsford Street, Kensington (entrance at the rear of the building—follow the signs).<sup>o</sup>

*Commissioner Floyd Tidd*

“  
...we look forward to celebrating as a gathered Army...in this festival of mission”

**Festival of Mission**  
A CELEBRATION OF GOD'S MISSION IN THE SALVATION ARMY.

CHALLENGING SPEAKERS. ARTISTIC REFLECTION. MISSION EXPO. FOOD & COFFEE. FRIENDS, OLD & NEW.

Featuring: MAJOR BRENDAN NOTTLE,  
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SPOKEN WORD POET JOEL MCKERROW, MORIAH HURST,  
BROOKE PRENTIS *With keynote address from* COMMISSIONER FLOYD TIDD.

5-9PM OPEN HOUSE, 29 NOVEMBER 2015  
5.30-7.30PM ARTISTS & SPEAKERS  
2 CHELMSFORD STREET, KENSINGTON

[WWW.FESTIVALOFMISSION.COM.AU](http://WWW.FESTIVALOFMISSION.COM.AU)  
#FESTIVALOFMISSION #SALVOSFOM2015

THE SALVATION ARMY

BOOK

**FIRE A FOLLY ★★★★★**

GORDON MAIN AND LINDSAY COX

Poet Major Gordon Main and cartoonist Lindsay Cox combine in this humorous look at the quirks and eccentricities of The Salvation Army.

With warmth and a generous dose of tongue-in-cheek humour, *Fire a Folly* explores the uniqueness of Salvation Army traditions, such as a spider hanging from the lectern illustrating 'The Altar Call' and bringing to mind the patience needed with mercy seat regulars.

Memories of cold winter's nights on street corners preaching to 'the crowd that isn't there' are conjured up in 'Open Air', while 'Hallelujah Windup' rejoices in the enthusiastic singing of all seven verses of 'O Boundless Salvation'.

Historical issues are given the Main and Cox treatment. 'Limelight' cele-

brates the filmic achievements of the Army, 'Space Invaders' reminds us that a Salvo flag went to the moon in 1972 and the role played by Salvo chaplains in wartime is remembered and applauded in 'An Army Cup of Tea'.

The Salvation Army's long relationship with band music is highlighted in 'Ode to Second Cornet', 'The Acting Bandmaster' and 'The Last Stand'. In 'Announcements' the distinctly Army jargon of torchbearers, DYs, timbrels, firing cartridges and giving pledges begs the question: are we speaking in tongues?

Gordon was born in Yorkshire, England, and came to Australia with his family in 1961, settling in Tasmania. After working for Telstra for 20 years, Gordon and his wife Dianne trained as Army officers. His way with words has brought much joy and many chuckles over the years.

Lindsay came to the Army via youth group at Glenroy (Vic.) and worked with Telecom for nearly 40 years before switching careers to work with the Salvos. His interest in The Salvation Army and military history drew him to work as a Salvo archivist. Through all this, his 'hobby' of cartooning has grown and developed.

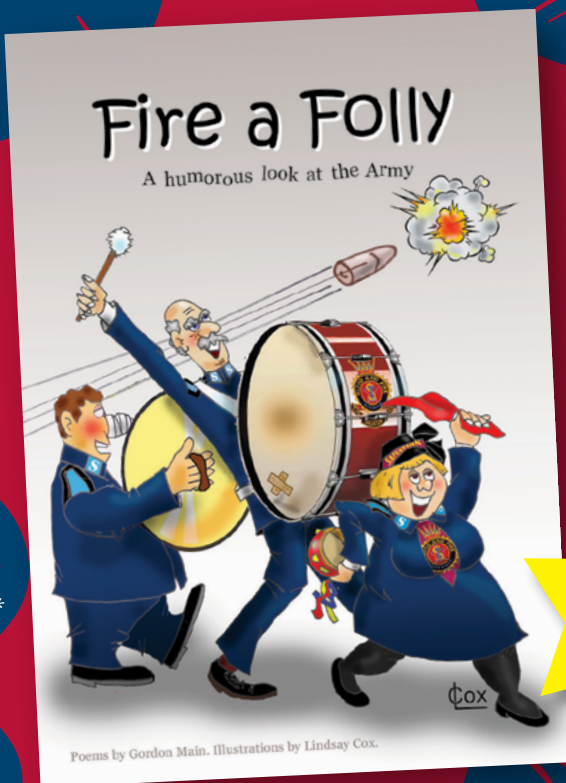
This collection of illustrated rhyming poems gives Salvationists an opportunity to laugh at themselves and the characteristics which make the Army unique—and much-loved.

Published by the National Editorial Department just in time for Christmas, this book is an ideal gift for anyone who has a sense of humour, and even a passing interest in all things Salvo.°

 Available from Salvation Army Supplies, 1800 100 018. \$7.00

**“This collection of illustrated rhyming poems gives Salvationists an opportunity to laugh at themselves.”**

”



**RRP  
\$7.00**

Order your copy of

# Fire a Folly

A new humorous look at our Army  
in cartoon and witty verse  
By Gordon Main and Lindsay Cox

Great as a stocking stuffer!

Available at  
Salvation Army Supplies  
November 2015



[www.salvationarmy.org.au/supplies](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/supplies)



## Standing against family violence

*'I am not a victim of abuse. I am not a victim of abuse. I am not a victim of abuse!'*

That thought keeps running through my head as I sit in the interview room at the court building, listening to the lawyer define what constitutes family violence in Australia. A realisation is crashing in on me in such an unwelcome and unhelpful way. I can't think about this now, I need to focus. I need to be present. I feel my pulse quicken and my breathing shorten. I can't think about this now. Stop!

I look at the lawyer as she speaks softly to the other lady sitting in the interview room. I hear about the next steps in the court process and what she, as the legal representative, will do. I hear the options and possible outcomes presented—and then all eyes turn to me.

As a Salvation Army officer, I'm present to support someone in the middle of getting a family violence intervention order, to offer some words of comfort and advice. With every ounce of control I can muster, I force my thoughts aside and try to speak grace and wisdom.

That moment was the first hint I had that I was a victim of abuse. Words have power. They hurt. Their bruises take longer to heal than broken bones. Verbal and emotional abuse is considered a criminal act just as much as physical abuse. The revelation was so shocking to me that it took months to crystallise fully.

Family violence is violent or threatening behaviour that coerces or controls a family member or causes them to be fearful. Such behaviour may include, but is not limited to, physical violence, sexual

assault, economic or emotional abuse, stalking, deprivation of liberty, damage to property and behaviour by the person using the violence that causes a child to be exposed to this behaviour.

I had never suffered physical violence, but I lived in constant fear of his actions and reactions. My every word was chosen to keep the peace. My every action was calculated so I would not incur his wrath. I made choices based on what he may or may not read into them.

Although this behaviour was present in our marriage, it somehow got worse in the years after our separation and divorce.

I soon found myself on the other side of the interview room, with the lawyer speaking to me. The police were taking out a family violence intervention order on my behalf. They believed there was more than enough evidence to support my claim that abuse was present and ongoing, despite being divorced for many years.

I felt such shame in finding myself in this situation. I am a reasonably well-adjusted, capable and confident woman. How could I be a statistic? How did I allow such a situation to fester?

I had a simplistic view of what abused women looked like and I did not fit that image. However, family violence is not confined to a particular stereotype. It can be found across all ages and demographics.

Family violence is complex and messy. It takes a significant amount of courage to stand up. It is not as simple as packing up everything and pretending the relationship never existed.

Usually an article such as this contains asterisks and footnotes to say that names have been changed to protect the identities of those mentioned. I do not want that

to be the case here, because that helps perpetuate the belief that I have done something I should be ashamed of. I have received permission from my children to write openly and honestly—to shine a light on an unacceptable situation and to perhaps help others to speak out.

*"Family violence is complex and messy. It takes a significant amount of courage to stand up."*

Women's Ministries Departments around the world have committed to seek ways to highlight, educate and speak out against family violence.

We are compiling resources to help corps address this subject within their local contexts. We can make a difference, but only when people know what constitutes family violence. Conversations need to be initiated about what it is and how it can manifest, otherwise it will become another issue in which the Church is 'out of step' with the wider community.

This has been the most difficult thing for me to write, but I know that if it can happen to me, it can happen, and is happening, to others—in our community, in our churches and in our families.

I have been affected by family violence, as have my children. I can choose to hide away, stay silent and feel shame or I can choose to stand up and say, 'No. Violence is not okay. In any form. Ever.'

Who is willing to stand with me?

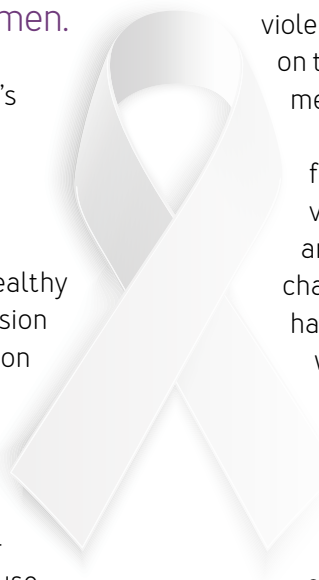


## WHITE RIBBON DAY

25 November is White Ribbon Day and the UN international day for the elimination of violence against women.

White Ribbon is the world's largest movement of men and boys working to end men's violence against women and girls and to promote gender equity, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity. White Ribbon Australia, as part of this global movement, aims to create an Australian society in which all women can live in safety—free from violence and abuse.

Violence perpetrated by men against women must stop and it is up to men to stop it. The victims are not merely statistics—they are wives, sisters, mothers, daughters and friends. Good men cannot and will not sit on the sidelines while those they love are at risk of harm.



The White Ribbon Campaign is about recognising the positive role that men play in preventing violence against women. It fosters and encourages male leadership in the prevention of violence against women, based on the understanding that most men are not violent.

The campaign is a means for men to speak out against violence against women, and to safely and effectively challenge the attitudes and behaviours of a minority of men who use or condone violence against women.

White Ribbon Australia believes in the capacity of the individual to change and to encourage change in others.

Our generation can and must work towards stopping violence against women so that all women can live in safety, free from violence and abuse.

The prevention of violence against women will change society for the better.

### WHAT CAN I DO?

The simplest thing you can do is to wear a white ribbon or wristband on 25 November and during the weeks leading up to the day.

Wearing a white ribbon or wristband is a personal pledge that the wearer does not excuse violence against women, and is committed to supporting community action to stop violence by men against women. People who wear a white ribbon or wristband demonstrate their opposition to violence against women and their commitment to equality between women and men.

It may also be an opportunity to run a 'White Ribbon' focused event—such as an afternoon tea, market stall or trivia night—to raise funds for the campaign.

*All information sourced from [www.whiteribbon.org.au](http://www.whiteribbon.org.au)*

### GET HELP

If you or someone you know is experiencing violence and need help or support, contact one of the support services below. There are national and state-based agencies that can assist you 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

#### **1800 RESPECT**

(1800 737 732)

24 hour. A national sexual assault, family and domestic violence counselling line for any Australian who has experienced, or is at risk of, family and domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

#### **Lifeline (131 114)**

24 hour. A national number which puts you in contact with a crisis service in your state.

#### **Mensline Australia**

(1300 789 978)—Supports men and boys who are dealing with family and relationship difficulties.

#### **Kids Help Line**

(1800 551 800)

Telephone counselling for children and young people.



# If you believe in the equality of women and men, you're a feminist

Fem·i·nism. noun /fe-mə-ni-zəm/

The belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities.

I drove to my local train station the other day and there were no long-term car parks available, the only vacant parks were limited to one or three hours. There was another option—I could drive down the block and park in unrestricted street parking.

However, I get back from university late on Wednesdays, and utilising that street parking meant walking alone in the dark for roughly 10 minutes. So I parked in a three-hour park, because getting a ticket was preferable to walking down the street alone at 9.30 pm.

Most women have undertaken the brisk walk back to their car in the dark, regularly checking over their shoulder. We have walked with our keys between our fingers as makeshift defensive weapons or taken our hair out of a ponytail so it can't be used to grab us in an attack. We have kept our eyes down and continued walking as men have called out objectifying comments.

Yet, it is still more dangerous for a woman to be in her home.

The leading cause of preventable death for women aged 15–44 in Victoria is physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner. Statistics from the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate that 39% of Australian women over the age of 18 have experienced ongoing violence since they were 15. Furthermore, women over the age of 18 are more likely to experience physical and sexual violence from someone they know, rather than a stranger.

Gender inequality and sexism,

discrimination or physical, sexual and emotional violence is a reality Australian women face regularly. The Church needs people who are willing to stand with women who experience systemic discrimination and violence.

The way we view and treat women is directly related to the inequality and disadvantage they face. That is, strict gender ideology, sexist jokes and degradation of women lead to their marginalisation and increase their chances of experiencing violence. The Church needs people to advocate for equality. The Church needs feminists.

Feminism has become a dirty word. But feminism is not man-hating, extremist or about the uninhibited promotion of women.

In *Jesus Feminist*, Sarah Bessey writes, 'At the core, feminism simply consists of the radical notion that women are people, too. Feminism only

means we champion the dignity, rights, responsibilities and glories of women as equal in importance to—not greater than, but certainly not less than—those of men, and we refuse discrimination against women.'

We can be feminists because Jesus was the ultimate feminist. He regularly campaigned for the rights of women in a culture where they were literally considered property. He called out misogyny and sexism and spoke freedom into the lives of women who had been relegated to the margins of society.

It is important to acknowledge that feminist theories propose different approaches regarding the equality of men and women, but as Christians we are united by the Kingdom of God. Being a 'Jesus Feminist' means that wherever we observe exclusion or oppression, we raise our voices in objection; we challenge cultural practices that lead to discrimination and abuse of power and we let go of our privilege and power so that others can experience equality.

Isn't this the call of being a Christian—putting others first so they can experience the Kingdom of God in its fullness? Let's join Jesus in the restoration of our world. Let's redeem feminism. Let's challenge the social structures that reinforce gender stereotypes and perpetuate violence against women.

I am a feminist because of Jesus, because he desires to see the Kingdom restored and because he seeks equality. I am a feminist because it is safer for me to walk down a deserted street at night than it is for women to be in their homes. I am a feminist because I want equality for all people, of all ethnicities, gender, class and backgrounds.

Amanda Merrett  
Mission Resources Department

*"I am a feminist  
because of Jesus,  
because he desires  
to see the Kingdom  
restored"*





## MAKING IT HAPPEN—UPDATE



On 25 April  
2015, Nepal  
was hit by a  
7.8 magnitude  
earthquake  
that killed more

than 9,000 people and injured  
over 23,000.

It was the worst natural disaster to hit Nepal since 1934. It triggered an avalanche on Mount Everest and 19 people were lost, the deadliest day in the mountain's history. Hundreds of thousands of people were made homeless and entire villages were destroyed.

We were anxious to hear about the welfare of the Sister's Cafe and Beauty Spa and were pleased to receive news of the safety of the staff and apprentices.

During the earthquake, all the cafe's freestanding shelves fell to the floor and a great deal of crockery and glass shelves were lost. The coffee machine, the most expensive of the shop's assets, was also broken.

One of the external walls fell down and there was some negotiation as to who is responsible for the costs of repair—the landlord or the tenants. The cafe needed to close until equipment could be repaired or replaced.

Then, on 12 May, an aftershock measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale hit the same area, causing further panic and devastation. Many of the people

made homeless in the first quake were living in the open air and had nowhere to feel safe. Some of the buildings that survived the first earthquake were brought down with the second one.

The Sister's Cafe and Beauty Spa was operational about one week after the earthquakes. They sustained a few thousand dollars' worth of damage, but the external wall has been repaired. The business hosted the Salvation Army Emergency response team on the premises and staff ate from the cafe (for a fee). There is still a small team on the ground and they also remain at the cafe.

The Australia Southern Territory is partnering with the United Kingdom Territory in the Making it Happen project and some of the funds already provided will help the apprentices and staff, or their families, as they were all affected by the earthquakes. They need financial support for medication for injuries sustained or to help rebuild their homes.

The first group of apprentices are approaching graduation and then the process will begin for screening the next year's intake of candidates. Five of the apprentices have left to take up full-time employment.

Want to find out more about the project? You can 'like' them at 'Sisters Cafe and Beauty' on Facebook and follow their journey.

For further information,  
contact your divisional Women's  
Ministries team members.



**Intuition**  
MINISTRIES to WOMEN  
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## Children bring hope, joy, energy and promise

to our families and communities. They find ways to play and enjoy life no matter their circumstances. Playfulness, giggling and exploring are all part of their nature—whether on a playground or playing on a mound of garbage.

Keeping children safe, well-fed and healthy are the main priorities for the people who take care of them. In many places in the world this task is much harder than it should be.

The Child Sponsorship program gives children all over the world a chance to overcome poverty, illness and many other factors that bring them into The Salvation Army's care. Every year we give health, learning, activity and love

to thousands of disabled, abandoned and impoverished children. The program also coordinates funds and relationships between donors in Australia and Salvation Army children's homes, schools and centres around the world.

As an international organisation, it is imperative for The Salvation Army to keep up to date with the world's needs. As part of this, The Salvation Army ran its first Global Sponsorship Forum in the Netherlands in April.

Under the guidance of Captain Elizabeth Nelson from International Headquarters, 37 representatives from 35 territories gathered to investigate issues, share concerns, receive training, discuss impact measurement, devise strategies and agree on a way forward for sponsorship programs. The delegates decided that, while there is no one program or organisation that can end poverty, together we can make a huge difference in the world.



### **There are many different opportunities**

for members of The Salvation Army to assist our brothers and sisters in the developing world.

There is a great need for support and the Australia Southern Territory continues to provide assistance through individual child sponsorship, centre sponsorship, JUSTgifts, small and large project support, 'Making it Happen' and the Self Denial Appeal.

**'Our children's homes are totally run through sponsorship funds...we are not able to meet educational needs without the support of sponsors. Without support for running costs, feeding the children will also become a problem and this may cause these homes to be closed.'**

Major Bilha Rewa (Kenya East Territory)



**There are millions** and millions of people around the world working hard with what they have. They are not just waiting around for someone to rescue them from poverty, they are struggling and striving to make enough to support themselves and their family—to provide enough food and to pay for their children's education and healthcare.

These children are full of potential and determination, but lack resources that could let them unleash that potential. With the right resources, they could transform from a generation struggling to support themselves to a generation of hopeful, empowered people who are able to stand tall and lift themselves, their families and their communities out of poverty.

In April 2015, The Salvation Army's international leader, General André Cox (below)—along with 30 world leaders—signed a call to action to end extreme poverty by the year 2030. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals set the target of halving extreme poverty by 2015 and achieved this target in 2010; the global community now aims to eradicate it entirely by 2030.

**'As leaders from diverse religious traditions, we share a compelling vision to end extreme poverty by the year 2030. For the first time in human history, we can do more than simply envision a world free of extreme poverty; we can make it a reality. We know too well that extreme poverty thwarts human purpose, chokes human potential and affronts human dignity. In our increasingly interconnected world, there is enough to ensure that no-one has to fight for their daily survival.'**

General André Cox

## If we are going to wipe out poverty by 2030,

The Salvation Army in Australia needs to continue with supporting overseas programs.

In Australia, we take for granted that children will have the opportunity of an education, food will be available and most will have a place to live. However, this privilege is not universal and we ask you to join hands with us and give the gift of hope to children living in the developing world.



Contact us today on (03) 8878 4543 or sign up online at [www.salvationarmy.org.au/childsponsorship](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/childsponsorship).

Providing sustainable solutions is vital in alleviating poverty. The way forward is to offer opportunities that provide dignity and hope to all.

You can make a difference and impact a child's future today by making a one-off donation to a Salvation Army centre or by commencing a regular commitment of \$35 per month, supporting an individual child or centre. Your gift will bring hope to children living in the developing world—assisting them with food, education, clothing and basic medical care.

## Why support The Salvation Army Child Sponsorship program?

Regular giving is only \$35 per month.

The children on our program are directly impacted by your support. The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory's mission intentions are caring for people, transforming lives, making disciples and reforming society. We don't just need to fulfil this mission in Australia—we are called to love our neighbour and people living overseas are our neighbours.

There are more than 95 Bible verses about giving to the needy.

Admin fees are only 10%, with 90% of funds sent overseas.

Our local officers and workers living in the developing world are our hands and feet. The Salvation Army is a global organisation and needs financial support to continue the great work it provides.

For around \$1 a day  
you can make a  
difference in  
a child's life.



SPONSOR A  
CHILD NOW!  
IT'S ONLY \$35  
A MONTH.

Help us provide education, food, clothing and basic medical care to children in developing countries.

[childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org)  
[www.salvationarmy.org.au/childsponsorship](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/childsponsorship)





## Getting results

A big 'Thank you!' to everyone who has taken the time to read the Child Sponsorship column over the past year. We are always amazed at the generosity of our supporters. You have helped us to assist many children and young adults in need.

I know you will be interested in the following information. Please remember things don't always work according to plan, but we open up opportunities that are not available without support.

**Carolyn Hallett**

Child Sponsorship Director

## Cadets' children

In May 2014, the Mozambique Territory asked us to support cadets' children while their parents were in training college. Most arrived with next to nothing and the territory needed help supporting them.

In a recent newsletter, the Mozambique Territory said: 'A very generous donation from the Australia Southern Territory has been given to the children of the cadets of the Mozambique College for Officership.

'The training college has struggled to provide funds to pay for pre-school fees, clothes, shoes and school items for the children. The donation has allowed the parents to buy clothing, school and casual



shoes and school bags. It has also allowed the payment of the final four months of pre-school for three of the children, along with payment for the annual pre-school graduation day.

'The parents would like to thank the donor for this wonderful gift to their children. It has enabled them to provide much-needed items that they were not able to financially provide themselves.'

## Jay Jay

In 2010, Jay Jay (JJ) was assessed with a general developmental delay. Living in rural Papua New Guinea along with his Salvation Army officer parents, the opportunity to get JJ properly assessed in Port Moresby required additional financial support.

In 2015, through the support of *On Fire* readers, we raised enough money to send JJ and his parents to Port Moresby for the assessment.

While there is no specific or definitive treatment for JJ, behavioural counselling and educational interventions have been important. Items that were suggested to offer JJ stimulation include picture books, radio and smart clothes. The family has been able to purchase some of these items through your support.



## Senior students

From time to time we receive requests to help senior students with fees for their education. It is really important to allow them to study for as long as possible to reach their full potential.

Through your support we have helped:

**Doreen Mwbeza** received \$600 toward uni fees. Doreen says, 'My life is completely changed. I still have few months to go, but I already have a skill.' After completing her course in fashion and design, Doreen hopes that she can be employed or start her own business.

**Valerie Bermejo Consigo** received \$1,000 for uni fees. Valerie writes, 'You have shown your concern by stretching your hands towards my education. This means so much to me, more than you can ever know.'

**Jean Renald Mattheus** received \$150 and a regular sponsor. Jean has been supported through a regular sponsor since 2006. His sponsor passed away a few years ago and had paid to support Jean until he finished his high school education. The money left supported him right up until February 2015. Now studying in Cuba, Jean needed some extra support to continue with his education. He has a new regular sponsor and through one-off donations was able to help purchase books and stationery.

**Saher Karamat**, (below) from Pakistan, received \$1,000 towards university fees. Saher writes, 'Since my father

passed away in 2008, I have lived at the hostel and have been able to study from sixth to 10th class. With the grace of God and Salvation Army support from Australia, I have completed my intermediate level and want to continue with my studies. I ask that you please continue to support me.'





## Extra special needs

It breaks our heart when we receive stories of children who need surgery. Many of the families of children on our program earn less than \$2 per day and struggle to provide for their basic needs, let alone for expenses such as medical procedures and operations.



**Carl** (left) was born with a growth on his face. With your support, we raised \$500 towards a cure, but the operation will cost \$12,700.

The family have asked the Government for help, but have had no luck as yet. In the meantime, we are looking at medical aid agencies that might be able to facilitate Carl's surgery. Please pray for Carl and his family so that a positive outcome will come soon.

**Jacob** was born healthy, but at the age of 14 his brain was affected by meningitis. After a two-week coma he began to show

signs of epilepsy, which he now uses medication to control.

Jacob trained in hairdressing and needed some support to start up his own salon. We were able to send enough money to rent some space, but he needs additional help to purchase chairs, mirrors, salon tools and cosmetics.

**Brodus** (right) from Uganda was one of these children. He had a sore on his leg that would not heal. With your support, we were able to raise \$1,290 to help get his leg assessed as well as pay for the procedure required to treat it.



**'Brodus was treated in Kampala and the leg was healed. We thank our friends who donated towards this important issue.'**

—Major Ndeke, Uganda

## The Salvation Army Child Sponsorship Ambassador Program

Child Sponsorship is seeking help to promote child sponsorship at the corps level. We are looking for one person from each corps to be responsible for the public display and re-ordering of the child sponsorship marketing material.

If you are an organised person and want to be part of the team, we would love to hear from you.

**i** Contact the department—[childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org) or (03) 8878 4543 for more information or a full position description.

## JUSTgifts

Holidays and family celebrations throughout the year are times when we exchange gifts as an expression of our love and affection for the special people in our lives.

Choosing the right gift is always a challenge, especially for those who appear to have everything they need. So give a gift that is guaranteed to make a

difference—a gift that keeps on giving.

The JUSTgifts program offers a variety of items that will make a huge and lasting difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable and marginalised people in the developing world. Each gift item has been

carefully chosen in consultation with Salvation Army overseas project officers to help support their daily work. Join us in changing the world, one gift at a time.

**i** Visit [www.salvationarmy.org.au/justgifts](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/justgifts) for more information.







**The people of Pakistan face many challenges. Poverty, disease and natural disasters leave communities struggling to cope.**

The Salvation Army works to support children from impoverished families in the safety of a number of hostels around the country, such as the Jhang Boys Boarding Hostel and the Sheikapura Girls Hostel.

Jhang Boys Boarding Hostel was opened in 1992 and is home to 45 boys who come from a wide area of the Punjab region. They are cared for in a warm, safe and spiritual environment.

The boys attend local schools and most do well with their schooling. They are taught life skills and do their own washing and ironing—which they would have to do if they were with their family.

The superintendent and his wife are both trained teachers and can help the boys if they have trouble with homework.

With many girls graduating from the hostel program into employment, Sheikapura Girls Hostel—opened in 1978—has a proven record of enabling girls from impoverished families to take the first steps out of the poverty cycle.

Fifty girls live at the hostel and come from a variety of backgrounds, but mostly from poor rural families.

The girls attend a local school and on Sundays attend the local Salvation Army corps.

While in the hostel, they learn to do the things that their mothers would have taught them at home, such as cooking, sewing, washing and general housework. °



**A donation of as little as \$25 a month will help support one of these centres.**

To find out more, contact the child sponsorship team:

(03) 8878 4543,  
PO Box 479, Blackburn Vic. 3130,  
childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org,  
www.salvationarmy.org.au/childsponsorship

DVD

## LONG STORY SHORT ★★★★★

The first thing that strikes you about *Long Story Short* is its almost leisurely approach. This is no Sunday sermon-style presentation of rapid-fire points, followed by an emotive plea before the music team underscores the gravitas of the moment.

Instead, simple but profound points are made slowly and clearly, with plenty of extended pauses—it allows the story of the Bible to speak for itself.

Developed by Torrey Hilton, Geoff Smith and Graham Burt, *Long Story Short* was birthed more than 10 years ago out of the experiences of Hilton's family, who founded Kiwi Ranch Christian camps and planted two churches.

Being 'very shy and timid,' Hilton wanted to develop a tool to be more at ease in sharing the life-changing story of Jesus. Rather than people 'walking in halfway through a movie,' Hilton wanted to help people understand who Jesus was in the context of the whole Bible.

'If you don't have the back-story, what you're seeing and hearing doesn't make sense,' Hilton says.

As primary researcher and writer, one of the challenges Smith needed to address was the challenge of relativism and pluralism—the view that religion is just a cultural thing, depending on the 'accident' of where someone is born.

'It's important for Christians to interact intelligently and patiently with people from other faith backgrounds,' says Smith.

'Their whole family and cultural identity is tied up in their religion, so to renounce that religion and come to faith in Christ requires us to show respect, love and patience. But we can't interact at all if we don't know our own story.'

To facilitate the translation of their material to screen, Hilton and Smith teamed with Burt, who wrote scripts, scouted locations, and waseventually cast as presenter as well.

Burt, chair of Laidlaw Theological College, New Zealand, was attracted by the premise of the project—that *Long Story Short* wasn't a classic apologetic approach of defending Christianity against attacks; instead, it was simply saying to people: 'This is what the book says.'

Hilton, Smith and Burt all agree that humanity is 'incurably religious' and their desire is to help people satisfy that innate longing to connect with the God who created them, who loves them and who offers lasting peace to all who put their faith in Christ.

*Long Story Short* brings to life—in an accessible and approachable way—the big-picture story of the Bible in carefully constructed steps. It's ideal for our postmodern age, where many people have little or no knowledge of what the Bible is actually about.

It can be used one-on-one, in a small group, or as a church-wide activity where people invite friends and share a meal. It will also give Christians deeper confidence in their faith. °

Major Christina Tyson



**“It is important for Christians to interact intelligently and patiently with people from other faith backgrounds.”**

”

# Meet the Messengers of Light

**T**he Messengers of Light are soon to be commissioned. In the following testimonies, each cadet reflects on a particular aspect of their training and how their individual life situations have impacted their journey towards officership.



**SHARNNA AINSWORTH**

When I entered Catherine Booth College to be a part of the Messengers of Light session, I did not expect the experience it would turn out to be.

The journey to officership has had challenges and joyful moments. In all my circumstances, I have experienced the truth that God provides for me in everything, now and in the future.

At college I have been able to set myself aside from everything else to learn about God and to explore who it is that God has created me to be. I have had a couple of unique experiences: being part of a session of six cadets and moving from the old site in Parkville to the new site in Ringwood. From these things I have learned much about community, transition and support.

Just as I have had the opportunity to start exploring who I am as the woman God has created me to be, my hope for the future is that everyone will have a similar opportunity and will have positions that reflect who they are in God—no matter their gender.

One of the biggest reminders from my time at college is that the God who called me has a purpose for my life and he walks with me every step of the way towards that purpose.



**BEN HOLLIS**

It has been a privilege and honour as a cadet to hear people's stories—to have people trust you enough to open up and share part of their personal journey.

Such sharing is an incredible blessing, builds connection and community, brings healing, peace, comfort and release, and allows me to support and understand them further as a person.

Listening to people's stories is a two-way street, as it not only brings benefits for the person telling the story, but it also does something deeply spiritual for the person listening to it.

In listening to stories, bonds and community are created and I find that part of my heart is left with that person or community. This presents a challenge, as training and officership involves moving on a regular basis.

As I've moved from place to place during my training, and as I continue to move, the greatest challenge has been to process the heartache from leaving people and communities, of leaving parts of my heart in each place.

God has blessed me richly with gifts of being able to journey with people and communities and I know he will carry me through the heartaches of leaving as I follow his call as a Salvation Army officer.



**ERIN MAINS**

To say coming to college was a big thing is an understatement—walking away from a career and a community to enter into a new one was terrifying in many ways.

I was working in the courts as a family violence officer and was also a mediator for civil disputes. I worked hard and had built a strong reputation.

However, the calling from God was strong and it negated all I thought was important in my working life. The study load at college, at first, seemed daunting and I feared I would never understand what people were talking about—I felt as if I had never read anything or pulled apart any information before.

The officers and staff were supportive and encouraging and by the end of the first year I knew that I was not only in the right place, but I was doing better than I thought I could.

My past was to help me during my second year of training when I was on placement with Salvo Care Eastern. It was here that I was able to help people facing court with information to ease their minds and to fill in paperwork that needed to be submitted to court.

I thought that this part of my life was over, but God knew better and placed me where I was needed.

Coming to the end of my formal training I can see that there was no way God was going to ignore all I had brought with me and this past knowledge is a gift that I can use within ministry.

Understanding God will use all I do in life for him helps me see beyond what appear to be barriers and embrace who I am really in the eyes and heart of God.





### COLIN REYNOLDS

One of the measures I have often applied when assessing the overall nature of my officer training experience has been to look at how content my two sons are.

Kim, 14 and Luc, 12 had only ever lived in one house and attended one school prior to accompanying their parents on the journey to Catherine Booth College in Parkville—the move for them meant a significant change from everything they had grown up with, to something completely new.

The largest adjustment was moving from a suburban three-bedroom home to a 10-storey communal living arrangement. From living on the ground they now enjoyed living in the air with a lovely view from their windows of Melbourne's cityscape.

I believe the challenges that our journey into officer training presented have been outweighed by the many positives we have experienced together as a family.

Kim and Luc had the opportunity to enrol at Princes Hill Secondary College, which they continue to attend despite our moving to Sunshine at the beginning of 2015 when I commenced as the corps officer of Sunshine Corps.

They have also made many new friends in Salvation Army circles and have learned a lot about the Army itself.

When I see how settled and relaxed Kim and Luc are I can see that our family's journey through officer training has been beneficial. There have been adjustments and challenges along the way but nothing that we haven't been able to cope with together as a family unit.

Most importantly, we have received valuable support from our extended family who helped us navigate through officer training—we are thankful to them. We've stuck together through this adventure and we are better for it.



### PHUONG REYNOLDS

When Colin and I decided to train to be Salvation Army officers at Catherine Booth College I was worried about how our sons Kim and Luc would cope with the change to their life.

They would have to change schools, change their house and leave their school friends behind. I didn't want them to be sad and feel bitter about our decision to go to the college.

We moved to Parkville, and Kim and Luc enjoyed their new schools. But they also knew that they would have to move again as the new Catherine Booth College in Ringwood would open in 2015.

This was a heavy burden felt by Kim especially and he told me one night that he had been praying to God that he wouldn't have to move schools again. Hearing this as a mum broke my heart and I worried for him.

But who would have known that Kim's prayer would be answered—Colin received an appointment as a cadet to be corps officer at Sunshine Corps. This meant we would move to Sunshine and Kim and Luc could stay at their school in Princes Hill.

This has been a great blessing for us as a family and made Kim particularly very happy.

I am thankful to God for his care for our family. I also have a wonderful family of in-laws who have helped us many times, looking after Kim and Luc during our training.

Our sons are very happy with their life now and have many amazing experiences to look back on from the last two years. °



### DAVID MACKERTICH

My two years of training has been an incredible experience—I have grown so much.

I have learnt about my strengths and weaknesses and been able to work on them both, and my understanding of, and relationship with, God has grown as well. I have come to a completely new way of understanding God—he is so much bigger than I ever imagined, and it's OK to sometimes be left with not knowing.

I have gone through training married Sarah, who was commissioned as an officer last year.

Being married to an officer and training has had its struggles. Different schedules have meant that spending time together has been difficult, particularly with Sarah being away a lot at camps as part of her appointment.

I think we have done quite well to balance ministry, personal life and our relationship, and it's been great to have the support of the college staff in this area.

Having done our training separately, Sarah and I have had different experiences and learned different things. Our first appointment together will benefit from the variety of experiences we can draw from.



### ⬆️ WESTERN VICTORIA DIVISION

MAJOR WENDY FREIND AND MAJOR KALIE WEBB

More than 100 ladies from across Northern and Western Victoria Divisions came together in August for the Country Victoria Refresh retreat at Geelong.

Guest speaker, Lieut-Colonel Wendy Swan, challenged and inspired through her teaching on the book of Ruth.

Highlights of the weekend included elective workshops, a trivial pursuit night and a painting of a scene from the book of Ruth by Carmella of Bellarine Peninsula Corp Plant.



### ⬆️ HEATHRIDGE, WA

CAPTAINS NATALIE AND SCOTT NORMAN

On 6 September, Julie Burn was enrolled as a senior soldier. Julie came to the corps through Doorways and spoke about God's leading and how she has found a place to belong.

L-R: Captain Scott Norman and Julie Burn



### ⬆️ PARAFIELD GARDENS, SA

CAPTAINS COLIN AND KYLIE PALSTRA

Penelope Flower was sworn in as a senior soldier at Friday Night Church on 7 August.

### ⬆️ ROWVILLE, VIC.

CAPTAIN ROSIE MASSEY

On 30 August, Angela Walker was enrolled as a soldier and Stephen and Lisa Lakey were accepted as adherents.

Each had come to Rowville as a result of one of the corps' outreach projects and spoke of their sense of belonging and being part of a family.

L-R: Lisa Lakey, Stephen Lakey, Captain Rosie Massey, Angela Walker and Sandy Turnbull



### ⬆️ WARRAGUL, VIC.

MAJORS CHRISTINE AND JEFF WALLER

On 13 September, Renae Woods was enrolled as a senior soldier. Renae's uncle, Lieutenant Paul Lorimer, led the ceremony and preached the message.

L-R: Lieutenant Paul Lorimer, Renae Woods and Lieutenant Jane Manusa

### ⬆️ SALVOCARE EASTERN, VIC.

ROBERT FORBES

Seven young people graduated from the Tools For The Trade program run by Salvocare Eastern, Youth Services Peninsula.

The program helps young people re-engage with education and training and assists in securing apprenticeships or employment.

The event was attended by many family members, secondary school staff, program partners, Victoria Police and several staff members from The Salvation Army.

Two of the participants found the confidence within themselves to deliver speeches on their experiences and achievements.



L-R: Stephanie Harrison (TFTT project officer), Blake, Lachlan, Jay, Danny, Alex, Jaidyn and Lucy Martin (student/volunteer).

L-R: Signing her covenant: Cherry Su and Suyi Xiang



### ⬆️ SPRINGVALE, VIC.

LIEUTENANT SUYI XIANG

On 27 September Dan (Cherry) Su was enrolled as a senior soldier. Cherry is the young adult group leader and has been attending Springvale Corps for more than a year.





## GERALDTON, WA LIEUTENANTS JACQUELINE AND JEFFREY MILKINS

On 12–13 September, the Western Australia Salvation Army Bikers' Ministry set out from the Harry Hunter

Centre in Perth for the 420 km ride to Geraldton.

Fifteen riders, together with a support vehicle, made the trip, with some bike riders coming from as far away as Albany and Karratha.

The bikers hosted the

Saturday quiz night, then camped out overnight.

Sunday began with bacon and eggs and a morning ride around town, before returning to lead worship at the corps.



## MURRAY BRIDGE, SA CAPTAINS CLYDE AND MARGARET COLLS

The first new soldiers in 10 years were sworn in on 23 August and three other people recommitted their lives and are back into uniform.

The new soldiers cut a special cake with the words 'I'll fight' written on it, as a symbol of their intention to fight for Jesus and lost souls.



L–R: Dean Weston, Martin Welsh, Tim Freund, Jim Freak, Jane Truscott, Mary Harris and Wendy Clarke with Captain Clyde Colls

## OAKDEN, SA CAPTAIN KAREN MCIVER

The official launch of Oakden Companion Club on Friday 28 August was attended by 25 people.



The club began as an indoor bowling club but, with encouragement from Captain Karen McIver, the club has expanded to include a varied program for over 50s.

Ms Kristina Barnett, project officer with Council of the Aging, compered the morning's proceedings and local councillor Mr Mark Basham, launched the club.

## NOVEMBER 2015

### Commissioners Floyd and Tracey Tidd

- 14 Northern Territory Region Women's Conference
- 15 Katherine Corps 5:00 pm Meeting
- 22 Morwell Corps, 60th Anniversary
- 25 RO Christmas Lunch
- 26 Covenant Day, Catherine Booth College
- 28 Our Christmas Gift
- 29 Commissioning and Ordination

### Colonels Graeme and Karen Rigley

- 2 Leaders Orientation, IHQ London (2–7)
- 26 Covenant Day, Catherine Booth College
- 28 Our Christmas Gift
- 29 Commissioning and Ordination

### Melbourne Staff Band

- 28 Our Christmas Gift
- 29 Commissioning and Ordination

### Melbourne Staff Songsters

- 14 Castlemaine Corps (14–15)
- 28 Our Christmas Gift
- 29 Commissioning and Ordination



HAVE YOU GOT A COMMENT,  
COMMENDATION OR CRITICISM?

Send your letter of 300 words or less to [onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org), or On Fire, PO Box 479, Blackburn, Vic. 3130. All submissions will be subject to editing for clarity and space.

## about people

⊕ **RETIREMENTS** Effective 1 October 2015, Major Lyn **Cochrane**, Major David **Mundy**, Major Jennifer **Mundy**, Major Eva **Phillips**.

⊕ **PROMOTION** Effective 31 October, promotion to Major, Captain Mike **Kemp**.

⊕ **BEREAVED** Major Jeff **Philp** (NTR) was bereaved of his mother, Norma Philp, on 10 September. | Major Debbie **Serojales** (WVD) was bereaved of her father, Garry House, 12 September.

⊕ **BIRTHS** Colonels Graeme and Karyn **Rigley**, a granddaughter, Pearl

Jean, born 3 September to son Caleb and daughter-in-law Megan. A great-granddaughter for Lient-Colonel Evelyn Rigley (R). | Majors Lyn and Ron **Cochrane** (EVD), a grandson, Thomas James Putt, born 17 September to daughter Amey and son-in-law David. | Majors Karen and Graham **Hill** (SAD), a grandson, Emmett William **Robson**, born 17 October to daughter Witney-Bre and son-in-law Daniel.

⊕ **PROMOTED TO GLORY** Major Frank **Reynolds** (R) from Adelaide, SA on 7 October aged 78. | Major Donald **Burton**, from Royal

Adelaide Hospital, SA on 29 September aged 82. | Major Hedley **Watson**, from Maroondah Hospital, Vic. on 30 September aged 87. | Major Jean **Clark** from Seaforth Gardens, Gosnells, WA on 20 October 2015, aged 93.

⊕ **APPOINTMENTS** Effective 13 January 2016, Captain Clyde **Colls**, chaplain Harry Hunter Centre and Perth Prison WA | Captains. Elizabeth and Michael **Johnson**, corps officers Port Augusta, SA | Captains Kevin and Sugunama **Meredith**, corps officers Devonport, Tas. | Major Stacey **Cotton**, corps

officer Ulverstone, Tas. | Captain Jacky **Laing**, corps officer Kings Meadow, Tas. | Captain Michelle **Myles**, corps officer Clarence City, Tas. | Captain Martyn **Scrimshaw**, assistant state social command secretary, Vic. | Captain Isobel **Thomas**, associate corps officer Alice Springs, NT | Lieutenant Brynley **Haycock**, chaplain Barrington Lodge, Tas.

⊕ **GENERAL CHANGE UPDATE** Correction of Rank: Major Cathy **Elkington**.

## MAJOR HEDLEY ROBERT WATSON

Major Hedley Robert Watson was promoted to Glory, at the age of 87, from Maroondah Hospital (Vic.) on 30 September.



Hedley grew up on the family poultry farm at Dingley, Victoria. He graduated from Dingley State School in Melbourne and became a carpenter by trade. His family lived in Dandenong and attended the Presbyterian Church. He had made a decision to follow Jesus when he was 12 years old.

In 1949, Hedley became engaged to Valerie Sim and they married on 8 April 1950. Shortly after this they moved to Bendigo and started attending Eaglehawk Corps. They were blessed with three children, Ritchie, John and Rosemary.

Believing God was calling them to a higher purpose, Hedley and Valerie entered the Salvation Army Officer Training College from the Eaglehawk Corps in 1959, as part of the Pioneers session of cadets.

Following their commissioning in January 1960, Hedley and Valerie were appointed to Heywood, Preston West, Carlton and South Yarra Corps. In 1966 they were appointed to the Bayswater Youth Training Centre.

Their family expanded to include daughter Andrea, and sons David, Robert and Ian.

After 14 years at The Basin, becoming the superintendent of the Youth Training Centre, they were appointed to The Anchorage Men's Hostel and Sheltered Workshop with Hedley as the superintendent.

Following appointments as state social secretary in Tasmania and superintendent of the Graceville women's centre in Western Australia they returned to Victoria where Hedley was co-ordinator of correctional services in the Army's Social Services Department. They entered honourable retirement on 1 April 1993.

Throughout officership they had a strong sense of shared ministry. They were a team, which stood them both in good stead through all the joys and heartaches that ministry brought during their 33 years of faithful and fruitful service to the marginalised in our society. Theirs was a steady ministry based on sound judgment and good insight into human behaviour, enabling positive results in the lives of the people with whom they ministered.

One of Hedley's many attributes was that he was a humble man who took time to sit and listen to others.

In retirement they were officer-soldiers at Boronia Corps. With deteriorating health, Valerie moved into care and was promoted to Glory on 28 January 2013. Hedley has now joined his partner in the eternal home that Jesus, a fellow carpenter, has promised all who believe in him.

Sympathy and prayerful support is extended to Hedley's seven children—Major Ritchie Watson (divisional commander, Tasmania), John, Rosemary, Andrea, David, Robert and Ian, their partners and children including Major Brad Watson (Perth Fortress Corps).

A public thanksgiving service celebrating the life and service of Major Hedley Watson was conducted by Major John van Gaalen at Boronia Corps on 8 October 2015.

## MAJOR DONALD NEWELL BURTON

Major Donald Newell Burton was promoted to Glory from the Royal Adelaide Hospital, South Australia on 29 September after a time of ill health. Family were in attendance as he peacefully went to be with his Lord. Don was 82 years old.



Born in Hobart, Tasmania, Don attended Sandy Bay corps. His mother set him a great Christian example, training Don in the ways of God. Some time after completing his schooling at Hobart Technical School, Don moved to Melbourne where he became a shipping clerk for F.H. Stephens (Vic.) Pty Ltd. This was interspersed with two years working in commerce in London, where his love of bookkeeping, auditing and statistics was put to good use.

While living in Melbourne, he attended the Moonee Ponds Corps. It was there that Don responded to God's strong calling on his life to become a Salvation Army officer. He was accepted for the Defenders of the Faith session, commencing training on 10 March 1965. Before entering college, he was a divisional envoy overseeing Collingwood Corps for six months in late 1964.

Don's first appointment was Belmont Corps (attached to Chilwell) in January 1967. Appointments followed at Carlton and Richmond Corps, Bayswater Youth Training Centre, Gill Memorial counselling centre, Beechworth and St Arnaud—during which time he met and married Captain Jeanette Jeffrey.

Together they were appointed as corps officers at Echuca, Seymour, Goodwood, Renmark, Colonel Light Gardens and Orbost, then in the social field at Sunset Lodge and the Family Welfare Centre in South Australia.

Jeanette and Don became the proud parents of Diane (1979) and Robyn (1980)—two much-loved daughters.

Serious ill health issues prompted an early retirement on 31 December 1992.

In retirement, the Burtons settled in Adelaide and attended Unley Corps. Don was devoted to his family and loved nothing more than sharing in family outings, walking on the beach and doing anything that brought the family together. He was also interested in cooking, reading and gardening.

Our love, sympathy and prayers are with his wife Jeanette, daughters Diane (Captain Dianne Hobbs) and husband Captain Peter Hobbs, Robyn and partner Cheryl, his sisters Beth and Kate, grandchildren Ella and James and extended family and friends.

A thanksgiving service for the life of Major Donald Burton was held on 3 October at Unley Corps, conducted by Major Reno Elms.



## MAJOR FRANK GEORGE REYNOLDS

Major Francis (Frank) George Reynolds was promoted to Glory from Adelaide in South Australia in the early hours of 7 October. He was 78 years old.



Born in Melbourne, Frank accepted Jesus as his personal saviour at 12. After completing school at Caulfield Technical College, he became an insurance clerk for Mercantile Mutual Insurance Company Limited. Answering the call to become a Salvation Army officer, he entered the Officer Training College in March 1955 from Alamein Corps, becoming one of the Soul-Winners session.

His first appointment was as corps officer at Yea, moving to Benalla Corps the next year. On 27 December 1958, Frank married Lieutenant Florence Smith. Together they ministered in corps appointments at St Arnaud, Kyabram, Devonport, Colonel Light Gardens, Semaphore, Port Lincoln, South Melbourne and Heidelberg with Heidelberg West. They returned to South Australia, ministering at Seacombe Gardens, Kilkenny, Renown Park and Unley. Their final corps appointment was to Moreland in Melbourne.

Frank and Florence looked back on those 31 years in corps work with thanks to God for all the challenges and opportunities that came their way.

Frank and Florence were blessed with three children, Heather, Graeme and Glenda.

Frank later became the assistant superintendent and chaplain at Inala Village senior citizens residence in Melbourne. A move back to South Australia presented Frank with the challenge of setting up and establishing the Edenfield senior citizens hostel and Eden Court independent living units at Parafield Gardens.

Unfortunately, ill health necessitated a further change and Frank spent the final two years of his active officership as deferred giving director at South Australia divisional headquarters.

On 8 January 1997, Frank and Florence retired after 41 years of active officership. They became supportive officer-soldiers at Adelaide Congress Hall Corps. Sadly, after only two years in retirement, Florence was promoted to Glory on 2 August 1998. Frank continued to contribute to the corps when called upon.

Frank was a gracious man, always an engaging, hard-working, loyal and conscientious officer. He willingly gave his all from the moment he responded to God's call to win souls for the Kingdom. He was a devoted family man and one who will be greatly missed by his family, friends and colleagues.

Sympathy and prayerful support is extended to Frank's children, Heather (and Peter), Graeme (and Janja) and Major Glenda Savage (and Grattan), his brothers Bruce (and Robyn) and Major Keith (and Dorothy), grandson Samuel and extended family.

A public thanksgiving service celebrating the life and service of Major Frank Reynolds was held on 28 October at Adelaide Congress Hall, conducted by Major Grattan Savage.

## DOROTHY BLAKEY

Dorothy Blakey went to be with her Lord on 17 March from Calvary Hospital in Adelaide. She drew her last breaths and was promoted to Glory to the song, 'It is Well With My Soul'. Dorothy was 75 years old and was married to Norman for 56 years.



Dorothy was born in 1939 in Adelaide and was active in employment in The Salvation Army family stores and in the Heritage centre in South Australia. Here, with her keen interest in Salvation Army history, she supported her husband as secretary.

She held several local officer positions over time including timbrel leader of the Heritage timbrels and Unley Corps timbrels, home league secretary at Colonel Light Gardens Corps and was also a songster at Unley and Norwood Corps.

Dorothy was a very caring person. During a holiday to Bali in 1997, Dorothy and Norman felt called to follow wherever God led them. Many subsequent visits to Bali followed, where Dorothy commenced a timbrel brigade at Denpasar No. 2 Corps and assisted Norman in establishing a brass band.

Family members visited Bali recently and established Dorothy Blakey's medical legacy. As a result of this legacy, three boys had growths surgically removed, 30 new mattresses were purchased, 25 boys received new school shoes, three boys received hospital treatment for life-threatening Dengue fever and financial resources were provided for the administration of the fund.

Dorothy was a quiet achiever in service for God and her motto was 'Just do it—God knows best'.

Dorothy worked hard to be a blessing, expressing her love for souls by personal contact which she chose to do without others knowing. In recent years, it was her desire to continue attending Adelaide Congress Hall Corps even when her health continued to worsen.

Her prayer was that God would move in the corps and that by quiet witness, in expressions of love, others might see Jesus in her life and be won for him.

Dorothy's funeral service was held at Adelaide Congress Hall. Major Lynne Grigsbey conducted the funeral and Captain Matt Reeve the committal service. Grandchildren paid their tribute and bandmaster Gede Reindra Patera of Denpasar No. 2 Corps spoke on behalf of the Bali corps. °



### 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](mailto:onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org)



## A FRIENDLY WORD FROM THE DEPT. OF YOUTH

Summer Carnival is coming! If you're a registered camper for next year then it's a big event and you need to get it right. Here are our tips for surviving Summer Carnival 2016!

> **LOOK FOR GOD.** Summer Carnival is an event designed to connect us with God and each other. Why? The world might be broken, but the Good News is that God's love can save us. The more you participate with the worship, speakers, prayer, Corps Cadets groups and dorm devos the more you will engage with God.

> **LOOK AFTER YOURSELF.** Your mum and dad won't be at Summer Carnival to make sure you stay in one piece. Wear sunscreen. Drink water. Shower every day. Get some sleep. Eat at every meal. Avoid your Coke can tally reaching double digits. If you feel ill, tell a leader and first aid person. Remember to look after yourself and you'll enjoy Summer Carnival more than if you end up sleep-deprived and vomiting by the Thursday.

> **BEHAVE YOURSELF.** The Summer Carnival rules are there for your protection. This camp has hundreds of young people eating and running and dancing and living together for five days. It can get kinda nuts. The rules are there to keep you safe, not bored. If you break the rules you will be sent home, but, if you follow them, good times are guaranteed. Remember to check out the rules in your camp minimag and always follow the instructions of leaders.

Behave yourself. Look after yourself. Look for God. See you there.

*The Department of Youth*



## KEEP SCHOOLIES COOLIES

'Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit.' —Ephesians 5:17–18 (NLV)

**It is a truth universally acknowledged that a teenager in possession of a good ATAR result must be in want of a party.**

So it is that those who've gotten high school out of the way often feel led to blow off some steam.

Every year thousands do this at Schoolies events with bands, barbecues, the beach and their mates. For others, it involves under-age binge drinking, drugs, violence and sexual assault. Sadly, there are significant health risks at Schoolies events, with overdoses, accidents and suicides resulting in the deaths of young school-leavers.

This isn't the kind of lifestyle Jesus calls us to. Jesus calls us to influence the world, to be the 'salt of the earth' and a positive example for others (Matthew 5:13–16). As followers of Jesus, it is not our job to avoid risky situations but to show God's love and do good deeds in those dark places. So, as high school comes to an end for many, here are four ways you can keep Schoolies coolies this year.

### STAY SAFE WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Bad things can happen when you're alone and vulnerable while away from home. Stick with your close friends and always go out in groups. Stay together and stay safe.

### OBEY THE LAW

Under-age drinking, recreational drugs, fights, sticking your head out of the car window... what do all these things have in common? Well, they're illegal. It's a good rule of thumb that if something is illegal then it's not worth doing. Obey the law and avoid the danger.

### SEEK HAPPINESS AND HEALTH

There are any number of opportunities and temptations that you might be faced with at Schoolies. But, before embarking on any Schoolies adventure, ask yourself a very simple question: 'Will this make me happier and healthier?'

Don't just go to something like Schoolies to have a good time. Go to these events knowing that you can make them a better place by your example. As a follower of Jesus you can influence that culture for the better. Have a good time, but make it a better time for others while you're there.

### RIBBIT?

Red Frogs is a Christian support organisation working to make Schoolies safer since 1997. Every year Red Frogs connects with up to 40,000 young people and gives away 16 tonnes of red frogs. The Red Frog Crews offer support to school-leavers at Schoolies events by walking them home, cooking them pancakes, and, of course, handing out loads of Allens Red Frogs. Check out volunteering options at [au.redfrogs.com](http://au.redfrogs.com).



## SELFIE



## JOSH STOWE

&lt; 20 &lt; Warrnambool (Vic.)

Since I decided to follow God and trust him with my life, he has done some amazing work. I'm a totally different human than I ever was before. Looking back, I don't even recognise who I used to be.

God has taken all the unnecessary garbage out of my life and taught me to live a life full of joy and compassion. Every day I am trusting in him to teach and guide me so that I can become the man he wants me to be, and the way he is changing my life is crazy.

God has sent me places that I never thought I'd go, doing things I never thought I'd do, living life in way that is totally different from anything I ever imagined.

I've gone from a quiet country life to working with the outcasts of society in a street mission in the heart of Melbourne and from there to the middle of Australia, working with the Aboriginal community and seeing social isolation of a different kind. All the while God has been teaching me, giving me a heart for love, compassion and justice.

I have learned that God is not a distant kind of guy who is maybe going to answer your prayers. He is faithful and waiting to bless us, his children. If you want to figure out what God is about, go and chat with him. All it takes is prayer and a bit of humility. He will be faithful and change your life for the better.

*I want to tell you what the Lord has done,  
What the Lord has done in me,  
He lifted me from the miry clay,  
Oh what a happy day!  
I want to tell you what the Lord can do,  
What the Lord can do for you,  
He can take your life as he did mine  
And make it anew.*

## NEWS

## NO LOUNGING ABOUT

On 20–22 October, 40 youth leaders, volunteers and officers from across the territory gathered at Edmund Rice Centre (Vic.) for Leaders' Lounge 2015.

Leaders' Lounge is an annual youth ministry conference aimed to help Salvo youth ministries maintain a focus that is strategic, sustainable and uniquely Salvo.

This year's event was kicked off by territorial youth secretary Captain Craig Farrell, who welcomed delegates. The first session consisted of a time for youth workers to share their stories and understand each other's ministry situations.

The first presenter, Dave Andrews, challenged delegates with stories of working with the mentally ill in India and Afghanistan, while also explaining how we can stay connected to the basics of service and ministry.

Delegates also heard from youth worker and educator Rowan Lewis, who taught about the changing demographics of the Church and the nature of generational change.

Finally, Brooke Prentis, a member of The Salvation Army's National Indigenous Reference Group, spoke powerfully about indigenous spirituality, racism and inequality. Brooke also helped unpack how youth workers can better welcome indigenous young people and minister to their needs.

Other highlights of the event included a sharing time prompted by the last-minute cancellation of a sick presenter, the traditional Wednesday night Thai dinner and a late-night screening of 1990s classic film *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (which was switched off after an hour, because too many post-30-year-old youth workers went to bed).

Working with young people isn't always easy. Pastoral support, education and community for leaders are crucial. Leaders' Lounge—the one territorial event aimed at youth workers—has provided that for youth ministers again this year.



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