

The Salvation Army • Australia Territory

PRINT POST APPROVED PP100020179 • ISSN 1448-7861

*mission and ministry*

# on fire

December 2016  
Volume 17  
Number 11  
\$1.00

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Good news

**inside:** GENERAL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE • GAME OF THRONES • THE NUTCRACKER • ON FIRE'S FAREWELL



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"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1-Thessalonians 5:16-18



As you will have noticed, this is a bumper edition of *On Fire* with 40 pages instead of 32. This unique edition, featuring Christmas and our soon-to-be, commissioned cadets, is also special because it is the last edition of *On Fire*.

Working in accordance with the Australia One initiative, the editorial teams of the Southern and Eastern Territories will combine to produce a national internal magazine which will commence in February. Scott Simpson, currently editor of *Pipeline*, will become the editor of the new publication.

*On Fire* has always been viewed as an important mouthpiece for Salvation Army leadership and the new magazine will continue to carry key messages from our leaders to Salvationists across Australia. It will also continue to present feature articles, stories of transformation, profiles of Salvation Army mission and ministry, opinion writing, theological pieces, culture writing and news from corps and centres around the country. In order to achieve this for the combined territories, it will be a larger magazine of possibly 48 pages.

Of course, this isn't the only change. The December edition is my last as editor, as I move to the Mission Resources Department in January as territorial prayer coordinator.

I think back to my first days in the department as an editorial assistant eight years ago and I realise how much I have learnt over that time. I would like to thank my colleagues Faye Michelson and Jen Vuk particularly who took me under their wings and taught me the fundamentals of editing and journalism. When I moved to the position of editor, I was equally unfamiliar with the responsibilities and they stepped in again, guiding me through the change and expectations of the role.

It has been a privilege to work with the editorial team. All professionals in their areas, they are hardworking, always meeting deadlines, efficient to an incredible degree and dedicated to presenting the mission and ministry of The Salvation Army to members and the public.

This is an exciting time and I am extremely confident in the team responsible for our magazines and believe you will love the new publication.



*June Knop*

Captain June Knop  
Editor

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Printed and published for The Salvation Army  
by Commissioner Floyd J. Tidd at  
Focus Print Group Pty Ltd, Burwood, Vic.  
Press date **23 November 2016**

No responsibility is assumed to  
publish, preserve or return  
unsolicited material.



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# The General's Christmas Message

**F**or children in many countries around the world, Christmas is a time of great anticipation and excitement.

Christmas is rightly emphasised with the joy of children, for the wonderful story of Christmas is about the coming of the Christ-child of whom we read in Luke's Gospel:

'In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world (this was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria). And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

'While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

'When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,

which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told' (Luke 2:1–20 NIV).

The Christmas story is for all people of all ages and cultures, and is about how God came into our ordinary, everyday world as a little baby so that he could live with us and share in our lives. The coming of Christ at Christmas changed the course of human history.

We love to look at what we think is an idyllic and beautiful picture of that first Christmas. Yet a stable is hardly a good place for a baby to be born. The reality is that there was no room for Jesus.

That reality is still true today with the over-commercialisation of Christmas to the point where most of our time, energy and attention is focused on other things. We are so busy that we have no space or time left to remember that Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Christ-child.

God came into the world for the poor, ordinary people, not just for kings and princes. The announcement of the angels concerning the birth of God's Messiah is to a group of shepherds. What a wonderful thought that God came into the reality of our human existence and came, without discrimination, for the humble, ordinary people.

James Irwin, one of the few astronauts to have walked on the moon, was asked about his experiences in space. He spoke about the importance of space exploration and how mankind has been



**The coming of Christ at Christmas changed the course of human history."**



# Waiting is over!

As I approach this Christmas, I have been reflecting over the months leading up to September when we anticipated and waited for our first grandchild to be born. I passed the seemingly endless weeks excitedly shopping but somewhat limited in my accomplishments as they had chosen to wait to find out the gender of the baby until he or she entered the world. And so I waited, and waited.

As we wait and anticipate Christmas Day, the Christmas trees and decorations will go up, the Christmas music will fill the air and the Army will be out in full force collecting. And of course the shops will be packed with people looking for the perfect gift for their loved ones—everyone anticipating the hopes and dreams to be fulfilled on Christmas morning. Much to do to keep busy while we wait.

Looking back through the years, I can see again the anticipation on the faces of my two young children, leading up to Christmas Day and the excitement of opening their gifts and enjoying Christmas dinner with extended family. To help manage the anticipation we always bought an advent calendar to help them understand how long they had to wait for Christmas Day to arrive and so they would fully understand the meaning of Christmas. And so they waited and counted the days. Even while gifts from afar arrived in the post and were placed under the tree, they waited.

Imagine the Children of Israel, thousands of years ago, who were told the story of the coming of the Messiah. Can you imagine the excitement and the hope this promise from God brought to his people? Scripture tells us that year after year they waited in anticipation. They waited and waited. God would be faithful to his promise.

And then Christmas Day came. Christ's day came. The angels announced the sending of the greatest Christmas gift ever to be given, 'In the city of David, a Saviour has been born, and you shall find the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.' The waiting was over. The gift was given. God's promise was fulfilled.

Let's capture again the anticipation of a child looking to Christmas Day. Not, however, like the Israelites awaiting the birth of their Messiah, but as a people today who, knowing God has given the gift of his Son, live lives of hope-filled expectation. The waiting is over—Jesus has come to give life to the fullest—and now is the time to celebrate! Waiting is over! <sup>o</sup>

Tracey Tidd  
Commissioner



helped with medical research, new technologies and a greater understanding of the universe in which we live. He went on to describe the wonder of gazing at our small blue planet from such a distance in space and realising just how beautiful and unique it is. He also spoke about the wonder of standing on the moon in 1971 and seeing an earthrise.

He said that it is important for the good of mankind that it is technically possible for a man to walk on the moon, but how much more important it is that God, in Jesus, came into our world and walked upon Earth. The arrival of Jesus in our world makes many things possible: it is possible for us to know hope and love; to enjoy a personal relationship with God the Creator; to experience forgiveness for the wrong things that we do; and it is possible for us to experience a sense of peace and belonging in this troubled world.

Sadly, we see still so much injustice, hate, violence and corruption in the world that at times we are brought to utter despair. If only the world would see and take hold of the greatest gift that God gives us in Jesus.

The words of Major Joy Webb's song 'Come into our world!' reflect a longing and a plea, for without God our world is a sorry place:

'All around us, seemingly, darkness holds its sway;  
Truth and love are faltering, peace in disarray;  
And if we needed you, we need you now!  
Come into our world, Come into our world, now, Lord Jesus!  
People sit in loneliness, children cry for bread;  
Men fight men in hatred, by suspicion led;  
And if we needed you, we need you now!  
Faced with such confusion, hope has slipped away;  
Men have stopped believing, forgotten how to pray;  
And if we needed you, we need you now!'

Thankfully it does not need to be like this. Our world can be different, but if that is to happen it requires each of us to experience a change of heart, to be changed and transformed so that the life God intended for us becomes a reality through his Son, Jesus. No wonder the angels rejoiced and sang: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven...' (Luke 2:14).<sup>o</sup>



# Don't miss out!

There is an epidemic sweeping across Australia and it seems there is no vaccination. This epidemic steals 2.1 hours per day from the life of adults and 2.7 hours per day from the average teen in Australia. The epidemic is simply called FOMO—Fear of Missing Out.



**F**OMO is more fully defined as a pervasive apprehension that others might be having rewarding experiences from which one is absent. This social angst is characterised by 'a desire to stay continually connected with what others are doing'. And so adults and teens alike affected by FOMO spend significant time connected to social media—lest they miss out on something that is happening and are that dreaded group of 'the last to know'.

With Christmas around the corner there is a warning that it may well come and go, yet once again this year still some may miss out. In an effort to minimise FOMO for you and your family and friends note the following symptoms and solutions associated with the Fear of Missing Out on Christmas this year.

### Symptom 1—Busyness

On that first Christmas, when Mary and Joseph came to Bethlehem for the census, the town was filled with people making the journey to their home towns. Mary and Joseph, unable to find a room for the night, were offered the stable by an innkeeper. Could it be that in the busyness of peak season—Romans census season—the innkeeper may have missed out on the miracle of the first Christmas. Beware the barrenness of busyness this Christmas season.

### Symptom 2—Fear of Finding Out

There may be a FOMO consideration, but for some it seems like it may be the lesser illness than Finding Out. King Herod, afraid of what the birth of Jesus might mean for him and threatened by the impact this could have on his established way of life, missed out on what Christmas really could have meant for him. There is nothing to fear when love comes knocking on the door of our lives.

### Solution 1—Watch for Jesus in the unexpected

For Mary and Joseph, the message of the angels changed their lives completely. The months leading up to the birth of Jesus were more than unexpected for Mary and Joseph. In fact they could never have imagined life would take the turn it did for them. But it was in the unexpected circumstances of life Jesus entered the world. You may find your life in an unexpected place this Christmas, facing matters you could never have imagined. Life may not be in this moment how you had planned for it to be. It is in the unexpected you can find Jesus. We are too often fooled into thinking, especially at Christmas, that God shows up when we've got everything just right and all sorted out. Mary and Joseph would tell a different story. In the unexpected you don't need to miss out. Watch together and point another to see Jesus in their unexpected moment this Christmas so that none miss out on the miracle of Christmas.

### Solution 2—Listen for the message of the angels in the daily routines of life

To shepherds on the hillside keeping watch over their flock by night, faithfully and consistently living out their routine, the angel of the Lord appeared to ensure they wouldn't miss out on the first Christmas. Life may seem to be an endless cycle of routine activities and uneventful moments. But it is into such moments that the message of Christmas descends, transforming the routine into the extraordinary because Jesus is there. Don't think you may miss out on the spectacular this Christmas because you are caught in the routines of life. Instead listen for the song of the angels in your midst announcing, 'Joy to the world, joy to your world'.

### Solution 3—Search with all your heart

Wise men from the east found the search of their lives fulfilled when they knelt before the newborn King,



**This social angst is characterised by 'a desire to stay continually connected with what others are doing'."**

presenting gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They didn't miss out. They searched and followed the leading God provided by a star to find the Christ child. We are reminded each Christmas that those who are wise still seek Jesus. God has promised through the prophet Jeremiah, that if we seek him with our whole heart we will find him. He doesn't want us to Miss Out—and he has promised we won't if we search for him.

This Christmas season, protect yourself, and your family and friends from the epidemic of FOMO—Fear of Missing Out on the encounter with Jesus, born to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords. God's continuing hope this Christmas is that none will miss out on the gift he has given to the world in Jesus. As we celebrate Christmas as the expression of God's love for the world let's be sure to not miss out on experiencing the gift that brings hope, freedom and life to the fullest. Watch for the symptoms of FOMO and embrace the solutions to ensure no-one misses out this Christmas.°

*Commissioner Floyd Tidd  
National Commander*

Of the Australians who responded to the FOMO Questionnaire, adults were spending 2.1 hours per day and teens 2.7 hours per day connected to social media. This provides a direct comparison between adults and teens.

Social media is affecting how Australians behave, with 56% of teens reporting they are heavy social media users (connecting five-plus times per day), with 25% being constantly connected.

When we look at the adult population, almost one in four (23%) report being heavy social media users, with 6% of those being constantly connected.



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# Game of Thrones

## —Jesus the dragon slayer.



Christmas is upon us and as you look at the story of the birth of Jesus in Matthew or Luke, you could be forgiven for thinking that this is the beginning of the Gospel message. You may be surprised to know that the Christmas story actually falls in the middle of a much bigger cosmic story of spiritual warfare found in Revelation chapter 12.

Here we find John's revelatory vision, full of symbolism that speaks of things across time and continually traverses time frames. We are immediately in a dramatic scene of a woman in labour, followed instantly by the appearance of a devastating dragon (satan), determined to devour the woman's newborn baby. God snatches the child away and protects the woman. This is followed by a war involving every heavenly being and results in the expulsion from heaven of satan and his angel followers—a third of heaven's angels. Fallen to the earth and unable to pursue the woman, satan now sets his sights on destroying her offspring—all of those who follow God's commandments and love Jesus.

However, the woman here is not Mary but represents Israel from which the Messiah would come (and the stars mentioned in the passages refer to angels).

Isaiah 14:11–19 helps us understand why the war began and also satan's motivation. Although this passage appears to be written about the King of Babylon and refers to the actual man, prophetically and symbolically the King of Babylon is also a reference to 'the beast', otherwise known as satan (as is the King of Tyre in Ezekiel 28). Prophetic, and particularly apocalyptic writings (Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Zechariah and Revelation) often have multiple messages, layers of meaning and accurately represent an occurrence in the past, while at the same time speaking to the future and applying to the present. These are deliberately hidden in symbols and imagery—glimpses of truth unfolding and being revealed over time—for God's people.

Isaiah 14:13 spells out satan's ambition: 'You said in your heart, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly..."' He planned to exult himself, overthrow God, become God and sit on the throne of heaven.

Satan, once an anointed and highly esteemed

cherub (Ezekiel 28:11–19), beautiful and wise, was ordained by God as a guardian of the way to the Tree of Life (Ezekiel 28:13, Genesis 4:24). He held the position and title of the Morning Star.

However, another was rising, a star expected from Israel, a ruler from Jacob—the coming messiah (Numbers 24:17).

Cherubim had specific roles and, as we see in Exodus 25:18–22, they were used to protect the very throne of God, the meeting place where people could come before God (the mercy seat and place of atonement).

But satan's blind ambition and pride were his downfall. He became corrupt (Ezekiel 28:17). Thrown from heaven, he continues to pursue those who love Jesus.

Paul tells us that satan is the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4). This is his kingdom and he blinds the minds of unbelievers and influences them to follow him. They in turn are used—knowing or unknowing—to increase his dominion. Satan's time is short but he works to take as many as possible with him eternally to the kingdom of darkness. The description in Revelation 12:3, 'It had seven heads and ten horns, a crown on each of the seven heads', refers to satan's power and the kingdoms he has dominion over.

Through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, satan has been defeated, and Jesus tells us that when the time of judging comes, satan, the ruler of the world, will be cast out, but he has time before the second coming of Jesus to impact the world (John 12:31).

We therefore live in a time of the battle of kingdoms.

Our lives impact the outcome—not participating in the battle empowers the enemy by our inaction.

Jesus calls us to enter the battle for we know, 'We are not fighting against flesh and blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places' (Ephesians 6:12).

William Booth, referring to The Salvation Army, makes our course clear by saying, 'What a strange name! What does it mean? Just what it says, a number of people joined together after the fashion of an army...an army for the purpose of carrying salvation through the land...most effective and forcible to liberate a captive world, and to overcome the enemies of God and man... The world... boasting of its freedom, is

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sold under sin, held in slavery by satan, who has usurped the place and power and revenues of Jehovah, and who is indeed its lord and master, and to deliver it and fulfil to the very letter the Master's command, an army of deliverance, of redemption, of emancipation is wanted' (*Salvation Soldiery* pp 27–28).

As disciples we are given all that we need to fight. We have: our armour and prayer (Ephesians 6:13–18); the power of the Holy Spirit within us (John 14:15); and Jesus' authority over satan and demons (Luke 10:18–20, John 12:–14), to preach, heal the sick, cast out demons and raise the dead (Matthew 10:1&7–8).

We have the Kingdom of God within/among us (Luke 17:21). The Greek word for among is *entos* which literally means inside. We release and expand this Kingdom by faith in action, not by faith alone, just as Jesus did in the Scripture—bringing people to faith, healing and casting out demons (Luke 11:20–23).

'For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power' (1 Corinthians 4:20). The most effective witness is showing that God's power works through us.

Defeating the kingdom of darkness includes telling others what God has done for us generally and of our personal experience particularly (Revelation 12:11). The power of the spirit is released, in the telling, to enable a transformation. Yes, we can show we have the Kingdom within us by our actions, but we must tell as well.

Embedded in the testimony is the implication 'to do again'.

'...the declared testimony creates access for the very anointing that brought about the testimony in the first place—which was also released through a declaration—to bring it about again...when we declare the testimony of the Lord, God releases his authority to enforce the word and duplicate the miracle' (Bill Johnson, *Releasing the Spirit of Prophecy: The Supernatural Power of Testimony*).

We can be kept busy building our own kingdom, or we can intentionally choose to build God's Kingdom on Earth.

This Christmas, think on the bigger story. See Jesus reclaim his rightful place and title, 'the bright Morning Star' (Revelation 22:16) and let's think on how we can contribute here and now. ◦

June Knop

# A new classic

The story of a child gifted with a Nutcracker on Christmas Eve has stayed with us for generations. As the noble Nutcracker defeats the evil Mouse King and takes Clara on a whirlwind adventure, we also celebrate the triumph of good over evil in this season.



oving *The Nutcracker*, an iconic ballet that celebrates the child-like wonder of the holidays, Mornington Peninsula local Alexandra Dellaportas put her own spin on the classic tale. Not only would the ballet exclusively feature talented locals under the age of 25, it would also reimagine the story.

'I love history and I love *The Nutcracker* so I've fused the two together,' says the teenager. 'We changed it so *the Nutcracker* was actually a present from her father who was fighting in the front in World War 1. She's been shielded from this war because she's a child, but after she reads a letter from her dad, there's an explosion near her house and she passes out and has this dream about what the war is really like—she's experiencing the letter come to life.'

'I always loved *The Nutcracker* music

and I always wanted to do it,' she explains.

A dancer since she was two, Alex's love of music is indicative of her Salvo upbringing.

'I'm very close to a lot of people in my church because they were at Rosebud Salvos,' she says. 'They were always playing music together; my mum always played the cornet in the brass band. I suppose being around music every week had a big influence on me.'

Attending Mornington Corps through her high school years, she sought a way to begin choreographing after she finished VCE in 2015.

'I want to be a choreographer and own a company one day. With the help of my family, we set Spark Youth Dance Company up and got it going. It's really an opportunity for me to choreograph,' she says. 'I [also] knew there were a lot of dancers on the Mornington Peninsula who would love to be



**It is not just a story reminiscent of the Christ's victory, but also his ability to transform our lives today."**

involved in something like that because usually you have to go to the city for dance.'

This innovation compelled her to make Spark a non-profit, and as she doesn't 'really like tradition most of the time,' Alex wanted to make their yearly performance relevant to a new generation.

Enveloping her reworked *Nutcracker* story with the themes of innocence, ignorance, propaganda and mystery, a cast of 27 performed the riveting story for their community. Wanting to nurture the upcoming talent in the group, Alex also invited a professional dancer to join them.

Approaching Daniel Guadiello, a former principal dancer in the Australian Ballet, she was delighted when he accepted her invitation to play *the Nutcracker* himself.

'I really wanted someone to mentor the dancers because we wanted to create a real company atmosphere,' she says. 'I was looking for this guest artist, and I'd literally asked every company in Melbourne. I just happened to see that Daniel had retired from the Australian Ballet and he was doing some freelance work. So I found a way to contact him and he said yes, which was really cool!'

Whether a cast member was six or 24, they had the opportunity to work alongside the accomplished performer, and in the short time since

it was created by Alex, this has become a definitive trait of Spark—the non-profit is all about opportunity, fun and community.

'Our dance company is difference because it's run by young people—it's more about a creative team,' says Alex. From set design, to costumes, lighting and choreography, *The Nutcracker* brought her community together and helped them overcome their own fears.

'One of the highlights of the whole year came from one of the little girls. She came to us with anxiety and selective mutism. In the last week of rehearsals, she asked her mum to not go into rehearsals with her, and she walked in and was talking to people and she had all these friends,' she explains. 'We were crying!'

While Alex set out to communicate the story of the *Nutcracker*, it seems she did much more than that—she helped create a community of like-minded creative people who are willing to learn, grow and bring joy to the people around them.

Perhaps that is what makes her reimagined version of *The Nutcracker* all the more poignant; after all, it is not just a story reminiscent of the Christ's victory, but also his ability to transform our lives today.

Jessica Morris





## A mother's love

Just as Mary remained devoted to our saviour, throughout his trials, Major Kevin Grigsby tells us how a mother's faith has paved the way in their story of loss, love and hope.



**O**n 14 October 1980 at 5.30 pm in Whyalla (SA), my nine-year-old son collided with a Toyota Hiace Campervan. He was run over, his bicycle jammed under the left side front bullbar and wheel base. Philip's head hit the windscreen and he was thrown 30 metres.

In the impact collision and landing on the road, Philip smashed his skull and shattered his collarbone, ribs, elbow, thigh, pelvis, shin and ankle. He was unconscious.

It is a horrendous sight and an inexpressible feeling to see your eldest son's smashed, broken and bloodied body in the middle of a road. Philip's mother, Lynne, travelled with him by ambulance to the Whyalla District Hospital, where specialists performed a three-hour operation on Philip's comatose body.

We were flown to Adelaide Children's Hospital. Before Lynne entered the intensive care unit ward, she sought God's divine guidance on what had happened during the last 12 hours. She turned to the book of Philippians, simply because the first six letters spelt Philip.

Her eyes were drawn to Philippians chapter 2 verse 27: 'Indeed he was sick almost unto death, but God had mercy on him, and not only on him, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.'

Lynne took this as a promise from God, believing them to be words of hope and assurance. She went to the intensive care unit and was greeted by a doctor who said, 'Philip will die before evening; he is on life support. It might be time to call a priest and your husband.'

She challenged the doctor, saying that God had

assured her of something different. Lynne shared God's promise and witnessed to her trust and faith in his love, grace and mercy.

Philip was in the intensive care unit on life support for six weeks. On three occasions he slid close to death. He was unconscious for three and a half months and gradually came out of the coma.

My son had numerous operations to insert skeletal pins, plates, screws and plaster casts. His body bore and endured continual agonising pain after each operation and during recovery. Philip has lived with constant pain every day since the accident.

Early diagnosis was that he had suffered permanent brain damage, which affected the power of speech and mobility. The verdict given to Lynne and I was that Philip would never be normal again, classified an ABI (acquired brain injury) person. It would be easier for us as parents and family to walk away and leave him to institutional care. One term used loosely was 'a vegetative state'.

His mother did not accept this. As a woman of faith she was assured of her son's recovery by God's grace and mercy. She believed in the power of prayer and surrounded Philip continually with biblical promises.

A number of concerned people questioned Lynne's positive viewpoint on recovery for Philip, but Lynne's belief and faith encouraged me and others. Our hopes grew high, our faith was in the Lord and our belief was that God answers prayer. We saw gradual development and slow progress every day in Philip's medical treatment and healing process.

There were times when we were physically drained, juggling Philip's hospital visits and require-

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with biblical  
promises.”**



ments, family responsibilities, financial situation, our appointment demands, duties and ministry responsibilities, but God was pre-eminent in our lives.

Through this time I felt the enrichment from people's prayers, their kindness and Christian love expressed to my

family. It assured me of God's providence and his influential and faithful love.

In January 1983 Lynne and I were appointed to the Territorial Youth Department in Melbourne. Philip was transferred to The Salvation Army Bethesda Hospital and attended a special school run by the Yooralla Society as a day pupil.

Lynne felt strongly led to look at a new therapy program to assist Philip. Assessed by the Australian Centre for Brain Injured Children, Philip underwent an intense therapy of patterning each day, known as the Doman Dalacato System.

Mother and son were required to go for patterning education, assessment and training in Sydney for three days, every three months. The patterning program required five volunteers for a two-hour session, and Lynne was required to recruit and train a pool of 80 volunteers.

In each session, one volunteer was required to move the head, two volunteers to move the arms and two volunteers to move the feet. Philip required four sessions a day, six days a week.

Lynne doorknocked the neighbourhood and the response was magnificent. Volunteers responded eagerly and this attracted local promotion in community newspapers.

Many conversations with volunteers and cups of tea led to spiritual conversations and a ministry of pastoral care and counselling developed. Lynne's

ministry led to numerous speaking engagements and a number of people began to attend church or were introduced to The Salvation Army.

The intensive patterning therapy had been successful, both mentally and physically, for Philip. Over the following years he gained his Victorian Certificate of Education and was given a special award for determination, consistency and achievement.

He was admitted to a live-in pain clinic for five months due to severe and constant pain, which he still lives with now at various degrees. After two unsuccessful stereo thalamotomy operations on his brain to alleviate spasms and pain, Philip did not recover fully following the second operation. He is now permanently in a wheelchair as a quadriplegic person and requires full-time attendant care.

Lynne and I have been his full-time carers since his accident in 1980.

Our first contact with BrainLink was in 2008 when we were investigating what programs were available for the carer of an Acquired Brain Injured (ABI) person.

As Lynne and I have now been retired for six years, the question of Philip's future care is prevailing and paramount. This is a difficult decision as we have been right by Philip's side for his whole life and such options take their toll.

We learnt that BrainLink can be a lifeline for carers and can help families survive by providing respite and a source of information, such as other full-time care opportunities that are available, surrounded by expertise and people providing excellent information.

During 2016, Philip's life story has been used in promotional material in BrainLink's Annual Appeal.

“

**It assured me of God's providence and his influential and faithful love.”**

# A Merry Christmas

From *Salvation Soldiery* by General William Booth (1889), reprinted 2012\*

'Is any merry? Let him sing.'



**T**his is reckoned a merry time. It is considered in this country the correct thing to wish everybody a Merry Christmas, and to get one yourself if you can. We pity those who have anything which makes them sad just now, and so it has become an annual custom to be merry, and to help to make other people as merry as you can.

Now, we have no objection to this at all; indeed we like the idea of special periods of rejoicing if you have anything to rejoice over, and it suits The Salvation Army, which believes in being merry all the year round in general, and at special times in particular.

We like the word merry, and we will have it in religion if you please. Many people think it altogether out of place there. They will let the children be merry when home for the holidays, having an extra allowance of games and cake. They will let the merchant be merry when his balance sheet has come out on the right side; they will let the sailor be merry when he has got into port, after long tossing on the ocean; they will let the politician be merry when, by fair means or foul, he has carried his candidate; but we who are always overcoming sin and driving devils or rescuing captives or gaining victories over the King's enemies, we soldiers of the Cross must be always solemn, and melancholy, and awful, and have our hearts in our shoes, and our words must be few, antiquated, and learnt out of a book; and our songs all of the Old Hundred pattern.

No, we say, and say it thankfully, that we have not been taught religion after this fashion. If, when slaves find freedom, and tradesmen make fortunes, and kindred, or friends, or neighbours are delivered from some threatened calamity, it is allowable to go mad with joy, and to express it by hiring music, and beating drums, and letting off fireworks, and shouting till hoarse, and everybody says that is all right, then by the same rule, if you please, and whether you please or no, we are the slaves who have now our freedom, the people who have made our fortune; we are the men who have seen our kindreds and friends and neighbours saved from damnation; and therefore we have a right to be merry. We ought to be merry, we

should be hypocrites if we were not merry, but we are merry, and it is only natural and divine that we should express it; so bring out the music, new music, the merriest music; there's a time for everything, and this is the merry time. Now for the song; everybody sing—husbands, wives, children, neighbours, strangers—everybody sing—praise the Lord.'

'Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

'Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with string instruments and organs.

'Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high-sounding cymbals.'

And let the very trees of the field join in the chorus by clapping their hands.

What is the good of it all? Oh, it not only expresses the joy we possess, but it helps us along—not the words and sentiments only, but the music has a divine effect upon divinely influenced and directed souls. Music is to the soul what the wind is to the ship, blowing her onward in the direction in which she is steered. Now, sailor, look to your helm, here is a fair wind, and a stiff one too, right behind you. On you go, faster and faster. But mind you are going right, Captain; see to your compass, and consult the stars, and examine your chart; be sure, oh, be doubly sure that you are right, for, if you are steering wrong, the wind will soon carry you on to the rocks of destruction. All right! do you say? Then blow away, ye winds, this mariner has a tight ship and a good cargo, and he is steering her straight for port. Blow away, and blow him home.

Just so, my comrades, the course of our souls was once straight towards the Niagara of damnation; the music and merriment of the world was blowing us faster and faster towards it, but the Almighty fired the alarm guns, and we heard the signal, turned the ship round, and now we are sailing straight towards the port of glory. Do you want to go faster and faster, to rouse desire and stir up prayer, and strengthen faith? Then bring in the music, raise the song. Sing of other heroes and their doings. Sing of the victor of the cross. Sing of the blood and the fire, and the death shout, and the glory gates, and sing of everything that you have read about in your Bibles, or had revealed to you

One of my pleasures working in the editorial department has been access to material written by the Booths.

This year we have added a new historical feature, Basically Booth, which covers articles by various members of the Booth family on topics pertaining to spirituality and their views on spiritual gifts. I hope you enjoy their insight as much as I have.



June Knop  
Editor



**The Salvation Army... believes in being merry all the year round in general, and at special times in particular.”**

by the Holy Ghost, that has happened, or is going to happen, on the road to glory, or in the glory land when you get there.

Oh, if you are merry, sing, and sing on till you are merrier still, and every poor, trembling, doubting, weak-kneed soul about you loses his doubts and tremblings and is merry too.

We are not allowed to sing that tune or this tune, do you say? Indeed! Secular music, do you say, belongs to the Devil? Does it? Well, if it did I would plunder him of it, for he has no right to a single note of the whole seven. But we deny it. He's the thief; it is he that has stolen it, and in appropriating it we only get our own again. Every note, and every strain, and every harmony is divine, and belongs to us. Bye and bye, sin, and devils, and lost souls will only have the discords left; all the weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth will be theirs; and all the songs, and hallelujahs, and harmonies will be ours.

So consecrate your voices and your instruments. Bring out your cornets, and harps, and organs, and flutes, and violins, and pianos, and drums, and everything else that can make melody. Offer them to God, and use them to make all the hearts about you merry before the Lord.

Only let us, as far as possible, have harmony! Now harmony of soul must have much to do with harmony of voice, if it has not to do with harmony of instruments. It must be, that a man whose heart is in beautiful union and harmony with the will and purposes of God, and, consequently, full of heavenly merriment, must be far better conditioned for making merry and heavenly sounds. There must be, at least, something pleasing to God and men and the soul of the musician in such correspondence. So, this Christmas, let us all get into tune, and let there be this heavenly correspondence between the inside heart instrument and the outside voice, or whatever other instrument the merry sounds may be produced upon.

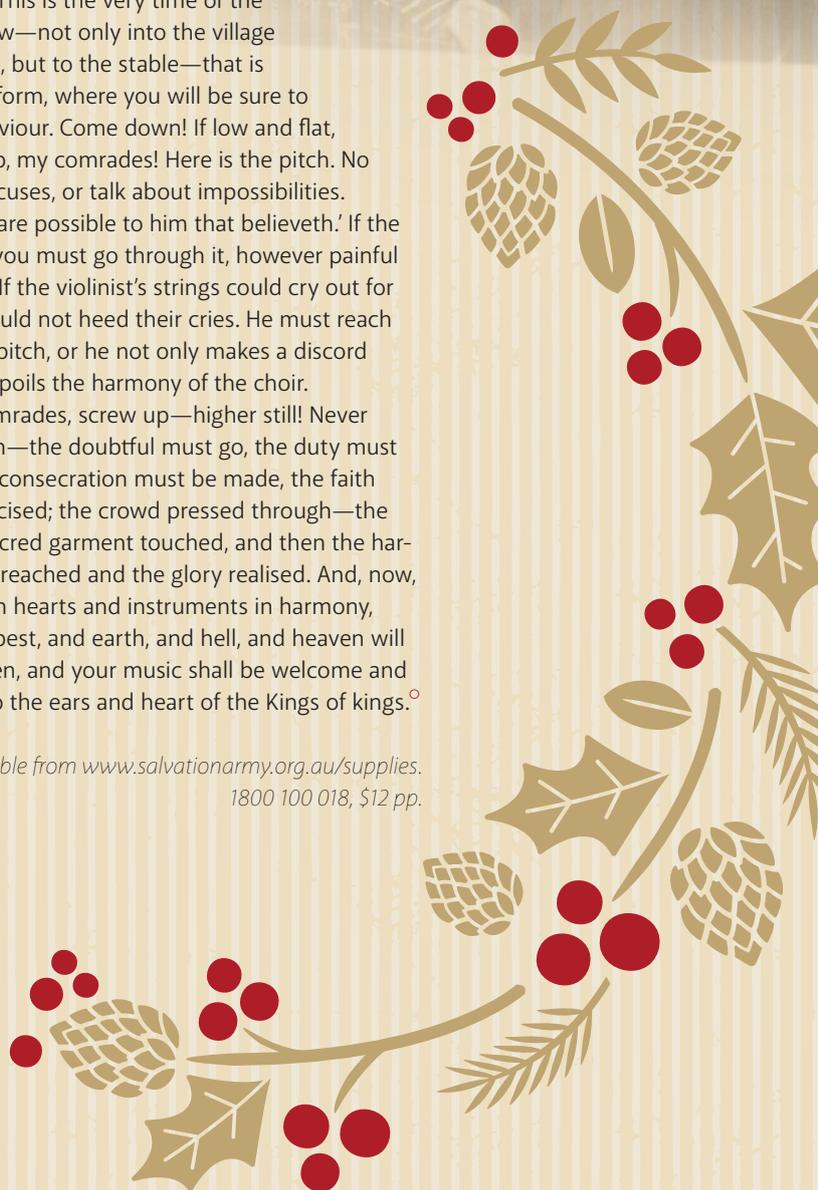
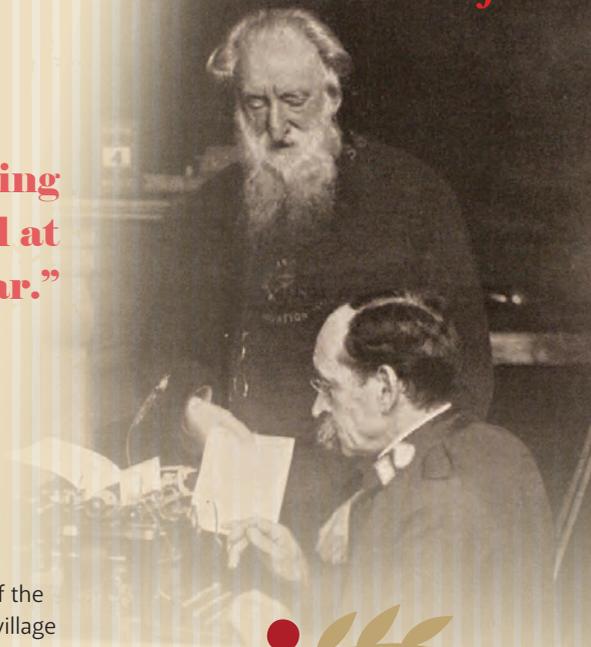
There is a stale, old argument used by the gentile world about forgiving your enemies and rubbing off grudges, and all that sort of thing, as being a peculiarly gracious duty to be practised at Christmas time. That does not apply to our ranks, surely? Your Salvation Army people don't burden themselves with the

memory of grudges and enmities. They forgive as they go along. But before the Lord there are some who, on trying their hearts by the great inspired tuning fork, the Word of God, will find they are too high—too sharp! To these we say, come down. This is the very time of the year to get low—not only into the village of Bethlehem, but to the stable—that is the penitent form, where you will be sure to meet your Saviour. Come down! If low and flat, then come up, my comrades! Here is the pitch. No apologies, excuses, or talk about impossibilities.

'All things are possible to him that believeth.' If the gate is strait you must go through it, however painful the squeeze. If the violinist's strings could cry out for mercy, he would not heed their cries. He must reach the required pitch, or he not only makes a discord himself, but spoils the harmony of the choir.

So, my comrades, screw up—higher still! Never mind the pain—the doubtful must go, the duty must be done, the consecration must be made, the faith must be exercised; the crowd pressed through—the hem of his sacred garment touched, and then the harmony will be reached and the glory realised. And, now, strike off, with hearts and instruments in harmony, and do your best, and earth, and hell, and heaven will gather to listen, and your music shall be welcome and gladdening to the ears and heart of the Kings of kings.<sup>o</sup>

*\*Available from [www.salvationarmy.org.au/supplies](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/supplies).  
1800 100 018, \$12 pp.*



## As the Joyful Intercessors prepare for commissioning they share their thoughts on past experiences and the days ahead.

### Cadet Shannon Watson

What would you share with those considering officership?



There's a lot that's been said and written about 'the call'. From what I understand, Billy Booth asserted that every Christian is called to ministry...but most haven't heard it yet. I can't testify to a 'lightning bolt call' that compelled me into officership. Rather, I simply saw a job that needed doing, trusted God to provide the means, and got stuck into it.

Of course, not everyone is suited to the complex demands of officership, but I suggest that there are many families who do have the capacity to step out of their comfort zones and accept the challenge. The question is: are you willing to give God the chance to show you how faithful he is to those who trust him fully?

Adventure and a multitude of experiences await those families who are willing to accept the challenge of full-time ministry. Go for it!

### Cadet Laronie Thompson

What are you particularly looking forward to in your new appointment?



When I think of my upcoming appointment, there are several things that come to mind immediately: meeting new people, sharing life with those in the local community and building life relationships with others. The gift that is given in building those life relationships humbles me. I look forward to taking the time to enjoy the beauty of God's creation in nature and how as individuals we interact with it.

I am looking forward to the personal

and spiritual growth that will come from being in a missional community. In particular, being vulnerable together to build a stronger community, with a focus on becoming a part of God's Kingdom in the local communities of Western Port, really excites me.

God will reveal his work and the people who are carrying it out. I look forward to joining in and being open to the challenges that this will surely bring.

### Cadet Dale Allan

How has college equipped you for ministry ahead?



In the 650 days (give or take) since moving to the college I have had my life turned upside down and shaken up and then reloaded. I have learned so many things not only about myself, but also about my faith and my calling.

While classes at the training college have taught me many valuable things—spiritual formation, theology, preaching, leadership, personal health, history and many more—there have been lessons in everything I have done. Every person and experience that I have come across during the past two years has helped prepare me for what may lie ahead. All the corps folk, social centre participants and clients, pub ministry, mentors and everyone in between have given me some of the greatest knowledge and experiences I could ever have asked for.

### Cadet Tracy Watson

What has surprised you during training?



One thing that has surprised me during my training is how well my young three boys have adapted to the college lifestyle.

When we arrived at CBC our youngest son Alby was only six months old. In our first year, due to class and study requirements (and our only family support being in Qld and Tassie), Alby needed to go to child care five days a week. I'd been a stay-at-home mum for my other two sons Henry and Billy, so the prospect of sending Alby to day care presented a big challenge for me.

However, Alby settled in amazingly well with the help of two wonderful educators at the child care centre around the corner. Henry and Billy made friends quickly at their new school and travelled together on the college bus each morning with the other 'college kids'.

Now that families live in normal conditions at college, home life has just gone on as usual. Thanks to God, our boys are thriving and life is an adventure.

### Cadet Kahlia McIntosh

How has the Lord helped you cope with the challenges of college and officership ahead?



Since entering college I have been faced with many challenges and have at times wondered if I can really do this. If I were to be honest, if it were solely up to me, the answer would be no. But at each hurdle I have had to face God has provided me with everything I have needed to get me through.

I am excited for the future and all that will be in store for me as the assistant corps officer at Brimbank City Corps. I have no doubt that there will again be challenges that alone I will not be able to face but I know that God will equip me with all I need to be the best officer I can be. I can, without a doubt, say that my life has been and will be in God's hands.

**Cadet Fi Allan**

What are you looking forward to in your new appointment?

The things I'm looking forward to the most are meeting the people I will be working with and being fully immersed in ministry. I'm

looking forward to discovering my new community and making connections with businesses, schools, social groups and the like, and discovering how I can work with these people to make our community an even better place to be.

I'm also really looking forward to becoming involved with the children's and women's ministries and working with the leaders already working there to further understand the ways we can support, encourage and empower everyone in the community. Overall, I am looking forward to getting to know my new neighbourhood and how I can come alongside and support those already there to make it the best place it can be.

**Cadet Alexis Mapleback**

What would you share with those considering officership?

Whilst it may sound negative, I would strongly urge those considering officership to think very seriously about that decision. There is

so much you don't consider when you start this journey: how will it impact your family, your friends, your health (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual), and whether or not you really are okay with everything The Salvation Army is and stands for. Whilst a calling may seem like enough to make you say yes, there will be days where it is hard, and if you

have doubt coming in, those doubts aren't going to go away.

Saying yes to officership can be the greatest adventure you will ever embark on, but before you sign on the dotted line make sure you know yourself, know those closest to you, and know what it is you are entering into.

**Cadet Elizabeth Kang**

What has surprised you during training?

Through my journey for training to officership and ministry, God has surprised me in many ways and he continues to reveal

his plans in my life. When faced with the distressing news of my father's critical illness in South Sudan this year, I did not give up my training for ministry, but instead re-affirmed God calling in my life.

God continues to gather people around me in times of distress and challenges, offering support, prayer, encouragement and comfort in many different ways. When I look back where I was I thank God for my life has been transformed. My training is going very well and God continues to uplift me in many different areas. Everything is in God's hands and he is in control in my life. I wouldn't achieve anything without God guidance through this journey. I am grateful because I am serving a living God whose work is evident in my life.

**Cadet Reak Deng**

How do you feel your background will help you in the days ahead?

During these two years God has surprised me in many different ways. I have gained knowledge and understanding

about TSA work and mission. Training is challenging when it comes to the educational part but God is always there beside me, providing people for support in the right time.

I am thankful for God's mighty works and the transformation in my life. I have experienced the blessing of God in my life through challenges. God's calling into my life is still the same and my passion to serve him is growing even more than before. In my future ministry I will continue serving God with the same passion that he has placed in my heart to partner with him in his mission in this kingdom, on this Earth here and now. God is the God of surprises.

**Cadet Gemma Keogh**

How has college equipped you for ministry ahead?

My first thought after seeing this question was: how could I answer sufficiently, I hadn't begun ministry and therefore couldn't know what had

worked and what hadn't. But rather than simply leaving it at that, I decided to think about how things have changed, for me and within me, during these last two years.

Because of the things I've done and experienced during college I have matured in my faith, expanded my knowledge and discovered things about myself that I might not have if I wasn't in this situation.

If you're looking for an exact moment or event that has changed everything for me in ministry, you won't find it here. Instead you will see a person who is committed, even more so, to living a life worthy of her God. So in answer to the question: it has helped show me who I am and how I work.◦



# One mission, one language

New vision statements reflect common heart

Friends and colleagues,

As we move forward on the Australia One journey, one of the things I will continually say is that this venture is not about 1+1=2, it's about 1+1=new.

I firmly believe that our two current territories have a common heart. As I speak with Salvationists, employees and volunteers, the visions and the ideas that motivate us are overwhelmingly the same. It's clear that there are many more similarities than differences in how we go about our mission.

But while we share the same heart and passion, the language for describing mission is different for each territory. In order to help us move forward, we need a common language for our united mission.

With the support of the two chief secretaries, a small group of Salvationists from each territory has come up with this new language. I want our mission to be articulated by the grass-roots, so while our executive teams have had opportunity to provide input, it is this working group of Salvationists who own the wording.

It is vital to me that we honour the past as we move forward into this next chapter of doing mission together. One of the things that the working group has done is to carefully consider the previous mission language from both territories to ensure we carry forward everything of importance from the past. The results have been approved by the Australia One Steering Committee, cabinet secretaries, and divisional commanders from both territories.

On behalf of all these officers around Australia, I am pleased to share with you the new National Mission and Values Statements for The Salvation Army in Australia. These statements sit under the umbrella of The Salvation Army's International Mission Statement and International Vision Plan, working together to explain our mission for an Australian context.

We look forward to sharing more about the mission and values language in the near future, and if you have any questions then please head to the website and don't hesitate to get in touch.

Commissioner Floyd Tidd  
National Commander



## The Salvation Army Australia

National Mission  
Statement

National Values  
Statement



The Salvation Army is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus by:

### Caring for people

- Being there when people need us most
- We offer care and compassion as a sacred encounter with transformative potential.

### Creating faith pathways

- Taking a holistic approach to the human condition that values spirituality
- We graciously share the Good News of Jesus and grow in faith together.

### Building healthy communities

- Investing ourselves in relationships that promote mutual flourishing
- We find the wholeness God intends for us in community.

### Working for justice

- Tackling the social systems that harm creation and strip away human dignity
- We join God's work to build a fairer world where all can thrive.

Recognising that God is already at work in the world, we value:

### Integrity

- Being honest and accountable in all we do

### Compassion

- Hearing and responding to pain with love

### Respect

- Affirming the worth and capacity of all people

### Diversity

- Embracing difference as a gift

### Collaboration

- Creating partnerships in mission

We commit ourselves in prayer and practice to this land of Australia and its people, seeking reconciliation, unity and equity.



## Questions & Answers

### **WHY HAVE NEW MISSION AND VALUES STATEMENTS BEEN CREATED?**

While the two existing territories have a common heart and passion for mission, there have been differences in the language used in each territory to articulate this mission. In the context of Australia One, it quickly became apparent that a common language for mission was required. Without a common language for mission, conversations would be more difficult and we would waste considerable time and energy through misunderstanding and miscommunication. A common language for mission and values will assist leaders at all levels in facilitating productive conversations about moving forward towards a new national territory.

### **What do the new mission and value statements replace?**

The National Mission Statement replaces the 'Gowans Triad' (Save Souls, Grow Saints, and Serve Suffering Humanity) as well as the 'Freedom Language' in Australia Eastern. It replaces the four 'Mission Intentions' in Australia Southern. The National Values Statement replaces 'Transformation, Integrity, Compassion' in Australia Eastern, and 'Human Dignity, Justice, Hope, Compassion, Community' in Australia Southern. Some of these previous messages may still have artistic use in specific contexts, but they will no longer be considered the 'official' articulation of The Salvation Army's mission or values.

### **When do the new mission and value statements come into effect?**

The new Mission and Values Statements are available for use immediately.

### **Where will the new mission and values statements be used?**

The Mission and Values Statements are primarily internal messages. They are to be used by officers, employees, volunteers and Salvationists to ensure that our individual activities and resources are aligned to the ethos of The Salvation Army. Further information is available from [mission.AustraliaOne.info](http://mission.AustraliaOne.info)

### **How do I use the new mission and values statements?**

A handbook to assist is available from [mission.AustraliaOne.info](http://mission.AustraliaOne.info)

### **Am I required to use the new mission and values statements in my local context?**

We recognise that many local corps and centres already articulate The Salvation Army's mission in a way that is appropriate to their context. We encourage you to table the new statements for discussion with your local leadership teams. If it is possible to transition to using the new National Vision and Values Statements then we encourage you to do so. If there is already a well-established articulation of mission used in your context then that is okay to continue, provided that it is not contradictory to the National Mission and Values Statements. In these circumstances, local leaders and leadership teams should keep in mind that they may still be required to provide reports and display accountability using the language of the National Mission and Values Statements.

To learn more about the new National Mission and Values Statements, please visit the website at [mission.AustraliaOne.info](http://mission.AustraliaOne.info)



**This is not about 1+1=2, it's about 1+1=new."**

# Celebrating onfire

The first *On Fire* welcome column.  
Fire one

Welcome to this new initiative in communication between Salvationists of the Australia Southern Territory, the publication of *On Fire: Mission and Ministry*. This is your magazine. We encourage participation in whatever way you can. The mission statement of *On Fire: Mission and Ministry* is to share the mission of The Salvation Army and to encourage participation in its ministry and deepen personal faith.

Above all, it will seek to communicate what the living Lord Jesus Christ is pleased to be doing in and through The Salvation Army. Christ is bringing people to him, encouraging the pursuit and experience of holiness through the Holy Spirit, and captivating the energies of women and men to make known the love of the Father.

*The War Cry* will no longer carry the usual corps and social centre news, promotion to glory reports and other internal Salvation Army news. *On Fire* will now feature these articles. *On Fire* will be a vehicle of communication between Salvation Army territorial leadership and the soldiers, adherents and friends of the Army. Dialogue through its pages will be encouraged, so that Salvationists may share the joys and burdens of faith development and Christian ministry, in a way worthy of God's people. Thank God, a lot of good things are happening in the Army. We want to share this

good news for the glory of God and the salvation of the people.

The editorial staff is committed to assisting people with the production of corps reports, testimonies, social services developments, new initiatives, theological reflection, Bible study and the like. We can be contacted by post, email, facsimile and telephone. If, for example, there is someone with a testimony, we have recording facilities to tape telephone interviews which we can use to put together an article. There is space for advertising at reasonable rates. It's important to realise that events planned for a particular state are of interest to interstate people too. People have been known to travel from Perth to Melbourne just for a football grand final, let alone something important!

Photographs will now be in colour! Sharp, clear images are needed and the editorial staff is able to offer advice and help to make sure photos can be printed satisfactorily. We have information about use of digital technology too.

This publication is in its early stages of development and we ask for your help and prayer support.



**I**n 1998, as editor-in-chief Lieut-Colonel Pam Trigg began considering *The War Cry's* format—what had worked in the past and what could be achieved in the future—she realised that it was trying to serve two distinct readerships, Salvationists and non-Christians. In fact, she concluded that these two readerships would be better served with two distinct publications aimed specifically at their interests. This idea was not new and a move in this direction had already happened in the UK, US and Canada. While it met with some resistance from long-time readers of *The War Cry*, it was a timely decision.

Discussions ensued and Commissioner Doug Davis, territorial commander at the time, reflected particularly on the choice of name:

'I cannot recall now their suggested title but I felt it lacked punch so I suggested 'Blood and Fire' with the subtitle 'Mission and Ministry'. I got real push-back from the editorial team and this led to a discussion with Pam that came to the final result with which I felt very well satisfied. I consider the end result to be better than either the department's or my own initial suggestion. It seems the team were happy with my sub-title which I chose to guide the writers in their selection of topics for articles to inspire and inform a Salvationist readership.'

The first issues of the new *Warcry* (moving from three words, *The War Cry*, to one) and the new magazine *On Fire* were released on 5 February 2000. That, of course, was 16 years and 277 editions ago.

Major Robert Paterson was the first editor of *On Fire* and I'm sure you'll enjoy a walk down memory lane as you look at our time line of editors-in-chief, editors, writers and covers.

Richard Lewis was the graphic designer responsible for *On Fire* production for more than 14 years. Aaron Mills—*Kidzone* designer—took over this position temporarily late in 2015 and was responsible for *On Fire's* new look and style. Esther Cho joined us at the beginning of 2016, replacing Aaron, and brought *On Fire* online (full editions are available online free of charge).

The online presence at onfiremag.com has almost doubled our readership since mid-year, with the July online edition alone reaching 4,800 people. It's amazing to see hits from across the globe.

*On Fire* has served our territory well, sharing coverage of events, stories and ministries over the years. There are those like Commissioner Davis, however, who remember when *The War Cry* covered these from a national perspective, and missed reading about the Eastern Territory. I'm happy to announce that as of February 2017 a new internal national magazine will be launched (name yet to be decided), and once again Salvo news from all over Australia will be shared in the same publication.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to *On Fire* over the years and as we look forward to the new magazine we also look forward to your continued input. ◊

June Knop



### Subscription information

For those who have an annual subscription to *On Fire*, your order will automatically carry over to the new national magazine. A letter will be sent to individual subscribers and corps with additional information.



## On Fire farewell—Timeline

**5 Feb 2000**

First issue of *On Fire*  
 Editor-in-Chief  
 Lieut-Colonel  
 Pam Trigg  
 Editor Major  
 Robert  
 Paterson  
 Sub-editors Captain  
 John Evans and Jessica  
 Stokes  
 Designers Jane Brownrigg  
 and Richard Lewis



**10 Feb 2001**

Jen Vuk  
 becomes  
 production  
 editor



**24 Feb 2001**

New masthead appears

**14 July 2001**

Assistant to editor: Captain  
 John Evans  
 Staff writer:  
 Barry Gittins  
 Designer:  
 Richard Lewis



**June 2002**

Captain  
 John Evans  
 becomes  
 editor  
 Barry Gittins becomes  
 assistant editor  
 Major Tracey English  
 becomes sub-editor



**25 Jan 2003**

Major Leanne  
 Ruthven  
 becomes editor  
 (previously the  
 editor of *Warcry* for three  
 years)



**4 October 2003**

Major Tracey  
 English becomes  
 editor



**10 July 2004**

On site printing at Citadel  
 Press is closed. Magazines  
 printed at BPA print Group  
 (now Focus) in Burwood  
 from then on

**15 July 2004**

Barry Gittins becomes  
 features/supplement editor

**22 Jan 2005**

Major Laurie  
 Robertson  
 becomes editor-  
 in-chief



**2006**

Barry Gittins  
 becomes editor  
 Captain Mal  
 Davies becomes  
 features and supplements  
 editor



**2007**

Editorial Department moved  
 to Prospect Street, Box Hill

**2008**

Faye Michelson  
 becomes  
 deputy editor



**Feb 2008**

Editorial Department moves  
 to 95-99 Railway Road,  
 Blackburn

**Jan 2009**

Captain  
 Mal Davies  
 becomes acting  
 editor-in-chief  
 Captain June Knop becomes  
 editorial assistant



**29 August 2009**

Lieut-Colonel Pam Trigg  
 returns from retirement as  
 interim editor

**2010**

Captain Mal Davies becomes  
 editor-in-chief

**Feb 2010**

Journalist Linda Hogan joins  
 the team

**8 May 2010**

Linda Hogan  
 becomes  
 interim editor  
 Ryan O'Connell  
 becomes deputy editor  
 Captain Mal Davies takes on  
 additional appointment as  
 acting editor



**March 2012**

Julia Hosking  
 becomes editor



**June 2014**

David Goodwin  
 becomes  
 deputy editor



**Jan 2015**

Captain June  
 Knop becomes  
 editor-in-chief  
 pro tem



**Feb 2015**

David Goodwin becomes  
 editor

**Sep 2015**

Captain June Knop takes on  
 additional appointment as  
*On Fire* editor  
 Aaron Mills  
 becomes  
 designer



**January 2016**

Dr Bruce  
 Redman  
 becomes editor-  
 in-chief  
 June Knop  
 becomes  
 assistant editor-  
 in-chief  
 Esther Cho takes over  
 the design of *On Fire*



**4 Dec 2016**

Last edition of *On Fire*

## WINIFRED HOPE COULL

Winifred Hope Mawson—Hope, as she was affectionately known—was born at Port Pirie in South Australia in 1930 to Salvation Army officer parents, Brigadier Arthur and Gertrude Mawson. Her elder brothers were John, Arthur and Frank.



As the child of officer parents, the family moved from corps to corps, with the family finally settling in Camberwell.

In 1950, Hope travelled to the UK for a Salvation Army youth congress as a timbrelist and to visit relatives. It was during this visit that she met her future husband David Coull.

Hope returned to Australia in 1951 with David, and the Coull family.

David and Hope were married at Camberwell citadel in 1953 and settled in Burwood (Vic.). They proudly reared four children, Karen (deceased), Ian, Kevin (deceased) and Pamela.

Hope was known to be and spoken of as a gracious, warm and loving person with a special gift of hospitality, welcoming all who came into her life and home.

She was a lifetime Salvationist at the Hawthorn and Waverley Corps where she was loved as a dedicated and faithful servant of her Lord. Over the years she served as a Sunday school teacher, a member of the timbrel brigade, a songster, and president of the women's auxiliary. Hope also loved playing netball.

In employment she worked at Arnotts and the E.W. Clarke fish shop at Prahran market (a Salvationist family business from Hawthorn Corps). Hope was also a student of the art of macramé, a water colour painter and an avid knitter. She was an accomplished seamstress, and an award-winning scone-maker.

David and Hope's partnership of 63 years was marked by their love and devotion to each other.

Winifred Hope Coull was promoted to Glory on 25 August. A thanksgiving service and celebration of her life was conducted by niece Fiona Beermier, at Waverley Temple on 30 August.

Hope will always be remembered for her fun-loving sense of humour and the mischievous twinkle in her eye.

Jason Coull (grandson) read from 1 Corinthians 13:4–7, 'Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.'

Bronwyn Coull (granddaughter) read a poem. The corps tribute was given by Dell Harvey, and close family friend Gillian Vince gave a personal tribute. The family tribute was presented by Jeremy and Alasdair Coates (grandchildren) and a further family tribute by Pam Vince (daughter) and Ian Coull (son).

Hope Coull was very well respected. She loved her Lord, and served God with character and distinction. Well done, good and faithful servant.

## BRUCE WAVELL FOYNES

Bruce Wavell Foynes was born on 15 January 1941 to Don and Francesca Foynes. He grew up with his brother Desmond in the suburbs of Perth and attended Perth Fortress Salvation Army. Bruce's conversion took place in May 1959 when he was 18 years of age and he worked in the Western Australia Postal Service. In 1971, Bruce left Perth and headed to The Salvation Army Training College in Melbourne to commence his training with The Light Bringers session.



While at the Training College, Bruce met cadet Jennifer Fiegert who was in the previous session of cadets. Following his commissioning, Bruce was appointed to Orbost Corps (Vic.). In January 1975 Bruce and Jenny were married at Canterbury Corps (Vic.) and commenced their joint-officership at Busselton Corps, followed by Northam and Albany Corps (WA). During these years, they welcomed Darren, Vanessa and Sarah into their family.

In January 1982 the Foynes family moved to Melbourne and took up an appointment at Briar Hill Corps and Brendan was born later that same year. Further appointments followed at Mooroolbark Corps and Moonee Ponds Corps before returning to 'The West' to Swan View Corps. In each of these appointments, Bruce loved to preach the word of God.

In 1992, Bruce and Jenny moved into family support services and prison pastoral care work, where their caring and compassionate natures continued to impact the lives of many people. Jenny's battle with cancer took hold during these years and Bruce, Jenny and the family fought this battle bravely. Jenny was promoted to Glory in July 1996.

Bruce continued to minister amongst the men of the Perth prison with his deep caring concern and a compassionate heart, particularly for those suffering from substance abuse. Bruce retired from active service in February 2006 and continued as an 'active retired' officer in the prisons until 2013. Even to his very end, he continued to work to make a difference in people's lives.

Bruce is described as a 'big man with a big heart' who loved his family with all his heart and served God by serving others—particularly those who could be overlooked by others.

Major Bruce Wavell Foynes was suddenly called home to be with Jesus on Thursday 25 August. He was 75 years of age.

Our love, sympathy and prayers are with the family—children Darren and Charlene, Vanessa and Rob, Sarah and Duncan, Brendan and Amanda, and his nine grandchildren, brother Desmond, extended family and friends.

*Ours is not a distant God, remote, unfeeling,  
Who is careless of our loneliness and pain,  
Through the ministry of men he gives his healing,  
In their dedicated hands brings hope again.*

John Gowans (1934 –2012), SB 10

A funeral service for the life of Major Bruce Foynes was held at Perth Fortress Corps on 2 September, conducted by Bruce's very dear friend, Lieut-Colonel Ian Hamilton.

## GLEENDA BORG

Glenda Leanne Borg was born in Richmond (Vic.) on 14 June 1961, one of four children, the second child and only daughter of Ronald and Avril Hallett, sister to Graeme, Bruce and Brian.

Early in Glenda's life the family moved to Ringwood and transferred to the Canterbury Corps. Glenda made a commitment to the Lord and she became very active in the corps sections.

Being the only girl in a family of boys, Glenda soon became proficient at backyard cricket and football. She was always prepared to have a go and excelled in Salvation Army netball and basketball competitions. Glenda was always up for a laugh and was consistently the life of the party.

Glenda had a knack of making friends with all she met. Once you became a friend you were a friend for life. She was generous, caring and loving. Glenda left school and commenced working for a small grocery chain called S.E. Dickens. She started as checkout chick and worked her way up to become an assistant manager of the Camberwell store.

One night after attending an Army gathering she stopped off at McDonald's on the way home. She was being robbed and another customer took special care to look after her. He asked for her phone number to ring her later to make sure that she was alright. This is how she met the love of her life and soulmate Tony Borg.

Glenda married Tony in 1985 and together they had three beautiful boys, Simon, Christopher and Mark. Glenda and Tony raised their family in the Catholic tradition and Glenda still kept her love for God and her Salvation Army roots.

Motherhood was a role that she embraced with enthusiasm and she was cut out to be a great mum. She supported the boys in all their youthful endeavours especially their music. All three are talented musicians and she was extremely proud of all they achieved.

In 2005 Tony was diagnosed with terminal cancer and over the next two years Glenda showed her love and devotion by becoming his full-time carer. As with everything she did, she cared for Tony to the best of her ability until his passing in 2007.

Glenda re-joined the workforce soon after and began working in the payroll office at THQ. Again she made friends quickly and her workmates became her second family. She was the social organiser, coffee-getter, carer, friend and confidant to many.

After her father's recent passing it was thought Glenda was suffering from depression, but further investigation confirmed a brain cancer that took her life just six weeks after diagnosis.

Glenda was promoted to glory on 10 October from Caritas Christi hospice. A funeral/thanksgiving service was conducted by Lieut-Colonel Robyn Clinch and Father Greg Reynolds at Ringwood Salvation Army. Reunited with her Tony, her Dad and her Lord.



## MAJORS CHRIS AND STEVE BLACK

In January 2017, Majors Christine and Steve Black will retire as Salvation Army officers. It will be 30 years since they were commissioned as Lieutenants from the Proclaimers of the Gospel session of cadets. Three decades of officership is a wonderful achievement and God is given the glory for all that has been achieved during this time. However, what is particularly special about these two officers is that they have spent all of their 30 years as corps officers.

Recognised as bright and outgoing people who are lively and creative in their meeting leadership and preaching, Steve and Christine have given of themselves wholeheartedly in helping people experience the love of Jesus, see the joy of the Lord in their living, be challenged by their preaching, developed through their leadership and genuinely listened to.

Before life as an officer, Steve was a carpenter (like another great servant of God) and Chris was caring for their young family of four boys—Aaron, Anthony, Andrew and Cameron. They entered the Training College in Melbourne from their home corps of Rosebud (Vic.).

Following their two years of training and their commissioning as lieutenants, Steve and Chris were appointed to Northam Corps (WA). Three years later, in January 1990, they moved south of Perth to Hamilton Hill Corps where they remained for five years.

Returning to Melbourne in 1995, they commenced their six-year appointment at the Briar Hill Corps, later to be known as the Greensborough Corps (Vic.). An international appointment to New Zealand followed, where they were appointed as corps officers at the Wellington South Corps for their three-year term.

A return to the Australia Southern Territory saw them appointed to the Moreland City Corps (Vic.) for four years and then another four-year term at Mount Gambier Corps (SA). Their final appointment, since January 2012, has been at Mooroolbark Corps (Vic.), where they led the corps through a building project and are now ministering and worshipping in their new worship centre.

Every corps appointment has brought its opportunities, challenges, blessings and disappointments. As corps officers, Christine and Steve have preached hundreds of sermons, nursed babies being dedicated, sat with countless families as they farewelled their loved ones, celebrated the marriages of many people from their local communities and impacted more lives than they will ever know on this side of Heaven.

Described as 'people who get things done' whilst being able to motivate and engage with people effectively, Christine and Steve have always felt called to corps officership. Throughout these years, God has continued to strengthen, sustain, hold and transform them more and more into the likeness of Jesus.

Well done, good and faithful servants!

Christine and Steve's retirement will be celebrated on Sunday 8 January 2017 at Mooroolbark Salvation Army, 305 Fletcher Road, Chirnside Park at 10 am.°



*Come,  
let us adore Him*



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

# What if they banned Christmas?

Could you imagine if Christmas was banned—how could we live without it? Yet it has happened in the past.



In 1585 Scottish Presbyterians banned Christmas for 400 years. Well into the 20th century Scots worked on Christmas Day. In 1647 the English Parliament, at the instigation of the Puritans, banned Christmas.

These zealous Christians saw Christmas as ‘a popish festival with no biblical justification’, ‘a wasteful festival that threatened core Christian beliefs’, and ‘an immoral, riotous and drunken time’. On Christmas Day 1647, preachers were taken into custody for attempting to preach, shops and markets were kept open and one overly zealous minister went from house to house to make sure none of his congregation were consuming Christmas geese. The ban extended across the Atlantic to New England where a person could be fined five shillings (a large sum) for celebrating Christmas. The ban in the UK had such an impact that even after Christmas was reinstated in 1660, it remained a low-key affair for 200 years.

The atheistic leaders of the Soviet Union banned Christmas in the 20th century. Although they later relented, allowing the traditional customs of tree decorating and present giving to be attached to New Year celebrations, they were especially strict on banning the religious observance of Christmas. What if an Australian government legislated away the observance of Christmas today? Could we live without Christmas?

Big business and the advertising industry would naturally be up in arms. All the pre- and post-Christmas profits gone! But big business is shrewd. They would realise they have the benefit of an extra working day. What’s more, they would soon find another time to market gifts—perhaps the New Year or Australia Day? Within a short time there would be Australia Day gift advertising blaring from every TV, or high-pressure marketing to ensure you give the ones you love a new toy, a new perfume, a new iPad to begin the New Year. Big business has already conquered Father’s Day, Mother’s Day and Valentine’s Day. Why not introduce a Children’s Day as they do in China? The profits would soon roll in.

What about the vast amounts of people who celebrate a traditional secular Christmas? How could they live without Christmas trees, Christmas cards, Father Christmas, gift giving and family get-togethers? There would be an uproar! But people, like big business, are adaptable. Society would soon do a Christmas makeover of another day.

Father Time (dressed in a suspiciously similar costume

to Santa) could usher in the Baby New Year (perhaps even lying in a manger) to the accompaniment of ‘Auld Lang Syne’ and a host of newly written New Year carols. On the eve of 26 January, the Spirit of Australia could drive his sleigh pulled by six white boomers to every home, bringing patriotic joy and gifts to all the children. Instead of ‘chestnuts roasting on the open fire’, we could sing of ‘damper cooking in a wood-fired oven’ or ‘witchetty grubs baking on a red-hot barbie’. All the trappings and sentimentality of a secular Christmas could be transferred to some other day easily enough and within time everyone would be so caught up with decorating New Year’s trees or the traditional Australia Day family get-together BBQ that Christmas would no longer blip on the radar.

What then for Christians—how could they endure it?

Fortunately, Christ is not Christmas and Christmas is not Christ. Ultimately, Christmas is a ‘one day of the year affair’, but Christ is present all year round. Devoted followers of Christ might miss the traditional Christmas customs but these have no bearing on our faith. Our salvation does not rest on the celebration of Christmas but on the receiving of Jesus as Saviour. We could sing the great carols celebrating the coming of Christ into the world on another day. We could remember the wonder of his birth, the Eternal Word becoming flesh, in July or October or any time we read the story of his birth in Bethlehem as we regularly work through our Bibles.

We would still honour our parents by regularly keeping in touch with them rather than visiting on just one day of the year. It might even mean that the great truth of Immanuel—God with us, veiled in flesh—could be liberated from much of the sugary sentimental drivel Christmas smothered it with.

For the true follower of Jesus, peace and goodwill, love and joy are not restricted to Christmas; these are present realities to be experienced and communicated 365 days a year. For the first 300 years of the church, Christmas was not celebrated. The Gospels and the New Testament place a far greater stress on the death and resurrection of Jesus rather than his birth. The power of this greater event and the salvation that flows from it can be celebrated every Sunday, every meal, every time of private prayer.

We do not have to wait for Christ to come every year at Christmas. He has already come. Welcome him today!

*Major Colin Elkington*

...Christmas is a ‘one day of the year affair’, but Christ is present all year round.”



# IN THE *Public Eye*

**Territorial  
Public Relations  
Department**



**Issue 31 ■ December 2016**

## Greetings

History records that the founder of The Salvation Army, General William Booth, once sent a telegram to his officers around the world that carried only one word: *Others*. That single word captured the heart and inspired the purpose of the whole of that first generation of Salvationists.

Over the past year, The Salvation Army has been able to provide community services (emergency relief, counselling, youth support, hospitality, rehabilitation and advocacy) to over 21 million people around the world (2016 Year Book). And this significant support to those who are disadvantaged is only possible because countless Salvation Army supporters, donors and volunteers selflessly give of themselves and their resources in aid of...*others*.

Your commitment to The Salvation Army's endeavours is crucial today more than ever. In 2016 we have seen 37% of women who moved in the last 12 months did so because of family violence—an increasing blight of sadness and tragedy across our nation.

The Salvation Army's Public Relations Department has a comprehensive awareness of the work of the Salvos around the nation. We seek to then effectively communicate to fellow Australians something of the ongoing needs within our community and celebrate the successes that come along in meeting those needs.

A new campaign last year, *Be a Souperhero*, was run again in 2016 with higher levels of awareness and participation around the event. Personalities such as Fast Ed from *Better Homes and Gardens* lent their support to the endeavour and \$49,343.75 was raised—almost three times the previous year's result.

Our Schools Development teams continue to educate students about the realities of homelessness in Australia with presentations

at local schools around the country and tours in city centres highlighting the desperate need of disadvantaged people.

The highly successful short film competition launched last year, *Hidden Others*, was run again in 2016. Young people aged 12–18 were asked to create a short film to raise awareness of youth homelessness, and the resulting entries were outstanding. View the entries and winners at [facebook.com/YHShortFilmCompetition/](https://facebook.com/YHShortFilmCompetition/)

The Myer Give Registry was launched in August enabling people to purchase items of need identified specifically by victims of family violence. So far \$70,000 worth of gifts have been given with Myer matching that gift-for-gift, plus another \$20,000 in cash donations at Myer point-of-sale.

These have been exciting initiatives that have made a significant difference to so many different people in so many different ways.

We come now to Christmas—a time when demand on our services triples. For those with nowhere to go, not much to wear and maybe even less to eat, your generosity on their behalf has multiplied impact. The smile on their face and the cheer in their heart when they realise Christmas has also come to them, is worth the investment.

Thank you so much for your support, and have a truly blessed Christmas.

**Major Paul Hateley**  
Territorial Public Relations Secretary



# — YOU CAN GIVE — HOPE WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST

Christmas is prime-time family-time. It's pretty much a given at Christmas that, if you have family somewhere, you'll be there. For many, though, Christmas becomes irrevocably marred by family tragedy. This year's Christmas Appeal campaign focuses on the real-life story of Amy and her family—a family that was to lose their dad a week before Christmas.

## From heartache to hope

Amy, a young mother of two, was expecting their third child when her husband was diagnosed with a terminal illness. Up until then they were just a normal family doing ordinary things with hopes and dreams for a happy future together. But life soon became pretty tough and Amy found herself at The Salvation Army's Family Doorways centre.

As well as offering the family emotional support, the case worker and other members of the local corps became part of the family's life, helping care for the kids and providing material support.

Sadly, Amy's husband passed away a week before Christmas and just a month before his daughter was born.

Amy remembers that particular Christmas as a very trying time. She simply couldn't face doing normal things like going shopping with the kids and buying presents. The Salvos stepped in with Christmas hampers and lovely presents for the whole family.

'By giving something little, you may not be changing the world, but you are changing someone's world,' says Amy. She and her family now look forward with hope—even in the face of great loss—all because others around her cared enough to be there with her.



## Sleigh bells ringing... kookaburras laughing...

### In times of crisis, you can give HOPE where it's needed most

The Christmas season is such a season of celebration and joy—even renewal. There's a different atmosphere around—stronger overtones of optimism and generosity in the air.

This is why we can feel even more disturbed than normal by incidences of depravation, trauma and tragedy. We wish it could be different but we realise it's not going to be. The Christmas high season will also have more than its fair share of lows.

The bells ring and the kookaburras laugh but, for some, there isn't much celebration and Christmas is no laughing matter. This year we conducted a survey of our clients and found Christmas can be an especially hard time:

- 56% of our clients will be unable to afford presents for family and friends
- 30% have no opportunity to celebrate special occasions
- 14% of our families will not have a decent meal on Christmas Day

Christmas is the busiest time for the Salvos. We assist more than 300,000 Australians during this time and share a Christmas meal with almost 10,000 people. To keep doing this we're aiming to raise \$15 million nationally.

To read more about the 2016 Christmas Appeal:

 [salvationarmy.org.au/christmas](http://salvationarmy.org.au/christmas)

 [facebook.com/TheSalvationArmyAustralia](https://facebook.com/TheSalvationArmyAustralia)



# Become an *Agent of Hope* this Christmas

In years past, the Christmas season was often heralded by the sound of a local Salvation Army brass band playing carols around neighbourhood streets and in local shopping precincts. Anybody who played a brass instrument would get involved in spreading Christmas cheer and neighbours would gather together to hold a Christmas street party with the Salvo band on duty and donations raised for the cause.

While there may not be as many Salvo brass bands around these days, across our nation you'll find volunteers in shopping centres, main streets and at train stations playing and singing carols, wrapping Christmas gifts and distributing Christmas giveaways, like the Christmas *Warcry* calendar—always ready to receive donations from passers-by wanting to share the joy of the season.

**Get involved this Christmas and you can give hope where it's needed most!**

## Be an *Agent of Hope* through the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal

This is the 29th year of the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal. Gifts placed under the Christmas Tree at Kmart stores around Australia by members of the public are then distributed to individuals and families who come to our community support centres during December. These presents go a long way to brightening Christmas for someone in need.

**You can get involved by donating a present at Kmart stores around the country.**



## Be an *Agent of Hope* at Myer

Launched in August this year, the Myer Give Registry is a wonderful opportunity to be generous in the giving of a practical gift to a survivor of family violence.

**You can find details at [myer.com.au/c/give-registry/](http://myer.com.au/c/give-registry/)**

The 2016 *Spirit of Christmas* CD fundraiser by Myer is available again with the very best of Aussie artists donating their music in aid of The Salvation Army. The CD series has been going for more than 20 years, with over \$8 million raised for charity to date.

A total of \$505,055 was raised in 2015, and this year funds raised from the sale of the CD will go towards The Salvation Army's family violence work.

**The 2016 *Spirit of Christmas* CD is available in Myer stores, online or on iTunes from the beginning of November.**

## Be an *Agent of Hope* by giving a meal

There's something very wrong about someone going hungry at Christmas, and The Salvation Army's historic determination that no-one should ever be hungry is even more pronounced at Christmas. Over half of the people we see in our community support centres are unable to afford or eat even one substantial meal a day.

In the lead-up to Christmas we serve almost 10,000 meals to people—and this year our *10,000 Meals* campaign is back. We're asking the public to donate a meal to someone in need for \$10.

Last year enough funding for 8,928 Christmas meals was raised—up from 7,823 in the previous year.



# JUST gifts

Become an *Agent of Hope* for someone far away

Rather than stress this year over what to buy for that special friend who has everything, why not give them a gift that is actually given to someone else?

Why not give a gift to someone in another country—someone impoverished? Why not give a gift that keeps on giving—a gift that blesses both the receiver and the giver (your friend)?

This year the International Development team are giving you the opportunity to give a gift that can really make a difference—one that will be 'just what I always wanted!'

The JUSTgifts catalogue allows you to choose a gift—it could be a goat or a sewing machine, or even a toilet—but something that provides assistance to people struggling around the world.

For each gift you will receive a gift card to forward to your loved one or friend, who will be delighted to know they have helped give hope, justice and a sense of dignity to someone in need.

All money raised goes to The Salvation Army's international aid work.

For more information visit [salvationarmy.org.au/justgifts](http://salvationarmy.org.au/justgifts)

**TERRITORIAL  
PUBLIC RELATIONS  
DEPARTMENT**  
AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN TERRITORY



## All in a year's work

### 2016 in review

The Red Shield Appeal this year raised a total of \$36,673,000 in the Australia Southern Territory.

During 2016, funds raised through the Red Shield Appeal enabled The Salvation Army to provide:

- 712 social programs/activities
- 608,720 episodes\* of care across all our social programs
- 130,258 episodes of support for people experiencing financial difficulty
- 278,826 vouchers distributed to people in need
- 168,369 episodes of emergency and material aid support
- 29,019 episodes of specialised financial counselling to assist people in financial crisis
- 33,479 episodes of care to people experiencing family violence
- 219,020 occasions of support for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (23,094 people)

\*An episode refers to a contact on a single day of support.

More information on the work of The Salvation Army is available online from December through our 2016 Annual Report ([salvationarmy.org.au/annualreports](http://salvationarmy.org.au/annualreports))

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◀ **SALVOCONNECT WESTERN, VSSC NETWORK DIRECTOR JANET WHITE**

Mentors and staff gathered at Regent Cinemas on 21 October for the Ballarat Youth Awards. There was a warm atmosphere with great people supporting each other. The LARF mentoring program won the Group Project Award. Ex-mentee/current mentor Maggie accepted the award on behalf of LARF. Many smiles, excitement and celebratory selfies were included in our group celebration. Mentors who may have been nervous about being on stage came up and were a part of our great group. Everyone is excited to let all our mentees know that we won.

*L-R: LARF mentors Alice Nicholson, Greta Murdoch, Maggie Sellers, Emily Wade, Mike Young. Front: Erica Lubansky (LARF Coordinator) and Josephine (Erica's daughter).*

▶ **KINGS MEADOW CORPS, TAS. CAPTAIN JACKY LAING**

Rainbows of colour and squeals of laughter were abundant at the Kings Meadows Corps on 25 October, as CO Jacky Laing and corps folk met to celebrate Health and Wellbeing Week under the theme of 'Bring Colour to Your World'.

While listening to Psalm 19, we were inspired to express our interpretation of God's Word through painting with colours on canvas. The paintings were varied, each depicting God speaking to us—some reflective with soft, blended tones, while others blazed with bright bursts of colour.

Despite painting being a new experience for the majority of us, we embraced our newly discovered talents and had a most rewarding evening of fellowship together.



▶ **KANIVA/BROUGHTON, VIC. LIEUTS. CHRISTOPHER AND TRACY SUTTON**

On 8–9 October Kaniva Corps hosted the Waverley band and timbrels along with their corps officers, Majors Brad and Katrina Potter. On the Saturday afternoon they played a variety of music at the Kaniva show. Many of the locals appreciated the performance and hadn't seen a Salvation Army band and timbrel group before.

A concert was held on Saturday night at the shire hall in Kaniva, where a variety of items was presented, including the timbrels, a cornet trio, trombone solo, bass solo and vocal items.

The Sunday morning meeting, also at the shire hall, was a combined churches service with the Uniting Church and Church of Christ making up the congregation of more than 100 people. The theme of the meeting was based on the song 'Teach Me to Dance'—praising as God's people and moving in the power of the Spirit. Major Brad Potter and Envoy Bronwyn Bithell challenged listeners to take Jesus with us everywhere we go. The meeting was followed by a fellowship lunch.

▶ **MORWELL, VIC. LIEUT. ASHLEY PROCTOR**

Morwell Corps recently took part in Operation Christmas Child, with the Home League ladies taking on the special role of preparing donations. On Sunday 16 October people gave their contributions during a special offering section of the meeting. Ninety-six boxes have been donated. Our Jumble Shed also donates new items that come throughout the year, so that we can contribute more to Operation Christmas Child and bless the children and families that receive our donations

*L-R: Trevor Ronalds, Kaye Charalambous, Trish Ronalds, Zacheus Thomas and Lieut. Ashley Proctor.*



▶ **BENALLA CORPS, VIC. CAPTAINS RACHEL AND SEAN ATTARD**

Zoe Hussell and Josie Maxwell were very excited to be enrolled as junior soldiers at the Benalla Corps by Captain Sean Attard on Sunday 30 November.

*L-R: Front row: Edith Tszchanz, big bud to Zoe Hussell, Josie Maxwell with big bud Rebecca Daldy. Back row: Junior soldier leader Jennie Briggs, Keith Milburn and Captain Sean Attard.*



### STAWELL, VIC.

#### MAJOR CHRISTINE AGNEW

Stawell Corps celebrated the enrolment of Josephine Joynson as an adherent on 11 September and Ian Brauman on 2 October. Also on 11 September, Christine Agnew, along with corps member Sandra Fisher, presented a reconciliation print to the corps. The print was a gift to the corps from the division. Sandra is a member of the Gundidjmarra Aboriginal tribe.



### WYNDHAM CITY/WERRIBEE CORPS, VIC.

#### CAPTAINS KIM AND STEVEN HAWORTH

On Sunday 9 October, Wyndham City Corps enrolled two new adherents. Margaret Morel and Janet Wood both testified to the work of God in their lives and their sense of having 'come home' to the Wyndham City Corps. Wyndham City Corps hosted Empower for Women on Saturday 22 October, a one-day gathering of women for worship and empowering through facilitated learning and ministry in the Word. Forty-six women gathered together for the day with facilitators Captain Anne Jeffrey, Pastor Vanessa Ash and Captain Kim Haworth. Worship was provided by Jess Hutchinson, and Robyn Garbe shared her experience of walking the El Camino de Santiago. A second Empower event is scheduled for 24–25 March 2017. Sharon Moore was enrolled as an adherent on 23 October. Sharon has been on a journey of finding freedom and new life in Jesus. She is pursuing the abundant life in Christ and claiming his promises in her life.



### Commissioners Floyd and Tracey Tidd

December

- ② AUE Commissioning, Brisbane
- ⑧ AUS Covenant Day, CBC
- ⑪ AUS Commissioning, Plenary 2 MCEC
- ⑪ Festival of Mission, the Meat Market North Melbourne
- ⑱ Carols Tuggeranong, Canberra town park

### Colonels Graeme and Karyn Rigley

- ③ AUE Commissioning Brisbane
- ④ Wyndham City/Werribee Corps
- ⑧ Covenant Day, CBC
- ⑩ Commissioning Luncheon—Joyful Intercessors
- ⑪ Commissioning Plenary 2 MCEC
- ⑪ Festival of Mission, the Meat Market North Melbourne
- ⑫ TEC Christmas function

### Melbourne Staff Band

- ⑪ Commissioning

### Melbourne Staff Songsters

- ⑪ Commissioning

## about people

## Brian Hogg awarded citation of excellence

Former conductor of the Melbourne Staff Songsters and currently leader of the Territorial Big Band, Brian Hogg was awarded a citation of excellence from the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors Association (ABODA) in Sydney on 24 September.

This award, the highest award available in the association, was presented to Brian recognising his outstanding achievements as a composer, educator, performer and conductor in Australia and overseas.

Recipients of the citation of excellence have attained a national and international profile for their service to music in Australia, and are recognised as outstanding role models for developing ensemble directors.

As a composer Brian's work has been featured on festival lists and repertoire across Australia and the USA, and he has previously been awarded the ABODA Composer of the Year award twice. He has taught in state and private schools and is passionate about imparting his love for music and composing to the younger generation.

As well as participating in the Mooroolbark Corps brass band, Brian is the music publication consultant at THQ in Melbourne.

He has been commended by ABODA as 'a loving family man, a devoted friend and mentor, a man of deep faith and unimpeachable integrity'.



### BIRTHS

Congratulations to:

Majors Denis and Kathleen **White** (SAD) on the birth of their grandson, Blake **Logan**, born to son and daughter-in-law, Josh and Chelsea **White** on 19 October. Captains **Ruth** and Graham **White** are proud great-grandparents.

Commissioners Wesley and Margaret **Harris** on the birth of their great-grandson, Jacob **William**, born 6 November.

Majors Dennis and Thelma **McMillin** on the birth of their granddaughter, Juno, born 9 November.

### BEREAVED

Major Kylie **Kop** (CVD) was bereaved of her father, Laurie **Griffin**, who was promoted to Glory on 22 October (father-in-law to Major Mark Kop, CVD).

Major Bev **Watters** was bereaved of her sister, Ronnie (Veronica) Yates in WA, on 28 October.

Major Carolyn **Wright** (WVD) was bereaved of her mother on 28 October.

### APPOINTMENTS

**Effective 1 January 2017:** Major Christine **Wright**, chairperson, Victoria State Council (additional appointment).

**Effective 11 January 2017:** Captain Margaret **Colls**, assistant corps officer, Gosnells Corps, WAD, chaplain to retired officers (additional appointment).

## A friendly word from the Dept. of Youth



Listen up. You might be coming to Summer Carnival, but you probably haven't heard who is speaking at the event. We often have to keep it hush-hush and very quiet until it's official, but now we can tell you all about the speakers who will be sharing the good news. Finally, loudly and proudly, we are announcing our guest speakers for 2017!

First up, Fulton Hawk is returning again. Fulton and his family live in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he works with teens serving the poor through the Revolution training program. Fulton is also the founder of WARdrobe Apparel, a T-shirt company that uses cutting-edge design to raise money for disaster relief and support programs. Fulton's a member of the Summer Carnival family and this is his fourth year preaching at this party.

Second, we have Lisa Barnes, the divisional youth secretary from Phoenix, Arizona. Lisa was born in Vegas, the product of a one-night stand to a mother who was a prostitute and an addict. Lisa now lives passionately for Jesus and works for those who live on the margins of society. She's been married for 11 years and has two beautiful babies and a fat cat. Lisa also is the author of a book called *Love to a Whore's Daughter; Life and faith through the lens of grace and redemption*. This is Lisa's first time speaking at Summer Carnival.

Our final guest speaker is Rowan Castle. Rowan is husband to Rachael, father to Lily, Harriet and Elsie, and the Southern Territory director for emerging faith communities. Rowan was formerly the territorial youth secretary and not only a past speaker at Summer Carnival, but also one of the founding fathers of the event. Rowan loves playing guitar and drinking coffee.

We don't have to keep it quiet any more. Fulton Hawk, Lisa Barnes and Rowan Castle will be bringing the good news at Summer Carnival, loudly and proudly.

Listen up.

The Department of Youth



## God's gift



"The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!" (Mark 1:15).

The US election is over but it did seem to fill our feeds with all the unusual and offensive antics of its more colourful character for months on end. We elected a government here in Australia too (well, only just), and similar issues of inequality, racism and economic policy were part of the push and shove. Good governments have been on all our minds this year.

### Good government

Good governments are important. Good governments collect taxes and build roads and schools and support the less fortunate through the welfare system. Good governments can also protect our country and build its future. We need good governments to serve the citizens, but political systems are all too often involved with power and profit. Often governments can be involved in corporate agendas, corruption and unnecessary war. No matter how good a government is, it is never God's government.

### God's Kingdom

God once promised the people of Israel that they would have a divine government. A young shepherd named David was chosen as king (1 Samuel 16) and God promised him that Israel would be a holy kingdom (2 Samuel 7:16). The prophet Isaiah wrote of one of David's descendants, a divine representative of God, who would also become a king, this time over an eternal kingdom of peace, fairness and justice:

"The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine... For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!" (Isaiah 9:2, 6-7).

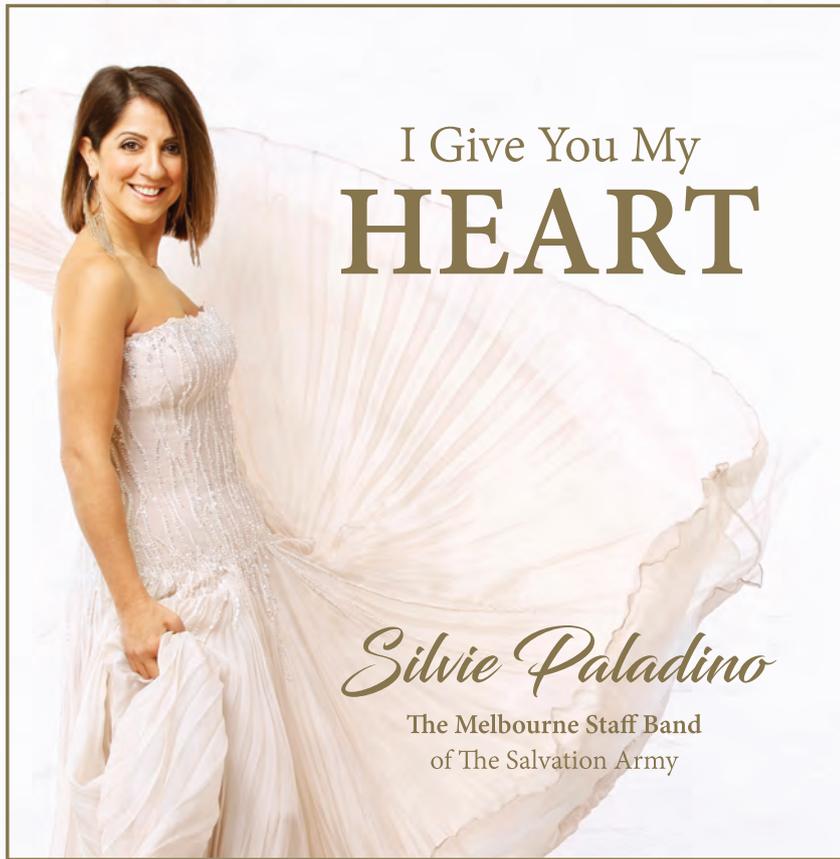
The promise of this child was fulfilled in the birth of Jesus (Luke 1:31-33). As Jesus began his ministry, he announced that the Kingdom of God had 'come at last'. When Jesus spoke of God's Kingdom, however, he didn't talk about politics but instead invited people to turn from their sin to God. Jesus taught us that God's Kingdom was not something to be seen but something that was already among us (Luke 17:21). The peace and justice that we might expect from good governments can first come from God's Kingdom, which begins with how we respond to the good news.

This Christmas, forget the politics for a time. When we celebrate the birth of Jesus we are remembering that he announced the gift of God's Kingdom. If we turn from sin and turn to God, then we can begin to build peace and justice among us, regardless of who is elected to form government. The promised time is here at last. The gift of God's Kingdom is here. ◦

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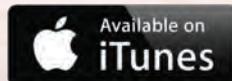


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