

pipeline

THE SALVATION ARMY
AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY
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GOD'S MIRACLE

BORN-AGAIN BIKER
RIDES WITH SALVOS



ARTICLES BY

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2014 WORLD CUP BRAZIL



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TEAM 2 : 26 JUNE - 13 JULY

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Photo: Shairon Paterson

COVER STORY

08 GOD'S MIRACLE

Simon Adamo is a biker whose heart is firing on all cylinders for Christ. He attends Westlakes Corps in Newcastle with several members of the Longriders Christian Motor Cycle Club and in this edition of *Pipeline* we share his story.

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Things are not always what they seem

"Don't judge a book by its cover" – we've all heard that saying and many of us have been found guilty of the prejudice which is at the heart of its meaning.

The famous quote was first stated in 1860 by English author George Eliot in her book *The Mills on the Floss* and has become a popular metaphor which can be extended to many situations in life.

I remember my grandmother saying to me and my brother when we were young boys: "Now, listen ... do not judge people or things by what they look like from the outside. People shouldn't be judged by how they look but be judged by their actions. Something very good can be inside them."

Our cover story this month could be considered a perfect example.

Simon Adamo, at first glance, epitomises the stereotype of a hardened biker. The media over the years has painted a rather bleak picture of bikers, with violent clashes and deadly feuds between such gangs as the Comancheros, Bandidos and Hell's Angels giving rise to an image of fear and hate.

Simon's exterior looks tough, even threatening to some. He has the beard, the tattoos, the leather jacket and the bike. But on the inside is a heart for God, a heart for family and friends and a heart for people in crisis, particularly homeless men.

Simon has an amazing story of transformation after

meeting Jesus in a most dramatic way. His inspiring story is told in this issue of *Pipeline*. Be encouraged as you read it and understand why he has retained his biker image for God.

The Bible also has something to say about this theme in 1 Samuel 16:6-7. It sums up Simon and anyone else whose appearance may make us look twice and make a rash judgement. "When they came, he saw Eliab and thought, 'Certainly, here in the Lord's presence is his anointed king.' But the Lord told Samuel, 'Don't look at his appearance or how tall he is, because I have rejected him. God does not see as humans see. Humans look at outward appearances, but the Lord looks into the heart'."

And another thing ...

Speaking of covers, you may notice this issue of *Pipeline* has a new, thicker, glossy cover. While the content inside the magazine remains largely the same, the *Pipeline* team is hoping the new cover will give the magazine an even better look and feel, and make it more durable.

In turn, we are praying that readers will be encouraged to share the magazine, with its variety of stories and information, with family and friends outside Salvation Army circles, or arrange to leave the magazine with any number of community centres in their local area.

TC@PIPELINE

SERVING THE PURPOSES OF GOD

Commissioner **JAMES CONDON** says a true test of a life lived for God is how people will remember you in death



Commissioner
James Condon
is Territorial
Commander of
the Australia
Eastern
Territory

Ienjoy walking through cemeteries and reading the epitaph on tombstones. Some are quite common, some stand out and some cause me to stand and reflect.

In Acts 13:36 there is an epitaph on David – "David ... served the purpose of God in his own generation ..."

This would seem to be a very fitting epitaph for David who was recognised as "a man after God's own heart." Someone said, "what matters is not the duration of your life but the donation of it".

When David faced the giant Goliath he had one purpose for taking on such a battle – "that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel". His purpose was to have everyone know that there is a God who is all powerful.

William Booth, The Salvation Army's founder, was a man who served God's purpose in his generation. He had a heart for the poor and would do anything to serve others, even if people made fun of him.

His purpose was to get people saved and keep them saved without thinking of his own reputation. His methods were very unconventional even in that day. His concern was always for others.

He wanted to make it possible by any means for people to hear and experience the life-changing,

transforming message of Jesus in a way they could understand and respond to.

So what is your purpose for life?

Gaining as many possessions as you are able, being in a position of great power and influence, having status and position, having great strength? Even if we had all these things we may still not be fulfilled and serving our purpose for life.

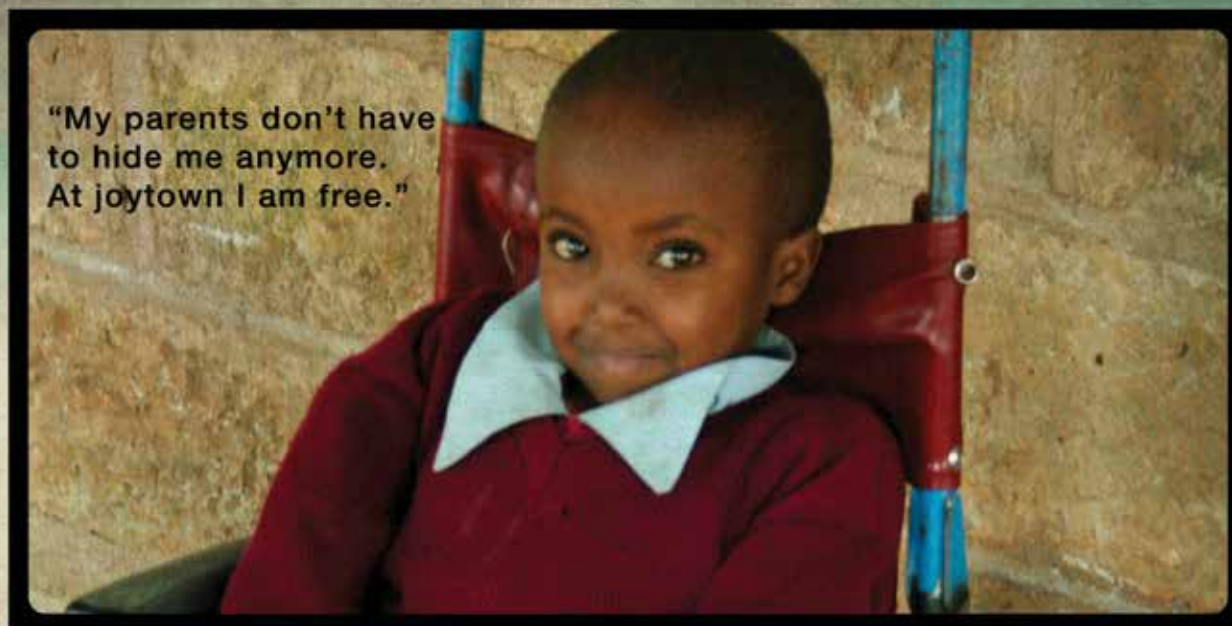
Worthy epitaph

What is your purpose in life in our generation? Is it that different to William Booth?

Our primary purpose is to share the good news of Jesus' life, death and resurrection with everyone so that everyone may be saved.

CT Studd, the English missionary, was influenced by his father and his missional heart and he wrote, "Only one life 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last." This could be a worthy epitaph on one's tombstone.

What will be on your headstone when you die? Could it be that you "served the purpose of God in your generation"? May we all be determined to do whatever it takes, compelled by the love of God, to serve God supremely all our days, taking the message of Jesus to the last, least and lost and so fulfil God's purpose for our life.



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HOLINESS AND DISILLUSIONMENT

Continuing a nine-part *Pipeline* series written by members of The Salvation Army's International Doctrine Council and entitled "Holiness and ...", **Commissioner ROBERT STREET** says Christ understands our frailties and potential to fail, even when we possess the best of intentions

Calvary was not what I was expecting. I almost stumbled on it by accident and I had been standing there for some time before I realised precisely where I was.

It was my first visit to Israel – or the Holy Land, as we like to call it. I was a young captain, and a member of a group of church leaders and editors. The Ministry of Tourism had appointed our Jewish guide. I was a guest of the country. Visiting Israel had been a long-held hope, and the prospect of being able to kneel at Calvary and share quiet, grateful moments with my Lord was an experience to be cherished.

But it wasn't like that. To begin with there was, and is, a dispute over the exact site of the crucifixion. The "place of the skull", that overlooks the bus station, is appealing to the historical eye, but more detailed evidence suggests that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built on Calvary.

So here I was – in a busy, dingy room, distracted by many tourists and a priest offering oblations with incense in a ritual that was unfamiliar to my relationship with God. I had already been informed that the church was owned or occupied by six different

"denominations" of the faith, and that they frequently had difficulties in keeping relationships sweet. Violent disputes are not unknown and my observations confirmed a lack of the spirit of unity and love by which, Jesus said, people would know we were his disciples.

Disillusionment, by its very nature, comes in many forms, in varied situations, from unexpected sources and in surprising places. The hill of Calvary – where I eventually realised I was being invited to stoop and place my hand on a rock that was said to be its summit – couldn't be more significant to my faith. Disillusionment – here of all places – was not welcome.

And yet, what happened next has made a positive impact on the following 30 years of my officership. As I stood there I began to realise in a deeper way that Jesus died not only for "the sins of the world", but also for "the sins of the Church". He went to his death not with any misplaced hopes in our goodness. He gave his life because he understood our frailties and potential to fail, even when we possess the best intentions. His generous response in Gethsemane, "the Spirit is willing, but the flesh

is weak" (Mark 14:38), when his closest disciples let him down, shows not only that he knew how to deal with disillusionment, but also that he died anticipating times when we would let him down. Knowing this, he would make atonement for our sins – including those to come.

Real-world holiness

For the past 2000 years, believers and non-believers alike have consistently misrepresented Jesus. Over-confident, "all-knowing" believers have, at times, distorted or exaggerated some of his statements and have often played an unfortunate part in disillusioning others (not only the gullible or unthinking) with false promises or harsh interpretations of what a loving Saviour taught.

When I was principal at William Booth College, London, I warned the cadets in my care to expect to be disappointed by some of their leaders. This was not a cynical approach. It was a way of preparing them for the realities of life. My own experience had taught me that leaders make mistakes, they overlook things, make promises they can't keep, fail to see the real issues of a situation and sometimes allow self-interest to blind them to truth.

While I thank God with all my heart for leaders who inspire, guide, love and have contributed in countless positive ways to my life, I know – because I have been a leader myself for more than 40 years – that it is possible for people to stumble because of us. Acknowledging this helps us take a less condemnatory approach when others let us down – and it can save us from using the poor example of others as an excuse for abandoning our personal calling. By its very nature, being a Christian involves identification with people who also are not yet "the finished article". The holy life has to be lived in the real world.

How do we successfully manage disillusionment? I have appreciated the wise counsel of friends at times and been glad to help others not to overreact on occasions. Open, trusting relationships are a blessing and strength. They are found in the unity of the Holy Spirit – and it is that same Spirit who, in

demonstrating grace to us, offers companionship and counsel in our hour of need. It is up to us to embrace his help. In it all, the need for both mutual trust and our own humility are paramount.

Humility will not set traps for others to fall into – it will not enjoy creating a culture of suspicion. Suspicious or untrusting attitudes quickly feed disillusionment. They are destructive and have no part in authentic holy living. Nevertheless, I have witnessed them in Christian circles. In addition, there are those who work against others because they feel threatened by their popularity, gifts or skills. This is where there is simply no alternative to forgiveness. Paul emphasised that love keeps no record of wrongs and does not gloat over other people's sins (1 Corinthians 13:5, 6). It is a safeguard for the holy life.

Mutual respect

Experience and observation of The Salvation Army at work in 50 countries have taught me to be cautious of making judgments on others. It helps prevent disillusionment setting in. I have lost count of the times I have been inspired by the dedication of Salvationists, serving simply for the sake of Jesus, ministering selflessly to those he asks us to embrace as "these brothers of mine" (Matthew 25:40). When I have met people who have initially appeared to possess questionable motives or practices, I have found it best to take time to give each situation thorough examination rather than jumping to conclusions. No one culture or nation has the standard by which to measure the rest of the world, and respect for what each can bring to the other is often enriching.

At the same time, it's impossible for leaders to possess the wisdom of experiences which haven't been part of their world, or knowledge of the subtleties of the inner working of other parts of the organisation without personal involvement. Varieties of cultural expressions introduce both good and bad ingredients to collective understanding of God's will. Some Salvationists have lived only in a culture where corruption permeates every area of life. Unlearning cannot be achieved overnight. Ways of

"By its very nature, being a Christian involves identification with people who also are not yet 'the finished article'."

dealing with people – dictatorial, consultative, authoritarian, distant or informal – bring special challenges in leadership, particularly when involving cross-cultural appointments. Being in the hands of those who have little concept of either you or your needs can be painful – and disillusioning.

Yet it is important to accept that imperfections, lack of knowledge and plain incompetence are likely to be with us to the end of time. Participation in gatherings at all levels in the Army has given me an understanding similar to the one the Lord gave me at Calvary. We are a people in progress. In a growing movement that has more needs than it can meet, we ought not be surprised to find others and ourselves "out of our depth" – spiritually and organisationally – in some of the challenges that come our way. Such challenges can help us grow or they can foster disillusionment. Essentially, we each need to contribute to a culture of mutual support.

The spirit is willing. The flesh is weak. God's grace is sufficient.



Commissioner Robert Street is the chairman of the International Doctrine Council

BORN-AGAIN BIKER



"I had always lived my life with anger and hate in my heart ... I had never felt guilt or shame. But, at that moment, I felt 30 years of guilt and shame for all the things I had done in my life."

Simon Adamo doesn't look like your average Christian. But under the biker image is a heart firing on all cylinders for Christ. *Pipeline's* **BILL SIMPSON** spoke with Simon about his conversion experience which has led to his ministry with The Salvation Army

Everywhere you look in The Salvation Army, you see God's miracles. Look at Simon Adamo. Simon is one of God's miracles of the 21st century.

Simon was raised by immigrant parents in Sydney's inner western suburbs in the 1960s. As a child, he was full of hate for a world which bullied him and called him "a wog" because of his Italian parentage.

To him, God was a vengeful, punishing God, waiting to discipline him for anything he did wrong. He blamed God for his circumstances.

In his mid-teens, he befriended a Neo Nazi skinhead who told him the only way to get respect was through violence. He joined an outlaw motorcycle club and

deliberately embarked on a violent life.

He made his appearance match his behaviour.

By 19, he was in prison for a violence-fuelled crime. He served three years. For most of the next decade, his life was dominated by alcohol, drugs, hate and anger. Attitudes and actions put him behind bars on several other occasions.

Early in his 30s, he had already had three failed relationships and six children. Life looked ugly. But he was entitled, he believed. People had to pay for his problems.

But then the miracle happened.

At 38, he met Jesus - and in a most unconventional way.

"I was at work one day loading a ute with rubbish to take to the

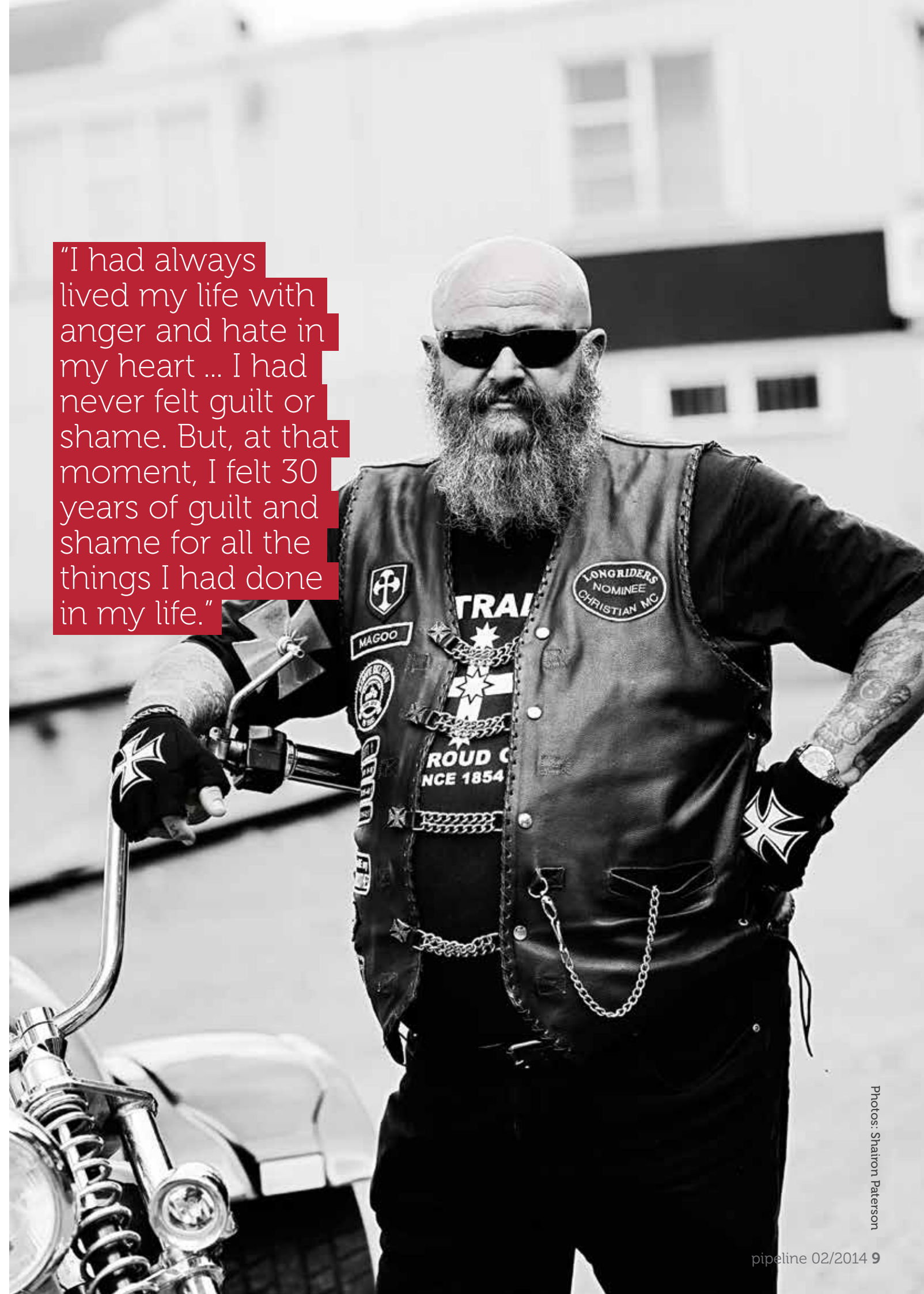
tip," he tells *Pipeline*. "On my way to the tip, I had this overwhelming urge to take my two (teenage) daughters to lunch. They were at the same high school.

"I had never in my life had this kind of thought. I arrived at the school. It was the period before lunch. There were kids running around.

"I asked one of the teachers what was happening. I was told there was a guest speaker having a talk to the kids and that he used to be an alcoholic and drug addict while involved in motorcycle gangs and crime.

"I thought I would hang around in case he was someone I knew."

But the man wasn't somebody known to Simon. The man was biker Kevin Mudford, who >>>





ABOVE: Simon and his wife Danielle with their son Malachi. OPPOSITE: Simon, better known as “Magoo”, with his mates Rastes, Big Kev and Pancho. They all attend Westlakes Salvation Army and are members of Longriders Christian Motorcycle Club. Photos: Shairon Paterson



was telling how his life had changed since he became a Christian.

Offer of peace

Simon, in his motorcycle attire, sat at the back of the school hall, unbeknown to his daughters.

“Kevin started telling his story. I was amazed how similar it was to my own,” Simon says. “He started to talk about how he had found real peace in his life through Christ.”

Despite his violence-filled life to date, Simon really did want some peace for himself. He desperately wanted to know where to find it.

It was being offered that day at the school of his two daughters. And a middle-aged biker who called at the school to take his daughters to lunch received it.

“At the end of his talk, Kevin Mudford asked if anyone wanted to come forward and make a commitment of their life to Christ.

“Much to the shock and horror of my daughters, I was compelled to go forward (at a school assembly). I remember looking Kevin in the eye and asking him if he was fair dinkum or if he was getting paid for a scam.

“I could see something in his eyes as he said it was real; that Christ’s peace was available to anyone, no matter about their past.”

That night, Simon took his entire family to a meeting of a Christian motorcycle club, where Kevin Mudford was again a speaker and testimonies of lives changed were given by members.

Again, Simon responded to a call for people to publicly hand over their hurts and heart to Christ.

“I had always lived my life with anger and hate in my heart,” Simon now says. “I had never felt guilt or shame. But, at that moment, I felt 30 years of guilt and shame for all the things I had done in my life.

“I’m not ashamed to say that I wept like a baby. My partner at the time made some derogatory remarks about my manhood and told me to suck it up.”

But Simon knew that he was free. The peace he was seeking was now his. It was a miracle!

Church clothes

Simon Adamo now works for The Salvation Army. He is an outreach case manager in a new program for homeless men in Newcastle.

This year is his 15th year with The Salvation Army. He attends Westlakes Corps.

The first 12 years were spent managing a dairy farm at the Army’s Miracle Haven establishment (near Newcastle) for people seeking to overcome addictions. The last two years involved working with men in crisis at The Anchor, also in Newcastle.

Simon has retained his biker image not only in private life but also at work, complete with jeans, black jacket, tattoos, beard and dark sunglasses. His jacket is adorned with messages, including Bible verses and a badge which simply states, “These ARE my church clothes”.

He rides a biker trike to work – and everywhere else. It’s part of the image. A brain tumour in 2009 prevented him from retaining his motorcycle, but his licence allows him to ride the trike.

A biker – albeit born again – is who he is, he says.

“I think the initial reaction is to judge the book by its cover. But I hope that when people get to know me that that opinion will change.

“I remember when new managers came to the farm (Miracle Haven) a few years ago, they saw me and commented to staff that Miracle Haven took lot rougher looking clients than those officers had in a previous similar appointment in Queensland.

“It was something to see the shock on their faces when they were told that I wasn’t a client; that I was a member of their staff!”

His manager at The Anchor in the past two years, Robert McDonald, says of Simon’s appearance: “I believe God uses Simon’s tough appearance but soft heart to reach people.”

“God has blessed me greatly since that night (he handed his life to Christ),” Simon says. “I am not about to say that everything has been easy. My partner at the time left me and I found myself a single parent of four children.

“But my life did begin to change. The first thing I remember God taking was my swearing. I had used swearing to punctuate and emphasise my conversations.

“Then my drinking and drugging seemed to lose their power. I became involved in my

local church. For the first time in my life, I actually started to feel some peace in my life.”

Image advantage

Simon joined the Longriders Christian Motorcycle Club. They hold church services once a month for bikers who do not feel comfortable in a mainstream church setting. Club members minister to the outlaw motorcycle scene “more as a presence than God botherers”.

It’s a similar story with men in crisis – men at the bottom of the heap, according to society standards.

“A friend once told me that you don’t have to climb into a rubbish bin to know that it stinks, but if you have been in the bin it helps you to identify certain smells.

“I suppose that having gone through the things that I have helps me to relate to people and that they know I can relate to them.

“Throughout my life, God has shown me that no matter how down we have been in our lives, there is hope through Christ and it’s not hard; you only have to ask.

“When I first became a Christian, I was of the belief

that being born again meant that I would have to change my appearance that I worked so hard to achieve. But through encouragement of friends, I realised I could use my appearance to my advantage.

“People could see that I came from basically the same background and I could understand the issues they have.

“Through Christ, I believe I have a heart to help people, because if God can make the changes he made in my life, I know he can do the same for anyone who asks.”

Simon is now 55 and still in touch with most of his children.

“God has recently blessed me with a really beautiful committed Christian wife. With her and the challenge of my new position (in Newcastle), I am looking forward to what God has in store for us next.”



Bill Simpson is a staff writer for Pipeline and supplements

Hope springs from an act of Self Denial

Opposite page from top: Major John Rees greets a small boy during his travels through Tanzania; Ryde Salvationist Gem Gray who has composed the Self Denial theme song; Wang Zhong and his family from China who will feature in week 3 of the Self Denial DVD series; Enesia Bandi of Tanzania who will feature in week 2.

BY ESTHER PINN

The Self Denial Appeal's capacity to change the lives of people living in desperate situations is what has motivated Ryde Salvationist Gem Gray to compose a song for the 2014 fundraising campaign.

"I have been away [overseas] and I've seen what can be done and what needs to be done and that there's so many places that need hope," says Gem.

"So the first verse [of the song] talks about turning tears to joy, changing situations from a simple idea of hope. It tells people you can do something to change the situation."

Gem's song, *Hope is Rising*, will feature in Salvation Army corps and centres throughout Australia and the South Pacific from Sunday 23 February, as part of this year's Self Denial Appeal DVD series. The appeal is an opportunity for Salvationists and friends to support the Army's work in countries that struggle to raise their own funds for ministry.

The DVD series will be shown over six weeks in the Australia Eastern, Australia Southern, and New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga territories.

To the accompaniment of *Hope is Rising*, the first week introduces this year's Self Denial theme, "Planting Seeds of Hope".

Week two follows the story of Enesia Bandi, a woman from Tabora in Tanzania who was left living in poverty after her husband passed away. The Salvation Army has been able to help Enesia through its micro-credit program, which provides loans and educates women about sound financial principles for life.

Farmer Wang Zhong and his family, from Yunnan Province in China, are featured in the third week of the DVD series. Wang shares how he struggled to provide for his family because he spent the majority of his working day cutting wood to fuel their energy resources. This left little time for his farming duties, the source of his income.

Through The Salvation Army's sustainable bio-gas program, Wang now has more time to carry out his farming duties and, essentially, offer his family a better life.

At The Salvation Army's Harry Williams Hospital in Cochabamba, Bolivia, we meet Miriam in week four. Miriam has worked at the hospital for 20 years, seeing it grow from a basic facility to one of the most important health-care facilities in the city. Funds previously

donated to the Self Denial Appeal have enabled the hospital to become self-sufficient.

Week five follows the story of Alomin, a blind 11-year-old from Jessore in Bangladesh. Because of his blindness, Alomin was labelled an outcast by his community which prevented him from attending school. This all changed when Alomin was offered a place at The Salvation Army's school for the hearing impaired in Bangladesh.

The last week of the series features a montage of sequences from the previous five weeks, accompanied by Gem's song. The appeal will conclude with an altar service and opportunity to give financially on Sunday 30 March. The goal is to raise \$2 million.

"Thank you for your support. We look at these stories and see what our funds from Self Denial can do - change people's lives," says Steve Burfield, Campaigns Manager on the 2014 appeal.

A separate Self Denial video series has been made for children, featuring the Agents of T.R.U.T.H. Each child will receive a workbook and moneybox and is encouraged to give at the altar service.

To donate and view the Self Denial Appeal videos online, go to www.selfdenial.info



THE DVD SERIES

Week 1: Introduction – Planting Seeds of Hope

Week 2: Tanzania – Enesia Bandi

Week 3: China – Wang Zhong

Week 4: Bolivia – Miriam

Week 5: Bangladesh – Alomin

Week 6: Music Montage – *Hope is Rising*

Making a difference in Tanzania

Major JOHN REES, who travelled with The Salvation Army's video team to film the Self Denial Appeal series, reflects on his experience in Tanzania, where funds from this year's appeal will be directed

It was at the airport, following a lengthy process through immigration and the difficulty of accessing money, that we finally met Brother Frederick, who was to be our guide and translator in Tanzania.

What a gem he is! The Salvation Army International Development (SAID) office has much to do with this project officer from Tanzania, who works with the Australia Eastern Territory on a number of projects.

He has a beautiful story of the grace of God in his life. Very highly qualified and well able to secure highly paid employment elsewhere, Frederick, who trained for many years to become a Catholic priest, now fulfils his life vocation through serving the poor and marginalised.

We travelled from Dar Es Salaam, the capital of Tanzania, to Mzawe in the north and then drove by car along terrible roads to Teborah, a place where slaves were first trafficked from Africa. It is a place synonymous with the name of Dr. Livingstone.

It is here that Self Denial funds the SAMIDE project. This involves a literacy and numeracy training program, followed by skills training for participation in a micro-credit program. Over three years this will include 800 of the most marginalised women and their families. The Self Denial DVD series crew will tell the story of one such woman – Enesia Bandi.

Salvationists and supporters of the Self Denial Appeal in the Australia Eastern Territory have every reason to shout praises to the rooftops. What an honour to play such a significant role in what has been declared by the community itself, as the only hope there is for the rescue of women in the Tabora region. Such is the success of this Self Denial project.

Worthy cause

A gift of \$25 represents the first stage of the transformed life of a whole family. A gift of \$250 means the possibility of lifting a whole family from poverty to owning a home and having a sustainable future.

It seems such a small amount to give in Australian dollars. The hard work is done by the African women who make the loan work in a significant and sustainable way.

We visited the project office next to the corps building, opposite a busy market. On the steps of the project office we met 60 women who had just completed a training course and were now making application for a micro-credit loan. It was a diverse group representative of the religious and cultural groups which make up Tanzania.

Long-term commitment

On our return to Dar Es Salaam we spent a morning visiting the Mbagala Home for trafficked girls aged 12 years and under. The home has accommodation for 60 such girls. I was able to speak with some of the girls who said the best thing about being there was the opportunity of going to school. This was a place full of joy and gladness.

We were then taken to one of the poorest and overcrowded parts of the Mbagala and I saw the place where International Headquarters is ready to give the green light for the establishment of an egg incubator, which will provide a significant opportunity for sustainability.

Our territory has already committed the funds – an investment in the lives of girls as young as five who each week are rescued from the train station and the bus stops around the city.

In the afternoon we travelled to the THQ compound to meet with the Tanzanian leadership. We spoke about Partners in Mission and the kinds of opportunities which still may be explored together.

I assured Colonel Lindsay Rowe (Territorial Commander) and the cabinet members of the very strong support of Commissioner James Condon and the AUE Territory to Partners in Mission.

As I left Tanzania it was with a real sense of the worth of such an expedition as this – both for the Self Denial Appeal and all it represents.

And the impact it has made on my life.

Compelled by Christ to love amazingly

In a world that desperately needs to see Christian love in action, **Lieutenant-Colonel MIRIAM GLUYAS** says a small act of kindness can make a beautiful difference

"But if love leaks out, we shall lose our crown, we shall have a name to live and yet be dead. We may still house the homeless, dole out food to the hungry, punctiliously perform our routine work, but the mighty ministry of the Spirit will no longer be our glory. Our musicians will play meticulously, our songsters will revel in the artistry of song that tickles the ear, but leaves the heart cold and hard. Our officers will hobnob with mayor and councilmen and be greeted in the market place, but God will not be among us. We shall still recruit our ranks and supply our training garrisons with cadets from among our own young people, but we shall cease to be saviours of the lost sheep that have no shepherd."

– Samuel Logan Brengle

Forty to 50 young men gathered for a church service in a foreign land. They were asylum seekers, believing for hope and a future in a new country, but faced with the prospect that they would never get to that land.

They sang, prayed and worshipped in a language that I did not know, but I knew that their worship was sincere and they asked God to deliver them, to give to them both what they asked for and what they needed.

At the end of that service,

they did something that I totally understood. They had been given points, rewards, for attending classes and other programs that week.

At the end of the week they had gone to the canteen. As they approached the nuns at that service, they presented them with gifts that they had saved their points for. Exercise books and pencils had been purchased by every young man there and, in broken English, they said: "The children of this nation are worse off than we are. Please give these to them." I was so

very moved by this act of love.

Simple kindness

While shopping in a store in another country, we spot some watches that are very cheap for the brand they are. We are interested in buying them for family members. A young girl hovers behind us, looking admiringly at the watches, knowing that she has no money to buy one.

My friend sees what is happening and asks the young girl which one she likes best. What is her favourite colour? She points to

the blue one. My friend gets enough money out of her wallet and a little more, and gives it to the girl to buy the watch.

In handing over the money, there is the sense of joy, from both; there is the look of disbelief that someone would be that kind, and as the girl stands at the counter with her money and the watch, it's like she wonders if the cashier will believe her.

She leaves with a smile. A small act of kindness has made a beautiful difference.

Love in action

A loveable character, an officer, is always having fun with people. He's the kind of man that everyone likes. He's a hero to those who have very little hope.

A lady dies from HIV/AIDS. No-one wants to have anything to do with the body. No-one wants to bury her. No-one wants to come near.

Major Michael takes a shovel, digs the grave, carries her and lays her to rest, performs the funeral service and gives her the dignity due to every human being. It's not a one-off. He lives to love and serve the poor and the marginalised, those who no-one else wants anything to do with. That's love. That's love in action.

Beautiful care

I call to see our work at the "House of Hope". I meet a beautiful lady whose face radiates joy and love. She proudly takes me around the building and tells me her story.

You see, there was a time when she desperately wanted to work with us, but there were no funds to pay her. That didn't stop her. She made icy poles, sold them and worked with those who needed support and love.

She took me to a room where there was a mother and her child. The mother looked after the child beautifully. The child was severely handicapped. She had also been raped recently. Moved, once more, I told the lady what a beautiful mother she was.

Our ladies in that place worked with them, cared for them, provided a place to stay, integrated them back into a village, visited them, fed them, cared for them. That's love.

On a trip to visit those working with asylum seekers, I could see that one of our employees was looking a little lost. I asked him if he needed any help and how he ended up coming to work with us.

He is a medical student who has a heart to serve those in great need. He was working with asylum seekers and got hold of a *Warcry*.

"He lives to love and serve the poor and the marginalised ... That's love in action."

He read it and got saved. He is now a passionate Christian and has such a heart to serve Jesus. He steps out with great resolve, believing that he can make a difference and show the love of Jesus.

Dignity upheld

During tribal fighting, several people are killed. This fighting always results in death. The town is held to ransom. Everything stops.

One evening, a group of ladies who are involved in community care ministry, believe that they should ensure there is some dignity in all of this senseless warfare. They go together, pick up the remains of mutilated bodies, wash them, put them with the right bodies and take them to the morgue at the hospital.

Amazing love!

I see all around me love flowing, love poured out lavishly. Yes, amazing love, a love that can only come from Jesus.

"For Christ's love compels us." (2 Corinthians 5:14)



Lieut-Colonel Miriam Gluyas is Chief Secretary of the Papua New Guinea Territory



LEARNING CURVE IN LATVIA



Majors Norm and Isabel Beckett outside the School for Officer Training in Riga.

Establishing a new school for officer training in Latvia turned out to be the most rewarding experience in officership for an Australian couple, who spoke to *Pipeline's* **SCOTT SIMPSON** about their three years in the northern European country

Majors Norm and Isabel Beckett were on a boat in the middle of the English Channel when they got the long-awaited phone call. Would they be interested in going to Latvia to oversee The Salvation Army's School for Officer Training in the capital Riga?

Almost four years later, and

with their appointment having just reached its conclusion, the Becketts struggle to contain their enthusiasm when asked to describe their time in Latvia. It's been by far the best experience of their officership.

When you consider that, between them, they have accumulated more than 70 years of officership, their time there has

clearly been very special.

Prior to arriving in Latvia, the Becketts' service as officers had been marked by a succession of corps-based roles.

After graduating from The Salvation Army training college in Sydney as part of the *Overcomers* session in 1977, Norm served continuously for 33 years in corps



Majors Norm and Isabel Beckett and Major Christine Bailey (far left) with two of the commissioned cadets.

officer appointments, mainly in rural NSW. Isabel, who was part of the *Companions of Christ* session that was commissioned in 1978, has, understandably, a near-identical service record. The couple were married in 1982.

In early 2009, and weary from their extended service as corps officers, the Becketts knew they wanted, and needed, a different experience. They put their hands up for overseas service, filled out the relevant paperwork, and waited.

Then, in April 2010, while on holiday in Europe, they received the call they'd been praying about.

"We were actually in the middle of the English Channel and we got a call asking us to report to [The Salvation Army's] International Headquarters in London," says Norm.

"We had an interview and were asked if we would be interested in going to Latvia, to oversee the training college there. I have to admit that we knew very little, if anything, about Latvia, but we came back to Australia and spoke to our [adult] children about it and decided that yes, we would do it."

Five weeks after the appointment was announced, and after a whirlwind of packing and farewells, Norm and Isabel were on a plane bound for Riga.

The new adventure they had longed for was underway.

Diverse duties

Within The Salvation Army world, Latvia has status as a Region. On a wider scale, it is part of the Army's Sweden and Latvia Territory.

Norm's role was as training principal at the School for Officer Training in Riga, while Isabel was education officer at the college and also had responsibility for women's ministries in Latvia.

They were responsible for taking a group of eight Latvian cadets through their two years of officership preparation. It didn't take long, though, for the realisation to dawn that they would be required to do far more than their job description suggested.

"After arriving in Latvia, we were taken to the college in Riga and it was then that we found out that we were *the* training college staff," says Isabel. "Except for our translator and a visiting lecturer who came for two lectures once a fortnight, there was no-one else!"

"We were the academic staff, the business managers, the house managers, cleaners, everything. At the end of the first year, we had to move the school to a new location. Here, we had to clean out the four-storey college building from top to bottom [it had previously been a children's home for nine years], just to get it ready for the second intake of cadets. We've had to do anything that's needed to be done." >>>

"There'd be days when just before I went into the class to teach I'd be cleaning out the toilets! It's been an incredibly diverse experience of our officership, but, you know, we've absolutely loved it!"



The Becketts look at some of the 11 Bible commentaries Norm wrote during his time in Latvia.

"And that means absolutely everything," adds Norm, laughing. "There'd be days when just before I went into the class to teach I'd be cleaning out the toilets! It's been an incredibly diverse experience of our officership, but, you know, we've absolutely loved it!"

The challenges have been many and varied over the past three years, most notably the cultural and language differences.

There are three main languages spoken in Latvia – Latvian, Russian and English – and that has meant the Becketts have taught every lesson, whether in class or through distance learning, with the aid of an interpreter. It has also meant that they've had to contend with a paucity of teaching resources.

"Christian resources in the Latvian language are virtually non-existent, so while I've been here I've written 11 Bible commentaries which have been translated into the language," says Norm.

"When we arrived you couldn't walk into the college library school and take something off the bookshelf and start using it to teach. We've had to build the teaching materials from scratch.

"We'd spend the day in the classroom teaching, come home and

spend the evening writing up the next day's lesson and then, before we went back into the classroom to teach, have it translated into Latvian. It was a massive job."

Extra responsibilities

In late 2011, the Becketts were approached by the regional commander for Latvia and asked whether they would, in addition to their training college duties, also take on responsibility for the corps at Iecava, 40km south of Riga, with cadet helpers.

They agreed, and subsequently added responsibility for a corps plant at Agenskalns, a district in Riga, and corps leadership at Bauska, almost 70km from the capital, to their experiences in Latvia. These additional roles have, they say, helped bring clarity to why God kept them in corps officership in Australia for so many years.

"We've had some significant issues to deal with at these corps [in Latvia] and it's meant that we've had to draw on our extensive experience of corps officership to guide us through it all," says Isabel. "Our 30-plus years of corps officership have been vital in equipping us to deal with the

things we've had to face.

"We've definitely been able to see God's hand on our time here. It's been our best experience of officership and we will take more away from Latvia than we brought. Here we have been so warmly received wherever we have gone and respected for what we do. It's been a time when we've felt really valued in our officership."

New appointment

A few months before the end of their service in Latvia, the Becketts were contacted again by International Headquarters [IHQ] and asked if they would go to Taiwan; Norm as training officer, with responsibility for officer training and post-college studies, and Isabel to oversight social projects, Stop the Traffik, and also cadet training and pre-college training. The decision was, they admit, a "no-brainer". It was a simple "yes" to the IHQ offer.

Their farewell from Latvia, in early December, coincided with the commissioning of the second session of cadets the Becketts had trained. In a moving tribute, at the conclusion of the commissioning service every officer they had trained during their time in

YOUNG ARMY COMING OF AGE

BY SCOTT SIMPSON

Major Christine Bailey's eyes light up when she talks about the future of The Salvation Army in Latvia. She believes there are great things ahead for the Army in the Baltic nation and is passionate about her role, as commander of the Latvia Region, in achieving this. And she wants the Australia Eastern Territory to play an important role in seeing The Salvation Army consolidate its presence in her adopted country.

The Australia Eastern Territory is a "Partner in Mission" with the Latvia Region, which itself is part of the Sweden and Latvia Territory.

Previously, this has seen Australia support, primarily in a financial capacity, initiatives in Latvia but until now it has been in an ad-hoc fashion. Major Bailey wants to change that approach and develop a more coordinated approach to the relationship.

"I received an email a little while ago from Commissioner Jan Condon [Australia Eastern Territory leadership] enquiring about how Australia could help us here in Latvia," says Major Bailey. "I've spent a lot of time thinking about that offer and this year I intend following up on it.

"I feel I am here in Latvia at a time when The Salvation Army needs to come of age. We're a very young Army in Latvia, but I feel we're at a point where we need to start taking responsibility for ourselves.

"We need to develop a clear sense of identity and direction. I want to see the Army here move beyond just giving aid and feeding people and start to develop more programs and increase its profile in the country."

Major Bailey has identified two specific projects that she's hopeful the Australia Eastern Territory can support.

"We have a campsite about 250km from Riga in a beautiful location on the coast but the site itself is very rundown," she says. "There are a few old buildings there but no gas supply and proper sewage system, and very limited supplies of electricity connected.

"There is a huge camping culture here in Latvia and I've decided that we should try to develop this site and use it as part of our mission. I'm planning to approach Australia Eastern and see whether they would be able to partner with us, to help us raise some funds to get this infrastructure work underway.

"Another project I'm keen to approach Australia Eastern about is helping us to set up an emergency services unit. I'm aware that emergency services is huge for the Army in Australia and I'd love to tap into its expertise in this area.

"We've been developing a relationship with the fire service here in Latvia and looking to partner with them in a project fitting homes with smoke detectors. But to be able to have our own emergency services teams will not only mean being able to help



people in times of disaster but it will also raise the profile of the Army here."

Major Bailey is hopeful she will be able to visit Australia this year and sit down with Eastern Territory leadership to plan the way forward.

"The Army in Australia has expertise that we don't have here in Latvia," she says. "I believe it's very important that we keep the lines of communication open between the two countries, strengthen the relationship that we have and tap into that expertise where relevant."

Latvia Regional Commander Major Christine Bailey (right) with Sweden and Latvia Territorial Commander Commissioner Marie Willermark.

the country gathered around Norm and Isabel and prayed for them.

In Australia for Christmas and New Year, catching up with family and friends including meeting a new grandchild for the first time, the Becketts spent the holiday period preparing for their new appointment in Taiwan, which they take up on 1 February.

"It's just another step on our journey. We've always seen officership as an adventure and this is just the next part of that," says Isabel.

"It was sad to leave Latvia but we're excited by what awaits us in Taiwan."

Norm adds: "We could have gone back to Australia and taken up an appointment in corps officership, if necessary ... and we would have been quite happy to do that. But God has opened up this door to Taiwan. It's doing something we love, so we're very happy to walk through that door and see where God takes us.

"We've gone from Latvia with great joy and satisfaction that we

have been confirmed in our calling. It [the appointment in Taiwan] is affirmation of all that we are doing in serving God. We want to continue to serve him." □



Scott Simpson is a freelance writer for Pipeline

Hundreds pay tribute to a saintly life



A woman of faith and prayer ... Jayne Wilson, who ran The Salvation Army's First Floor Program counselling service in Wollongong.

Civic, business, religious and community leaders joined 800 mourners at the funeral service of Envoy Jayne Wilson at Wollongong Salvation Army centre last month.

A soldier of Wollongong Corps, manager of its First Floor (addiction support) Program and a police chaplain, Jayne was Promoted to Glory on Christmas Day 2013.

She had endured a two-year battle with cancer and died suddenly while in hospital for tests.

Jayne is survived by husband Vincent; mother, Mary; mother-in-law Betty; sister Fran; her children and their partners; 19 grandchildren and one great grandchild. She was 68.

Jayne had been involved with The Salvation Army at Wollongong for the past 17 years. She came with years of practical experience in the hospitality industry and after gaining a theology degree at the Church of Christ Wollongong college.

At first, she managed a bistro in the Wollongong Corps building and introduced and operated a hospitality training program for the unemployed.

Realising that significant numbers of the trainees had personal issues, including addictions, she started an addiction counselling service.

She extended the counselling service to include support programs for the children, partners, parents and grandparents of those caught in the addiction cycle. She further extended

the service to assist police officers with personal issues, recently released prisoners and people with suicidal concerns.

Eight years ago, she was installed as a Salvation Army envoy and police chaplain for the Lake Illawarra Police Command. Her programs have been introduced in several Sydney corps, Canberra and, recently, in Canada.

Tributes were paid to Jayne at her 2 January Celebration of Life Service by NSW Senior Police Chaplain Father Paul O'Donoghue, Lake Illawarra Local Area Police Command Superintendent Wayne Starling, First Floor Program assistant manager Marilyn Dunn, and Jayne's daughter Kim McMullan and granddaughter Kristen de Souza.

Father O'Donoghue said Jayne was "a precious gift who touched our hearts and shared God's divine nature with us."

Supt Starling said Jayne was, to police, "a trusted friend (who inspired) the most hardened police officers to open up to her."

Marilyn Dunn said Jayne was "a woman of faith and prayer ... a saint dedicated to her calling."

The service was led by Stephen Dunn, who has worked closely with Jayne and others in the First Floor Program for many years.

Uniformed police lined both sides of the street outside the Wollongong centre in a guard of honour as Jayne's funeral procession passed, led by members of the Wollongong Corps band.

'Ringing Jayne saved my family'

This letter, sent to *Pipeline*, was dated 24 December, a day before Jayne Wilson died.

I have just finished reading December *Pipeline/Women In Touch*.

I felt so connected to Major Helen Ellicott, Caboolture Corps, her story (*Women In Touch*, December) touched my heart and her words were mine eight years ago.

I feel so passionate about the Wollongong Salvation Army and most of all, the First Floor Program, supporting parents of addicted children.

I was told about the First Floor Program at Wollongong after many weeks and much more heartache. I finally rang Jayne Wilson, a woman also passionate about family and loved ones of addicted children and most of all those loved ones who were affected by drugs/alcohol.

I spoke to Jayne about our pain and fears. Our lives were about to change. Our son entered Morisset Rehab and I started VIFs (Editor's Note: VIFs stands for Very Important Families, a support group specifically for parents of children who have an addiction or are battling to overcome addiction).

We visited our son and attended chapel with him. Those visits will remain with my husband and I forever. My love for The Salvation Army, Jayne Wilson and the First Floor Program cannot be described in words. Our son was saved and our family became a family again. Through the love of God and the beautiful people of VIFs Wollongong we can continue to support and love our son – something we never thought we would see or feel again.

I loved the Christmas Poem also in the *Pipeline* (December issue) of the young man who found hope in the Red Shield kitchen.

I have kept that poem to give to our son if he ever needs encouragement.

Our son also helped in the kitchen of the Wollongong Salvation Army.

I will continue to love and visit VIFs and, of course, The Salvation Army Sunday service.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart to you all.

Kindest regards,

Glenys Mortimer
Woonona



BOUNDLESS

the whole world redeeming

The Salvation Army International Congress
150th Anniversary | 1-5 July 2015 | London, UK



Boundless energy building for 2015 Congress

The Salvation Army will celebrate 150 years as an organisation at Boundless, the Army's International Congress on 1-5 July in London next year.

Salvationists and friends across the Australia Eastern Territory are invited to participate in the Congress, whether online or as a delegate at the event.

Launched last September, an official Boundless International Congress website www.boundless2015.org exists to provide information about the conference and offer a platform for Salvationists around the world to connect.

Along with the website, Salvationists will be able to connect through the new Boundless Facebook and Twitter pages (www.facebook.com/boundless2015) and

(www.twitter.com/boundless2015).

These social media streams will be regularly updated with news, photos and videos about the Congress.

Salvationists can share their thoughts about the Congress via these streams and interact with those who are planning to attend the event from all over the world.

There is also a new YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/boundless2015video) which will host video content and a Flickr page (www.flickr.com/boundless2015) that will showcase photos related to the Congress.

Salvationists are encouraged to follow these social media channels and share them with others to build momentum.

The Congress's committee would

like Salvationists to send through photos and videos about their preparation for the event. Email IHQ-Congress@salvationarmy.org to send through your material.

Major Bruce Harmer, the Communications and Public Relations Secretary for the Australia Eastern Territory, encourages Salvationists to send him an email if they have questions regarding the Congress.

Major Harmer can be contacted via bruce.harmer@ae.salvationarmy.org

For Salvationists who have questions about attending the Congress, contact your Divisional Commander or the local Congress representative.

– Esther Pinn

Don't be the last to know.

Direct from the TC is a free, high-priority communication channel for all the major announcements from territorial leadership of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory.

It's primarily targeted at Salvationists, employees and friends of The Salvation Army, however all subscribers are welcome.

Direct from the TC is available via email, SMS or both.

Head to mysalvos.org.au/DirectFromTheTC to subscribe.

Sign up to receive:

- Breaking news from around The Salvation Army
- Emergency updates and critical information in times of crisis or natural disaster
- First-to-know previews of upcoming campaigns
- Information on major events and initiatives that affect Salvationists, employees, and friends of The Salvation Army



Direct from the TC

• Supporters of the Self Denial Appeal may already be subscribed if you have elected to receive other communication from The Salvation Army. You can unsubscribe via mysalvos.org.au/DirectFromTheTC.

• Users of Lotus Notes will automatically receive *Direct from the TC* and are welcome to also subscribe using their mobile number and/or private email address.

Giving everyone the right to feel safe

Following its mission to end human trafficking and slavery, The Salvation Army's Safe House for Trafficked Persons works tirelessly to end this despicable global trade, both here in Australia and around the world. *Pipeline's* **SIMONE WORTHING** asked safe house supervisor Jenny Stanger to reflect on the five years since its inception

The Salvation Army's Safe House for Trafficked Persons, the only safe house of its kind in Australia, recently celebrated five years of supporting this most vulnerable group of people in our community.

The Safe House provides supported accommodation to women who experience human trafficking, slavery, or slavery-like conditions in Australia and gives them a safe and secure living environment as they rebuild their lives.

In addition, the Safe House provides services and support to individuals residing elsewhere in the community, including men, women, young people and families.

The Salvation Army allocates funds to support victims of human trafficking and slavery as part of its international mission for social justice. The Salvation Army has an international mandate to end modern slavery and the Safe House is one of the Army's strategies in Australia to address this human rights violation.

Services offered at the safe house include:

- **Residential support** for women and women with children who have experienced human trafficking, slavery or slavery-like conditions such as forced and servile marriage, forced labour and servitude.
- **Outreach support** for men, women and young people living in the community. This can include complementary support from other agencies around Australia such as accommodation brokerage; material and cash assistance; medical and mental health support; legal advice and court support; education, training and job support, and social/recreational outings.
- **Prevention support** for persons at risk of trafficking, slavery or slavery-like practices. Safe

House staff work with clients to identify interventions that will improve their ability to remain free from exploitation.

- **International support** which may include direct assistance to families in home countries through Salvation Army centres located in over 130 countries.

Future vision

Since its establishment in 2007, services offered at and by the Safe House have expanded (see Timeline on next page). This work will continue, with additional programs being developed to create more awareness and activism within the Australian community.

"We believe a world without slavery is possible and achievable in our lifetime," says Jenny Stanger, Safe House supervisor.

"Whilst the numbers of people in slavery and the profits made from slavery seem overwhelming, they represent a very thin slice of the global population and economy. We can make change happen if we choose to."

Safe House plans for the coming year include:

- Expanding services to appropriately address the support needs of special groups such as young people at-risk of, or subjected to, forced marriage.
- Building partnerships with the private sector that improve client opportunities for employment, education and mentoring.
- Expanding opportunities for people who have experienced trafficking and slavery to become agents of social change locally, regionally and nationally.
- Engaging people at the grassroots level to join a global movement to end slavery.

Become a partner

"We are ready to mobilise the Australian community to help the work of The Salvation Army raise awareness that slavery happens

here and engage them in actions to make Australia slavery-free!" Jenny explains.

"We encourage you to consider how you can partner with us."

Options for involvement include fundraising, volunteering, and donating.

Fundraising

Whether it is a clothes swap, an afternoon tea, garage sale or fun run, fundraising is an easy and enjoyable way to make a difference and contribute to the operation of the Safe House.

For more information, email the Safe House team at trafficking@ae.salvationarmy.org or register your event online on our "Everyday Hero" page - www.everydayhero.com.au/event/safehouse

"Talk to our team to see how we can assist you at your event," says Jenny.

Volunteering

There are three main volunteer groups:

1. Client support - assisting clients.
 2. Staff support - assisting with the administration of the Safe House.
 3. Community outreach - assisting with advocacy and fundraising for the cause.
- "We can only end slavery by working together," says Jenny.
- For more information, email the Safe House team.

Donating

You can make a direct donation to the Safe House, either through a tax deductible donation, or by sponsoring a room in the Safe House. For more information on how to get involved, email the Safe House team.

Facebook

This closed group will keep registered users informed about volunteer activities, forums or meetings they can attend, and recent news articles on the issue. □

SAFE HOUSE TIME LINE

JULY 2007: The Safe House for Trafficked Persons is established.

JANUARY 2008: The safe house opens its doors to its first residential clients.

JULY 2008: The Salvation Army joins the Federal Government's national roundtable on people trafficking.

APRIL 2010: The safe house expands its client base by supporting non-residential clients, including men, women and young people.

OCTOBER 2011: The safe house and non-government organisation Project Futures (projectfutures.com) launch the Freedom Advocates Project at Parliament House in Canberra. The project gives a voice to people who have experienced trafficking or slavery and empowers project participants to speak out and assist others and inform policy response.

NOVEMBER 2011: The Freedom Advocates and safe house clients consult with United Nations special rapporteur on trafficking in persons, Dr Joy Ngozi Ezeilo. The Salvation Army is also presented with a Freedom Award by Federal Minister for Justice and Home Affairs, Brendan O'Connor.

FEBRUARY 2012: The safe house begins offering prevention support to people at risk of human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like practices.

MARCH 2012: Prime Minister Julia Gillard recognises The Salvation Army's anti-slavery work in her speech on International Women's Day.

APRIL 2012: The Slavery Bill is passed into law, criminalising forced labour, servitude and forced marriage.

APRIL 2013: Philanthropists Andrew and Nicola Forrest donate \$1 million towards a partnership with The Salvation Army to "slavery-proof" Australia.

Opposite:
Jenny
Stanger is the
supervisor of
The Salvation
Army's safe
house for
trafficked
women in
Sydney. She has
an extensive
background in
social justice
and fighting the
global scourge
of human
trafficking.
Photo: Shairon
Paterson

HOLY LIVING, SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Salvationist ecotheologian **MATT SEAMAN** links holiness with sustainability and encourages Christians to make a concerted effort to care for God's creation

Holiness and sustainability – are they unrelated matters, or are they closely intertwined? Consider the multitude of issues faced in today's world, issues such as social and ecological injustices like poverty, pollution and over-consumption.

In our current context, simplicity, self-control, living within limits and considerate consumption can be understood and integrated into our own lives from both perspectives of holy living and sustainable living.

The Salvation Army traces its spiritual heritage through John Wesley and the subsequent holiness movement. Two Salvationists who are well known for writing on the theme of holiness are Samuel Logan Brengle and Frederick Coutts.

Brengle's descriptions of holy living include: "Holiness is ... pure love", and "holiness, then, is conformity to the nature of God. It is likeness to God as He is revealed in Jesus." Likewise, Coutts describes "holiness [as] the unfolding of Christ's own character in the life of the individual believer".

Combined with the biblical call towards holiness (1 Thessalonians 4:7, for example), the journey towards holy living can, therefore, be considered an integral part of our Salvationist "DNA".

Holy connections

Sustainability, on the other hand, may seem like a new buzzword in our society. However, it is certainly not a new idea. Understanding the significant benefits of sustainable practices has been a natural outcome of knowing and appreciating the interconnectedness

that is intrinsic to life on Earth.

Over human history, lessons and skills have been learned about the benefits of being mindful of and planning for the long-term future of the natural resources on which life depends. For example, understanding the long-term agricultural benefits of rotating crops and allowing "rest" periods for the land; and keeping water, soil and air clean for the health and well-being of humanity and our earthly home.

In the biblical narrative, we read of the harmonious relationships God originally intended for life on Earth, and the tightly linked connections between God, people and creation. For example, God considered every thing he created very good (Genesis 1:31); humanity is placed on earth to cultivate it and to care for it (Genesis 2:15); and Genesis 2:18 provides background for the importance of community and togetherness.

Various principles within the Old Testament link holy living and sustainable living, and speak of keeping healthy and whole relationships between God, God's creation, and people as part of God's creation.

Think of the scriptural calls to respect the "Year of Restoration", giving the land time for rest and restoration for one year every seven years (Leviticus 25:2-6, 20-22); and the "Year of Jubilee" where land ownership and property rights were to be recalibrated every 50 years, keeping in mind the fact that all things are from and belong to God (Leviticus 25:8-14).

Biblical passages emphasise the links between living holy, God-centered lives in community and living in safety and abundance in

the land (Leviticus 25:17-19).

It is interesting to consider that issues and problems arise in the scriptures when people ignore or do not consider their connection with God, with other people, and with the land. This fact is still of great significance to us today.

In Matthew 22:36-39, Jesus states the greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul and mind. The second commandment Jesus affirms is that we are also to love others. Hence, John Wesley can say with conviction that "the gospel of Christ knows of no religion, but social; no holiness but social holiness."

Minimising impact

If we as Salvationists are called to live holy, spirit-filled lives, growing and developing Christ's character in our own lives (Coutts), and living out pure love (Brengle) for God and all God's creation, it then follows that living in sustainable ways that minimise negative impacts on fellow humanity and the rest of God's loved creation is an integral part of holiness.

As a holy and a listening people, we must not only be open to the cries of suffering people, but also to the groans of creation around us. This means not just recycling and other "green" actions, but taking a bigger picture view like evaluating the liveability and sustainability of our homes, our church, our local area.

As followers of Christ, as Salvationists, as contributors to the healing of people and place, we should then be aware of the conditions of life and death, of health and disease that surround us.

Nick Spencer and Robert White

"... LIVING IN SUSTAINABLE WAYS THAT MINIMISE NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON FELLOW HUMANITY AND THE REST OF GOD'S LOVED CREATION IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF HOLINESS"

offer a number of principles for sustainable living from a Christian perspective in their book chapter "A vision of sustainable living today".

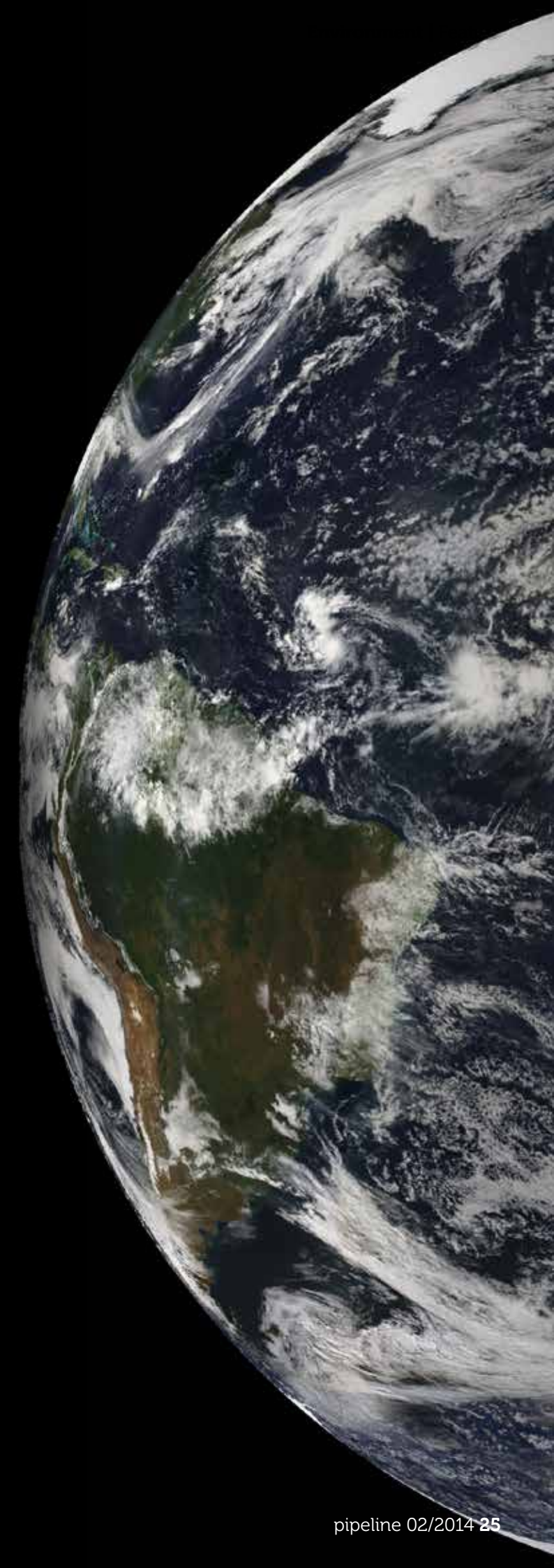
These principles include:

- Valuing and protecting creation, seeing this as a joy rather than a burden;
- Reflecting on the close bond between society and environment in our decisions;
- Pursuing justice for the vulnerable and marginalised;
- Not confusing wealth and value: our goal should be relational health (social, spiritual and ecological) rather than just having more money or more personal freedom to do whatever we want;
- Participating in the local community and environment and favouring local solutions;
- Responding to God's call to partner to heal social and ecological issues with determination and hope.

May we as Salvationists affirm with the farmer and writer Wendell Berry that we can take "literally the statement in the Gospel of John that God loves the world ... [and] believe that divine love, incarnate and indwelling in the world, summons the world always towards wholeness, which ultimately is reconciliation and atonement with God."



Matt Seaman attends Nambour Corps and is The Salvation Army representative for the Qld Churches Environmental Network



Salvation Army prepares for response

Dear friends,

As you may know by now, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse is holding a public hearing into The Salvation Army.

The hearing, (scheduled to begin 28 January), is focussing on four boys homes during the period from 1965-1977. The Salvation Army deeply regrets the harm that came to a number of people while they were in our care.

We want to assure you of our full cooperation with the Royal Commission. We also understand that many of you have questions about this hearing and our response. We want to ensure that information is readily available if and when you need to access it.

To facilitate this, we have launched a website that houses a number of resources.

These resources include:

- Information to support those who wish to bring matters to the attention of The Salvation Army;
- Information for those currently receiving care from The Salvation Army or providing care on our behalf;
- Information for employees and other supporters of The Salvation Army.

Our prepared statement is available at salvos.org.au

This is a time for care leavers to share their experiences with the Royal Commission and we acknowledge that this is a difficult time for them. The Salvation Army does not want to interrupt this opportunity for care leavers to speak out and, therefore, we ask that you refer all media enquiries to our Communications Department on (02) 9266 9820 or via email to

mediaofficer@ae.salvationarmy.org

As the Royal Commission does its work, people may speak with you about The Salvation Army's response to child sexual abuse. Please listen respectfully. It is wise not to try to defend The Salvation Army, or to minimise the wrongs done.

Anyone who would like to report instances of abuse is encouraged to contact our Professional Standards Office on (02) 9266 9781.

There is no doubt that people will be distressed by some of the tragic accounts which will be given. If you, or someone you know, is in need of support during this time we encourage you to contact Salvo Care Line on 1300 363622.

Today's Salvation Army has strong policies in place to protect children and it ensures those policies reflect that the protection of children is of the most serious of our obligations.

We continue to improve our processes so that children will never be placed in situations like this again and welcome the recommendations from the Royal Commission of how we can further protect children in our care.

Please pray for The Salvation Army during the hearing. Above all, pray that we will act justly and compassionately towards all who have been wronged. Pray that we will speak the truth about all matters and all people, being fair to all.

We thank you in advance for your support in passing all Royal Commission enquiries to our Communications Department.

Major Bruce Harmer

Territorial Communications and Public Relations Secretary



Every Christian seems to have a favourite Bible verse that has either impacted them at one stage in their walk with Christ or continues to encourage and nourish them on their spiritual journey. In this *Pipeline* column, selected people share their favourite piece of Scripture

My Favourite Verse – Glenda Brown

"You have granted me life and steadfast love, and your care has preserved my spirit," Job 10:12

Several years ago, I read of Wayne Cordeiro's study of the Scripture method called SOAP. It's an acronym for Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer.

At the time, as a corps officer, I began using this method in my personal devotions and also as a discipleship teaching tool for our congregation. However, I began to see a pattern in my devotions, in that my Observations were only my thoughts and my Application was quite self-condemning and negative. My Prayer was mostly a prayer for forgiveness and asking God to help me be better.

I was also craving to hear and know the voice of God. I was craving to have

him speak to me as he did to those in the Bible. So I decided to use my time of SOAP as a prayer, and to SOAP every Scripture in the Bible with the word "love". I believed that I could not be the disciple-maker God had called me to be if I didn't fully understand the love he has for me or the heart he has for the lost.

Now, as I write down the Scripture verse I pray as I observe it: "God, why did you write this verse?" Then, I just wait to hear what he says and write word for word what I hear. Then I pray: "Lord, how do you want me to apply this to my life?" Again, I wait and write exactly what I hear.

These are the words God spoke to me about this beautiful verse in Job. It is written for Job, but I learnt that it's also written for you and me.

"You have granted me life and steadfast love, and your care has preserved my spirit."

Observation – God, why did you write this verse?

"Job knew my (God's) heart. He knew my true love for him and he knew and trusted my care."

Application – Lord, how do you want me to apply this to my life?

"Keep growing in this steadfast love, my child. My care will preserve your spirit if you keep your eyes on me and not on people or circumstance. It's my love, my care that preserves and sustains you."

Prayer – My prayer

"I sit in your embrace, Lord. You are my love, your care preserves my spirit."

This small exercise has changed my life. I cannot explain the love of God that is being poured into me every day. I now hear his voice clearly. I know his voice. I hear him speak to me about who is ready to hear the gospel. I hear his words of encouragement. I am close to him – I hear and know his heart.

ZERO TOLERANCE SEXUAL ABUSE

The Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse will inevitably focus at times on past abuse within The Salvation Army.

I want to reaffirm at this time our total commitment to our child protection policies. It is vital that all who work with children follow these policies, as spelt out in our *Caring for Kids/Safe Salvos* manual. In keeping with that policy, all allegations of sexual abuse must be reported to the authorities.

I also want to reaffirm our commitment to persons who suffered sexual abuse in the past within a Salvation Army corps or children's home. If you were abused, please tell us. Any persons who come forward with complaints of abuse will be received with compassion. A careful restorative process will then be followed.

If you feel you need to make a complaint, please contact us at our Territorial Headquarters.



Phone: 02 92669781

Email: psa@ae.salvationarmy.org

Mail: Professional Standards Office
The Salvation Army
PO Box A435
Sydney South 1235

Commissioner James Condon
Territorial Commander
The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory



每一個基督徒都會有一節最喜歡的聖經金句。在他們與基督同行的某一個階段，他們的屬靈生命都曾經被那金句所影響，或給予繼續的鼓勵和餵養。在這“管道”的專頁中，不同的人被邀請去分享他們最喜歡的經文。

我最喜歡的經文：布朗·歌姐

你將生命和慈愛賜給我、你也眷顧保全我的心靈。
(約伯記10:12)

幾年前，我讀了韋恩·科代羅的研究聖經方法稱為SOAP。這個英文縮寫，是經文，觀察，應用和祈禱。當時，作為一個救世軍軍官，我開始用這方法作為我的個人靈修和門徒訓練的工具。不過，我開始看到在我的靈修模式裏，我的觀察只是我的個人想法和我的應用是相當自我譴責和負面。我的禱告主要是一個祈求寬恕，並祈求上帝幫助我成為更好。我也渴望聽到和知道上帝的聲音。我渴望祂對我說話好像在聖經裏祂對那些人說話一樣。所以，我決定用SOAP的時間作一個禱告，並且在SOAP裏用聖經裏有“

愛”字的經文。我認為，如果我沒有完全理解祂對我的愛或對失喪的人的心，我就不能成為神呼召我要成為的門徒訓練者。

現在，當我寫下經文，我會祈禱，我觀察它：“上帝，你為什麼寫這經文？”

然後，我就等著聽祂說話，並把我聽到的一個字一個字寫下。然後我祈禱：“主啊，你想我怎樣將其應用到我的生活中？”同樣，我等待和寫下我聽到的。

神對我說的話就是這些在約伯記中美麗的詩句。它是專為約伯寫的，但我知道，它也是為你和我寫的。

“你將生命和慈愛賜給我、你也眷顧保全我的心靈。”

觀察 – 上帝，你為什麼寫這首詩？

“約伯知道我的（上帝的）心，他

知道我對他的真愛，他知道並信任我的照顧。”

應用 – 主啊，你想我怎樣將其應用到我的生活裏？

“在這個堅定的愛裏保持成長，我的孩子。如果你把眼光定睛在我身上，而不是人或環境。我會小心保護你的靈，這就是我的愛，我要照顧，保護並支撐著你。”

祈禱 – 我的祈禱

“我坐在你的懷抱裏，主。你是我的愛，你的關懷保守我的靈。”

這個小練習已經改變了我的生活。我無法解釋神每天傾倒在我身上的愛。我現在聽到祂清晰的聲音，我認得祂的聲音，我聽到祂對我說誰已準備好願意聽福音。我聽到祂鼓勵的話。我靠近祂 – 我聽到並知道他的心意。

THE CONVERSION EXPERIENCE

Experiencing salvation through Jesus Christ is the biggest life-changing event that can happen to someone. **Captain BRIAN AULT** looks at the elements which combine to produce this experience

The conversion experience is such a spiritual and emotional time that we can focus on the experience without coming to grips with what has really happened to us in that life-changing event. The true conversion experience through Christ is a life-saving change.

Wesleyan-Arminian belief is that “free will” and “faith response” are essential to the crisis experience of Christian conversion.

“Free will” is a person’s ability to choose either good or evil. Our will is free, or it does not deserve the name “free will”.

“Faith response” is the perception and reception of divine realities, for faith is the means by which we draw upon the divine will.

It is right to remember the time when Jesus came into our life. So what happens to us at conversion?

Conversion begins with God’s initiative in the call or conviction that enables a person to repent. Conversion defines the moment one enters salvation and is a pivotal point where, through grace, a person turns from sin to Christ.

The Arminian view of conversion is of universal redemption and freedom which

holds that all people may be saved. Every person can make a choice for salvation or condemnation. In salvation, the lost are recovered. Jesus said in Luke 19:10 “For the son of man came to seek and save the lost.”

No human atonement can suffice for the only one hope is offered. That eternal atonement is what Christ achieved on the cross of Calvary.

With an emphasis on moral freedom, it holds that the universality of the atonement is the pivotal point, where through grace, a person turns from sin to Christ.

While the lostness of humanity experiences in the world is real, it is not final. The lost soul may be found, the alienation overcome, the waste stopped, the bewilderment ended. It was for this that Jesus came.

Salvation is more than being found. It is recovery; being brought home by Jesus Christ.

There are six concomitant aspects of conversion, namely forgiveness, justification, regeneration, sanctification, adoption, and witness or indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

These elements are all part of the whole process of the conversion

experience, culminating at the moment one enters salvation.

Forgiveness

Forgiveness, in broad terms, covers what God does for the lost, in rescuing from sin, corruption, death and hell. In forgiveness, God meets our unworthiness and forgives, bringing us into fellowship with himself. Sin is essentially a revolt against God’s lordship and can only be absolved by humble repentance and divine forgiveness. God’s response to a person’s return is forgiveness.

Justification

Justification is that gracious and judicial act of God, by which he grants full pardon from all guilt and complete release from the penalty of sins committed. To be justified, therefore, is to be pardoned from sin and stand acquitted before the bar of divine justice and accepted into the favour of God. We do not justify ourselves. We have nothing to offer that merits righteousness, but we do have a God-given responsibility to appropriate freely the gift of justification.

Regeneration

The moment a person is justified,

God sows the seed of every virtue in the soul. From that time the believer gradually dies to sin and grows in grace. Regeneration thus marks the beginning of personal sanctification. The birth of the Spirit begins the renewal and imparts new life and is accomplished by the Holy Spirit who produces fruit; for example, love. Regeneration is seen as God giving new life. It is like a caterpillar which changes into a butterfly. It is completely transformed into a new creature. The need for regeneration is due to the moral depravity of human nature.

Sanctification

Sanctification refers to the cleansing that accompanies regeneration and makes one fit for fellowship with God. This is but the beginning of a process. The Christian life is not simply something that once happened. It is a continuing process or growth in positive holiness.

This sanctification at the moment of conversion is seen as partial rather than entire, and is the beginning of the pathway to holiness. The Christian life is not simply something that happens once. It is a continued process or growth in positive holiness.

Adoption

Adoption is a specific act of God’s grace distinct from calling, regeneration and justification. It is that act by which a person becomes a child of God. In adopting us, God bestows on us a right, a right to belonging to all who believe in Jesus’ name. Like the term regeneration, adoption has a wider application in the New Testament than to the restoration of the individual. The experience of regeneration gives us moral likeness to God, while adoption offers a place in the father’s household as sons and daughters.

Indwelling of Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the one who, before conversion, convicts and creates awareness within the believer of their need of repentance and Christ. At the point of conversion, the Holy Spirit, as the agency of the divine bestowal of Christ’s holiness and the power of inherent goodness, takes up residence in the believer’s soul. The Holy Spirit becomes the voice of divine assurance within and generates that confidence whereby a person knows that he or she is a child of God.

In this modern age where

computers are commonplace, we can be unaware of their full potential. I use mine to achieve what I need, and so there are many features within a computer I have never used. But I am also aware that is how we can look at the conversion experience. We can remember the experience and focus on that. We also should remember also what was achieved within us.

In any personal testimony, we can say how we were and how God through Jesus Christ touched our lives. But, also remember that through that life-changing event, we have been eternally changed.

We have been forgiven, justified, regenerated or completely changed, sanctified or set apart from all worldly desires, adopted into the family of God, and have the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us in daily living.



Captain Brian Ault
is a retired officer of
the Australia Eastern
Territory

“Conversion defines the moment one enters salvation and is a pivotal point where, through grace, a person turns from sin to Christ.”

Tariro

– a story of hope



AFTER HER VISIT TO THE SALVATION ARMY'S HOWARD HOSPITAL IN ZIMBABWE, **MAJOR SANDRA WELCH** TELLS A STORY OF HOPE ABOUT A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY FOUNDED MORE THAN 80 YEARS AGO

The blazing heat of the midday sun beats down on our vehicle as we make our way down the bumpy, dusty road en route to The Salvation Army's Howard Hospital in Zimbabwe.

The land is parched and the air is dry and hot with a hint of smoke. Locals smile and wave or glance quizzically as we go by. We drive past animals grazing in the fields and a river where groups of women busily wash their clothes. Others transport bulky bundles of firewood on their heads and children freely roam, clambering over rocks and playing in groups.

At the end of a rutted road, we arrive at the hospital and are welcomed by delightful children who shout out eager greetings in tuneful chorus: "Fine! Fine! How you?" – desperately wanting to practise their English on us.

History of hope

This is a story of tariro, which means "hope" in Shona, a native Zimbabwe language. Since 1923 The Salvation Army has been providing the people of Chiweshe, a town located 80km north of Zimbabwe's capital, Harare, with medical services after founding a school called the Howard Institute.

The need for quality medical

services became apparent as Salvation Army officers with little medical training initially carried out these services. This resulted in Howard Hospital officially opening in September 1928. The following year a nurses training program was added.

During this time, the Chiweshe community received first-rate medical care from hospital staff. Today, Howard Hospital offers its services to more than 250,000 people in and around the rural community of Chiweshe.

This 144-bed hospital runs a number of community-based programs, inpatient and outpatient care, as well as a mobile clinic that provides immunisation programs and family health programs in rural areas.

Howard Hospital maintains a high-quality reputation in the Chiweshe area, according to Thomas Moudyiwat, Chiweshe's well-respected headman (community leader).

"Howard Hospital is our hospital and it helps the community very well," he says.

Mr Moudyiwat says he also prays the hospital will maintain its valued position in the community because in helping this rural area it "helps the whole nation".

Due to the hospital's excellent

reputation, people travel long distances to access the hospital's medical services. Mr Moudyiwat, who has been headman for 27 years, explains that patients even travel from Zimbabwe's capital. During my visit to the hospital, one patient told me: "I come here because the staff really care."

Teaching facility

Student nurses also come from all over the country to train at Howard Hospital because of its high-standard teaching methods, facilities and the ethos of the hospital.

Zimbabwe's Mashonaland Central Provincial Medical Director, Dr Tshuma, recommends the medical training facility.

"The training centre has a high pass rate. Nurses who have graduated at Howard are well qualified," he says.

Howard Hospital's Nurse Training Centre offers three residential training courses – a primary care course, a diploma in midwifery and a six-month up-scaling midwifery course. There are about 40 student nurses involved in the training program.

These training programs are headed up by Scottish Salvation Army officer Major Joan Gibson. She is a highly experienced clinician

and teacher who has worked as a nurse in Africa since 1977 and at Howard Hospital since the 1980s.

As I visited the labour ward I learned approximately 1000 babies are safely delivered at Howard Hospital each year. They have a mothers' shelter for women who are 34-35 weeks pregnant but live some distance from the hospital. It is beneficial for them to await the birth of their baby in the shelter rather than in a rural area where there is no medical provision.

The hospital also has a small neo-natal unit which provides specialised care for up to eight babies.

Wide-ranging care

The hospital also provides Family Child Health programs that include antenatal and postnatal clinics, family planning, immunisations, nutritional information and general support and guidance.

Due to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa, the hospital offers hope by providing wide-ranging treatments at their Tariro Clinic through its counselling centre and antiretroviral therapy. Additionally there are a number of programs for orphaned and vulnerable children and child sponsorship programs for children affected by HIV/AIDS.

Since September 2012, the Tariro HIV program has worked without disruption, as has the tuberculosis prevention, treatment and care programs.

At the beginning of 2013, US Agency for International Development began funding a five-year program for expectant mothers with HIV to receive antiretroviral treatments prior to the birth of their babies.

Howard Hospital's high-quality reputation is seen through the number of people treated in 2013. Throughout the first half of 2013, some 60 in-patients were treated at the hospital each night, the majority in the maternity ward. On average, 150 people daily attend the outpatient department, the antenatal clinic and the Tariro Clinic which supports HIV/AIDS patients and other community-based services, including home-based care and programs for orphans and vulnerable children.

Hope for tomorrow

A new premises for Howard Hospital is being built and it is hoped that the building will be finished sometime this year. The funding to complete the new hospital has been donated by The Salvation Army's USA Eastern Territory. The move to the new

premises will result in improved quality of sustainable care.

The theatre wing of the new hospital was originally designed poorly and is also being restructured. There will be two theatres offering surgical procedures.

Dr Zairenthiama Pachau, who was appointed Chief Medical Officer several months ago, says while practising medicine in rural Africa presents difficult and challenging circumstances, his team's success rates are high.

"I see miracles every day – I don't only believe, I see," he says.

The story of tariro, which began more than 80 years ago, continues in the Chiweshe community as The Salvation Army works to improve the services at the hospital, remaining committed to its future and serving the complex and challenging country of Zimbabwe.

Major Sandra Welch was born and grew up in South Africa. She was Editor-in-Chief at The Salvation Army's International Headquarters in London at the time of writing this article, which was first published in the 2013 October–December issue of *All the World*, The Salvation Army's international magazine.

ABOVE: The Salvation Army's Howard Hospital in Zimbabwe has a reputation for high-quality medical services and facilities, especially in the area of care for expectant mothers and their babies. (From left) Ruvarashe with one of her nine-day-old twins in the neonatal unit; Dr Chikwenjere, Major Joan Gibson and D. Museka outside the training centre; new and expectant mothers wait to see the nurse at the hospital clinic. Photos: Major John Murray

SEIZING THE DAY

UNLOCKING THE ARMY'S ARCHIVES

While most early Salvationists would not have known the meaning of *carpe diem*, **Major DAVID WOODBURY** says their willingness to think quickly and creatively in response to an opportunity shows they clearly behaved in the spirit of the Latin phrase

Carpe diem: to seize the day

To many in Australia, The Salvation Army is a multifaceted organisation that touches the lives of many in the community. Its influence reaches not only those who are disadvantaged or in need, but also into areas of government and the corporate sector.

Many of the programs and innovations reflected in today's Salvation Army were the result of a spontaneous response to a need,

motivated by love for God and man; an immediate response to seize the day rather than the result of lengthy analysis and planning.

League of Mercy

The insight and spontaneity of early Salvationists enabled the Army to quickly identify and address areas of human need and opportunities for mission.

In 1885, five years after the Army commenced in Australia, the then-field secretary Major Alfred Barrett was confined to hospital. Barrett soon realised there was a field of mission among those confined to hospital and arranged for Salvationists to commence visitation. In 1897, this became the League of Mercy, a mission that went on to become for many people the face of compassionate caring. Today, Salvationists in Australia continue to minister to those in hospitals, nursing homes and other facilities where people are in need of a listening ear and a comforting hand.

Court and prison ministry

On 21 September 1882, the ministry of The Salvation Army was significantly reinforced with the arrival in Melbourne of Major

James Barker and his wife Alice, appointed by General William Booth as the Australasia Provincial Commander. Barker proved to be a man of great insight and innovation and was to impact The Salvation Army world far beyond Australia.

Soon after his arrival, he was given the privilege of conducting weekly meetings with prisoners in Melbourne Gaol. Barker soon realised that what many of these men needed was a fresh start in life and he organised a house not far from the gaol where they were provided with accommodation and guidance.

His work with the Prison-Gate Brigade was to become a model for ministry within courts and prisons throughout the world.

Today throughout the Army's Australia Eastern Territory, court and prison chaplains still seek to rescue men and women and point them to a better way of life.

The Limelight Department

For early Salvationists it was imperative to find innovative ways to communicate the gospel. While visiting one of the Army's Prison-Gate Homes in Ballarat in 1891, Major Alfred Barrett observed the use of a "magic lantern" by



A Salvation Army Cavalry Fort, used for rural ministry in the late 19th century in southern NSW.

the manager, Joe Perry. He was intrigued by the possibilities that such equipment might provide. Perry was brought to Melbourne, initially to advertise meetings to be held there by William Booth. So successful was the venture that a Limelight Department was set up under Barrett, with their first show on Boxing Day 1891, at South Melbourne.

Perry soon realised the potential of the Kinetographic (movie) Camera, invented in 1894, and persuaded The Salvation Army to invest in the new technology. Perry was to make history by producing one of the world's first audio-visual productions, *Soldiers of the Cross*, and the Limelight Department was commissioned to record the Federation of Australia. Limelight Brigades were to travel the length and breadth of Australia and New Zealand, drawing large crowds to hear the gospel message.

Throughout Australia today, The Salvation Army communicates the gospel message with contemporary media tools. Salvation Army websites are regularly found in cyberspace and modern communication studios facilitate the spread of the gospel through print, video and radio.

Emergency Services

In 1891, severe flooding in the Brisbane area gave The Salvation Army its first experience of ministry during an emergency. Many people were made homeless by the floods and Salvation Army halls were quickly utilised to provide shelter and meals. The Army's ministry during natural and man-made emergencies has become to many an illustration of "Christianity with its sleeves rolled up". Today, the Army has a fleet of specialised emergency services vehicles available to meet the needs of those traumatised by disaster.

Rural ministry

While many of the Army's early leaders in Australia, such as Charles Jeffries, were not native to this part of the world, but originated from England, they were not daunted by the vast expanses of bush.

In 1887, Jeffries, then-divisional officer in southern NSW, secured the loan of three horses and a caravan to extend the ministry into many remote rural areas.

The Cavalry Forts, as they were known, proved to be a great innovation in not only spreading the gospel but also establishing new Salvation Army corps.

Similar travelling units were also established in other parts of Australia. Today, Salvation Army ministry extends over many remote parts of Australia, through rural chaplains and flying padres.

Taking the opportunity to seize the day, pioneer Salvationists in Australia developed many diverse aspects of Christian ministry and service. While these early pioneers had little concept of the extent to which The Salvation Army would impact the community as it does today, their faithfulness in planting mustard seeds has resulted in many mighty works.

Their obedience to God's leading, their willingness to innovate and take risks, and their "holy boldness" provided a secure foundation on which generations of Salvationists have built today's Army. This stands as an example of what can be achieved when men and women are fully obedient to the leading of God's Spirit.



Major David Woodbury is Pipeline's founding editor

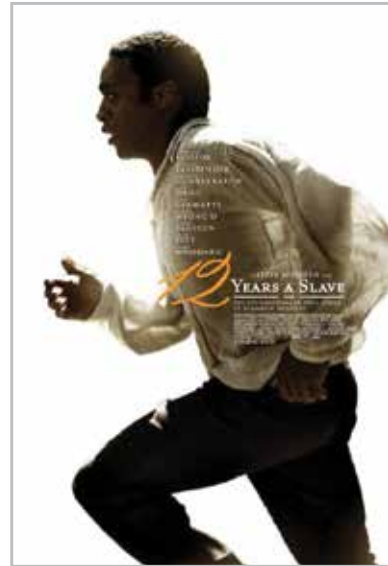


Pioneer in the Australian film industry, Joseph Perry, with some of the early equipment used by the Limelight Department.

12 Years A Slave

RATING: M

RELEASE DATE: 30 January



Right: Benedict Cumberbatch plays the role of Ford, a cotton planter who was Northup's first owner.



Mark Hadley is Pipeline's culture writer

Slavery is a topic that cannot help to move the heart as well as ignite the temper. Many movies have touched on the topic but most get lost in the sheer physical punishments meted out to its victims. But *12 Years A Slave* introduces us to a more damaging, daily horror: the slow separation of an individual from every bright memory and freedom they once enjoyed, including the freedom of conscience.

12 Years A Slave, which recently won the Golden Globe for Best Picture, is based on the real account written by black American Solomon Northup, a citizen of New York who was kidnapped in 1841 and sold into slavery in Louisiana. Shortly after his abduction Northup (Chiwitel Ejiofor) protests that he is a free man, and receives a brutal beating in response. He soon learns that suggesting the world is other than his masters suggest, will only result in pain and oppression.

Northup, a skilled carpenter and violinist, is traded from one master to another until he finally arrives on the cotton plantation of Edwin Epps (Michael Fassbender). There he is alternately subjected

to inhumane punishments and threatening sermons about his duty to God and his master.

As affecting as the savagery he and other slaves suffer is, it is the slow transformation of Northup at this spiritual level that will truly make the audience shudder.

At the beginning of Northup's slavery he is a man who protests his innocence and challenges injustice. However, the longer he stays in captivity, the more his spirit is crushed into the mould his captors require. His speech changes, his manner becomes more servile and he learns to be silent where once he would have spoken out. Though there are occasional flashes of his former self, the warping of his spirit is terrible to watch – and a process Christians might find strangely recognisable.

The Bible contains several warnings about the choking nature of evil. Lot, Abraham's nephew, places his family in the city of Sodom and his wife and daughters are eventually infected by its lusts. The first Psalm cautions about the danger of the company of the wicked. And Jesus warns us about weeds that strangle

and the bad yeast that spoils the whole bread. Whether forced or chosen, a constant exposure to evil will corrupt every part of a person's soul until, like Northup, we find ourselves almost unable to remember our true selves.

However, the title of *12 Years A Slave* tells the viewer that even this horrible situation can come to an end. At the depth of his depravity Northup sings with the rest of the slaves that God will remember his soul, though at the time he does so with little hope. Yet though slavery might begin in a moment and its effects shape the course of a lifetime, it can end just as quickly.

God doesn't forget Northup, as his story bears out. Neither does God forget those who crush his children, as one former slave reminds Northup: "In time the Lord will see to them all. The curse of the pharaohs is but a small account of what awaits the entire plantation class."

History bears out the faithfulness of that prediction too, reminding those with the eyes to see that though their path might lead them through the valley of shadows, God is faithful to the end.

The Book Thief

RATING: M

RELEASE DATE: 9 January



Australian actor Geoffrey Rush plays the role of Hans Hubermans, who becomes a foster parent to Liesel Meminger, played by Sophie Nélisse in *The Book Thief*.

Hollywood has hit a home run! What was a profound and enthralling book has been turned into an equally meaningful movie for the summer crowds.

The Book Thief is based on the *New York Times* bestseller by the same name. Markus Zusak's story concerns Liesel Meminger, a young German girl placed with foster parents during World War II because her mother is a communist.

She comes to live on Himmel (Heaven) St in the little town of Molching, where she meets her new parents, Mama and Papa Huberman. At first the Hubermans seem to be a sad pair to be stuck with – Rosa (Emily Watson) is a stern woman with a razor-sharp tongue and Hans (Geoffrey Rush) is a house painter who struggles to hold down a job. But together they not only teach Liesel how to read and care for herself, but a loving sense of humour that helps her see the better side of life.

The Book Thief is a perfectly paced tale with emotional characters who worm their way irresistibly into your heart. However, the most interesting

individual is no person at all. The story is narrated by Death, given voice by Roger Allam. *The Book Thief* is in fact the story of Death's interest in Liesel and the various occasions on which he encounters her. Through Death's eyes we are introduced to the real heartbreaks of the human race, including the tragedy of young men marching off to war: "It's always the same – the excitement. I've met so many young men over the years who thought they were running at their enemy when the truth was they were running at me."

I'm in favour of any book or film that encourages us to take a closer look at death. Not the glamorised sacrifices that are slotted into Hollywood dramas, nor the disturbing titillation that overflows in horror films. I mean real death: the unavoidable cliff that every human being will have to come to terms with sooner or later.

Hans Huberman struggles to assist those oppressed by the Nazi regime, including a number of Jews.

In doing so, he reminds his neighbours that life is not about avoiding death but reaching your

last day having lived like a real human being.

Of course, it's expected that a fair amount of humanism will work its way into a book that acknowledges death but has no real sense of what comes next.

In the face of the worst tragedies, *The Book Thief* often misconstrues death as a blessed release. "In the end, there are no words," Death tells us. "Only peace." But this is small comfort to those left pondering the grave problem of evil. If the same fate awaits Hitler as that which awaits Liesel Meminger, then why follow Hans' example?

The Book Thief will be doing us a favour if it encourages us to consider how we would feel a heartbeat after our demise. If the prospect of dying fills us with dread, then it challenges us to ask why? If we cling to the things of this life because we have no assurance of peace in the world to come, then it would certainly be better to sort out that concern this side of the grave. And if a Christian is there to tell us about the One who defeated death so that no-one need live in fear, then all the better.

Christmas mission connects the bush



Clockwise from left: The nativity play in Binnaway; making gingerbread houses in Dubbo; Major Maree Strong leads a service in the park at Gulargambone; Captain Jennifer Stringer (right), the mission face painter, with one of her creations; Commissioner James Condon being let loose with a paint brush in Tottenham.

By Major MAREE STRONG

Late last year, my husband, Major Trevor Strong, and I, as Salvation Army rural chaplains, led two teams of volunteers on separate Christmas missions in Central NSW.

The first mission commenced on 26 November, with a team of 17 volunteers from The Salvation Army and the Rotary Club of Canberra East gathering on the host property, "Thurn", near Quambone, for a three-day mission.

The program provided opportunities for volunteers to labour alongside farmers on their properties, work on the renovation of the floor of Quambone Store and host two evening events – a Christmas dinner meeting with Coonamble Rotary Club and a community barbecue and Christmas evening at Quambone Primary School.

More than 100 people attended the community event which commenced with families assembling and decorating gingerbread houses and trees. After a gourmet barbecue meal, everyone gathered for a time of carols singing and involvement in the nativity drama.

The Rotary Club of Canberra East again provided a significant portion of funding for this project, including the provision of 25 beautiful Christmas hampers for farming families in the district and 55 kits for the popular gingerbread activities for both missions.

On 11 December, we led a new team of Salvation Army volunteers on a five-day Christmas mission in the communities of Gilgandra, Tooraweenah, Gulargambone, Binnaway, Dubbo and Tottenham.

The team held concerts in two retirement villages in Gilgandra and organised and led the community carols events in Tooraweenah, Gulargambone and Binnaway. All the events were held outdoors and the stable, manger and the baby Jesus took centre stage on each occasion, forming the backdrop to the interactive nativity drama and challenge at the conclusion of each event.

Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, joined the team in Dubbo for the final two days of the mission. After a barbecue dinner at Dubbo Corps on Saturday 14 December, Commissioner Condon joined 70 other people of all ages who gathered around tables to be creative

with gingerbread, icing and lots of lollies.

While the gingerbread creations dried, everyone enjoyed participating in the "Christmas Connections" concert in the main hall.

The Wellington and Dubbo corps united for worship on the Sunday morning and Commissioner Condon spoke on "Waiting for Christmas". There was a wonderful response to the challenge, "What are you waiting for?"

On the Sunday afternoon, the mission team, band and a busload of Dubbo Corps folk travelled to the rural community of Tottenham to support the community carols event.

The band was joined by a local group of musicians called "The Late Notes" in providing the music for the evening, while Captain Jennifer Stringer, our mission face painter, was kept busy by the huge number of children wanting their faces painted.

Commissioner Condon addressed the crowd at the start of the night, spoke with a number of farmers present and attempted face painting! I was privileged to give the message at the conclusion of the evening, challenging everyone present, including Santa, to connect with the Christ of Christmas.

Commissioner inspires corps and community



Commissioner James Condon was the special guest for a weekend of celebration and ceremony, which was part of the bush mission, at Dubbo Corps in December.

The Rural Mission team led an inspiring Christmas family night on the Saturday. On the Sunday morning, Dubbo Corps Officers Majors Colin and Kate Young enrolled two new junior soldiers, Mitchell Jones and Noah Fenton, Commissioner Condon presented Commissioner's Legion Awards to Harrison Powell and James Austin (pictured above), and then acknowledged Red Shield Family Store manager Lindsay Foggon and his 15 years' service.

"It was a real blessing to be at Dubbo," Commissioner Condon said. "There were a number of seekers and a great congregation including folk from Wellington."

On the Sunday night, Commissioner Condon travelled 135km to nearby Tottenham – population 300 but known as the geographical centre of NSW – for community carols as part of the bush mission. There were about 500 people in attendance, including about 100 children. Dubbo Corps band supported the event which was led by Major Maree Strong, who gave the Christmas message.

"I had the opportunity to speak to many farmers who had come to town for the carols and they expressed thanks to me for the work of the rural chaplains who turn up 'just at the right time'," Commissioner Condon said.

"Can I also ask that we please pray for our farmers as there is severe drought across NSW and Queensland."

BUSH MISSION

Salvos volunteers make Christmas special in the outback

By Envoy VICKI GRAHAM

For the past seven years, in the lead-up to Christmas, volunteer bandmen and women and helpers have journeyed west to assist Salvation Army rural chaplains in bringing the Christmas message to the NSW outback.

This year, 16 Salvationists travelled to Bourke to support Envoys Lloyd and Vicki Graham with a Christmas mission trip from 5-11 December.

On the first afternoon of the mission, the team completed a 400km round trip from Bourke to Weilmoringle to give a concert, present gifts to the children and provide an afternoon tea.

It was another 400km round trip, to Wanaaring, the next afternoon, the journey made on a mainly gravel/dirt road. Following afternoon tea in the park, toys were delivered to the homes of children and the band played a few tunes in the street, before playing carols in the community hall while people were arriving for the school presentation night.

On the Saturday afternoon, it was another gravel road for a 200km round trip to Louth for the village Christmas party. The band played carols and presented a short concert.

The band provided the music for the carols at the Bourke Christian Church on the Sunday morning, and again in the afternoon when the mission team held a Christmas Celebration Service at the Full Gospel Family Fellowship Church.

The next morning it was a 100km trip north to Enngonia for a concert at the local school. Again, there were toys to give out



The Christmas Mission Team which ministered in the NSW outback.

and morning tea was provided. On Tuesday morning, aged care residents and staff joined the team outside Bourke hospital for a short concert, before another concert was given, at the Rivergum Aged Care Centre, in the afternoon.

On the final day of the mission it was an early start for the 100km journey east to Brewarrina Hospital/ Aged Care facility for a morning concert which was also attended by some students from a local school.

For more information and photos of the Christmas mission trip, go to www.salvos.org.au/ruralmission

Children and Families Pastor



An exciting ministry opportunity is available at the Box Hill Corps in Melbourne for a Children and Families Pastor.

This full-time employed position is essential to the ongoing development and expansion of our mission and ministry to children and families in our wider community. Our Corps vision is to be a multi-cultural and multi-generational faith community and the successful applicant will occupy a key role in the achievement of this mission.

For a position description please contact Tania Griffiths on (03) 9890 2993 or tania.griffiths@aus.salvationarmy.org

Completed applications should be sent to:

Major Bram Cassidy

The Salvation Army Box Hill

PO Box 1097, Box Hill VIC 3128

or email: bram.cassidy@aus.salvationarmy.org

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5:00PM, FRIDAY 7TH MARCH 2014

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Memories flow at Bakers' retirement service

By Captain REBECCA INGLIS

Music, ministry and memories were the order of the day for an afternoon of worship and thanksgiving to God for his calling, guidance and empowerment of Majors Gary and Judith Baker as they marked the end of 36 years of active service as officers in The Salvation Army.

Family and friends, many of whom had travelled long distances, gathered at Auburn Corps to celebrate the positive influence the Bakers have had on so many lives for the Kingdom of God.

Commissioner Ian Cutmore was training principal at The Salvation Army Training College in 1976 when Gary and Judith entered as cadets, and he was again on hand to conduct the afternoon's proceedings with his characteristic wit and humour.

Major Sharon Clanfield led more than 200 people in inspiring worship, backed by Gary (playing his vintage telecaster bass) and the band. Songs of inspiration, blessing and thanksgiving were sung with fervour and excitement.

Major Shelley Soper began the tributes with words from a number of officers who have worked with the Bakers over the years, sharing stories that contained both triumph and trial but also held the common thread of the faithfulness of God.

A slideshow of photos cataloguing the life and ministry of Gary and Judith was then shown. The photos, along with many personal messages, were presented to the Bakers in a beautiful leather-bound book of memories.

Kym Briggs, Gary and Judith's daughter, (also representing her brothers



Majors Gary and Judith Baker hold their retirement certificates alongside Commissioner Ian Cutmore, who conducted their retirement ceremony.

Troy and Joel) shared something of what it was like to be the "officers' kid" as the family travelled from corps, to camps and to conferences. Again, through all the stories it was evident that God called Gary and Judith into ministry and he has been faithful throughout their journey.

A video message was played from Gary's parents, expressing their pride and joy in their son and daughter-in-law. The touching tribute brought many to tears, most notably the sincerity with which they praised Gary and Judith.

Captain Andrew Humphries was a young man when he met Gary and Judith. He encountered them again when they were appointed to the Army's School for Youth Leadership. Andrew pointed

out that his calling to ministry was strengthened through the godly influence the Bakers had on his life.

Judith's response was typically hilarious, affirming what many had shared about the Bakers' ability to "keep it real".

Commissioner Cutmore then presented the Bakers with retirement certificates and Australia Eastern Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon shared a prayer.

Gary then had the opportunity to respond and, true to the first purpose of his life, he challenged any who would listen to follow the call of God, to respond to him and make him the Lord of their lives.

Salvos NILS reaches \$1 million in loans

Since Salvos NILS began in September 2010, they have given out \$1 million in loans for essential goods and services to disadvantaged Australians who would normally be unable to access affordable finance.

NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme) loans can be for up to \$1500, with no interest or fees charged, and the option to pay the loan off over an 18-month period.

Many clients come from difficult backgrounds and may be living in refuges or transitional housing.

Australia Eastern Territory Moneycare Consultant Tony Devlin says the work

that Salvos NILS team does goes beyond just providing financial assistance.

"It's not just about providing a loan. It's about introducing people to The Salvation Army. Making good referrals and linking them in with other services, and providing everyone who comes in with some money-management skills, whether they get a loan or not," he says.

There are now 12 NILS centres in the Australia Eastern Territory. More than 900 loans have been provided, with the average loan being just over \$1100.

Loans have been given for purposes ranging from fridges and car repairs to

veterinary expenses and educational training fees.

Tony says the achievement of reaching \$1 million in loans provided is a testament to the hardworking and highly skilled Salvos NILS team, many of whom volunteer their time for the service.

"It's just about doing our job every week and getting loans out there to people who really need them and can't get them otherwise. We try and meet the need as it comes up as best we can, whether that be a financial need, or otherwise," says Tony.

– Nathalia Rickwood

Salvation Army continues to stand by bushfire victims



The Salvation Army has raised more than \$9 million through its Bushfire Appeal for NSW communities impacted by the NSW bushfires in October last year.

Since the outbreak, The Salvation Army has been on the ground assisting bushfire victims, particularly in the Blue Mountains region west of Sydney.

A Salvo Relief Support Centre is continuing to operate at the Springwood Baptist Church.

As bushfire-impacted properties are being cleared, people are now turning their focus to rebuilding.

Major Sue Hopper, The Salvation

Army's Springwood Relief Support Centre Manager, said the need for assistance will become greater as people look to rebuild their homes.

"Experience from previous natural disasters shows that as the rebuilding effort ramps up, the needs of individuals and families can increase dramatically.

"The Salvation Army will stand with bushfire-affected residents for the long term and will continue to provide assistance for however long it takes for the community to get back on its feet."

Major Hopper said this time of year can also be an additional burden for

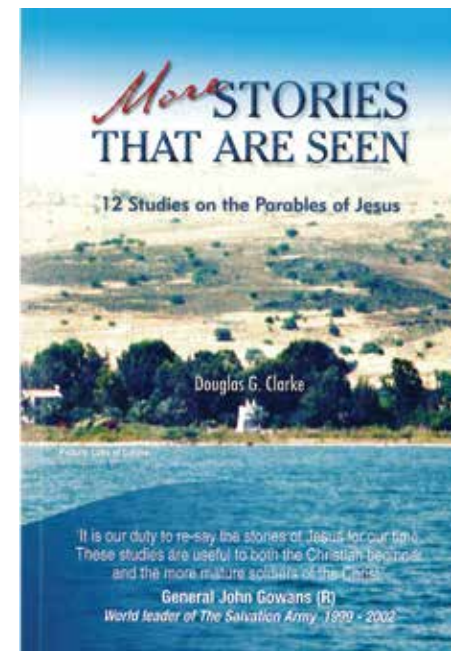
families who are in the recovery process as they have just sent their children back to school.

"We're very mindful that the start of the school year can be quite stressful and assistance is particularly available for families with children returning to school who have lost their homes or had substantial damage to them."

All funds raised through The Salvation Army's Bushfire Appeal will be used to provide financial support, goods and services to assist bushfire victims. To donate visit salvos.org.au

– Esther Pinn

Parables translated into Pidgin for PNG readers



Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas Clarke's popular study series, *The Parables of Jesus*, has been translated into Pidgin to be used as a resource by the Papua New Guinea territory.

The retired Australia Eastern Territory officer's translation was unveiled at PNG's Territorial Commissioning and Ordination for Salvation Army officers in Port Moresby late last year.

Seven parables were selected from Lieut-Colonel Clarke's two previous books on this subject.

"I am absolutely convinced that today, as never before, we urgently need to rediscover and understand the life and teaching of Jesus," Lieut-Colonel Clarke said at the launch. "And for that, no part of the gospel record brings us more swiftly and directly to the mind of our Lord as do the parables. My earnest prayer is that God the Holy Spirit will feed a multitude

with this small resource to the honour and glory of Jesus and the extension of his kingdom."

Major Lorraine Mack, another retired officer from the Australia Eastern Territory, translated the book into Pidgin.

"Major Mack's contribution is truly a 'labour of love' for the people of this country to whom she has given so much of her life and ministry," Lieut-Colonel Clarke said.

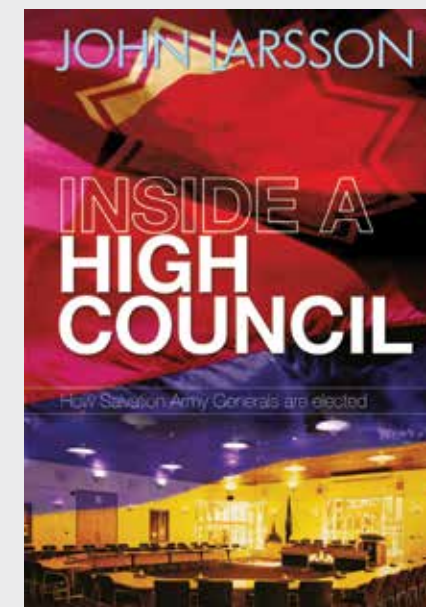
"Without her contribution we would not have this book to launch today.

"My grateful thanks also to Commissioner Andrew Kalai, and to Colonel Neil Webb and Lt-Colonel Miriam Gluyas for oversighting this project to its completion."

Lieut-Colonel Clarke's second parables book *More Stories That Are Seen* (pictured left) is available from Salvationist Supplies (02 92669511).

BOOK REVIEW

INSIDE A HIGH COUNCIL – General John Larsson (Ret.)



General John Larsson's fascinating and fast-moving book 1929 – A crisis that shaped *The Salvation Army's future* – whetted the appetite of its readers for a sequel.

In that book we felt the tidal flow of change and shared the vision of those who, reluctantly but rightly, believed the still-young Army had outgrown the precedent of a leader nominated by his/her predecessor and, instead, should have a leader elected by his/her peers.

This book, *Inside A High Council*, fulfils the need of a sequel admirably and, in the process, dispels lurking assumptions that the High Council is a dull but necessary institution. Like its predecessor, this book is compelling reading.

Members of High Councils have always been people just like us: flawed and redeemed. Like us, their wide experience gained in Salvation Army warfare and their mature judgements owe much, if not everything, to the Holy Spirit.

As we read these chapters it's clear that the blending of human experience with the guiding presence of the Holy Spirit is a supreme element in the work of the Council. Did not God create our

movement? Has he not continued to own it? By prioritising faith, prayer, wise questions, thoughtful answers and presentations each High Council has aspired to achieve God's intentions. *Inside a High Council* reveals how sincere that longing is, as the sense of destiny with which each member votes demonstrates.

General Larsson makes clear that each High Council reflects the growth and development of our Army: essentially, its members are forward-looking, intent on facing the future in partnership with God.

This long-established institution, therefore, is not sterile, but progressive and has served us well; any backward look to previous High Council minutes is for reference only.

When the General-elect has been declared how fitting that he/she should have the support of every member of the Council! It is fitting also, that every member signs the Certificate of Election and Appointment which, on completion, is presented to the General-elect. This book is a must-read book for all who are linked with our Army. It is a treasure.

– Commissioner Harry Read

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ENROLMENTS

EMERALD

Captains Richard and Gaye Day recently enrolled two new soldiers at Emerald. Captain Richard enrolled Julie Hill as a senior soldier and Captain Gaye enrolled Julie's son, Samuel, as a junior soldier.

Julie and her five children started attending The Salvation Army through a community noticeboard Facebook page. Julie had been looking for somewhere to complete one hour of volunteer work each week and Captain Gaye responded, suggesting The Salvation Army.

Julie, a bank teller, began helping with the corps accounts and soon three of her children were attending SAGALA. Julie and her family started coming to church at the corps, she became involved with the worship team and then started attending Bible studies and other corps events.

"It was through these avenues that Julie was introduced to a living Christ and accepted Christ into her life," said Captain Gaye.

"Julie has become an advocate for The Salvation Army in the local community and is looking forward to ministry with Christ through the Army."



Captain Richard Day enrolled Julie Hill as a senior soldier and Captain Gaye Day enrolled Julie's son, Samuel Shepherd, as a junior soldier.

TUGGERANONG

Corps Officer Captain Mark Everitt recently enrolled Marion and Bernie Robinson as senior soldiers at Tuggeranong.

Both gave insights into their lives and faith journey and expressed their desire to serve God in whatever way possible. They sang *I Come to the Garden Alone* as a combined testimony before signing their Soldiers' Covenants.

"The Robinsons are a couple enthusiastic about their faith and very keen to serve others through The Salvation Army," said Major Sandra Lesar, who led the couple through soldiership classes.



Captain Mark Everitt enrolls Bernie and Marion Robinson as senior soldiers.

GRAFTON

Corps Officers Captain Keith Atkinson and Major Christine Atkinson recently enrolled three senior soldiers – Tony Stevens, Myra Grady and Darrell Hodges – and accepted three adherents – Anne and Peter Ackling, and Robert Leek.

"Tony has come to the corps in recent years through contacts with the welfare work of the corps," said Major Atkinson. "He was also presented with his motorbike colours of The Salvation Army so he can work in this much-loved area of ministry."

Myra has been attending the corps for a number of years and felt that God wanted her to become a soldier, while Darrell has come to the corps in recent months. "He had been a senior soldier years ago and has come a complete circle back to his church family," said Major Atkinson. "He and his new wife,



(Back row, left to right) Major Christine Atkinson, Robert Leek, Edwina and Darrell Hodges, Anne Ackling, and Kate Smith; (front row, left to right), Tony Stevens, Myra Grady, Peter Ackling and Captain Keith Atkinson. Corps Sergeant Major Darryll Smidt is holding the flag.

Edwina, are very involved in the musical activities of the corps."

Edwina renewed her Soldiers' Covenant and remains active in women's ministries at Grafton Corps. The Atkinsons also recently enrolled Kate Smith as the corps' only junior soldier.



FORBES/PARKES

During her last meeting at the corps before moving to a new appointment, Corps Officer Major Lynda Bliss enrolled three new senior soldiers – Stephen Klein, and Julie and Wayne Powyer – on Sunday 5 January.

All three are involved in street ministry and are active in visiting people and helping at the corps and Family Store.

"Stephen has been attending the corps for six years, became an adherent a few years ago and has now made this additional step," said Major Bliss.

Wayne and Julie have also been attending the corps for a few



years and made the decision to be enrolled together.

"We just love the work. It's not only church, it's seven days a week," Wayne said of their commitment.

(Left to right) Stephen Klein, Major Lynda Bliss, and Julie and Wayne Powyer. Photo courtesy of the Forbes Advocate.

General shares special time with India Northern 'family'

By Major BABU SAMRAJ

More than 10,000 Punjabi, Hindi, Oriya and Bengali-speaking Salvationists from across the India Northern Territory have joined in joyous celebration and worship with General André Cox and Commissioner Silvia Cox, World President of Women's Ministries.

Territorial leaders Colonels Wilfred Varughese and Prema Wilfred joined hundreds of Salvationists at Amritsar Airport to welcome the international leaders. The General shared in the joy of the welcome, describing the visit as being "with our family".

The General took to the platform for the Saturday youth rally, where he encouraged the 5000 young people to be "about the Father's business", just as Jesus had been when he was young.

While the General was at the rally, Commissioner Cox was encouraging thousands of home league members at Batala Divisional Headquarters. She told the congregation: "You are loved – your love needs to reach the world." Many people subsequently knelt at the mercy seat.

The culmination of the General's



The General and Commissioner Cox, adorned with colourful Indian garlands, take part in some impromptu street dancing during their stay in the India Northern Territory.

visit was the Sunday public worship. The General, in his Bible address, told the congregation that no matter where they are from, or their background or education, they are all members of the family of God.

Large numbers of people moved to the mercy seat to renew their relationship

with God. Following a specific call to Salvation Army officership from the General, 14 young men and women publicly dedicated themselves to this life.

The General and Commissioner Cox also visited India Eastern Territory to lead a territorial congress. To read a report, go to www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/news

Chief of the Staff leads 25th anniversary celebrations in Liberia

By Captain SAMSON KANMOE

Praise and celebration were the hallmarks of the visit to Liberia of the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner William Roberts, and Commissioner Nancy Roberts, World Secretary for Women's Ministries. The international leaders were celebrating 25 years of The Salvation Army's ministry in the African nation.

The welcome meeting was titled "A Celebration of Praise". The united songster item, *All Hail, All Hail, Liberia Hail*, brought the congregation of 1500 people – including Commissioner Nancy Roberts – to their feet, dancing and singing.

In her Bible talk, Commissioner Roberts encouraged everyone to be aware that the weekend was a sacred time. The Chief spoke about praising God and reflecting on what he has done in times past. Over the next two days the Roberts'

kept to a busy schedule that included youth, women's, and men's rallies, an art exhibition featuring works by students from Salvation Army schools, and the unveiling of a special "cornerstone of the command" at Monrovia Sinkor Corps, Liberia's first corps.

Sunday began with a march of witness through the Paynesville community, with the international visitors taking the salute from more than 1500 marchers.

The holiness meeting which followed was attended by the Vice-President of Liberia, Joseph Boakia, who had received the commissioners in his office a few days earlier. Sixty-three soldiers were enrolled and more than 60 people responded to the Chief's Bible message by moving to the mercy seat for prayer.

Commissioners Roberts also visited Brazil last month to lead a congress. To read a report, go to www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/news

Salvation Army provides Tonga cyclone relief

The Salvation Army has been responding to Cyclone Ian, one of the most powerful storms to hit the South Pacific kingdom of Tonga.

The most serious damage from last month's cyclone occurred on the island of Ha'apai, where many buildings collapsed and one person was killed. The category-five cyclone included wind gusts of more than 280km/h.

The Salvation Army's Regional Commander in Tonga, Captain Sila Siufanga, has been liaising with government authorities and other non-governmental organisations about how the Army can help with relief efforts.

The New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga Territory has set up an appeal to support the relief work on. Donations can be made online at www.salvationarmy.org.nz/HelpTonga

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Statesman and saint



Envoy Wilbur Walker, OF, was Promoted to Glory from Sydney on 21 November 2013, aged 92.

A Celebration and Thanksgiving Service was held at Dulwich Hill Corps

led by Major John Rees, a former corps officer and close friend of Envoy Walker. Major Rees noted that Wilbur had been presented with The Salvation Army's highest honour, the Order of the Founder, by General Eva Burrows (Ret.) at the Royal Albert Hall in July 1990.

Part of the citation read, "Envoy Wilbur Walker of The Salvation Army has been untiring in his efforts to re-establish links with mainland China, has helped many Chinese students immigrating to Australia and rendered exemplary service as a local officer during many years ..."

Tributes to Wilbur's life were given by George and Ron Walker (sons) and Rhondda Kingston (daughter) who talked about their father's unshakeable faith and commitment to God and of his active years of strength, intellect, vitality and commitment. Wilbur was a true servant of God, using the abilities that God gave him to serve at Dulwich Hill Corps in many areas: as band sergeant, band secretary, recruiting sergeant and corps sergeant-major, the latter for nearly 20 years.

Major Craig Walker (son) prepared a video tribute and Samuel (grandson) and Lacey Walker brought a moving vocal presentation of *In Christ Alone*.

Alisha Hawkins (granddaughter) read selected verses from Revelation, and Lieutenant Darren Kingston (grandson) represented all the grandchildren in paying tribute to their grandfather, recognising the wonderful Christian heritage he had passed on to following generations. The service was supported by the Sydney Veterans Band (John McComb).

Towards the end of the service, Major Peter McGuigan (Corps Officer) led the congregation in a time of personal reflection, encouraging each person to thank God for Wilbur's particular impact upon their lives.

Wilbur Walker was born on 8 August 1921 to Captains George and Jessie Walker. Three months later, the Walkers, with their new baby, sailed for missionary service in China. Because of an illness he contracted at birth, specialists thought Wilbur could not survive the long boat journey. But his parents' call to missionary service was strong, as was their trust in God. As they undertook the journey, almost immediately Wilbur's health began



Wilbur Walker receives the Order of the Founder from General Eva Burrows at The Royal Albert Hall in London in 1990.

to improve. In China, Wilbur attended a boarding school and later the Tientsin Grammar School where he concluded his education. His sports master during his high school years was Eric Liddell, whose life story was recreated in the film *Chariots of Fire*.

Growing up in China, Wilbur made many Chinese friends and grew to love the Chinese people. In 1939, when he was 18, war broke out and his parents decided to send Wilbur and his sister Jean home to Sydney to live with relatives. Not long after, the Japanese invaded China and Wilbur's parents were sent to separate Japanese Internment Camps. They wouldn't see each other for another three years.

Wilbur joined the Australian Infantry Forces and was sent from Queensland to Western Australia where he was camped near the town of Pinjarra. The local Methodist Church asked if there were any Christians among the soldiers who would be willing to "take a service" at their church. Wilbur responded and a group led the services the next Sunday.

The organist was home on leave from the Women's Australian Air Force that weekend – and love blossomed. Within 12 months Wilbur and Gladys Hodge, the daughter of the Methodist minister, were married.

After the war ended, and with their first child Rhondda Grace, Wilbur and Gladys decided to make Sydney their home and The Salvation Army Dulwich Hill Corps their church.

Over time George Ashley, Ronald Hodge and Craig Howard Leonard were added to the family. Wilbur and Gladys

had the gift of hospitality and Sundays were the days when many visitors to Dulwich Hill Corps were invited home to the Walker's for lunch.

Wilbur never lost his love for China and the Chinese people. When the Chinese Government finally allowed Wilbur to go back to China in 1981 after the Cultural Revolution, he met many previous Salvation Army officers who had suffered terribly.

After that, Wilbur made many visits to China, locating these dear Salvationists to give them gifts of money which was given to him by interested people in Australia and the United States.

In 1987, Wilbur organised a visit to China by the Dulwich Hill Temple Band. The Sunday after the band returned home, there were Chinese people in Dulwich Hill's meeting who had responded to the band's invitation to: "Come to The Salvation Army Dulwich Hill if ever you come to Sydney."

Wilbur nurtured and loved these mostly young students and his commitment to them was unwavering. He had them stay in his home, got them jobs, accommodation and helped them settle into Australian life – even gave them Australian names.

When they got married Wilbur walked the girls down the aisle and they all called him "Dad". Most of them became members of The Salvation Army and some still worship at Dulwich Hill Corps today.

Wilbur Walker's life was a life lived for God and others.

During his thanksgiving service, it was stated that he was both a "statesman" for good and a "saint" of God.

about people

Additional Appointments

Captains David and Rachel **Busst**, Corps Officers, Mackay Corps, Central and North Queensland Division; Major Robyn **Smartt**, Divisional Candidates Secretary, ACT and South NSW Division, effective 9 January.

Appointments

Effective 23 January: Major Andrew **Schofield**, Chaplain Downing Centre Courts, Sydney East and Illawarra Division; Major Julie **Schofield**, Doorways Program Support Officers, Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Social, Program Administration. *Effective 9 January:* Major Kay Clarke-Pearce, Divisional Mission and Resource Director – Social, North NSW Division; Major Heather **Rose**, Divisional Chaplaincy Consultant, Sydney East and Illawarra Division.

Effective date to be advised: Captain Jennifer **Stringer**, Administrator for Lae Primary School, Papua New Guinea Territory.

Promoted to glory

Major Ruby **Dalrymple** on 18 December; Envoy Jayne **Wilson** on 25 December.

Bereaved

Major Joy **Goodacre** of her mother, Rita **Goodacre** on 2 January; Major Kay **Clarke-Pearce**, Lorraine **Norley** on 14 January.

Birth

Lieutenants Beth and Christian **White**, a girl, Eva on 2 January.

Promoted to glory

Lieut-Colonel Martin **Lingard** on 7 January.

Resignation

Captain Bryce **Steep** on 9 January.

Retirement

Major Allison **Wiseman**; Majors Frank and Narelle **Moxon**; Majors Peter and Helen **Pearson**.

time to pray

26 January-1 February

Mozambique Territory, Majors Peter and Gail White; Belmore Corps, Bethany Residential Aged Care, Blacktown City Corps, all NSW; Bethesda Residential Aged Care, Blackwater Corps, both Qld; Australia Day (26); Entry of the *Messengers of Light* session of cadets (28); Sydney Staff Songsters Repertoire Weekend (31 Jan-2 Feb).

2-8 February

Blue Mountains Recovery Services Centre (Hadleigh Lodge), Bonnells Bay Corps, both NSW; Booth College, THQ; Bowen Corps, Brisbane City Temple Corps, Brisbane Central Community Welfare Centre, all Qld; Territorial Social Forum (4-6).

9-15 February

Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), Brisbane Streetlevel Mission, Bundaberg Corps, Bundamba Corps, all Qld; Broken Hill Corps, Broken Hill Social Programs, both NSW; Cadet's Public Welcome (9); Captivated, Sydney (14-16).

16-22 February

Sweden and Latvia Territory; Burrangiri Aged Care Services, ACT; Burwood Corps, Byron Bay Streetlevel Mission, both NSW; Business Administration, THQ; Captivated, Brisbane (21-23).

23 February – 1 March

Caboolture Corps, Cairns Corps/Cairns Multicultural Ministry, Calamvale Corps, Caloundra Corps, all Qld; Campbelltown Corps, Campsie Corps, Campsie Community Welfare Centre, all NSW; Wider Cabinet (24-27).

2-8 March

Canberra City Corps, Canberra Community Welfare Centre, Canberra Recovery Services Centre, all ACT; Capricorn Region Corps, Carindale Corps, both Qld; Cardiff Corps, NSW; National Day of Prayer (2); Administrative Leaders Training Course (4-17); DYS – Consultative Forum (4-6); Divisional Mission and Resource Team Leaders Forum (4-6); Territorial Corps Mission Strategic Planning (6); World Day of Prayer (7); Sydney Staff Songsters Weekend, Newcastle and Oasis, Wyong (8-9).

engagement calendar

Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

Parramatta: Sun 2 Feb – Installation of Divisional Leaders.

*Sydney: Mon 3-Fri 7 Feb – Royal Commission.

Menai: Sun 9 Feb – Installation of Corps Leader, am.

Hurstville: Sun 9 Feb – Public welcome to cadets, pm.

#Sydney: Fri 14-Sun 16 Feb – Captivated by the Word.

*Sydney: Sun 16 Feb – Sydney Congress Hall, 4pm.

#Canberra: Mon 17 Feb – Captivated by the Word.

Sydney: Thu 20 Feb – Territorial Advisory Board.

*Canberra: Sat 22-Sun 23 Feb – Promotional event at Canberra Show.

*Cooma: Sun 23 Feb – Cooma Corps.

#Brisbane: Fri 21-Sun 23 Feb – Captivated by the Word.

Collaroy: Mon 24-Thu 27 Feb – Wider Cabinet Meeting.

Commissioner Jan Condon only

* Commissioner James Condon only

Colonels Richard (Chief Secretary) and Janet Munn

Tuggeranong: Sun 2 Feb – Installation of Divisional Leaders, ACT and South NSW Division.

Hurstville: Sun 9 Feb – Public Welcome of Cadets.

Collaroy: Mon 24-Wed 26 Feb – Wider Cabinet.

Collaroy: Thu 27 Feb – Divisional Commanders Consultation.

THQ: Fri 28 Feb – Orientation for new Divisional Leaders.

#Colonel Janet Munn

*Colonel Richard Munn

PTG REPORTS

Please email Promoted To Glory reports and, if possible, a photograph to *Pipeline* at eastern.editorial@ae.salvationarmy.org. Please limit reports to about 400 words.



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