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# pipeline

THE SALVATION ARMY  
AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY  
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PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## LAND OF THE UNEXPECTED



ARTICLES BY

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*Pipeline* photographer **Shairon Paterson** and Lieutenant-Colonel **Miriam Gluyas** bring you an amazing insight into the inspiring people and God-honouring work being done by The Salvation Army in PNG.

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Drugs and alcohol were the main ingredients of chef Jason Quattromani’s life before God threw Moonyah into the mix. Feature writer **Bill Simpson** relates Jason’s amazing story of recovery and transformation.

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# Everyone loves a good story

A certain Salvation Army officer occasionally stops by my office door, pumps his fist at me and says with gusto, “Keep telling those stories.” I know exactly what he’s getting at, and take great encouragement from it.

The officer isn’t talking about every story in *Pipeline*. He isn’t referring to the events we report on, the programs we promote, the news we bring, the issues we cover, the movies we review ...

Sure, those articles have their place, but what the officer is talking about are the stories of people’s lives being transformed. Stories of people’s recovery, stories of people finding freedom, stories of inspiration and encouragement. Stories of God at work in people’s lives.

These stories form the backbone of every *Pipeline* edition. You will see we devote a lot of space to these stories, and rightly so.

Jesus was the ultimate storyteller, using parables to paint a picture in the listeners’ mind to convey a message. Jesus often begins a narrative by saying,

“There was a man ... there was a woman ... there was a landowner ... a merchant ... an unmerciful servant ... two sons ... a sower ... a shepherd”, and so on. And there begins a story of a life-changing experience in someone’s life.

In this edition of *Pipeline*, we once again “tell those stories”.

There is the story of Dudley Nicholson, the co-ordinator of the Red Shield Appeal in Cowra and the “rocky road” he journeyed on before he came to fulfil this role.

Then there’s the story of Jason Quattromani, a chef at Moonyah Recovery Services Centre in Brisbane, and how God, through The Salvation Army, came to his rescue from a life of drugs and alcohol.

And our main feature focuses on Papua New Guinea, with that territory’s chief secretary Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas telling the stories of the people doing God’s work through The Salvation Army in a “land of the unexpected” which is “ripe for the harvest”.

I hope you enjoy this edition, which

highlights many of our photographer Shairon Paterson’s images from all over the Australia Eastern Territory and Papua New Guinea.

I also pay tribute to our designer Kem Pobjie, who continues to produce outstanding layouts which bring the pages to life.

## Doorknock time

It’s that time of the year again – the Red Shield Appeal!

May I encourage you to get involved during the annual doorknock. The Salvation Army can never have too many volunteers during this time, with every dollar making a difference to the ongoing work of the Army’s programs and social services.

There are about one million people in need throughout Australia who rely on The Salvation Army.

Setting aside a couple of hours over the weekend of 24-25 May to doorknock will go a long way towards helping The Salvation Army reach its \$80 million national target for 2014.

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# GOD OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

**Commissioner JAMES CONDON** says enduring testing times can be God's way of pruning us in order to see our dreams and goals in Christ fulfilled

*"Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God"* (William Carey)



**Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory**

**T**his quote by William Carey ought to inspire us to greater things for God and The Salvation Army's part in the mission of God. What are your dreams and visions?

There is an interesting verse in Genesis chapter 15:1, "After this the Lord spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great.'"

What do the words "after this" refer to? After what? What had been happening in Abram's life up to this point of time?

Abram was called to leave his homeland and take his family as a step of faith, not knowing where he was going. After leaving the familiar, they endured a famine in the land. After he had lied to the king he was embarrassed. After he had a family feud with Lot and then won a battle – after he refused to accept anything from the King of Sodom – after passing all those tests, God appeared to him in a vision.

Would you and I have passed all those tests or given up at the first one?

What does this say to us? Perhaps we give up too soon and do not see our dreams and visions realised because of the "after" testing times.

Those who see their dreams and visions fulfilled are those who persevere under trial and testing. Jacob was another man who, when wrestling with God, refused to quit until he received the blessing.

Christian author A.W. Tozer said, "It's doubtful God can use any man greatly until he's hurt him deeply".

And God's promises are real when going through the tough times. Psalm 34:17-18 says,

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, and he saves those whose spirits have been crushed."

Trials and tests can be likened to a pruning – just like the farmer who needs to regularly prune the trees so that they produce even more, higher-grade fruit, so we, too, must undergo the pruning to remove "dead wood" and thus produce better fruit.

It is "after" the test, the pruning, that visions can be realised and greater things accomplished. But fear can kill our dreams and visions and we need to take hold of the promise of God to protect us through all the tests and trials.

The greatest test for Abraham was the test of faith when asked to sacrifice his only son Isaac, and even in that severe test of faith, he obeyed God and did not quit. What seemed impossible for man was possible with God.

Jesus tells us that faith as small as a mustard seed achieves the impossible.

God promised Abram that his reward would be great, and it was only as he lifted his shield of faith to protect him in the testing times, that he received his reward. He had to keep persevering and believe what he could not see.

So what is your dream – your vision? After the completion of Disney World in Florida, a reporter was interviewing Walt Disney's widow and commented, "Isn't it a shame that your husband never got to see this?" Mrs Disney was quick to correct him, "He did see it. That's why it is here."

People who keep their eye on the goal and the prize, see what others do not see.

Take hold of the promise of God today – "Don't be afraid, I will protect you; your reward will be great".

He is the God of the impossible.

# HOLINESS IN DEALING WITH SHAME AND HONOUR

Continuing a *Pipeline* series written by members of The Salvation Army's International Doctrine Council and entitled "Holiness and ...", **Major ELSA OALANG** provides a contextual approach to the theology of holiness from an Asian perspective

**H**onour and shame is a complex, complicated and challenging theme in human experience. This is an underlying issue affecting most of the struggles, aspirations, tensions and collaborations among people.

When my husband and I were divisional leaders in our previous appointment, we felt its influence in the spiritual journeys of our officers and soldiers when we conducted corps and officer reviews. God spoke beyond the statistical records and review forms. When a decision was made to remove names from the soldiers' roll, the nagging questions confronted my soul: "Why did they leave?"; "What have we done to keep them?" A more painful question was: "Why did they drift away from God?" The process reflected not only the spiritual health of the corps but also required an examination of how we guided and educated our soldiers for holy living. In this article, I will discuss the effects of honour and shame in the complex task of articulating and encouraging holiness among our people, not only in the so-called shame cultures but also in every place where people grapple with a consuming passion for honour and the life-threatening pain of shame.

## Shame and guilt

Psychology classifies societies as either shame-oriented or guilt-

oriented cultures. Psychoanalyst Helen Block Lewis said: "The experience of shame focuses on the self as the centre of negative evaluation whereas in guilt, the focus is on the wrong action."

Most Asian, Latin American, African and Mediterranean countries are considered shame-oriented, while Western countries are guilt-oriented.

Harvard psychiatrist Andrew P. Morrison believes that shame is an underlying factor even in the more sophisticated Western culture. Defined as a feeling of self-worthlessness, Morrison observes that psychological disorders such as addiction, depression, eating disorders and feelings of alienation are manifestations of shame.

With these arguments, we can surmise that the issue of honour and shame permeates every society in varying degrees and expressions.

Shame happens when a person does not meet the standard of their significant others, such as family members, particular groups, or society in general. Compared to guilt, which has something to do with an absolute moral standard, shame is more complex because it also involves social standards or cultural norms.

Surprisingly, the biblical Jewish culture used honour and shame to encourage appropriate behaviour. Instead of describing an act as either right or wrong, words such as noble, honourable, disgraceful

or shameful were used. The *New International Version (NIV)* renders 127 occurrences of the word shame and 53 of the word ashamed. The *NIV* translates the Hebrew words for trespass and iniquity as guilt, but the *King James Bible*, where the Hebrew word study is based, uses the word guilt only twice (Deuteronomy 19:13; 21:9).

The relationship between Yahweh and Israel centres on a reciprocation of honour or shame.

"Those who honour me I will honour, but those who despise me will be disdained" (1 Samuel 2:30). Honour is one of the rewards of blamelessness (Psalm 84:11), and also regarded as an end to pursue (Proverbs 21:21). In a Deuteronomistic stance of blessing for obedience and curse for disobedience, the righteous would question God if something shameful such as disaster, sickness or defeat comes their way (Psalm 71:1), as such experiences should be reserved for the wicked.

In the New Testament the meaning of honour and shame takes different and various angles.

Honour in the New Testament comes from a positive appreciation of a group or society on its member.

Among the members of the Body of Christ, honouring one another is a mark of authentic Christian relationship (1 Corinthians 12:27; Romans 12:10; Philippians 2:29). James rebukes the believers for favouring the rich and





*“... the issue of honour and shame permeates every society in varying degrees and expressions.”*

insulting the poor (James 2:3-7). The power of shame was used by Paul to rebuke wrongdoing: “I say this to shame you” (1 Corinthians 6:5); and “I say this to your shame” (1 Corinthians 15:34). The writer to the Hebrews used the word shame to describe what Christ had to bear on the cross.

### Various challenges

Shame cultures are group-oriented. They love to bond, feel comfortable in the company of one another and always share grief and joys. No-one suffers alone or cries alone; everyone draws strength from one another.

Filipino theologian Dr Barry F. Santos, says that a positive sense of shame “regulates our behaviour in society and makes us act in such a way that people’s feelings are respected and relationships maintained”. While this kind of social relationship bears strength and benefits, there are also tensions and struggles. However, because culture is dynamic and constantly shifting, it should be noted that these challenges come in various degrees and expressions depending upon the influence of education and exposure to other cultures on the individual or group.

In a culture of honour and shame, the group dictates what is honourable or shameful. Thus, a person’s self-respect is largely dependent on whether he or she possesses the values and qualities,

and behaves in accordance with the acceptable standard of the group or society. Because group decision is often followed, the individual members must be prepared to conform even if their personal decision is contrary to the group’s decision. When a member of the group goes against the accepted norm, group shaming happens. When strong individuals challenge the standard norm, division may happen within the group.

The pressure that the family or social group exerts upon an individual may force the person to become somebody they don’t want to be. A child born into a family of medical practitioners may be forced to take a career in medicine, although the person’s inclination is towards arts and music. A society’s educational system that honours the intelligent might also shame the not so academic.

Economic status and physical appearance are also sources of honour or shame. In certain societies, physically challenged people experience humiliation.

People may value and protect their honour to the extent of killing or revenge. For instance, change in religion is regarded in some countries as utterly disgraceful. When a person becomes a convert of another religion, a relative takes the honour to kill them. Suicide is a tragic effect of negative shame when the person could not endure the shame he or she has brought to

the group or the shaming that the group has inflicted on the person. However, certain cultures regard suicide as an honourable act in order to show dignity in the face of defeat and failure.

Negative shame and fear are closely related. Thus, a person finds it difficult to confront the wrongdoings of people he or she respects or those in higher authority. This leads to corruption and oppression in the different sectors of society. When an offence is discovered, the shame is doubled.

As there are dangers in a shame-oriented culture, there are also challenges in a guilt-oriented society.

Tolerance is a popular word among guilt-oriented cultures. When the distinction between right and wrong is sacrificed for the sake of accommodating people, guilt erodes and shamelessness creeps in. People start to sugar-coat sin, referring to it in more acceptable ways. Thus, the pursuit of freedom crumbles the very foundation of guilt-oriented culture.

When a society becomes too individualistic, the members who experience troubles may turn to more self-destructive actions. Respect for an individual’s freedom may prevent a person from confronting their friend’s wrong. Instead, psychologists and psychiatrists are looked upon to solve a problem that could have been avoided if individual >>>

members of a family or group gave quality time to each other and were not afraid to lovingly intervene.

### Path of transformation

For holiness teaching to become understandable and meaningful, it should firstly cross the bridge of context and address the core issues of human existence. There is a clear disconnection between God's and man's perspective. God regards righteousness as honourable, and unrighteousness as disgraceful or shameful. This is the foundational truth. As the Psalmist says: "My salvation and my honour depend on God" (Psalm 62:7).

Biblical interpretation plays a crucial role in the articulation of holiness teaching. Biblical truths should be presented in a way that people understand so that they can evaluate their own context and make a resolve to live by them.

Preachers and teachers must bear in mind that there is one primary meaning of a text, but there can be numerous applications. The problem with many preachers these days is that they easily dive into application using their own cultural lenses and pre-understanding, instead of going through the

process of biblical interpretation. This leads to syncretism and incorrect interpretation of the text. Such practice is not only erroneous but can have devastating effects on people.

Because the issue of suffering is a constant dilemma in a shame culture, our preaching and pastoral counselling must reflect the integrity of the Bible on the issue. We need hard-core biblical teaching and careful manoeuvring in the application process so that the biblical truth becomes understandable in the context.

### Honour in humility

In our effort to communicate holiness, we must deal with our culture's deep-seated orientation and false sense of honour and shame. There should be no way of ranking people in the Church based on their achievements, roles or financial contribution. We are honourable because of the grace of God and all our efforts at righteousness and service are made possible because of this grace alone.

To conceal a negative experience does not mean preserved honour. Members are to be encouraged to bring their shame before God. This

will lead to a liberating experience.

To see Christ among the least will change our perspective of honour and shame. Christ comes to us as somebody who needs a glass of water, a sick person in the hospital bed, a stranger overwhelmed with fear, or a prisoner ashamed and deserted. If we see Christ among the least, we can see honour beyond the shame. We will serve so that this honour will be restored and Christ will be clearly seen again.

God is my ultimate significant other. He sets the standard through his Word. He is my plumb line and model for holy living. Though I sometimes falter along the way, I will not be ashamed for he lifts me up and gives me another chance. My significance does not depend on what I can do, but on what he did at Calvary. In him, I am honoured, unashamed and accepted.



**Major Elsa Oalang is Literary Secretary and editor of War Cry in the Philippines Territory**

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# Walters take command in Eastern Europe

By SCOTT SIMPSON

Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney Walters was so surprised at being told he was to become the new territorial commander of The Salvation Army Eastern Europe Territory, he asked if someone was playing an April Fools' Day joke on him.

Rodney and his wife, Lieutenant-Colonel Wendy Walters (pictured), will officially become the new leaders of the territory on 1 July, with promotion to the rank of colonel. Wendy will become the territorial president of women's ministries. They succeed Colonels Kenneth and Paula Johnson, who will be taking up new appointment responsibilities in their home territory (USA Southern).

"The call from the Army's Chief of the Staff informing us of our new appointments came as such a surprise," said Rodney. "And then when they said the change in territorial leadership was going to be officially announced on April 1st, I had to check that it wasn't some kind of April Fools' prank."

"Those of you who know Wendy and I will know that we are truly humbled by the privilege of these new appointments, and to follow two incredible leaders who have given themselves tirelessly over the last four years in their leadership is a daunting responsibility."

"To be the commander of a territory that incorporates five countries and has the largest land mass of any Salvation Army territory in the world, with nine hours' time difference from east to west, is also huge. Wendy and I fully understand that we cannot fulfil these appointments without God, without the support of prayer and without the wisdom and grace of the Holy Spirit."

The Walters' first experience of what was then the Russia/CIS Command, came in late 1993 when they were appointed to St Petersburg as regional officers, before being transferred to roles at the command headquarters in Moscow. They returned to Australia in early 1998.

Just over 18 months ago, while divisional leaders in Central and North Queensland, they were informed that they were to return to what had subsequently become the Eastern Europe Territory. It was an appointment they enthusiastically accepted and, since August 2012, Rodney has been serving as chief secretary while Wendy has been the territorial secretary for women's ministries and secretary for program.

"Since our early days in Russia we've had a great love for the people of this part of the world and a



passion for telling them about Christ," said Wendy. "So it is incredibly humbling that the Army's international leaders have placed such an incredible trust in us to now lead this great territory of Eastern Europe."

"We are very much aware that there are huge challenges ahead of us, but Rodney and I have the confidence that the God who called

us to officership will continue to equip and empower us as we continue to be obedient to him."

"Naturally this appointment means that we are away from family for a longer period of time and we feel that deep in our hearts. But again, we trust our family to God and know that he has never failed us in the past and he isn't about to change."

## PNG like second home to Unicombs

Majors Heather and Kevin Unicomb will head "home" to Papua New Guinea to take up their new appointments.

Major Kevin will serve as the Secretary for Program, and Major Heather as the Associate Secretary for Program. All corps and social programs come under their appointment.

The Unicombs are not newcomers to PNG. They served there 20 years ago as youth officers for four years, and have returned six times since then.

But there were mixed feelings about leaving Bundaberg, where they were the corps officers.

"The hardest thing was telling our people in Bundaberg that we

were moving on, especially after going through the floods with them," says Major Kevin.

"We are, though, looking forward to helping, serving, and working with the people of PNG."

"This appointment also includes the Army's work with schools, health services, education and projects."

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“I’ve always been in Apex, a Cubs or Scouts leader and in the community, but I went a lot further with my commitment to The Salvation Army this time!





# Giving back to God

Dudley Nicholson agreed to run Cowra's Red Shield Appeal to support a good cause and help out a friend, writes *Pipeline's* **SIMONE WORTHING**. He is now a senior soldier, worships at the corps and actively serves in both the township and beyond

**D**udley Nicholson grew up learning about God. He attended a Christian fellowship group, sang in a choir and taught Sunday school.

"In the late 50s, I even went to a Billy Graham crusade and walked up the front with a couple of hundred schoolkids and gave my life to God," he says.

Religion, though, wasn't sitting well with Dudley. He felt like he was surrounded by hypocrisy and just wanted to leave home.

"In those days, you couldn't leave home until you were 21, unless you joined the Armed Forces," Dudley explains. "I joined the Army for the shortest period possible, just to get away."

Brigadier Bill Shaw, or "Milo Bill" as he was called, was Dudley's

first contact with The Salvation Army in 1963.

"I was a young fellow serving in the military as a driver aide, so I used to drive the Brigadier out to the troops with the milo he had for them all," Dudley explains.

"I did this for three years, before I got out of the military, but I never forgot him and what he did for the blokes."

Dudley describes his life's journey from that point as "travelling a rocky and uneven road".

"I was a lapsed Christian and I went AWOL – absent without leave," he explains.

Dudley married, and he and his wife Carol raised their family.

"My wife and I used The Salvation Army for various reasons as we brought up our kids, and >>>

**LEFT: Dudley Nicholson, an active Salvationist, is the Red Shield Appeal chairman for Cowra. Photo: Shairon Paterson**



Dudley and his wife Carol are a dynamic team in the Cowra community with their passion for The Salvation Army reflected in their commitment to the Red Shield Appeal.

I always said that once I retired, I would give something back to the Salvos for all they had done for us," he says.

### Return to Cowra

Dudley and Carol moved to Cowra in late 2012 to retire. For Dudley, it was almost a homecoming as he was born and brought up in Canowindra, just over 30km away.

Not long after they arrived, Dudley saw The Salvation Army Emergency Services trailer at the Community Welfare Centre and decided that's what he wanted to do to give back to the Salvos. He made inquiries at the Family Store and was asked to wait until the end of January when the new corps officer, Captain Louise Beamish, would be starting her appointment.

In the meantime, Dudley came across an old friend, Bill Bundy, who had been chairman of Cowra's Red Shield Appeal (RSA) for 23 years.

"He asked whether I wanted to help him out," says Dudley with a laugh. "He said he had just the thing for me – a role that I would be really good for – and that would also enable him to step down.

"He said he would have a chat with Captain Louise and for me to go and talk to her."

Dudley went to see Captain Louise and walked out of her office as Chairman of the RSA!

"Carol and I felt like we were being led, but we were not sure to where," he says.

### Deeper connection

Dudley decided that, as Chairman of the RSA, he should at least go to a few church meetings to see what they were like, and to give the congregation an opportunity to get to know him. Carol accompanied him to the meetings.

"A few weeks later, I could see the writing on the wall," he says simply.

“I never thought I would be a Salvation Army soldier, but I am proud to be one, and to serve.”



The country life suits Dudley and Carol, who are also involved in Riding for the Disabled Association. in Cowra.  
Photos: Shairon Paterson



During one meeting, Captain Louise spoke about becoming a soldier or an adherent in The Salvation Army.

"I asked her what the difference was and she explained," says Dudley. "She told me, though, that I couldn't be a soldier because I drank."

Dudley told Carol that he would give up drinking. Carol, however, wasn't convinced, as he had said this before and gone back to having a drink after a few days.

"I got up the next morning, God spoke to me, and I haven't had a drink since," says Dudley, with conviction.

"I knew this was it for me. I went to boot camp, did soldiership classes and was enrolled as a soldier. I'm also doing further Bible studies with Captain Louise. Carol is an adherent.

"It's rather unusual to have a soldier as Chairman of the RSA but this is the journey God has

taken me on. There have been lots of dramas and rocky roads to this point, but they are in the past. I have got off the rocky road and am back on the smooth, whatever happens.

"I never thought I would be a Salvation Army soldier, but I am proud to be one, and to serve.

"No life-shattering experience has drawn me here; it's just part of God's journey for me."

### Community roles

Dudley and Carol are certainly giving back to The Salvation Army, and are serving in other community organisations as well.

They are both active in the SAES, and Dudley is studying to complete his training in community care. Dudley is also president of Riding for the Disabled Association in Cowra, and Carol assists him with that role.

He is also president of the Returned Services League's Club

branch management committee, the local caravan club and, to continue his Scottish heritage, Clan McNicol.

"I've always been in Apex, a Cubs or Scouts leader and in the community, but I went a lot further with my commitment to The Salvation Army this time!" he says with a laugh.

### Red Shield Appeal

For the second year in a row, Dudley is not doing a doorknock in Cowra. Given the age of the population in the town, Dudley has organised static collection points at three supermarkets over nine days, and at Bunnings Hardware over two weekends.

Volunteers will also take up a collection at two local football games.

"Last year we raised over our budget, and the corps was astounded that we could raise that sort of money in that time," he says. □

# Caloundra launch forges strong ties to schools

By NAOMI SINGELHURST

Caloundra Salvation Army's links to schools and the community on Queensland's Sunshine Coast were strengthened at their inaugural Red Shield Appeal breakfast last month.

The breakfast, held at the corps, brought together heads, teachers and student representatives from eight local schools to learn more about the work of The Salvation Army, plus highlight the potential for school participation in the Red Shield Appeal. Smaller breakfasts were also run at Nambour and Maroochydore.

Among the speakers were Captain Stuart Glover (Caloundra corps officer), Lieutenant John Humbley (Nambour corps officer), Ms Bernhardt, a teacher from Kawana College who has co-ordinated the Red Shield Appeal from that school for a number of years, plus senior students from Pacific Lutheran College who have participated in Red Shield collecting for several years.

## Inspiring story

Many at the breakfast were visibly moved when 16-year-old Ashlee\* and her mother Karen\* shared their story.

Ashlee courageously allowed her story to be shared, and then Karen shared her perspective on the astonishing transformation in the life of the daughter she once feared was on a road to self-destruction through a terrible period of anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress and substance abuse.

Ashlee's turning point came

after care, case management and referrals to other specialist services through The Salvation Army's Brisbane Youth Outreach Service (YOS) at Lawnton.

She completed her Year 10 equivalent through YOS and is now studying Year 11 and a certificate course through SCILS (Sunshine Coast Individualised Learning Support program) Caloundra.

## Community partnerships

Jocelyn Hook, Caloundra Salvation Army's school programs co-ordinator, was also given the opportunity to speak about the importance of strong school/community partnerships.

Jocelyn believes the strong support for the breakfast was a natural flow on from the growing partnerships and relationships between The Salvation Army Caloundra Corps and local schools.

"The breakfast allowed us to connect on another level with community representatives (many we were already working with) to say 'you can't do this alone, the Salvos can't do this alone, but as a wider community we can work together to bring about positive change'," said Jocelyn, who heads the Salvos' new SCILS program.

SCILS is a partnership with Salvation Army Caloundra and Maroochydore Corps, YOS and the Department of Education, Training and Employment and offers support and alternative education opportunities for high school students who have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from mainstream schooling, plus their families.

A new program pilot, called

Family Doorways, is also being launched in term two, following a request by a local primary school principal, which will work to support families of struggling and "at-risk" students at five Caloundra primary schools.

"Schools are the hub of many communities," Jocelyn says. "And many people in the community are connected to schools at some point."

"So we believe that if it can work with and help positively impact students, parents, and teachers, then whole communities can be positively impacted."

Jocelyn says within the schools network there is a great opportunity to duplicate successful programs.

## Doors opening

On the success of the breakfast, Jocelyn says: "Following the Red Shield breakfast there was opportunity to speak to students and school staff, who wanted to thank us and tell us how awesome the morning had been."

"Many asked questions about how they could get involved in everything from the Red Shield Appeal to our other programs."

"Others shared personal stories and a couple of senior students asked what steps they needed to take to become part of the work."

"It is amazing to see God working in the relationships that are growing with the schools."

"Doors are opening and this is not our doing, none of it – we are just blessed and humbled to be along for the ride!"

\* Names changed at the request of "Ashlee".





FROM TOP:  
The Red Shield Appeal breakfast underway at Caloundra Salvation Army; Lieutenant John Humbley and the Army's schools program co-ordinator Jocelyn Hook; Jocelyn and "Ashlee", who allowed her story to be shared; messages of thanks written by school students. Photos: Kathy Hughes



## Appeal aiming to hit \$80m target

The Salvation Army's annual Red Shield Appeal doorknock will take place on the weekend 24-25 May.

The national goal for the Red Shield Appeal doorknock this year is \$10 million, which forms part of the overall appeal which aims to raise \$80 million across Australia.

The Salvation Army's communications and public relations secretary, Major Bruce Harmer, is asking members of the public to give a few hours to help collect for the doorknock.

Major Harmer says it is only through the generosity of the Australian people that The Salvation Army is able to continue to support people in need.

"By giving a few hours of your time on the Red Shield Appeal doorknock weekend, you will be helping us to help more than one million people in need," he said.

"Without the generous support of Australians in every suburb and town across the country, The Salvation Army could not reach this goal ... the funds of which go directly to support Salvation Army programs and social services."

With Australia going through a major economic transition and many individuals and families facing an uncertain future, The Salvation Army expects many more people will be in need of basic assistance with issues such as "food stress".

"Many people who have been well off in the past are now genuinely worried about the future," Major Harmer said.

"The Salvation Army is in a unique position to assist individuals and families who fall on hard times, whether it be with their immediate needs such as food assistance through to working with people over the longer term with financial counselling; drug, alcohol and gambling rehabilitation services; as well as skills development and job placement just to name a few."

To volunteer, call 13 SALVOS (13 72 58) or go online at [salvos.org.au](http://salvos.org.au)

To donate to the Red Shield Appeal call 13 SALVOS, visit [salvos.org.au](http://salvos.org.au), go in person to any Westpac Bank branch, or post a cheque to PO Box 9888 in your capital city.



# Sunday best for Sandra

For one Sunday each May, mothers all over Australia are honoured. But, for Salvation Army officer Lieutenant-Colonel Sandra Godkin, every Sunday is Mother's Day as she gets to sit with three generations of her family at the same church. **ESTHER PINN** relates a heart-warming story.





*"For me as a Christian mum, to know that all my children love the Lord and serve him, it's my present delight."*



**LEFT:** Riley Pethybridge, Margaret Press, Halle Steep, Bethany Steep, Amanda Pethybridge, Lieut-Colonel Sandra Godkin, Brooklyn Steep. **ABOVE:** Margaret Press with granddaughter Halle. **Photos:** Shairon Paterson.

**L**ieutenant-Colonel Sandra Godkin has the privilege of sitting with her four children, their partners and her four grandchildren in church every Sunday at Menai Corps.

For a Salvation Army officer, this can be a rare privilege, as frequent appointment changes can send officers all over the Australia Eastern Territory.

Lieut-Colonel Sandra, who is Assistant Secretary for Personnel at territorial headquarters, says it is unique that her whole family live in the same state, let alone attend the same church in Sydney's south-west. "It's something I didn't always think I would have as an officer," she says.

Mother's Day is all about celebrating mothers and honouring them for the role they play. Lieut-Colonel Sandra says that's exactly what Mother's Day is to her – an opportunity to praise her own mum, Margaret Press.

"I like to celebrate my mum because I'm so grateful for the influence she's had over my life."

### Parent's challenge

Margaret, 78, and husband Maurice have two other children, Graeme and Lisa. Joining The Salvation Army at 16, Margaret has spent a majority of her life raising her family in the Army. She says her biggest challenge as a parent was encouraging her children to follow God.

Lieut-Colonel Sandra echoes this sentiment. With her husband, Lieut-Colonel David Godkin,

Secretary for Personnel, they have raised their four children – Amanda, Josh, Matt and Bethany – to be followers of Christ.

"For me as a Christian mum, to know that all my children love the Lord and serve him, it's my present delight," she says.

Now all adults with their own families, Lieut-Colonel Sandra, who's 52, explains how her role as a mother has changed over the years.

"When they were little it was about keeping them safe; to give them direction and to love them; and to give them a sense of security. As they get older it sort of changes. You're more of a support to them as they're doing [that] for their children. But I'm always there when they need someone to have a whine to, to talk things out. That doesn't change."

While they are all grown up, Lieut-Colonel Sandra says becoming a grandma is the icing on the cake.

Her 30-year-old daughter, Amanda Pethybridge, has a four-year-old girl, Riley, with her husband Matt, and another child to be born in June. Amanda says she is grateful for her parents' example as Christian role models.

"Growing up being modelled faith from my parents, my role is not so much to teach Riley about faith but to just model that in who I am as a mother, because I saw that with my parents. It wasn't so much what they said, it was what I saw them do."

While Amanda and her family have been enjoying their family

life at church, prior to the last 12 months, they were living in New Zealand.

### Little milestones

Starting their family in New Zealand, Amanda and Matt spent four years there. While they enjoyed creating their own family unit in another country, Amanda says she is looking forward to being around her family when the baby arrives.

"It will be nice to have them there for the little milestones, instead of seeing the milestones over Skype."

Lieut-Colonel Sandra's other daughter, Bethany Steep, 23, has two children with her husband Xavier: two-year-old Brooklyn and one-year-old Halle.

Bethany says while some days are challenging, she revels every moment of having two kids under two. "I love seeing them love each other and watching them grow, learning new things; watching them discover the world together," she says.

As a mum, Bethany wishes to encourage other mothers not to compare their parenting choices, rather simply enjoy the role they play as mums.

This Mother's Day, Bethany's whole family will join together to celebrate. Bethany says she is looking forward to celebrating the women who have made a difference in her life.

"I love celebrating just the role model mum and grandma are to us. They're such servant-hearted people." □



A vibrant photograph of a group of children and a woman in a rural setting. The children are smiling and raising their hands in excitement. One child in the foreground is holding a small yellow and green packet. The background shows a simple building and lush green trees.

# A LAND RIPE FOR HARVEST





**REPORTS:** Lieut-Colonel Miriam Gluyas

**PHOTOS:** Shairon Paterson

**The people of Papua New Guinea will tell you that it is the land of the unexpected. Nationals and expats alike laugh about it, because they know what it means.** We can wait for a plane for three hours and no-one is worried. As you drive past the local market, four boys hold a six-foot snake and scare the drivers of the cars as they go past (worked on me!). People arrive at my office door, without an appointment, saying that I asked to see them. We head up rugged mountain roads, and look down into the valleys, and can only say "wow". We engage with the local people, and are blessed by their hearts and their love and commitment for Jesus. We worship and pray together and God turns up in amazing ways. We dance and sing with women who have walked for six days, over mountains and through rivers to share together at women's meetings, to enjoy fellowship and seek Jesus. We share with young adults, and over the months, the number rises rapidly to 250 youth hungry for God.

We praise God for the things that he has done in the past in this nation. So many Australians have left footprints on the nation. So many of you have sown into the lives of people here, and they serve Jesus today because you came this way. We stand on the shoulders of champions.

And now, again, we are in very good days. The Spirit of God is at work. The people of God are praying and expecting God to work in amazing ways – and he is. Our expectations rise! It is a land ripe for the harvest!



# AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR SOGERI IN THE HANDS OF A BIG GOD

## PNG FEATURE

**I**f you came to Papua New Guinea and only saw the capital city of Port Moresby, you would be disappointed.

There are many other, much more beautiful places in PNG. Kimbe, with its beautiful waters, wonderful flowers, wildlife and sunsets. The Highlands, with the mountains shrouded in mist, rich with vegetable gardens, beautiful villages and wonderful people. Wewak, surrounded by ocean, beaches, tropical rainforest, sago trees, and an eco wonderland.

PNG is an amazing land, this “land of the unexpected”.

And then there is Sogeri. It’s one of my favourite places.

Sogeri is about an hour’s drive from Port Moresby, and close to the start of the Kokoda Track. It boasts rich farmlands, beautiful soil, hills, plains, lush greenery. It’s a land “flowing with milk and honey”.

Sogeri also has a rich Salvation Army history. Many Australians have served there and given so much to the people of the area. In return, the locals have given so much to the Australians. Young people have found Jesus at camps there. People have found refuge there. Suffering humanity has been served. Love has been shown. We stand on the shoulders of champions.

The officers at Sogeri, Lieutenants Suwits and Apu Aguafa, are “gold”. They preach holiness, love their people, and are seeing souls saved. God is at work.

They love gardening, and are clever in coming up with new ways of doing things. The place is

a credit to them. In the most recent Self Denial Appeal, they raised the second-highest amount in PNG. They gave sacrificially. Here you get to understand what “she gave all that she had” really means!

There is great hope and a great future for the nation of PNG, and God is doing something at Sogeri that will be a springboard for what we can do in the nation. It is to be a centre of transformation, a centre of excellence, a place where God reigns. And we believe that God will do it again and again.

Saving souls, growing saints, serving suffering humanity, and transforming society, will be part of everyday life in Sogeri. That’s what will be written on the hearts and minds of every Salvationist there.

### Grand vision

So what will it look like? What is the dream for the future of Sogeri?

**A school** – education is a big issue. It is so important to people, but not available to everybody. Education changes a nation. We already have a partner who is willing to help establish and run the school.

**A rehabilitation centre** – for young people who have got themselves into trouble. We want to see these young people integrated back into society. We want to teach them skills in hospitality, mechanics, woodwork. We want to approach the government for land, so that people can build small houses and not have to go back to the settlements (poor areas) where they could return to

the same company and reoffend. We want to find them jobs when they move back to other areas. The government will partner with us in this.

**Safe houses** – for women and children. Again, we have a partner who wants to work with us on this. Again, women and children will have the opportunity to find safety and love and then be helped with jobs, to have hope and a future.

**Guest house** – this is a big dream to cater for those walking the Kokoda Track. We can provide a great service, a cultural experience, as well as jobs for people living on our property. We are believing for a sponsor to build the guest house and hand it over to us. We are praying now and asking God who that might be.

**Farming** – fish farming, ginger farming, vegetables, cows, chickens – you name it, we’ll farm it. Sogeri is rich land that can provide for our people and sustain ministries there.

**Prayer retreat** – this is a beautiful place to get away to. It’s not hard to build a roundhouse and retreat centre for prayer.

**Housing for staff and retired officers** – we have people looking at sustainable housing and there are great options. Mission teams could raise money and come and construct houses and other buildings. Many people leave their home village when they become cadets and then when they retire





from officeship, they have nowhere to go back to. There is no housing provided when you retire and a minimal amount of money is given. Want to take up the challenge?

**Health clinic** – The Army’s health clinics are known across the country. One already exists at Sogeri, but we believe that this new clinic will provide an even greater service for people who live there and in the surrounding villages.

**Literacy training** – this already takes place at Sogeri and is done very well.

**Staffing** – this is a crucial aspect of our plans. We will likely need a manager to oversee all that is happening at Sogeri. Perhaps that person is you?

**Multi-functional buildings** – for church, training and other functions.

**A fully Christian centre** – there is no issue with this in PNG! Transformation is happening. People share what they have. People will get saved every day.

Can you see it? We can. Lives will be transformed. It will be a centre of excellence. God will reign over it.

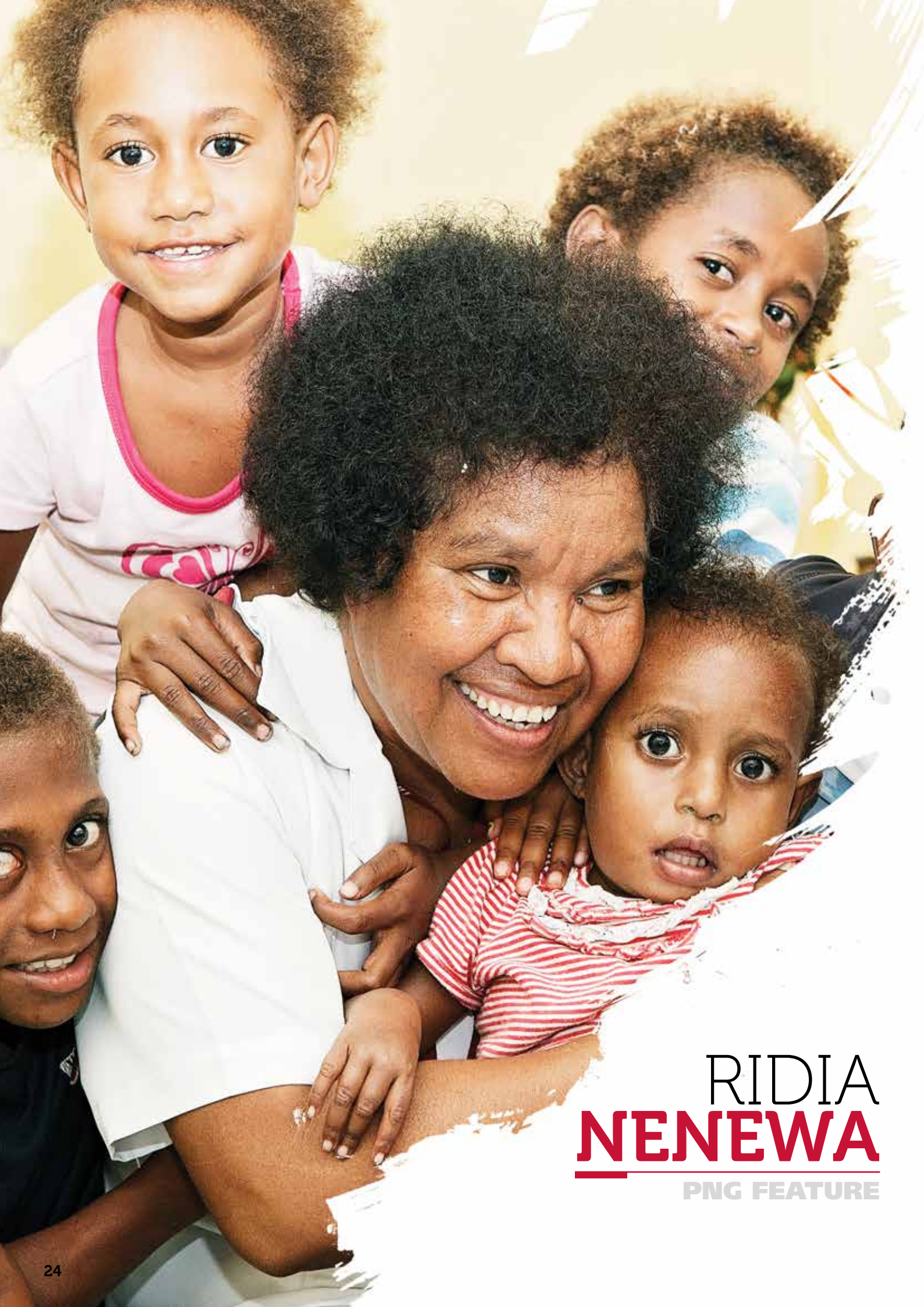
Once this project is well established at Sogeri, we will then plant in the next place that God leads us to, with a “much, much more God” leading the way.

What would he have you do? Everyone can do something to see the nation of PNG transformed.



FROM TOP: Lieutenants Suwits and Apu Aguafa, and some of the ministries they oversee at Sogeri, a place of rich Salvation Army history – health clinic, farming ministries, mechanic workshop and an education centre.





RIDIA  
**NENEWA**  
PNG FEATURE



# RIDIA'S LOVE FOR CHRIST (CHANGING LIVES ONE AT A TIME)

**M**ajor Ridia Nenewa, a small lady with a great smile, often appears at the door to my office. "Hello, Colonel," she says, in a bright, cheery tone. She has come to tell me another story about one of her beautiful ladies or children; a story that has happened during the week. When Major Ridia leaves, you always feel like giving thanks to God for all that he is doing, and for the people in Papua New Guinea who serve him so beautifully. Ridia has so little, but she also has so much.

Major Ridia works at our "House of Hope". On one of her visits to my office, she will be telling me about her trips to Bomana Prison and ministering to women prisoners there, looking after them physically and spiritually, bringing joy and hope to their lives, and oozing kindness and compassion. Women find Jesus in that prison. Ridia shows them what Jesus is really like. The ladies' lives are transformed.

On another visit, she will be talking about the sex workers who come for HIV testing. There will be the story of ladies who have come out of the sex trade and have found work in the hospitality industry. They don't have to sell their bodies anymore.

And on a different visit again, she will tell me how she worked with ladies to help them set up small businesses.

Ridia spends many days visiting the most needy in Port Moresby. And, some days, it is just plain tragic. A young girl dies of AIDS, having not seen her parents for two years. And, yet again, Ridia ministers to the family, showing love, kindness and grace. And then there are the beautiful children who she makes sure are looked after, providing them with meals, doing

literacy courses with orphans, gathering the local children for classes, sharing a meal with them and telling them about Jesus. Oh, how she loves them.

Ridia is 48 years old. She has been an officer in The Salvation Army for 30 of those years. She has served in remote areas, so far away from most of the people she has known and loved. It shaped her for the future and gave her a real dependence on Jesus.

With her husband, Major Dinunu, Ridia has five children, and is now also a grandmother. They live very simply, and family is so very important.

Ridia has always had a passion for women and children, but in recent years she has discovered that she loves serving the poor and marginalised. This is where she shines.

I watched her at a recent Salvation Army advisory board meeting, attended by many influential business leaders in PNG. Ridia sat there nervously, waiting for her time to speak. She was so nervous and couldn't really understand why we would ask her to speak to these people. As soon as she opened her mouth and shared her stories, the group was blown away. Did this really happen in Port Moresby? What a difference this lady was making! What powerful stories! And then their response: how can we help?

The love of Christ compels Ridia. She simply helps the next person in front of her. She loves like Jesus, lives like Jesus, and even when life is difficult, she still smiles and serves every person that she can.

Jesus moved into the neighbourhood, Ridia partnered with him, and life will never be the same for many people because of that.



FROM TOP: Ridia shares from the Bible at The Salvation Army's House of Hope in Port Moresby; HIV testing is one of the services provided at the centre; Ridia's role takes her into the settlements in Port Moresby where she comes across many children in need of love and care.

# WINSOME **NENEWA**

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PNG FEATURE







## LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

**LEFT:** Winsome Nenewa epitomises the new generation of educated young people, with a heart for God, rising up in PNG. **TOP:** Winsome with her parents, Majors Dinunu and Ridia Nenewa.

**W**

insome Margaret Varina Leana Nenewa was born on 20 July, 1988. Her mother is Major Ridia.

Winsome was born in Lae, the second-largest city in PNG. Ridia was sick in the lead-up to her due date and her daughter arrived premature. She was in an incubator for a week.

Winsome started life as a fighter and still is. She's strong, determined, and knows where she wants to go in life.

Last year, Winsome had the opportunity to do a social justice internship in New York, with The Salvation Army. She had learned about the United Nations while at college in PNG, but to be there at the UN in New York, to be part of the non-government organisations and civil societies advocating for social justice at that level, was an experience she had previously only dreamed of.

Representing PNG, and as a Christian woman, she spoke on the topic of "preserving culture and languages in a changing world" at

the Indigenous people permanent forum. Winsome's heart is for the poor and the marginalised. She has the desire for everyone to have a voice, to advocate for the rights of all, and to see justice prevail. And, she doesn't just say it, she is prepared to be part of it.

Winsome is part of The Salvation Army's justice team, and will be part of "Your Voice" once funding for this group is confirmed. The group will look at the way forward for The Salvation Army in PNG, and how they can be part of transforming the nation. They can!

Winsome is the first female from her village to hold a bachelor's degree. Education is so important in PNG, and Winsome has excelled.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," said Nelson Mandela. Not everyone in PNG has that opportunity. Winsome has grasped it with both hands.

Her Salvation Army officer parents have made great sacrifices to give their daughter an education. Officers in PNG are paid the equivalent of about \$A50 a week.

University fees are about \$A3500 annually.

Winsome also has a heart to give back. She is a junior soldier counsellor and is happy to impart her knowledge and experience of The Salvation Army and social issues to the younger generation, advising them how to consider issues from different perspectives.

She also intends to study for her masters degree, and will begin work on that soon. She has her goals worked out into the future.

One of those is to start a business that will help her to give back to those who are less fortunate. She wants to support the work of a hostel for women.

Winsome is part of a new generation rising up within The Salvation Army in PNG.

Educated, articulate, with a heart for their God, their people and their nation.

A legacy has been passed down. It's a legacy of loving and serving others, and of standing for others. It's a legacy that Winsome will also pass on.

The love of Christ compels her.



## BUGSY A ROLE MODEL OF GODLINESS

Bugsy (centre) chats with workers in his role at Territorial Headquarters as the driver. He shines Christ's light wherever he goes.

**Q**uiet and unassuming"; "a Christian gentleman"; "nothing is too much trouble for him" – these are just some of the ways that people describe Bugave Gini, or Bugsy (pronounced Boogsy) to those who know him well.

It's been quite a few years since Bugsy was a student at The Salvation Army Koki Primary School. Colonel Cecil Williams was his headmaster from 1966-1970, and Colonel Win Williams was one of his teachers.

Bugsy also spent a year living at the boys home on the Koki property. He remembers that he was a shy young boy. He also remembers that they had prayers at the school, and it was during those prayers that he decided to give his life to Jesus.

Jesus became Bugsy's personal Saviour, and he loved being part of the family of God. He also loved The Salvation Army.

These days, Bugsy is the corps sergeant major at Hohola, a role he

has fulfilled for 16 years. He is also employed at the Army's territorial headquarters in Port Moresby as the driver, having also served as the teacher of mechanics at the Boroko vocational school.

As divisional men's ministry coordinator, he has a godly influence on the men of the division. Papua New Guinea needs godly men to stand and make a difference. Bugsy is one of those men, and his influence is significant.

He is also a member of the Prophet Singers, a cultural and gospel group that toured Australia in 2010 and 2013. Bugsy often talks with delight of those trips to Queensland, NSW and the ACT.

But that wasn't the dream Bugsy had for his life. His ambition was to become a Salvation Army officer. He felt that God had called him to officership, but because of reasons beyond his control, he couldn't go to the training college. At the time, his wife didn't meet the required educational standard.

Many years later, Commissioner Christine MacMillan called Bugsy

into her office and said that she would be happy for he and wife to train for officership. However, it just wasn't right timing for them, but it was a kindness they will never forget.

Bugsy knows the faithfulness of God. His son, Gini Bugave, also a mechanic, heard the call of God on his life and responded. Gini and his wife, Regina, studied to become officers, did some of their training in Australia, and are now serving God beautifully in Kimbe. They run a corps and computer school, and work with an excellent team of officers and lay people. The kingdom is advancing rapidly in that place and Bugsy is so proud of them, and rightly so.

Bugsy has been a faithful soldier. He is fulfilling his calling as a minister of the gospel in a different way to what he thought, but has still impacted many. He is well trusted, a man of God, and much loved by those who fall under his influence. When we are looking for godly men of this nation, Bugsy is one.







## HARVEST PLENTIFUL, WORKERS FEW

**The Salvation Army in Papua New Guinea is advancing God's kingdom and rebuilding as in the days of Nehemiah.**

To achieve this with military precision, our Army, God's Army, will be resourced, equipped, empowered to flourish through the nation of PNG at a magnitude never seen before.

Play your part by enlisting as a prayer warrior. We need prayer for:

- The nation of PNG and The Salvation Army of PNG to fully turn to God and for the restoration of justice, honesty and integrity.
- For the Holy Spirit to be our Army's protector and envoy everywhere we are and everywhere we go.
- For abundant blessing and favour to fall upon us daily.

We see a mighty Army from around the globe. Volunteers with skills, ability and a heart to help.

We need mentors in business management, trade skills, maintenance, plumbing, electrical, construction, logistics, finance, medical, health, teaching, retail, farming, web design, water projects, technology and more.

We need volunteers and mentors to sign up.

We need a doctor, school administrators, a motel manager, a small business administrator ...

God is up to something very good. Be part of his kingdom advancing.

For further information contact Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas at [miriam.gluyas@png.salvationarmy.org](mailto:miriam.gluyas@png.salvationarmy.org) or Luke Soper at [luke.soper@aue.salvationarmy.org](mailto:luke.soper@aue.salvationarmy.org)







**Pipeline** photographer Shairon Paterson and Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, Chief Secretary of the Papua New Guinea Territory, spent a week together in PNG compiling this feature.



Lieut-Colonel  
Miriam Gluyas



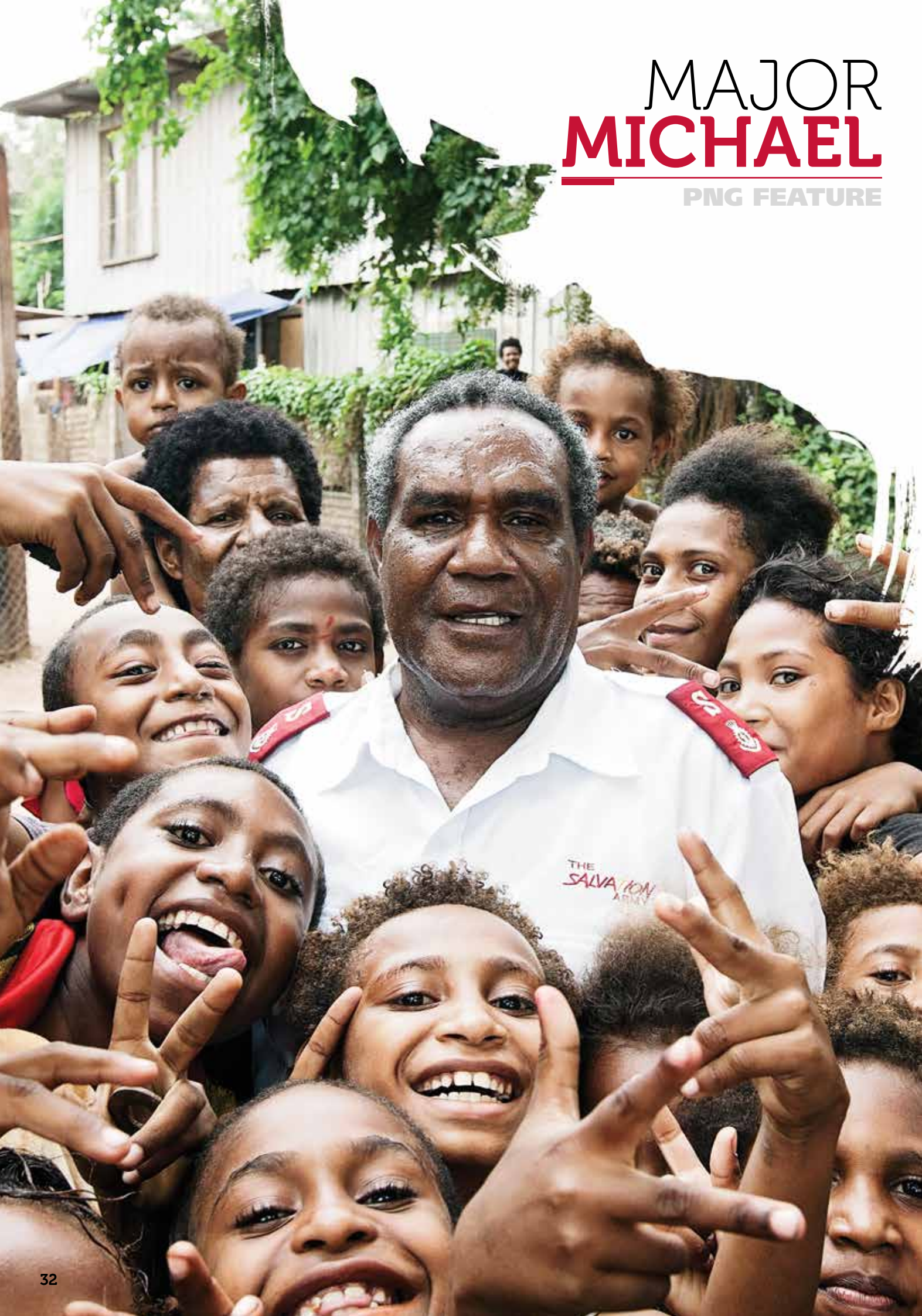
Shairon  
Paterson





# MAJOR **MICHAEL**

PNG FEATURE







## A HERO TO THOSE WITHOUT HOPE

**W**hen Major Michael enters a room flashing his wide smile, we can only wonder what is coming next. He's a cheeky, loveable character who can tell a great story and loves to have a bit of fun.

Michael grew up in Port Moresby, and lived in the suburb of Boroko. He went to school here and got himself into quite a bit of trouble. Officially, he lived with his uncle but, in reality, he lived on the streets and collected bottles to pay for his school fees. When he eventually left school, he worked in the steel industry as a welder.

Michael ended up in prison, escaped, and while on the run went to church. While there, he found Jesus. He managed to clear his name, cleaned up his life and found a job. While working, he also "moonlighted" as a preacher during his lunch break.

When I ask him about his calling to become a Salvation Army officer, he admits that his wife, Major Giam, forced him to go to the training college! He was happy, he says, where he was. However, he soon discovered that The Salvation Army training college was where God wanted him and he gave his life fully to him in service.

Michael constantly tells us that he is just a humble servant, that he is down there (pointing to the ground), no-one important, just

an everyday person who is here to do mission and to serve Jesus. He also likes to describe himself as one of the ants – one of the workers – who just gets on with it to see the mission moved forward.

He is a servant leader, a motivator and a prayer warrior. When Michael walks to the pulpit, get ready! You will hear his heart, you will be challenged, inspired, and will go away and do something different for Jesus. He thinks big, believes big and has his (Salvation Army) division on the move.

He's a hero to those who have very little hope. A lady dies from AIDS (which is rampant in PNG). 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 the body and lays the lady to rest. He performs the funeral service and gives her the dignity due to every human being. His compassion act is not a one-off.

When he visits the settlements (the poorest areas of the major cities where people live in poverty) he gets welcomed as a hero. Everyone knows Michael. The settlements are extremely dangerous places, but no-one would harm him. He's a champion for the poor.

He lives to love and serve the poor and the marginalised, those whom no-one else wants anything to do with. That's love.



**LEFT:** Major Michael is king of the kids whenever he visits the settlements in Port Moresby (above) where he is labelled a "hero to those who have very little hope".

# COFFEE WITH A CONSCIENCE

By SIMONE WORTHING

After more than seven years of hard work, research and much prayer, the world-class Salvos Coffee is now available for purchase in the Australia Eastern Territory.

Fresh from the rich soil of the pristine wilderness in the remote Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea, both beans and ground coffee are now available online – [salvos.org.au/coffee](http://salvos.org.au/coffee)

The coffee is a result of the Salvos CARE coffee program – Community Advancement and Reform Enhancement – that works to transform communities by empowering underprivileged and marginalised coffee growers and their families.

“We are focused on developing self-sustaining solutions to support people in need,” explained Luke Soper, Papua New Guinea Business Development Manager for The Salvation Army.

Through the Salvos Coffee initiative, supported by The

Salvation Army in PNG and the Australia Eastern Territory, more than 700 marginalised growers throughout the highlands, and their estimated 3,500 family members, receive support to grow, harvest and prepare the coffee beans for sale. All profits made from the coffee will go back into funding the program itself.

## Lives transformed

As well as supporting coffee growers, the Salvos Coffee team also provides health and financial education in the villages.

“Before the program started, these remote and marginalised growers would hump 30kg of coffee in sacks for two days to the roadside to sell, and would get ripped off on the price,” said Luke.

“Through the Army’s assistance with education, transport and equipment, people’s lives are being changed spiritually, financially and physically. In one village, even the town drunk has been transformed and sends his daughter to school with coffee money!

“Satellite outposts of The Salvation Army are springing up throughout the highlands area and the growth is amazing!”

Funding for the CARE program ends in June.

Luke and his team are focusing on establishing a retail market for the coffee to bring in external funds and make the program self-funding. Logistical issues such as shipping, packaging and the best place to roast and grind the coffee, are also being worked on.

“This PNG coffee is some of the highest grade coffee anywhere in the world,” said Luke.

## Ethically grown

The 700 growers are just too spread out to be assessed as officially Fairtrade and, for now, the cost of assessment would be too great.

However, the coffee is grown in rich, volcanic soil, without the use of artificial fertilisers.

The beans are hand-picked, sun dried, and hand-sorted.

When the CARE coffee co-op was first established, the farmers

FAR RIGHT:  
Levi Soper,  
4, sits on the  
first shipment  
of Salvos  
Coffee to the  
Australia Eastern  
Territory.  
CENTRE AND  
RIGHT: Coffee  
berries are  
sorted at the  
plantation in  
the remote  
highlands of  
Papua New  
Guinea.





# CareFlight bears bound for PNG

By KATHERINE FRANKS

When Bev Mann saw footage of children searching for toys in a Papua New Guinea rubbish dump, she knew she had to help. Eighteen months later, Bev and 400 CareFlights bears are bound for PNG.

Bev first saw the film at a church service at Nambucca River Corps and couldn't forget the images. The film showed children searching a rubbish dump in Papua New Guinea for food, toys and items their parents could sell.

"The thing that hit me was when they were picking up a dirty, rusty tin or a bottle and that was their toy," says Bev. "I couldn't believe I was watching such dreadful poverty. I kept thinking of the children in Australia and these poor little mites picking up something absolutely filthy and treasuring it. My heart just felt like it had been wrenched out of my chest watching it."

This heavy burden for these children did not leave Bev's heart for months, yet she wondered what a 73-year-old woman from Nambucca could possibly do to bring joy to the lives of these poverty-stricken children. After a number of prayerful months an idea came to her – teddy bears!

"I looked at the CareFlight bears I had displayed on my bookcase and I thought, 'I want my bears to go to these kids because I know they will utterly treasure something like that.'"

From that moment Bev began a humble journey collecting CareFlight teddy bears wherever she went. The Salvation Army in Papua New Guinea were overjoyed with her gesture and invited her to go with a team to Papua New Guinea in June to help build a new church and distribute the teddy bears herself.

"I was just over the moon," says Bev. "The bears are going to go to some children that would love to have them. When it was suggested that I go, I thought 'this is impossible. I'm 73, I'm on a pension and there is no way in the world I could possibly fund my airfare.' It was a few weeks after that somebody handed me \$800. I was just so overwhelmed. That was my airfare!"

Bev was now convinced that "God was doing some work", and bears began flooding in.

The CareFlight aero-medical charity uses aircraft and trained specialists to offer immediate on-the-ground care to injured and ill patients, as well as emergency transport to hospital.

When they heard of Bev's efforts, CareFlight offered to make The Salvation Army its charity of the month.

"When Bev contacted us we all had tears in our eyes," says Leanne Angel from CareFlight. "We just thought it was such a fabulous cause ... it was an easy decision for us to say 'let's make sure this month's bears go to Bev and her trip overseas with the kids she's looking to support.'"

had no way of getting the best price for their coffee, and no way of saving any money earned from sales.

"The Army has set up a passbook system for the growers and now assists them with opening a bank account," said Luke.

"The growers make an income and the village benefits through financial education as profits are re-invested into the family and community.

"It's coffee with a conscience; keeping our growers supported and the coffee team active as we continue to work out a sustainable financial model.

"For anyone interested, there are opportunities to get involved in this program from prayer support; volunteering as a coffee business and office management mentor in Goroka PNG; to assisting with structure and retail here in Australia.

"God is great and in his time we will see this, and so many other programs for PNG, develop and grow."



Bev Mann surrounded by the teddy bears donated for children in PNG.

# THE ROAD TO RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

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**Major PETER FARTHING** explains the background to processes put in place by The Salvation Army to care for survivors of abuse in children's homes

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I had just got off the phone from an awfully angry man. As a small boy, he told me he had entered a Salvation Army boy's home where he was to spend most of his childhood. "Every day of my life I am haunted by my experience there," he said. "I have nightmares still." Intense deprivation, violent punishment, grotesque sexual abuse – he'd had it all.

From the 1920s through to 1980, The Salvation Army operated children's homes around Australia. Boys and girls in care could be as young as six and as old as 16. Many came from families unable to care for them – single fathers who had to work, homes where the mother had become mentally ill. Some were placed by the courts. Some of those children – perhaps lots of them – did OK. Many were cared for by loving, dedicated officers and staff. But some of them – and the number is not small – suffered badly.

## Traumatic impact

Like the man who phoned me, many survivors are scarred by their childhood experiences. They may have already suffered trauma or deprivation before coming into the Army's care, so they were even more vulnerable if the Army home was not the best.

When we hear their stories, we hear of lives marred by such things as: difficulty forming good

relationships; depression; post-traumatic stress syndrome; anger problems; substance abuse; sexual difficulties; employment problems.

## Survivors come forward

"Get away from me! I was in one of your homes as a kid!" I can still remember bitter men waving me away when they saw The Salvation Army uniform in hotels 30 years ago.

We knew they were there, though we didn't know how many. Nor did the movement grasp how much damage childhood trauma can cause.

Even as late as 1980, it was rare for anyone to speak about such things as child abuse. There was little popular awareness about abusers or the harm they do. So, regrettably, the Army did little to reconcile with these former children in care.

Around 12 years ago, I heard a talk by Canon Jim Holbeck, who leads the Healing Ministry at Sydney's St Andrews Cathedral. He remarked: "I think God tried to get the churches to do the right thing by victims of abuse. When he could not, he turned to the courts to do it."

It is probably fair to say it was litigation that ultimately got our attention also.

Survivors began to step forward. Some got themselves

lawyers. And thankfully The Salvation Army began to develop some processes for helping people. It took a while. We did not get there overnight. But eventually we took a lesson from South Africa.

## Reconciliation approach

When apartheid came to an end in South Africa, the new Nelson Mandela-led government had to decide what to do about the many political crimes that had been committed, and the terrible legacy they had left.

One option was to pursue retributive justice. That was possible, but it would have been slow and expensive. Also, as Archbishop Desmond Tutu explained, the government wanted "to move the country beyond the cycles of retribution and violence that had plagued other countries during their transitions from oppression to democracy".

So the government opted for a different kind of justice which Tutu calls "restorative justice".

Tutu explained: "We contend there is another kind of justice – restorative justice, which was characteristic of traditional African jurisprudence. Here the central concern is seeking to restore a broken relationship, to rehabilitate both the victim and the perpetrator who should be given the opportunity to be reintegrated



into the community he has injured by his offence."

In March 1994, the South African Parliament passed the bill setting up the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In December 1995, President Mandela launched it with Desmond Tutu as chair. It worked until July 1998 and was, I have heard, compulsive viewing on South African television.

The commission held hearings around the country, and people could come and tell their story. Victims appeared, and so did former members of the security forces and others who had committed inhumane acts. Hearing the stories was frequently a terrible burden. Tutu and others would weep.

Amazingly, people who had had family members killed were sometimes able to forgive those who did it when they told the truth and asked for forgiveness.

The Commission has its critics. Some argue justice without penalty is no justice at all. Others oppose the giving of amnesty to murderers and the like. Nevertheless it is widely believed the Commission did help the miracle of transition to democracy without civil war.

### Hearing the stories

Right now my angry caller probably believes in retributive justice. Understandably, he wants the Army to be punished. That is a natural human response.

But we wish to avoid adversarial contests. We do not want a legal dispute with people we have an obligation to help.

So we have chosen the way of restorative justice.

This is how it works.

First of all there is the truth-telling. A person will phone us or write, and immediately we will try to form a good relationship. We will believe them.

They will be encouraged to go to a psychologist to prepare their complaint. We will pay for that. When the written complaint comes in, we will investigate, checking those facts we can check. It is interesting that very rarely do we get the impression the person is fabricating.

Caring people from our Professional Standards Office will visit the person, try to form a relationship, listen to their experiences, and see how we can help.

In time, their complaint will be heard by our Personal Injuries Complaints Committee, and the committee will decide what response we should make. The committee will agree to fund the cost of counselling. It usually recommends an ex-gratia payment which we base on a scale.

Then we arrange to meet the person. Professional Standards recently trialled a fresh approach. A survivor met with Commissioners James and Jan Condon and Colonel Richard Munn. We hope that was a healing experience for her.

People keep telling us it means so much to them that we hear them and believe them. It is a relief. It affirms them. They may have approached the meeting fearing we would argue. I think it is a giant rebalancing, that finally that

child who was powerless is heard and believed by the body that was meant to be caring for him or her.

### Apologies and outcome

Then comes our part of the truth telling. Crucial to that is the apology. With any serious hurt it is extremely hard to forgive if the perpetrator will not confess or apologise.

So we have a duty to say sorry. We do that without any reservations. We must.

I might add that one man told us his experiences had had a big impact on his children. He suggested we write to them. So we did, and apologised, and this helped them. We have done this with others too.

So what have been the outcomes from this approach?

I am sure not everyone is happy. No doubt there have been instances where we should have done better. But, consistently, people tell us our response has helped them.

One psychiatrist wrote to thank us, saying his patient's symptoms abated. An advocacy centre also wrote to say how much the approach is helping its clients.

Some people have gone into counselling. Their meeting with us may have been the start of a long process of healing.

That is what we hope for.

**Peter Farthing**  
was The Salvation  
Army's Response  
Coordinator at the  
Royal Commission



Jason Quattromani in the kitchen at Moonyah in Brisbane where he works as a full-time chef. Photo: Shairon Paterson





# Recipe for *freedom*

Jason Quattromani was in the grip of addiction and contemplating suicide when, he tells **BILL SIMPSON**, God set him on the path to a new life

**J**ason Quattromani was expelled from school at 15 for being drunk and disorderly. He didn't care. It gave him more time to do what he liked most – more drinking!

Jason spent most of his time drinking. He drank to get drunk. He was a seasoned drinker by 16. He couldn't see any purpose in living if he wasn't drunk. He thought about drinking himself to death. Even in his sober moments, he thought about ending his life. He even planned the timing.

Jason was the kind of kid who, it seems, didn't get a great start in life. It began in his birth town, Toowoomba, 100km west of Brisbane. His parents separated when he was nine. He stayed with his mother. His behaviour gave her a lot of grief. He was hard to handle.

He was drinking, smoking and taking drugs by 14. School was nothing more than an interruption to drinking time. He and a mate often skipped school at lunchtime to spend the afternoon drinking beer from the fridge at his friend's home. When they exhausted that supply, they stole alcohol from a local liquor store.

At 15, he arrived at school drunk, disgraced himself and was told to leave. To him, expulsion was exciting – good news. He could now get drunk more often.

He left home at 16 and moved in with like-minded mates. He got a job in a tyre factory. It gave him more money to spend on alcohol and drugs.

The next 20 years was a cycle of moving towns, changing jobs and getting drunk.

There were a few personal >>>

*"I called Moonyah, explained my situation, caught a bus to the detox unit and my journey [to a new life] started there."*

relationships, but nothing serious. Drinking and drug-taking made him an unattractive proposition. There were no real friends, either – except drinking mates. But they dropped off when the drinking money was exhausted.

He only seemed to fit in with a group if he was drunk. And then, he would lose his job again, move again – and start again!

Making friends wasn't easy, either, because he tended not to take their advice about getting off the alcohol and drugs. He didn't have a problem; they did, he thought.

The closest he got to real friendship was being asked to be best man at a friend's wedding. But he stopped off for a few beers at a pub on the way to the wedding and was too drunk to make the ceremony. That was the end of possibly the closest relationship he had ever had.

### **Dark place**

Jason got involved in the "grunge" (heavy metal music) scene, surrounding himself with songs like *I Want to Burn in Hell* and *Creeping Death*.

His heavy drinking and drug-taking led to paranoia by his early 30s. He thought people were following him. He lost all sense of reality, he says, and isolated himself.

"I would go to the house of an employer and accuse them of having me followed," he says. "I would write down the number plates of passing cars and take photos of people in pubs because I

thought they were following me.

"I didn't want to live like this anymore and thought that death would be a good option.

"The weekend I decided to end my life, I woke to helicopters flying above my place. I thought they were after me. I started running down the street. I rang my boss to say I wouldn't be back. I threw my

phone into the ocean. I was scared. I didn't think I would live for more than a few more days."

His addiction now had him under its control. He was, he says, in a very dark place.

"The last thing I can remember before help got to me was cutting crosses into my face with a razor blade," Jason says.







He found himself in hospital. He thought he would be locked up in a mental institution, which, at the time, looked to him to be a better option than rejoining society.

"Through further evaluation, the doctor thought my problems may have been caused by my heavy drinking," he recalls.

"He gave me the phone number for Moonyah [Salvation Army addiction counselling service in Brisbane] and told me to go and call it. He said he hoped to never see me again.

"I called Moonyah, explained my situation, caught a bus to the detox unit and my journey [to a new life] started there."

It was the 12th of June, 2012. Jason was 36 years old. Nine months later, he graduated from Moonyah's Bridge Program.

"The last time I was drunk was the 11th of June, 2012 – one day before entering Moonyah."

He now works full-time as a kitchen chef at Moonyah and gives his time to encourage and assist new clients trying to go the distance as he did.

"I didn't believe in God before I came to Moonyah," he says. "I was quite the opposite. There is a very

spiritual atmosphere at Moonyah and I love being part of it.

"I think that handing my will over to the care of God was the turning point in my journey. I started attending Carindale Corps in the first week at Moonyah and I have never left.

"Between Moonyah and Carindale, the people introduced me to hope and that hope turned into faith. I did an Alpha course. I came knocking at the door and Jesus heard me.

"Jesus started me on a new way of life. I have come out of the darkness into the light."

### Fresh start

Jason made his first real friends at Moonyah and Carindale. Interaction between band members at Carindale impressed him so much that he wanted to join them.

"I needed a fresh start and the band was it," he says.

He bought a second-hand trombone through an internet site. Band members gave him lessons and he became one of them.

His trombone was stolen. Band members got together and raised money for a brand-new trombone, which he now plays

in the band every Sunday.

Jason is also a regular at a Carindale men's weekly Bible study group and "recovery church" every Tuesday night at Moonyah.

"The difference in my life is that before Moonyah and Carindale, I was all alone and isolated because I didn't trust people because of my drinking and paranoia, but now I am part of a loving society because of my leap of faith," he says.

"Jesus says in the Bible: 'Follow me'. I did and I have come out of the awful darkness into this beautiful new life."

Jason has reunited with his mother. They catch up at least twice a month. He also has "a great relationship" with other family members. Some attend Carindale Corps, at his invitation.

The people of Carindale Corps are also a "family" to him, he says. "I feel part of a community. I'm not alone anymore."



**Bill Simpson** is a staff writer for *Pipeline* and supplements

**ABOVE:** Jason Quattromani chats with co-workers at Moonyah where he says his journey to a new life began.  
**FAR LEFT:** Playing trombone in the band at Carindale Corps has also played a major role in his recovery.  
**Photos:** Shairon Paterson

# A century of *hope*



**Envoy ALAN STAINES**, the founder of Hope for Life, gives an overview of the history and ongoing work by The Salvation Army in the area of suicide prevention

**T**he Salvation Army was the first organisation in the world to address suicide prevention. Back in 1907, the Army's founder, General William Booth, set up the first "suicide prevention bureau" in London, where Salvation Army officers were appointed to this specific work.

According to the 4 May issue of *The War Cry* in 1907, that same year bureaus were also set up in the United States and in Melbourne, to address the steady increase of suicide rates in Australasia at the time.

The same article published a quote from General Booth: "We must alleviate misery, when we meet it. And we must not only alleviate it but we must rescue those who endure it."

The suicide bureaus became a worldwide movement, with a 1923 *War Cry* report stating that offices had been established in the USA, United Kingdom, Africa, India, South America, Asia and mainland Europe.

As a natural extension of its mission, the Army today continues to provide support holistically in both suicide prevention and

postvention. The support is administered in two forms – practical hands-on work; and education and training in the field, thereby creating more awareness in the Army and the community at large.

The aim is to restore hope to people who may have lost hope, reduce risk factors and recognise signs of distress. The help takes many forms – spiritual care, emotional care and meeting physical housing, financial advice and detox programs.

## **Suicide – the facts**

Suicide remains a major issue facing the world. According to the World Health Organisation, there are "over one million suicides every year". In the past 45 years, suicide rates have increased by 50 per cent worldwide and suicide ranks among the three leading causes of death among those aged 15-44 years.

Tragically, around the world, one person suicides every 30 seconds. Suicide has been identified as a largely preventable public health problem.

For every suicide, there are at least six to eight people – family,

friends, work colleagues, school students – who are affected through the loss of a loved one. Suicide is a terrible tragedy that can happen in any family.

## **Stigma of suicide**

Back in time, suicide was considered in society as "self-murder" and a criminal offence. Some churches and religions called it a sin, and denied funeral rites to the deceased. There has been blame, fingers pointed, shame projected and guilt induced. And it is in this atmosphere that survivors have often been left to grapple on their own with their complicated grief and unanswered questions.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), worldwide, the prevention of suicide has not been adequately addressed due to a lack of awareness of suicide as a major problem and the taboo in many societies to have open discussion about it.

Traditionally, suicide is a subject that has lacked attention, suffering from the avoidance that comes from stigma – people not knowing how to broach the subject, how to find answers to their unending questions, how to ask the hard





Dr Diana Sands will be one of the guest speakers at the Postvention Australia conference in June.

questions, how to support those most directly affected by it, how to listen to them and walk alongside.

As a result, those people at risk of making that lethal choice are often left to suffer in silence, as do their loved ones who are left behind. It's a silence that needs to be broken; the cries need to be heard, and then maybe some cracks will begin to surface in the darkness, and there will be room enough for some light, and eventually, for hope to return to those at risk.

### Stresses of life

Society these days wants an answer for everything, and when it comes to the choice one makes to end their life, it makes no exceptions; the question is: "Why?" And it's no wonder, as this very issue cuts to the core of our existence.

It's not a question that's easily answered, but there are statistics that indicate some high-risk groups and factors, which can help us look out for signs of distress.

Risk factors vary with age, gender and ethnicity. They frequently occur in combination and are usually triggered by an adverse life event. The decision

to end one's life is not a "normal" response to stress, and lots of people have the risk factors but are not suicidal. Because no one person is the same, there is no single reason as to why a person commits suicide.

There are certain groups in society that are particularly at-risk of suicide, and research shows they tend to face isolation and are disconnected from the community.

### Cup analogy

Iris Bolton, a bereaved mother who lost her son to suicide, explains the cup analogy.

"Imagine a person's life is like a cup and their cup is filled to the brim with water – the water symbolising all the hurt, pain and shameful events accumulated throughout their life. The glass of their life is filled to the brim with all this pain, and if just one or two more drops of water are added to that cup, it runs over. The final drop doesn't cause the overflow, it's merely the trigger that causes them to lose hope, spilling over into the final act of taking their life."

We each play a part in helping those we know are at-risk by our positive actions in offering hope and support in their time of >>>

## Salvos support Postvention Australia conference

Postvention Australia is convening the fourth Australian Postvention Conference at the University of NSW (Scientia Building) from 5-7 June.

The Salvation Army is not hosting this conference, however, Salvation Army personnel Wilma Gallet (project manager) and Bill Sayers (manager of Hope For Life program) are active members of the conference committee.

This year's theme is "Pathways to Hope and Healing".

On the Thursday, pre-conference workshops will be held and focus on topics such as grief therapy, suicide ministry, how to cope with a child's death from suicide or drugs, and healing family relationships after suicide in Aboriginal communities. More workshops will be held throughout the conference.

Some of the workshop speakers include: Dr Diana Sands, director of Bereaved by Suicide Centre for Intense Grief; Beate Steller, National Association for Loss and Grief; Dr Jane Mowll, Department of Forensic Medicine; and Pastor Astrid Staley, author of *Pastor's Handbook: Complete Guide to Suicide Bereavement Ministry – Theology and Practice*.

The conference's plenary speakers are well-known for their research and practice in postvention. The international speakers include Robert A Neimeyer, professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Memphis, and Professors William and Beverly Feigelman, who lost their son to suicide.

Guests will also hear personal stories from individuals who are bereaved by suicide. The conference will conclude with a healing and remembrance ceremony on the Saturday.

To sign up for the conference, go to [secure.hotelnetwork.com.au/2014postvention/home/program](http://secure.hotelnetwork.com.au/2014postvention/home/program)

For more information: Alan Staines - 0412 164 575 [alanstaines@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alanstaines@optusnet.com.au)



Commissioner James Condon speaks at the recent memorial service in Sydney.

crisis. This is why we have to reach each other, to get alongside someone. If we pick up the warning signs, lives can be changed.

### Empowering Salvationists

The Salvation Army's Hope for Life initiative, in partnership with the Department of Health and Ageing and several key agencies working in the area of suicide prevention and postvention, has hosted three significant National Postvention Conferences in 2007, 2009 and 2012.

Army personnel have a wonderful opportunity to minister to those at risk and those bereaved by suicide. When you read the statistics, you realise that behind every life lost to suicide, there is a story, a name, a family and a dream that has been broken.

The Salvation Army operates from more than 900 centres throughout Australia. There are many rural and remote areas which are deprived of government services and infrastructure and, statistically, these regions have the highest rates of suicide.

The Salvation Army in most of these areas has a presence or centre and through the Hope for Life training programs, we aim to equip Salvationists and ordinary people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to be available for

people providing practical support and assistance, a listening ear, non-judgemental love, care, compassion and comfort and a sense of hope.

The key elements of Hope for Life include:

- QPR Suicide prevention online training course
- Living Hope Bereavement Support Training – online and face-to-face delivery options
- Interactive website and portal
- Suicide prevention awareness raising
- Postvention Conferences and resources
- Champions Program
- Lifekeeper Memory Quilts

The Hope for Life website provides the opportunity for Salvationists in Australia and around the world to log on and participate in the online QPR and Living Hope training programs. The web address is [suicideprevention.salvos.org.au](http://suicideprevention.salvos.org.au)



Envoy Alan Staines (OAM, OF) is the founder of Hope for Life: The Salvation Army Suicide Prevention – Bereavement Support Services

## Quilts keep memories alive

The Lifekeeper Memory Quilt was designed as a memorial to people who have died by suicide. Lifekeeper Memory Quilts serve as a creative outlet for survivors' grief as well as a touching, visual reminder of so many who were lost to suicide.

By putting a "face" on suicide, these quilts help carry the message that preventing suicide is not just about lowering statistics, but also about saving the lives of mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters.

A National Quilt was established in 2009 and there are now five state Lifekeeper Memory Quilts – two for NSW and one each for Queensland, Victoria and South Australia.

As well as being a meaningful memorial, the Lifekeeper Memory Quilt provides the opportunity to raise awareness of suicide.

Hope for Life has made strong connections with the families involved. Many of them share tributes and stories about their loved ones and these are on the Hope for Life website.

### Envoy Alan Staines' challenge to Salvationists:

I am inspired by our founder General Booth's words when he said "Let us haste to the rescue, who in this company will lend a hand to take up the challenge?"

This is a call for action and commitment. This work provides a great opportunity for ministry for Salvationists worldwide at this significant time in our history.

You and I can make a difference to troubled lives, those at risk and the bereaved by suicide as we try to reclaim an area of work in which we once led the world.

The Salvation Army charter is found in Luke 4:18 when Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... he has sent me to heal the broken-hearted ... to set at liberty them that are bruised."

Suicide prevention is everybody's (Salvationist's) business.

Together – led by the Spirit – we can make a difference, save lives and be Kingdom Builders."





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, Major Stuart Reid shares his favourite piece of Scripture

## My Favourite Verse – Major Stuart Reid

*"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.*

*Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: 'Everyone is looking for you!' Jesus replied: 'Let us go somewhere else - to the nearby villages - so I can preach there also. That is why I have come'."*

(Mark 1: 35-38)

**H**ave you ever wondered why Jesus prayed so much? Surely if there was anyone who didn't need to pray it would have been Jesus – the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, the Word made flesh, the promised Messiah, the Saviour of the world. And yet we see a consistent pattern of Jesus withdrawing to a quiet place to pray and then moving forward in purposeful action.

Now I know this may sound like heresy, but I think there were many times when Jesus didn't know what to do! Sure, he was very clear about the bigger picture of the mission of God, but his ability to make clear day-to-day decisions would have been constantly under siege from the immediate demands and good intentions of people crowding around him.

When challenged by the expectations of the religious, Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only

what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does," (John 5:19).

In the same way, to follow the way of Jesus will require us to consistently withdraw, to refocus on the mission of God, to listen, to see where God is at work – and to follow him.

In my own life, I can reflect on many times when I have been "prayerless and confused", usually spending a lot of emotional energy blaming, complaining, criticising and even trying to fix others. Yet Jesus didn't seem to do any of that. He just simply said, "Let's go somewhere else!"

Imagine if we all lived like this, obediently following the purposes of God without the emotional angst of double-guessing ourselves or searching for the approval of others. Life would be lived simply with prayer and purpose. Which I think is the reason why Jesus prayed so much!

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：斯图亚特 瑞達（少校）

次日早晨，天未亮的時候，耶穌起來，到曠野地方去，在那裡禱告。西門和同伴追了他去，遇見了就對他說：

“眾人都找你。”耶穌對他們說：“我們可以往別處去，到鄰近的鄉村，我也好在那裡傳道，因為我是為這事出來的。”

（馬可福音1：35-38）

你有否曾經問過為什麼耶穌祈禱那麼多？

當然如果說有人不需祈禱，那人必定是耶穌 – 神的兒子，聖靈感孕，道成肉身，應許的彌賽亞，救世者。然而我們看見

耶穌一個一致的模式，就是退到一個安靜的地方祈禱，然後採取目的性的行動向前推進。

我想有很多次耶穌不知道怎樣做事，我知道現在聽起來好像是異端邪說，但是肯定的是祂非常清楚神使命的大局，每天祂都不斷地被有即時需要和懷好意的擁擠的人群圍繞著身邊，但祂都有能力做出明確的決策。

當被宗教的期望所挑戰的時候，耶穌給他們這樣的答案：「我實實在在地告訴你們：子憑著自己不能做什麼，惟有看見父所做的，子才能做；父所做的是，子也照樣做。」（約5:19）

同樣的方法，要跟隨耶穌的方法就是需要我們固定地退下來，專注在神的使命上，去聆聽，去看神在那裡工作——然後跟隨祂。

在我自己的生命裏，我可以回想很多時候當我是“沒有禱告和迷惑”，通常都花費大量情感能量在指責，抱怨，批評，甚至試圖修復等。然而，耶穌似乎沒有做任何一樣。祂只是簡單地說，“讓我們去別的地方！”

想象如果我們都這樣生活，順服地跟隨神的旨意，沒有情感焦慮地猜測自己或尋找別人的認同。那我想這就是耶穌為什麼禱告那麼的多。

# GRIPPED BY THE GRACE OF GOD

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UNLOCKING THE ARMY'S ARCHIVES

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Some men achieve greatness because they seek it. Others, however, display greatness by serving God and their fellow man. In part one of a two-part article, **Major DAVID WOODBURY** says one such man was George Walker

**B**orn on 5 December 1892 in the Tasmanian town of Burnie to Salvation Army officer parents, George Walker resolved never to become an officer himself. He had experienced the abject poverty that was the lot of many early officers and wanted none of it.

However, impressed by the commitment of his sister, Alice, to God's calling to officership in The Salvation Army, George began to reconsider his resolve.

During an Easter tent campaign in Prince Alfred Park in Sydney, he found himself challenged by the words of Mrs Commissioner Hay: "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it!"

The words seemed directed at

him personally, and George yielded himself to God's claim upon his life.

On 10 April 1915, with the world beset by war, George boarded the SS Canberra in Sydney and sailed with other cadets for The Salvation Army's training college in Melbourne.

Having seen the example of his sister, who was a lieutenant serving at the Army's Bethesda Hospital in Melbourne, he determined that "no matter where in the world I am sent, I will be in God's will". This resolution was to prove crucial in the difficult years ahead.

George's first appointment was as corps officer to Barcaldine in Central Queensland.

With his cornet, concertina and few other worldly belongings, he stood on the deck of the ship as it departed from Melbourne, put his cornet to his lips and played:

"There is grace enough for me;  
When my need shall greatest be,  
There'll be grace enough for me  
In the treasury of heaven.

Hallelujah!"

In the years ahead, he would prove the certainty of these words.

Eight brief appointments followed and during this time George married Captain Jessie Butler-Nixon, who he had met when his parents were stationed at Rozelle Corps in Sydney.

Jessie had entered the Melbourne training college in 1913.

## Missionary service

Life and ministry for George and Jessie Walker became a matter of trust in a God who they believed had called them to serve him unconditionally.

In November 1921, with their three-month-old son Wilbur, they were farewelled for missionary service in China. They sailed in the Nikko Maru with a party of 17 other Salvationists, arriving in China on 24 December to take charge of Salvation Army operations in the Peking West Region

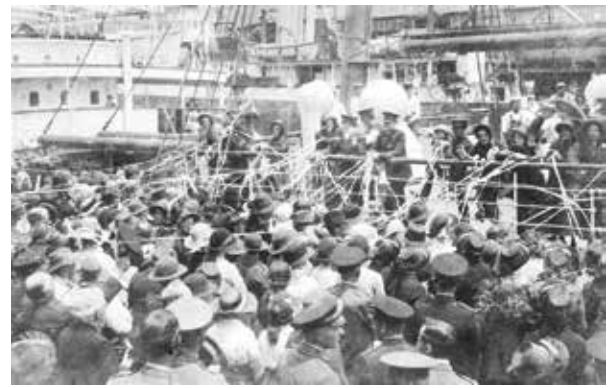
George found conditions in China to be difficult, with famine, flood, poor education and overcrowded cities, but soon realised the importance of learning both the Chinese language and culture if he was to bring people into God's kingdom. He was a man of action, completely abandoned to the work of God, an evangelist who loved souls, went after them and offered a simple, effectual message.

Working with Salvationists from China and other countries, he saw the ministry of The Salvation Army grow and in 1922, he participated in the fourth annual congress in Peking with 90 Chinese officers and cadets present. On 19 June 1922, a second child, Jean, was born.

In 1924, George and Jessie were appointed to Tai Yuan Fu, in the Shansi Province. George was







LEFT: Cadet George Walker, who entered The Salvation Army's training college in Melbourne in 1915; ABOVE: The party of 17 Salvationists leaving for missionary service in China in November 1921; BELOW LEFT: Beggars waiting for a meal at Tai Yuan Fu, where George Walker and his wife were appointed in 1924.

heavily involved in preaching and running a porridge kitchen providing thousands of meals for the poor. He also regularly visited and sought to rehabilitate prisoners. On 26 January 1926, a second daughter, Joan, was born.

Difficult days followed as tensions between the Chinese and British in Canton and Shanghai escalated into armed conflict. Following a coded message from headquarters in Peking, George and Jessie were recalled there.

Because of the dangerous conditions and pressure from the Chinese Government, all missionary officers were subsequently recalled by The Salvation Army's International Headquarters, and the Walker family returned to Australia for homeland furlough.

### Return to China

Upon arriving back in Australia, the Walkers were appointed to Wollongong Corps, south of Sydney. However, before they had time to unpack, a phone call informed them that the world

leader of the Army, the General, had requested that they proceed to India.

On arriving in Calcutta in January 1928, they were told that their appointment would be to Sandipur Criminal Settlement in the Bengal Province. On 5 January 1929, a second son, Howard, was born. Twelve months later, they were sent to Calcutta where George was training principal and divisional officer responsible for 10 corps.

In December 1929, the Walker family returned to China for a second term.

In the severe winters, the temperature often dropped below zero and resulted in many Chinese dying from cold and starvation. George's response was to open night shelters and porridge kitchens where he and his fellow Salvationists served more than 10,000 free meals each week. From these stations, The Salvation Army also provided grain, padded clothing and fuel, as well as food relief at the Peking Beggar's Camp. In 1934, George was appointed to the port city of Tientsin, 150km

south-east of Peking. Salvation Army meetings in this city of more than 1.5 million people were well attended, and he also conducted a regular English-language broadcast over a local radio station.

Many of the new converts often faced difficulties with old superstitions and George needed to carefully explain biblical teaching and Christian terminology. Salvation Army ministry continued to progress and by 1933, he had 1000 Salvationists under his command.

The Walker family returned to Australia on homeland furlough in July 1935, and George spoke in many corps in NSW and Queensland about his ministry in China.

In April 1936, the family returned to Tientsin for what was to become a trial by fire. As the ship left the wharf in Sydney, George once again played the chorus that had become his lifelong conviction: "There is grace enough for me."

*Part two of this article will appear in the June issue of Pipeline*



Major David Woodbury is *Pipeline's* founding editor

## Belle

**RATING:** M

**RELEASE DATE:** 8 May



Gugu Mbatha-Raw plays the role of a half-caste woman born into the upper class of 18th century Britain.



**Mark Hadley is**  
*Pipeline's* culture  
writer

*Belle* is a brilliant lens through which to view the historical struggle for human equality. However, it does us no favours when it hides the real history of those at the forefront of that fight.

*Belle* claims to be inspired by the true story of a mulatto woman born into the British upper class of the 18th century, by virtue of having a noble for a father and a slave for a mother. Gugu Mbatha-Raw plays Dido Elizabeth Murray, the half-caste woman who comes to inherit both her father's last name and estate, along with her mother's dark skin. However, though Dido cannot sit down at the dinner table, her position in the Earl of Mansfield's house places her at the heart of the slavery debate because her guardian also happens to be the Lord Chief Justice of England.

Mansfield is in the process of deciding a vital point of law that threatens to bankrupt the British slave trade. What follows is a clever interweaving of Dido's struggle for a place in society, her right to love a young, idealistic law clerk and her witnessing of a crushing blow to slavery.

*Belle* is a compelling tale with an enviable cast – Tom Wilkinson, Emily Watson, Penelope Wilton – that manages to deliver the gravity of the greater issue while preserving the appeal of Dido's personal story. But though the film is based on real people there is very little in it that lines up with the true Dido Elizabeth Belle.

She *did* live at the Mansfield home, but she did *not* inherit her father's name or become an heiress. Nor did she marry a visionary law clerk dedicated to abolishing the slave trade – actually, a Frenchman who worked as a gentleman's steward. And her influence on the Lord Chief Justice's eventual decisions is pure speculation. But probably the greatest liberties are those the film takes with the battle against slavery itself.

*Belle* works hard to put forward a purely rational argument for the abolishment of slavery, without wondering where those morals come from. History records that Lord Mansfield's cautious rulings against slavery reflected the Age of Enlightenment but the film eliminates any positive mention

of the God-fearing politicians, churchmen and Christian women of standing who were the engine of abolition. In fact, it presents Dido's mythical law student lover as the son of a clergyman who has come to the conclusion that "religion need not be the only guardian of our morality": "Where my father studies the church, I choose to study the law. It is by that I wish to change the world."

The film certainly hints at the horrors of the slave trade, but *Belle's* saddest content is this attempt to drive a wedge between 18th century English morality and the God who gave it force. Legendary abolitionists like William Wilberforce, Elizabeth Heyrick and John Newton strove to eliminate the slave trade because they believed first and foremost in a Creator who had made all men and women equal. The strangeness, then, of trying to separate God from the legal system he inspired people to create seems to be more of a reflection of the current antithesis towards religion. In short, *Belle* makes for a beautiful story, but it's only half a story.



# The Gods of Wheat Street

**RATING:** M

**RELEASE DATE:** Saturdays, 8.30pm, ABC1



The Freeburns of Casino, an Aboriginal family at the centre of a six-part ABC series.

**T**he Gods Of Wheat Street will shine the light of the small screen on a distinctly Australian form of spirituality. But does its creed have anything more to offer than Tony Robbins or the New Age Movement?

The new ABC drama is set in Casino, in the Northern Rivers region of NSW, where Odin Freeburn is struggling to lead his Aboriginal family.

As a teenager "Odie" was involved in a terrible car accident which killed his mother. While she lies dying she has him swear that he will be strong for her other children; that he will ensure that they don't get separated. In so doing she introduces the theme that shapes the entire six-part series: the family obligations that shape our futures.

Kelton Pell, who plays Odie, is introduced on the day of his boss' funeral. He has been working for a struggling garage that is now likely to go under with the death of its proprietor, and his family looks set to follow a similar fate. From

the first episode we realise that the Freeburns are a family with one eye on the next world. Rather than depart for the hereafter, the spirit of Odie's dead mother reappears to him at crucial times in his life to guide him towards the best future for their family. His crisis of employment is one such time, though he's less than pleased with the extent of the advice she offers:

Odie: "OK - what happens if I take that job in Sydney?"

Mum: "You know I can't tell you that ... I know if you keep fixing bike chains and servicing lawn mowers you won't go far."

Odie: "That's not the question I asked you - go or stay?"

The spiritual world of *The Gods of Wheat Street* may have Aboriginal elements but it's decidedly Western in expression. Loved ones have gone on to a better place where the Creator takes good care of them. They remain positively concerned with those they left behind, even if they can't tell us anything specific. But what they lack in practical help, they make up for in encouragement

... for the real gods.

The members of the Freeburn family are named after mythic figures, mainly deities.

As Odin's mother explains to her son: "You know why I gave you those names? Because names have power. I didn't name you after a god so you could go around thinking you're like everyone else."

The ghosts of Wheat Street are actually there to help us be all we can be.

As the drama unfolds viewers will realise that the real gods of Wheat Street are the loving adults who make things happen. This is the sort of spirituality no-one need feel threatened by. The spiritual world has no instructions, only advice, and offers no condemnation.

The Creator is in charge of blessing meal times and providing a heavenly retirement home.

And, of course, there's no mention of Jesus because there's no need for him in Casino - not when it turns out you're actually your own saviour.

# BRINGING THE KINGDOM OF GOD TO EARTH

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## SOCIAL JUSTICE

**CASEY O'BRIEN** says anything we do to glorify God is bringing justice to his earth, and is worthy in his eyes

I recently had the privilege of attending the Global Track of The Salvation Army's Social Services and Disaster Management Conference in the USA. This conference saw delegates from all over the world come together to discuss how the international Salvation Army can better work as "One Army, with One Mission and One Message".

Throughout my time in Florida, I met Salvationists and employees of The Salvation Army from contexts very different to mine. Each of us shared what our work involved and how we saw the Kingdom of God coming about within our own local expressions of The Salvation Army.

One thing in particular struck me: the diversity of The Salvation Army worldwide. Across the globe, The Salvation Army has responded to local communities which vary greatly from one another.

How beautiful it is then, that The Salvation Army looks different in each of those responses. Yes, we are One Army with One Mission and One Message, and in portraying this universal mission and message, we do so in a way that is relevant to the communities in which we serve.

We have childcare services, construction programs, Bible study groups, feeding programs, universities, centres for spiritual development, brass bands and rock bands, and we all come under the banner of The Salvation Army.

### Announce and demonstrate

As we have explored in this column earlier in the year, social justice is the coming of the Kingdom of God to earth. Theologian Mike Frost explains that our purpose as the Church is to "show people what the world to come looks like here in the midst of the disorder of this world". When we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven", this is exactly what we are asking for – that those elements that we know to be present in God's Kingdom in Heaven (that is love, grace, justice, peace, wholeness etc.) would be present also in his kingdom on earth.

Frost explores the idea that as Christians, we are called to both "announce" and "demonstrate" the reign and rule of God. Announcement could take the form of conversation, preaching, billboards on the side of a church building – anything that explicitly declares that God rules over the earth and everything in it. The demonstration side is not always as easy to do. We demonstrate God's rule on earth when we bring justice to his earth – that is, when we assist him in bringing a piece of his Kingdom to earth. We demonstrate his reign by bringing justice through our advocacy work. We

demonstrate his reign by showing mercy through our welfare services. We demonstrate his reign through compassion in our chaplaincy services and a readiness to serve his people through our emergency services. The "announcement" and the "demonstration" of God's Kingdom must go hand in hand.

### Missional value

The difficulty comes when we as the Church and as stewards of God's gifts must measure the effectiveness of our work. As Frost states, "Alerting people to the reign of God in Christ is more than church growth, attracting more numbers. It's more than saving the lost".

The "announcement" and the "demonstration" of God's kingdom must go hand in hand. I often hear people speaking of (and at times, questioning) the "missional value" of different programs and activities within The Salvation Army.

Let us never forget that the "mission" with which we are charged is to bring God's Kingdom to earth. Therefore, every announcement or demonstration which works towards this end – be it a sermon, a feeding program, a Bible study, a homelessness service or any other expression of The Salvation Army in the local community – is extremely valuable in God's eyes.

Any effort which brings the Kingdom of God to earth is worthwhile in God's eyes. It is true that the effectiveness of our programs must be measured in some way to ensure good stewardship, but it becomes a problem when we believe that a corps, centre or activity is worthless because it does not meet certain tick-boxes.

No matter how small, every activity which brings about some piece of the Kingdom of God on earth is valuable in God's eyes.

Let us continue to seek God's face in discovering what his kingdom on earth looks like in our own context. Let us seek to do our part in bringing about a world which emulates God's vision for the world.

Reference: *Purpose of the Church*, by Michael Frost, accessed 13 April, 2014, Youtube.



Casey O'Brien is the  
Territorial Social Justice  
Co-ordinator



# Tanzania visit opens up whole new world for Ian

By ESTHER PINN

Ian Minnett recalls being left speechless. As the chief financial officer for The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory, Ian says he usually feels in control in most situations. But when he visited Tanzania in March, he was shocked by what he saw and experienced.

"I didn't know where I was going and I didn't know what to expect," he says.

"Electricity came and went every half an hour and the pollution, the living conditions, heat and humidity sort of knocked me around while I was there."

Late last year, Ian was appointed as chair of The Salvation Army International Development (SAID) executive board.

Embracing the responsibility of the role, he wanted to visit the frontline of SAID's work.

"As incoming chairman of the SAID board, I asked if I could see some projects," Ian said. "I thought it would be helpful, when considering where the [donated] money goes, to have experienced projects first-hand."

First stop in Tanzania was Mwanza. Ian visited individuals and families who are participating in the Army's livestock feeding program.

The program provides families with goats to generate income. Along with milking the goats to earn a living, the families are also receiving nutritional value from the milk.

Ian then went to Serengeti, where the Army runs another livestock program. Here, he met a woman who was able to finish building her house because of the income she generated through the program.

"She was so pleased with herself and so pleased with The Salvation Army," says Ian.

Tabora was another location Ian visited. He witnessed the success of The Salvation Army Micro-credit Development Partnership (SAMIDE) program, a micro-finance loan project that lends money to individuals and families to help them start their own businesses. He met a woman who now runs her own clothing business. The micro-finance program provides her with the funds to purchase a machine to make clothes.

## Hands-on help

While in Tabora, Ian was also able to put his own skills to use. The project office manager, Frederick, who is based at territorial headquarters in Dar es Salaam, asked him if he could design a simple spreadsheet to help the project office team track all the loans they make.

"They had all these passbooks written up and they were just struggling to balance it all up," explains Ian.

"They were doing it all manually and I thought, 'I'm here for another two and a half hours, let's see how I go with it'. I came up with something useful and was quite pleased with it."

While in Dar es Salaam, Ian visited two Salvation Army human trafficking refuge centres for women: Kwetu and Mbagala.



Ian Minnett meets Tanzanian locals whose lives have been impacted by The Salvation Army.

"The Salvation Army does amazing things to get young women out of [those] problems," he says.

For Ian, his trip to Tanzania has highlighted the importance of supporting the work of The Salvation Army overseas.

"We're training people and helping people to learn that they can be sustainable on their own," he says.

Ian wants to encourage Salvationists and friends to support the life-changing work of SAID by buying a gift from their catalogue or raising money for a project overseas.

"Small amounts of money can make a huge difference in peoples' lives."

For more information about SAID or to donate, go to [salvos.org.au/said](http://salvos.org.au/said)



# Tracey blown away by response to bushfire appeal



Tracey Greenaway holds one of the quilts that featured at the open day held at The Salvation Army in Springwood.  
Photo: Adam Hollingworth

By ESTHER PINN

As the bushfires edged closer to her home, Tracey Greenaway felt helpless. All she could do was sit in her home and wait.

In the end, her house was spared, but many of her neighbours and friends lost almost everything they owned to the fires.

"I just felt I had to do something and use skills that I have," the Springwood Salvationist says. "And I can make quilts."

Tracey took this desire to help and, through her internet blog, asked for donations of quilts. Within days she had received three quilts from Western Australia and, from then on, she was inundated with emails from people who wanted to send quilts. Out of this simple response to tragedy, the Springwood Winmalee Bushfire Quilt Appeal was born.

"People were looking on the internet for somewhere to send quilts and it just happened I had put it up there [on her blog]," says Tracey. "And it just snowballed into this massive thing."

In mid-March, an open day was held at The Salvation Army in Springwood. Almost 1000 quilts were on display. The following day, at a private event, bushfire victims were able to choose a quilt for themselves. "It's not one per household, it's one per person," says Tracey.

There were also 300 knitted and crocheted blankets available as well as pillows, sewing kits, cushions, magazines and wall hangings. The quilts and other handmade gifts have been donated from all over Australia.

"It's great community spirit that these quilts have come from

all over Australia," says Tracey. "Quilters are very generous people, they often give things away."

To honour those who donated, Tracey has used her blog to post photos of all the quilts that were sent.

## Quilting classes

Tracey has been holding quilt-maker classes for the past 10 years. A hobby that started after having her first child, Tracey and her friend, Monica, started affordable quilt-making classes.

"Patchwork classes are up to \$25 an hour and I know there are a lot of people in my community who wouldn't be able to afford that every week plus the cost of the fabric," says Tracey.

Every Thursday, around 25 women attend the classes, held at Springwood Corps. When Tracey launched the bushfire quilt appeal, she added another temporary quilt-making class on Wednesday evenings. Numbers increased to around 45 people in each class.

"There are a few ladies in my group who are the most wonderful, supportive, hard-working, and generous people," she says. "They just back me 110 per cent and I don't think I could have done this if I didn't have those ladies who shared the same vision."

Tracey says there are many bushfire victims who moved away from the Blue Mountains prior to the quilt distribution day and haven't returned. Not wanting them to miss out, she has mailed quilts to all those who couldn't attend the event in March.

To find out more about the quilt appeal, go to [bushfirequiltappeal.blogspot.com.au](http://bushfirequiltappeal.blogspot.com.au)



# General honours Denise's 50-year career with Army

By ESTHER PINN

Starting with the typewriter, moving on to the electric typewriter and finally the computer, Denise Merton has successfully adapted to each new challenge over her 50-year career with The Salvation Army.

Denise was honoured for her extraordinary service at a special morning tea at the Army's Australia Eastern territorial headquarters (THQ) on 8 April. She was presented with a framed letter written by General André Cox, the Army's world leader, which was read by Ian Minnett, the territory's chief financial officer.

"These decades of excellent service to God and the Army are clearly an outstanding achievement," the letter stated. "Of course, you will have seen much change since you commenced work in the finance department at THQ in 1964. Changes in role, changes in personnel and policy and practice. Even the locations itself have each been part of your experience. Throughout it all you have provided a greatly appreciated stability of service and consistency of approach."

The territory's Chief Secretary, Colonel Richard Munn, then presented Denise with her service recognition certificate.

On 13 April 1964, Denise boarded a train at Woonona, south of Sydney, where she lived with her parents, Brigadiers George and Phyllis Merton. Her destination was territorial headquarters in Sydney, where her working life started with filing and labelling, then learning to touch-type, in the finance department.

"I've seen a lot of change in the life of The Salvation Army ... an opportunity was given to learn the computer and I have never looked back," she said.

In 2000, Denise accepted a data entry position and began working at the Army's Shared Services Group (SSG) in Meadowbank, western Sydney. It was the year that the GST was introduced, and Denise quickly became an expert in this area.

"When I went for that interview I told them God was in the room ... when I got the job I said God got me the job."

In 2007, a new role with SSG saw Denise move to an office in Auburn, Sydney.



TOP: Colonel Richard Munn presents Denise Merton with her 50 years service certificate. ABOVE: Denise celebrating with her work colleagues.

"Denise, thank you for the work you have contributed to SSG over the past 13 years," said Sue Snell, SSG accounting manager, at the morning tea.

"You've shown great dedication to The Salvation Army and your role as accounting officer. On behalf of all SSG staff we congratulate you on your 50 years."

Aged 67, Denise has decided that it's now time to retire and she will officially end her working relationship with The Salvation Army this month.

"I have really enjoyed working with a wonderful group of people," she said.

## End of golden era for Olwyn after 32 years of service

Parramatta Salvationist Olwyn Merton was honoured with a high tea after retiring as leader of the Parramatta Golden Years Club, a position she held for 32 years.

The tea was held at the group's monthly meeting on Tuesday 8 April, with various speakers paying tribute to Olwyn's faithful service.

In response, Olwyn reminded the group of God's faithfulness to his people.

Major Alwyn Robinson, the Parramatta corps officer, presented Olwyn with a certificate of appreciation.

The Parramatta Golden Years will now be led by Margaret Poore.

Parramatta corps officer Major Alwyn Robinson presents Olwyn Merton with her certificate of appreciation.



# National plaudits for Salvation Army caseworker

By NATHALIA RICKWOOD

Salvation Army caseworker Sarah Boyle received the Caseworker of the Year award at the March 2014 Australian Migration and Settlement Awards (AMSA), held at Parliament House in Canberra.

The awards recognise the work of individuals or organisations that assist refugees or new migrants to settle in Australia, to feel included and to participate.

Sarah is acting senior caseworker at The Salvation Army's Safe House for Trafficked Persons in Sydney, the only service of its kind in Australia.



Minister for Social Services, the Kevin Andrews, Caseworker of the Year Sarah Boyle, and Salvation Army National Secretary Major Kelvin Alley at Parliament House.

"This award is important as it acknowledges the value of caseworkers in the lives of individuals and our contribution to Australian society overall," said Sarah, who was shocked and overwhelmed at receiving the award.

Anyone working within the migration and settlement areas can be nominated for the award, with a panel of industry experts and media professionals deciding the winner on the night. Approximately 500 nominations were received for the 2014 Caseworker of the Year category.

"Sarah's passion for her work has always been equally matched with a desire to offer high-quality professional support," said Jenny Stanger, Safe House supervisor.

"It is this combination that makes her so effective at her work, an inspiration to others and a deserving recipient of this award."

The Safe House supports people who have experienced human trafficking and slavery in Australia. It welcomes men, women, young people and even children who have been exploited in many industries including agriculture, construction, food services, manufacturing and cleaning. It also includes those working as housekeepers or sex workers, or in slave-like or forced marriages.

"Although my clients are vulnerable migrants who have fallen victim to the false promises of traffickers and slaveholders, they are also highly resilient and determined to move forward with their lives," said Sarah.

"They show great strength and they're incredibly inspiring to work with. It is a privilege to support them in their freedom journey."

To stay updated with what the Safe House is doing, you can 'like' their Facebook page: [facebook.com/salvossafehouse](https://facebook.com/salvossafehouse)

## Salvos tap into reconciliation week

BY ESTHER PINN

The Salvation Army will be celebrating National Reconciliation Week from 27 May to 3 June through various events happening around the territory.

At the Army's North Queensland Hub, Shirli Congoo, Territorial Indigenous Program and Ministry Coordinator, has a partnership with a local cultural mentoring men's group.

"Our North Queensland Hub has joined the challenge to move beyond the church walls and beyond just learning about being more culturally aware during NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week," explained Shirli.

The men's group was established by Alfred Smallwood, a local Indigenous representative, in 2009. He gives six hours voluntarily each week to provide personal support to Indigenous men. The Salvation Army Recovery Service has linked many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men to this group.

During National Reconciliation Week, the Army and the men's group are working together to hold a fundraiser called the My Brother's Keeper Fundraiser Concert at Townsville Riverway Recovery Mission. All costs associated with the fundraiser will go towards the men's group.

With the funds, Alfred hopes to purchase a bus to transport the men to the group. Also, the funds will be used to provide a meal

at the men's group, internet connections, general office supplies, fuel, telephone credit, guest speakers and cultural resources.

The Townsville Corps Band is working with some of the recovery men to put on the concert to show reconciliation in action. A meal will be provided and there will be a silent auction.

To donate, contact Shirli via phone or email: 0400 713 829 or email [shirli.congoo@ae.salvationarmy.org](mailto:shirli.congoo@ae.salvationarmy.org)

Cairns Corps is also jumping on board with National Reconciliation Week by teaching church members about reconciliation.

"Creating cultural awareness within the corps about what National Reconciliation is all about," said Allen Minniecon, Indigenous Community Engagement Worker for the Cairns Community Welfare Centre and Family Store.

Moree Corps will be holding a reconciliation church service on 1 June for local indigenous families and other church congregations. Invitations are also being extended to local elders, the Boomerangs Football Club – a local football team whose home ground is situated at the corps' premises – and the corps' own indigenous population.

"This service will be a great opportunity to move beyond talking about reconciliation and is actively seeking to intentionally build relationships with our establishing Indigenous ministries," said BJ Moulder, Moree Corps Officer.

The Salvation Army Logan Life Community Church is joining with other local churches under the Churches Together Indigenous People's Partnership (CTIPP) to host reconciliation services. With the theme "Let's Walk the Talk" services will be held at the Logan Life Community Church on 26 May.



# Any way you slice it, Streetlevel pizza is firing



For the Wrights (left), cooking fresh wood-fired pizzas for community members at Brisbane Streetlevel Mission is a family affair.

BY SIMONE WORTHING

**F**resh homemade pizzas cooked onsite in a wood-fired oven is now a monthly feature of a fellowship dinner served before chapel at Brisbane Streetlevel Mission.

The Brisbane-based Wright family, who owns the mobile pizza and catering service, Fire N Dough Wood Fired Pizza ([www.firendough.com.au](http://www.firendough.com.au)), set up their ovens in the driveway of Streetlevel at 3pm once a month, ready to serve around 120 hungry community members three hours later.

It's definitely a family affair. Simone, who owns the business, rolls 12 kilos of pizza dough, freshly made by Crusty Edge Bakery according to her own recipe; Stewart gets the fires going and cooks the pizza; teenage children Taylor and Luka prepare and add toppings; Brooke makes a huge fresh salad; and Jordan, who is only 10, serves the pizza.

## Community outreach

For quite some time, Simone had wanted to reach out to the homeless in Brisbane and had discussed what she wanted to do with the rest of the family, who were all very supportive.

"We've nearly been in that situation ourselves and, with my business now established and doing well, I wanted to give back," she explains. "I figure that if you don't have to worry about food and you've at least had a good meal, the world is easier to look at, which is half the battle."

The family prepares three kinds of pizza: herbivore (vegetarian), carnivore (pepperoni) and omnivore (ham and pineapple). "All our ingredients are fresh except the canned pineapple," Simone emphasises. "And if I could stomp my own tomatoes, I would!"

Serving pizza to the Streetlevel community has had a big impact on the family.

"I get to feed people who are homeless and I just didn't realise how bad the situation was here in Brisbane," says Brooke,

who has osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bone disease), and helps prepare the food from her wheelchair.

It's great to get the feedback and know they like our pizza," says Taylor. "Seeing how hard it is for them makes me appreciate what I have."

Stewart agrees. "I like coming here to Streetlevel and to hear the positive feedback from the people here; it is humbling."

As the community members line up for their pizza, they all comment that it's worth waiting for and is the best pizza they've ever had!

## Chapel service

Luke Miekus, Streetlevel activities coordinator, says the pizza nights are a special event and really add to the atmosphere of the evening.

"It's warm, inviting and relaxing; and it also frees the community here to spend time eating and talking together without having to worry about who is cooking, serving or cleaning up," he says. "It helps us build relationships and develop community."

"We are thankful to this small business for giving of their time and resources and it just shows the power of what they are doing."

Some community members leave after the meal, and others stay for the weekly chapel service in the Streetlevel garage.

"This is unique," says Luke. "As Major Bryce Davies likes to say, we've got the biggest front door of any church in Australia and we are a beacon of light, a force, an Army in this place that is full of darkness and brokenness."

During chapel, Athina, a community member, leads the "care and share" time which is open, honest, raw and encouraging. The worship team then lead some songs.

"They have come such a long way, and are also writing some of their own songs," says Luke. "It's really amazing to see what God is doing right here at Streetlevel."

## ENROLMENTS

## BAYSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Bayside Community Church on Brisbane's southside had much to celebrate on Sunday 30 March.

At the invitation of corps leaders, Territorial Envoys Scott and Natalie Frame, Rhys Wilson, South Queensland divisional children's worker, enrolled the corps' first junior soldiers – Liam Bust, Callum Frame, Kobby Ihaia, Keegan Krueger, Emma Lane, Caitlyn Mole, Lauren Mole and Liam Shakespeare.

"The kids took their commitment very seriously and there was a beautiful sense of pride and joy as they all came to church in their new junior soldier shirts ready to take this step," said Envoy Natalie.

"We have been learning a lot about being a disciple of Jesus in Kids Church over the last year and the kids are all so keen to grow in their relationship with God and to learn to tell others about him.

"We often underestimate our

kids and how God can work in their lives and our prayer is that they continue to choose his way and serve him with this sense of joy."

Envoy Scott also enrolled three senior soldiers – Jillian Davis, Christina Hassem and Anne MacDonald.

"These three women are on very different journeys and have found their place in service to God's Kingdom through the Salvation Army Bayside," said Envoy Natalie.

"These women could change the world and that's what they are seeking to do. It has been such a blessing to see these women grow in their faith over recent months and experience the passion and excitement that they have about making this commitment to serve God with more commitment and more of his spirit."

Envoy Scott also accepted two adherents – David Crawford and Jesse Davis.

"God is at work in the lives of



The group of junior soldiers, adherents and their leaders from the Bayside Community Church in Brisbane's south.

David and Jesse and he is doing a great work in them," said Envoy Natalie. "They, too, are out to change their worlds."

The church joined in prayer for its new members and all its children and young people as they stood together under the cross.

"It was a wonderful day of celebration and we praise God for the new work he does in all of us," said Envoy Natalie.

## PARRAMATTA CORPS

Corps Officer, Major Deborah Robinson, enrolled eight new junior soldiers on Sunday 16 March.

"God is doing great things through our kids," she said. "We pray God's blessing over their lives and celebrate with each one as they have made this special commitment to be a friend of God!"

"We are also grateful for the prayer pals who have committed to pray regularly for the junior soldier in whom they take a special interest spiritually.

"Lorraine Kelly, assisted by Pamela Freeman, have prayerfully and faithfully prepared the junior soldiers by ensuring that they understand all the promises they make today, and what it means to serve God through The Salvation Army."

Another four children will complete the junior soldier classes in the second half of the year.

In 2013, Parramatta Corps children's pastor, Carissa Ainsworth and her team, took on



Left to right: Corps officer Major Deborah Robinson with junior soldiers Isaac Bust, Sebastian Browning, Annabel Gray, Alexander Browning, Joshua Anderson, Lauren Battersby, Maddison Grey and Paige Lloyd; Behind each junior soldier is their corresponding prayer pal.

the challenge of combining the junior soldier and kids church ministries.

"We now have around 28 kids each Sunday joining in worship, playing games, being taught the junior soldier material and then breaking into their groups to do their relevant activities," explained Major Deborah.

"It makes for a natural transition for the younger ones; it still allows kids to invite their

friends to church, knowing they can also join in, and it allows our teaching team to be rostered, enabling them to still participate in our main church service, too."

Jeffrey Parker leads kids church, and James Lloyd leads junior soldiers.

"Together, the two men and their team of leaders work very hard in delivering a brilliant ministry to our eight to 12-year-olds," said Major Deborah.





## Mass enrolment highlight of General's visit to Nigeria



By Captain IFESINACHI IJIOMA

**G**eneral André Cox, the world leader of The Salvation Army, and Commissioner Silvia Cox, World President of Women's Ministries, enrolled almost 800 senior soldiers during their visit to Nigeria in late March (above).

On the Sunday morning of the visit, the streets of Uyo played host to the memorable sight of more than 5000 uniformed Salvationists marching with brass instruments and timbrels, with the international and territorial leaders taking the salute at the end of the route.

The highlight of the holiness meeting was the enrolment of 785 senior soldiers by the General. He did not mince his

words in telling the newly enrolled soldiers that their motive in joining the Army should be to serve God and humanity and not for any personal gain. When he told the congregation, "It is time to stop pretending; it is time to live out God's will for our lives," more than 400 people made their way to the mercy seat to declare their willingness to be true ambassadors of God.

The previous evening, at a youth rally, the General enrolled 515 junior soldiers amid scenes of great joy.

On the last morning of their visit, the General and Commissioner Cox dedicated to God a new 2000-seat hall at Ejigbo Corps, and a new accommodation block at territorial headquarters.

## Global Conversation calls for transparency and accountability

By Major JOHN MURRAY

**D**elegates from around The Salvation Army world gathered in Orlando, Florida, for the Global Conversation, an international event held in partnership with the USA National Social Services Conference and hosted by the USA Southern Territory.

The event was attended by 275 people either as a participant or observer, with a further 419 people engaged in conversation via the internet.

In his keynote address, General André Cox, the world leader of the Army, told delegates that God had brought each one of them to the conference for a purpose. He also encouraged his listeners to keep the conversation going.

He was frank in his presentation, telling Global Conversation delegates that

this is a watershed moment in the history of The Salvation Army and that, as an organisation, "we are going to have to up our game if we are going to significantly continue to impact community in the days and years ahead".

The General added that The Salvation Army is "a force for positive change – however, the hallmark of our movement needs to be grounded in transparency and accountability". He spoke about the need to ensure that corruption is banished, acknowledging that good and evil are present in The Salvation Army but that "no-one is above the law!"

The General also suggested to delegates that a culture of change is needed in the Army to bring it back to its founding roots.

For more information go to: [salvationarmy.org/globalconversation](http://salvationarmy.org/globalconversation)

## Salvation Army at forefront of Chile earthquake relief

**T**he Salvation Army has been heavily involved in the relief operation after the 1 April earthquake and tsunami that struck northern Chile, killing eight people.

The Army's South America West Territory has had teams working in the affected areas, providing assistance to people who have lost homes and livelihoods. Mobile kitchens have been set up in the worst-hit areas, many of which were difficult to reach because of damage to roads.

Thousands of houses have been destroyed by the quake while dozens of fishing boats were washed away, leaving many fishermen with no means of earning a living.

## New members welcomed onto Doctrine Council

**T**hree new members have taken up their places on The Salvation Army's International Doctrine Council.

Major Gabriel Adepoju (Nigeria), Major Geoff Webb (Australia Southern) and territorial songster leader K Zohmonthanga (India Eastern) were officially welcomed onto the council when it met in London in late March.

Each brought their own distinct contributions to deliberations that centred on the ways in which theology is and can be interpreted throughout the world.

Specific consideration was given as to how doctrine can best be expressed to meet contemporary needs.

Further details about the work of the International Doctrine Council are available at [www.salvationarmy.org/doctrine](http://www.salvationarmy.org/doctrine)



The International Doctrine Council meeting in London in March.

## PROMOTED TO GLORY

## Selfless service



**I**ris Flatt was promoted to glory in Brisbane on 5 February, aged 86.

A short, private crematorium service was held when many family members were able to share their memories and experiences of a wonderful, practical Christian lady.

Following this, a large assembly of Iris' family, friends and church associates gathered for a celebration of Iris' life at The Salvation Army's North Brisbane Corps, to honour her amazing heritage and influence. Both services were conducted by North Brisbane Corps Officer, Captain Craig Todd.

Affectionately known as "Ma" or "Ma Iris," she was honoured for her dedication to God and extensive service to The Salvation Army over more than 70 years. After a prayer from Colonel Joyce Greentree and Scripture reading by Tony Moore (grandson), a glowing tribute was presented by Meredith Moore (daughter) on behalf of her brother, Peter, and foster brother, Douglas.

Meredith reflected on their mother's consistent modelling of sound Christian parenting and practical lifestyle. She frequently shared her mother's diaries, letters and anthologies. All through Iris' life she maintained a close connection to her siblings (Neville Lister, Ruth McKenzie, Olive Lloyd and Reuben and Lyle Lister) which was an example of practical love, care and the importance of family. The holidays Iris enjoyed over many years with Ruth and Reuben were recorded and relived through her many photo albums.

Meredith highlighted her mother's many talents and giftings, her generosity and her influence on family, friends and church folk. The greatest testament of all

was Iris' example of how to "prepare for death" while living life to the best of her ability and it was a witness to the daily strength she found in Jesus.

Sarah Sweeney (granddaughter) presented an inspiring tribute which represented collective memories, comments and reflections from Iris' six grandchildren (Bevan, Tony, Heidi, Sarah, Adam and Jessica). Their "Ma" was always interested in their lives and accomplishments, and loved spending time with her great-grandchildren as well. The older great-grandchildren each read short excerpts from Ma Flatt's collection of thoughts, quotes and wise gems, while the younger ones paraded colourful hand-made butterflies as they proudly blew bubbles to honour their special "Ma".

A favourite anthem of Iris' was *In the Love of Jesus, There is All I Need*. Verna Gittins rendered a beautiful tribute of that song, with musical accompaniment by Barry Moore.

The church tribute was offered by Elaine Head and Verna Gittins as long-time close friends and members of North Brisbane Corps. They gave examples of Iris' distinctive qualities of service to the New Horizons seniors group, craft groups and her exceptional hospitality in hosting life groups in her home for many years. Prior to North Brisbane Corps, her many gifts were used as a soldier of Nundah Corps and as she supported her husband, Harry, in many of the youth ministries.

Captain Todd acknowledged Iris as a key, influential matriarch at North Brisbane Corps and in his message, included encouraging and challenging words in line with Iris' desire to be with her friends and family in heaven. Captain Donna Todd closed the service with prayers of thanksgiving.

At the end of the celebration, Iris' life was portrayed in a pictorial indicating a

woman of steadfastness, encouragement and practical skills in craft, cooking, sewing, and hands-on help for family during renovations and maintenance projects. She will be greatly missed.

## Godly influence



**L**ieutenant-Colonel Roy Stiles was promoted to glory on 28 February, aged 98. He had been a Salvation Army officer since 1934.

For the first 10 years of his officership, Roy served in corps appointments in North Queensland and Brisbane, and it was while at Hermit Park Corps (Townsville) that he met his wife, Nell Ward. He later served in corps appointments at Grafton, Orange, Petersham, Campsie, West End (Brisbane) and Ipswich.

In 1960, Roy took the post of education officer at the Sydney Training College, and retired in 1975 after being the trade secretary.

Commissioner Les Strong (ret.) led a celebration of Roy's life at Springwood Corps on 5 March. Sons Allan and Innes spoke of his influence on their lives and memories were presented by grandchildren Paul Stiles and Tresna Anderson and great-grandson Anthony Gott. Great-granddaughter Emma Stiles blessed the audience with a vocal rendition of *Amazing Grace*, accompanied by her father, Paul.

Commissioner Strong spoke from Philippians 1:3-11.

All present were greatly blessed by first singing *We're Bound for the Land of the Pure and the Holy* and then by concluding with *Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus* with its timely and emotive chorus *When we all get to Heaven, What a Day of Rejoicing that Will Be!*

**To my daughter, I leave my wedding ring.  
To the Salvos, I leave hope.**



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## about people

## Appointments

*Effective 1 July:* Lieut-Colonel Rodney **Walters**, Territorial Commander, Eastern Europe Territory; Lieut-Colonel Wendy **Walters**, Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Eastern Europe Territory.

## Bereaved

Lieutenants Joe and Bev **Clark** of their son-in-law, Jim **Starkey** on 22 March.

## Birth

Lieutenants Kate and Matt **Ryan**, a girl, Eleanor Grace on 9 April.

## Promoted to glory

Major Edna **Gorringe** on 13 April.

## time to pray

## 27 April – 3 May

Major Mark Watts, International Headquarters; Forest Lake Community Church, Gladstone Corps, both Qld; Forbes/Parkes Corps, Forster/Tuncurry Corps, Gill Waminda Residential Aged Care, Glebe Corps, all NSW.

## 4-10 May

Glen Haven, God's Sports Arena, Gold Coast Recovery Services Centre (Fairhaven), Gold Coast Temple Corps, all Qld; Glenn Innes Corps, Gosford Corps, Goulburn Corps, all NSW.

## 11-17 May

Majors Norma and Isabel Beckett, Taiwan Region; Grafton Corps, Granville Corps, Greater Liverpool Corps, Grenfell Corps, Griffith Corps, Gunnedah Corps, all NSW; Mother's Day (11).

## 18-24 May

Katharine Dale, Ghana Territory; Gympie Corps, Hervey Bay Corps, Holland Park Community Welfare Centre, all Qld; Hannam Vale Corps, Hawkesbury City Corps, Hills Corps, all NSW; Red Shield Appeal Doorknock (24-25).

## 25-31 May

Homelessness Service Network, Hope House – Gunnedah, Hornsby Gateway Corps, all NSW; Hope For Life – Suicide Prevention and Bereavement Service, Human Resources Department, Humanitarian Mission Services, THQ.

## 1-7 June

Hurstville Corps, Illawarra Community Welfare Centre, Inner City (Streetlevel) Community Welfare Centre, Inner West Aged Care Services, all NSW; Inala Community Welfare Centre, Inala Corps, both Qld; Officers Five Year Review (2-5); Territorial Chaplaincy Retreat (3-5); Divisional Mission and Resources Team Leaders Forum (6).

## engagement calendar

## Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

Sydney: Thu 1 May – Sydney Red Shield Appeal Launch.

Sydney: Wed 7 May – Royal Commission Task Force Summit #Papua New Guinea: Fri 9 -Mon 12 May – Women's WOW weekend.

\*Sydney: Sat 10 May – Graduation ceremony, Sydney College of Divinity.

Newcastle: Fri 16 May – Newcastle/Hunter Red Shield Appeal Launch.

\*Sydney: Mon 19 May – Territorial Advisory Board.

Sydney: Sat 24 May – Red Shield Appeal.

Sydney: Sun 25 May – Red Shield Appeal.

Sydney: Sat 31 May – Rotary World Convention.

\* Commissioner James Condon only

# Commissioner Jan Condon only

## Colonel Richard Munn (Chief Secretary)

Sydney: Thu 1 May – Official Opening, 2014 Red Shield Appeal.

Blacktown: Sat 3 May – Brass Band Subscription Concert.

Sydney: Sun 4 May – Pub Church, Glebe Corps.

Central West NSW: Wed 7-Fri 9 May – Visit to Rural Community Project.

Sydney: Sat 10 May – Sydney Divinity and Booth College Graduation.

Sydney: Sat 24-Sun 25 May – Red Shield Appeal Doorknock.

## KEMPSEY SALVATION ARMY

125TH ANNIVERSARY • 14-15 JUNE



**SPECIAL GUESTS:** Commissioners James and Jan Condon and the Sydney Staff Songsters

**SATURDAY 14 JUNE:** Celebration Program at The Anglican Church

**SUNDAY 15 JUNE:** 9.30am Service. 2pm Pleasant Sunday Afternoon service at The Salvation Army.

**ALL WELCOME**

**CONTACT:** Captain Karen Keddie (02)65623566





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