

pipeline

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SKY'S THE LIMIT

GOODNA YOUTH OUTREACH



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Commissioners James and Jan Condon with actor Cate Blanchett and business chairman David Gonski at the Red Shield Appeal launch in Sydney.
Photo: Shairon Paterson

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Soundpoint centre connecting a community

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. (Psalm 112:5)

In December 2010 and early January 2011, the Ipswich area of Queensland was dramatically affected by devastating floods. Lives, property and infrastructure were disrupted and a sense of hopelessness prevailed over a community who suffered severe loss.

Yet a community spirit prevailed and something good has risen out of the floodwaters.

It is a community centre called Soundpoint, an initiative which was born out of the floods.

The Salvation Army and the Sony Foundation put their resources together and on Thursday, 4 October 2012, the official opening of "Soundpoint" – The Salvation Army and Sony Foundation Youth and Community Centre – took place.

Soundpoint is situated in Goodna, a suburb on the outskirts of both Brisbane and Ipswich, sandwiched in an area

known for its high unemployment, crime and troubled youth.

Yet it is exactly where this centre needs to be, to re-connect a fractured community.

At the official opening, a leading Salvation Army officer said this: "In this place we will witness miracles and see the power of redemption ... we will see good come from bad, despair give way to hope and a triumph of the human spirit over any adversity or hardship."

Soundpoint is nearing its second anniversary and it has lived up to expectations.

It has become a gathering place for the local community and good things are happening. Lives are being transformed.

There's services where people can get legal advice, counselling, housing advice and educational support.

There's meeting places where people can buy a coffee and have a chat, where

youth can congregate and take part in supervised activities. There's movie nights, community workshops, dance and music-based activities, barbecue facilities and conference rooms. There's a Family Store.

It's a happening place. And there's plenty on offer, particularly for young people. On a recent visit, a teenager said to me, "Soundpoint is awesome. It's like my second home."

Pipeline reporter Simone Worthing and photographer Shairon Paterson dropped into Soundpoint recently to see what was happening, and they found a hive of activity.

In this edition, *Pipeline* features an update on Soundpoint and we cover two events that highlight what's on offer for young people.

I hope you are encouraged by these reports as you read about God's people, doing God's work for his kingdom.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Compromising our unique identity

I noted with some interest the remarks of the territorial commander at the opening of The Foundry in Port Kembla, that "we need to do church differently" (April *Pipeline* p41). While The Foundry is an adventurous concept in ministry I am wondering whether or not The Salvation Army is doing it differently?

A few years ago I found myself in the communications department at territorial headquarters in Sydney where the territorial commander of the day requested that I visit a number of the new emerging contemporary corps and compile reports. Since then I have been interested in the emergence of contemporary corps in our territory and have come to conclusion that perhaps we are not doing it differently. While some of The Salvation Army traditional trappings have gone, many of these corps sound and look like any other contemporary church; same music, same service content, same philosophy of ministry. Doing it differently? Maybe not!

Along with the decrease of our traditional trappings has gone our distinctiveness. We are beginning to look like just another contemporary church, and that begs the question; can The Salvation Army survive as just another

church in what is now a very competitive church scene? I believe that to be true to William Booth's vision we must, at all costs, retain our unique identity. I have been present at emergencies as part of the Army's Emergency Services team and have noted, on a number of occasions, that disaster victims bypassed the professionals who were on hand and headed for the people in Salvation Army uniform. Many of today's Salvation Army uniforms look little different to the local pizza delivery man. Our loss of identity may well be our death knell.

I would not question the need for change. For many years we were simply a clone of the British Salvation Army and I can well remember standing in Sunday morning open air meetings in 100°F heat in a thick, navy, serge uniform with a stand-up collar. As Australia emerged from the British influence we began to evolve and take on a more Australian appearance. However, I suspect that much of the new contemporary appearance in corps is heavily influenced by American church philosophy.

Is it possible that we simply changed a British-cloned Salvation Army for an American-cloned church?

The American influence on The

Salvation Army in our territory is uncomfortably obvious. While visiting some of the more contemporary corps during my appointment in the communications department I found myself subject to the same sermon copied from an American church-growth leader on at least three times in as many months, not always delivered all that well.

Perhaps the time has come for a robust discussion as to what really constitutes an Australian Salvation Army. Some things need to change. Much of our vernacular certainly needs to change. The use of the term corps to describe a Salvation Army centre leaves most Australians puzzled.

Many times I have heard people refer to The Salvation Army Jonestown Corpse. I note that the term church is now widely used within the territory and find myself somewhat puzzled as to why we would use a term to which most unchurched Australians have a negative reaction? Why not The Salvation Army Jonestown Christian Community?

Whatever changes occur, we need to retain our identity and uniqueness at all costs, or risk fading into the background of a conglomerate church scene and perhaps disappearing altogether.

– Major David Woodbury

TAKE TIME TO CONNECT

Building relationships starts with making connections, which **Commissioner JAN CONDON** says, is our mission and purpose in life, in order to bring people to freedom in Christ



Commissioner Jan Condon is Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Have you ever been travelling and missed a connecting flight or train? I recall when my husband James and I were travelling to the United Kingdom for the first time, we had a week's holiday in Hawaii and our flight to Los Angeles was late, so we missed our connecting flight to London.

How would you react in such a situation? There were quite a number of passengers on our flight who were angry and abused the counter staff, while we just stood back and waited our turn. The staff were very apologetic and arranged for a motel room for the night and then booked us on another flight the following day. They thanked us for being patient and we enjoyed the luxurious motel overnight and eventually arrived safely at our destination.

The word "connection" is very interesting and one frequently used. Have you ever been connected via the telephone with someone and then suddenly the connection is broken? Or perhaps you had a friendship with someone and then, through some misunderstanding, or words harshly spoken, the connection is spoiled. Children try to connect pieces of Lego and some people have connections with influential people.

Connecting speaks of joining together, a coming together, a link or bond. If we are about people finding freedom, then we must always be finding ways to connect with people.

Example of Jonah

Jonah was a man totally out of touch with the people he was supposed to help. God told him to go to Ninevah and preach and make the people aware of their wickedness.

But Jonah, instead, ran in the opposite direction rather than obey God. After his time

inside the fish, he obeyed and preached the word and the people repented. God showed mercy and they were saved from destruction.

Jonah then became very angry and as he sat down, God provided a large leaf plant to protect him from the scorching heat. However, overnight the plant died and Jonah became extremely angry. He was so out of touch with his surroundings. He did not "connect the dots". He was so angry that a plant had died which he had not cared for, but he did not care for the thousands of people that were spared because God cared for them and showed mercy.

We really do need to know how to "connect the dots" if we want people to find Jesus and freedom in him. And it takes time to make connections.

Jack Kornfield says, "When we get too caught up in the busyness of the world, we lose connection with one another – and ourselves."

Jesus showed us how important it is to connect with people and our surroundings. Wherever he went, people followed and crowded around him. He always made time for people even when at times his disciples had had enough and wanted to send them home.

Jesus saw people as sheep without a shepherd and he knew how important the shepherd was for the well-being of the sheep. They would stray, fall into trouble or even go hungry if the shepherd did not care for them and lead them to safety.

Connections are so important. We need to make friends for Jesus and ultimately connect people with Jesus. That is our mission and purpose.

Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning; staying together is progress; working together is success."

May we take time to connect. It is not difficult but it is so important.

HOLINESS AND SECULARISATION

Concluding a *Pipeline* series written by members of The Salvation Army's International Doctrine Council and entitled "Holiness and ...", **Major ALAN HARLEY** says Christians are called to infiltrate secular culture as a soul-saving influence

It used to be that people knew exactly where they stood regarding right and wrong. Those were the days when Christians made a distinction between the sacred and the secular. What one did at church on Sunday differed in kind from what was done the rest of the week. There were "spiritual" things, such as Sunday meetings and band practice, and worldly things, like movie-going and dancing.

Then, halfway through the last century this dichotomy was called into question. There were those for whom the secular was the sacred. Harvey Cox's *The Secular City*, Paul Van Buren's *The Secular Meaning of the Gospel*, and former Salvation Army officer Fred Brown's *Secular Evangelism* were among the flood of books advancing this new understanding of what sacred and secular meant. They ranged all the way from promoting innovative mission approaches to the proposition that God was now dead.

This new brand of theologian announced that "man has come of age". There was talk of "secular saints" and "secular spirituality". Pastors often worked at being as "secular" as possible. No longer would they be identified by distinctive garb or lifestyle. Rather, they would abandon any

smattering of things religious. Novel styles of ministry emerged which saw ministers sitting in the pub, drinking, smoking and even swearing with the men. For them incarnation meant being "one of the boys". If "the Son of Man came eating and drinking" so would they.

In the early 1960s a *Christianity Today* cartoon captured the mood of the day. An older minister is depicted as saying to his long-haired curate: "I'm sick of this *unholier* than thou attitude of yours." As they said in those days, to be secular was to be "with it".

What is secularisation?

There is some disagreement as to the meaning of "secularisation" and its related terms "secular" and "secularism". I suggest that secularisation is not just to do with the increase or decrease of religious activities and organisations but the displacement of religion. This is seen at work in four areas:

Intellectual Secularisation - This has to do with the gradual removal of natural and revealed religious truth claims in the face of rational critique and is evident on many university campuses.

State Secularisation - Over the past century this was much in evidence with states officially opposing and making illegal religious practices by their citizenry.

Social Secularisation - This has to do with the spread of knowledge, value, tastes and activities which are devoid of religious content. This is seen in all areas of Western society: the media, entertainment and the arts.

Personal Secularisation - This is seen in the lives of people who have no place for God. They are not openly hostile to God, they just see no need for any kind of religious faith or commitment. Many grow up in an environment where such an attitude is fostered. Others drift away from their religious roots to lead a life which is, in the strict sense, "godless".

One of the major figures in the study of secularisation was H. Richard Niebuhr. In his *Christ and Culture* he posited five possible ways in which Christians respond to the question "How do we live in and respond to this culture?"

1. Christ against Culture.
2. The Christ of Culture.
3. Christ above Culture (a synthesis of faith and culture).
4. The Christ and Culture Paradox - recognising that Christians live in unresolved tension.
5. Christ the Transformer of Culture.

Point five sees culture as capable of being "converted". It sees all things as originally good

*"We must be
... the people
of God who
influence society
for good by being
reflectors of
Christ's holiness"*

and thus open to reformation and renewal. This essentially was the position of John Wesley and William Booth. The Church is called to be a holy community on earth as a model of what society can be. The Church is "separate" from the world and yet engaged in it. Thus the primary task of the Church is not to condemn culture, not to conform to culture, but rather to pray, love and live in such a way as to reveal Christ to the culture (Psalm 24:1) with a view to seeing it transformed by God's grace.

Christians in the "holiness" tradition often have adopted the "Christ against Culture" position and have been better known for the things they oppose than those for which they stand. "Separation" has been their defining quality. A misguided Methodist destroyed Wesley's notes on Shakespeare's plays because he deemed them to be off-limits for Christians, and many who identify with Wesley's teachings on holy living have adopted a similar negative stance toward culture.

Holiness teaching which stands in the "Christ the Transformer" stream believes that Spirit-filled Christians can influence culture – that young people should be encouraged not only to become officers and ministers but also politicians, educators, surgeons,

musicians, scientists and the like. Full salvation is seen as the application of the salvation message both to the whole of one's life and the entirety of one's culture.

Instead of reverting to the old "sacred versus secular" argument, we need to talk in terms of the sacred versus the sinful. Laughing, playing, eating, loving, working and the like are not sinful. Nor are they secular. They are God-given.

We respond to creeping secularisation not by making the Christian world smaller – confining ourselves to "sacred things" such as worship, prayer and Bible study. Rather we must see ourselves as commissioned to "go into *all* the world" – a world composed of the whole of life – to restore and renew society. This is not to accept society's standards but to challenge and work to change them as members of society. Holiness is full salvation – a salvation which affects the totality of the believer's life and which extends to every part of the believer's world.

Lure of worldliness

As noted, in the 1960s the quest for relevance led some to espouse a secular or "worldly" theology. By contrast, the quest for holiness has over the centuries often encouraged an "other-worldliness" which has resulted in irrelevance. Certainly,

Christians are commanded to "not love the world" (1 John 2:15) and to "not be conformed to this world" (Romans 12:2). But worldliness, a subject much talked about in older "holiness" circles, has surely to do with standards, ideals, motives and goals.

A devoutly religious person can have a quite worldly attitude toward life, using the same upward-mobility methods as his or her non-Christian colleagues, living for the same ends in terms of possessions, wealth, status and the like. Indeed, it is possible to live in such a way that, while retaining a respectable – and respected – persona, a professed Christian can in daily life be thoroughly secularised. This occurs when life is pursued, decisions made, and business undertaken, all without reference to God. This is true worldliness.

And ministers of the gospel, including Army officers, are certainly not immune from this. Indeed, a ministry pursued with a constant eye on promotion and how to obtain it is of the essence of worldliness. Where this is the case secularisation has taken place in the hearts of such people.

There were times when holiness preachers said much about cosmetics, movies, dancing and similar expressions of >>>

“worldliness”, but little about those other, more subtle expressions of conformity to this world. They painted a black-and-white, sacred-versus-secular world in which holiness could be measured by all the things one must avoid and all the things one must do. There is now a reaction, as is usually the case, with Christians – many of whom subscribe to the doctrine of holiness – having no apparent convictions or conscience regarding the type of music they hear or movies and television programs they watch.

Reflecting Christ's holiness

It's generally agreed that holiness is to be like Jesus. It's incarnational. It's a real life lived in a real world while remaining “pure and unspotted from the world” (James 1:27). It has to do with separation. Christians are called to “be separate” (2 Corinthians 6:17) as Jesus was when here on earth (Hebrews 7:26). But he wasn't separated from people. He enjoyed their company. His first miracle took place at a party (John 2). He loved them and was committed to doing everything he could for their highest welfare – even dying for

them. What he was separated from was the false motives and phoney displays of piety evident in the lives of many of the religious folk of his day. He was separated from greed and self-promotion (Philippians 2:5-8). This kind of holiness doesn't conform to the world. Rather it raises the bar so that people in the world can see what it's possible to be like.

And that's where we come in. The secular society is upon us. Many of us who live in the Western world have seen undreamed-of changes to society's standards. Secularisation is advanced not only by militant atheists but also the people we meet every day who no longer affirm the older standards regarding family, marriage, chastity and the like. We dare not capitulate. Nor can we retreat from society.

We must be the light, the salt and the leaven – the people of God who influence society for good by being reflectors of Christ's holiness in our daily lives. By the presence of the sanctifying Holy Spirit, we can so live that others spot the difference.

There's no evidence to suggest that the flow of secularisation is going to be changed in our lifetime.

But we can so pray, preach and work that what we do see is a movement of the Holy Spirit which results in his holiness being poured into the lives of our people and then, through them, into our secular society.

In Bible times, the Pharisees lived in a black-and-white, sacred-versus-secular world. That was the accepted standard for the people of that era. Then Jesus came. He was Christ the transformer. He who embodied holiness made secular events sacred just by being there.

And that's what holiness does when embodied by us.

It infiltrates secular culture with a sacred, life-changing, soul-saving influence.

It doesn't stand outside contemporary culture to attack it. It lives within that culture to transform it. The Word is made flesh once more.



Major Alan Harley is a retired Salvation Army officer living in Sydney, Australia

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BLANCHETT BACKS SALVOS AT RED SHIELD APPEAL LAUNCH

By ESTHER PINN

Multiple Academy Award-winning actor Cate Blanchett was the celebrity guest at the official launch of the Red Shield Appeal at The Westin Sydney hotel.

Interviewed during the launch, she spoke of her first experience of the appeal doorknock, sharing the moment when, as a young child, she realised the importance of philanthropy.

"I remember I must have been three or four, the first time the Salvos knocked on the door," she recalled. "I asked my grandmother what they were going to do with the money that they were going to put in the tin, and she whispered to me, 'some children don't have homes'. And I went white.

"I went upstairs to my piggy bank, which must have had, you know, a dollar and three cents in it, and I came down and gave it to them. I remember in that moment thinking that not every child in Australia was like me."

More than 700 people attended the launch, held on 1 May, at which \$1.2 million was raised. This included a \$200,000 donation from the NSW Government.

Former Australian rugby union captain and Sydney Red Shield Appeal Committee member, Nick Farr-Jones, was the master of ceremonies. Among the other guests were David Gonski, chairman of Coca-Cola Amatil and chairman of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group, Stephen Conry, chief executive officer of Jones Lang LaSalle (a national sponsor of the Red Shield Appeal launch), and Roger Massey-Greene, chairman of the Sydney Red Shield Appeal Committee.

The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, praised the business community for its financial commitment to the Army.

"Thank you for standing with us," he said. "We are extremely grateful to you and we will move forward together."

Guest speaker at the launch was Susan Templeman, who shared her experience of losing her home



RED SHIELD APPEAL

to bushfires that ravaged the Blue Mountains in October last year. She explained that while it was difficult at first to accept donated goods from The Salvation Army, without its help her family wouldn't be where it is today.

"We found ourselves very grateful to be able to get the basics for free," she said. "When you have lost absolutely everything, there's an awful lot that you need to buy. That was just the start of the practical support that the Salvos have provided us."

For Susan, the greatest gift from the Army was a \$5000 grant for her 20-year-old son, Harry. A musician, Harry lost 10 instruments to the bushfires. The grant has enabled him to replace some of the instruments and has equipped him to start a music degree at university.

Alison Moore, a member of The Salvation Army's Booth Community Choir, which performed at the launch, also shared her story of life as an alcoholic and compulsive gambler. She spoke emotionally about how, as a 15-year-old, she started to suppress her emotions with drugs and alcohol. At 19, she began playing poker machines.

In September 2013, Alison walked into The Salvation Army's William Booth House in Sydney, where she began the Bridge Program.

"The 12-step program has taken me on a journey of recovery," she said. "The program changed my thinking and behaviour."

Throughout April and May, another 23 Red Shield Appeal launches were held across the Australia Eastern Territory. The national goal for the 2014 Red Shield Appeal is \$80 million. The Australia Eastern Territory's target is \$44.35 million.

The national Red Shield Appeal Doorknock was held over the weekend of 25-26 May.



FROM TOP: Actor Cate Blanchett spoke about her first experience of giving to the underprivileged during the official Red Shield Appeal launch, which also heard stories from Susan Templeman and Alison Moore. Photos: Shairon Paterson

GOODNA YOUTH TAKING OFF

CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE, RAISING AWARENESS OF SOME OF THE ISSUES THEY STRUGGLE WITH AND OFFERING SUPPORT AND SERVICES ARE THE KEY FOCUS AREAS AT SOUNDPOINT – THE SALVATION ARMY AND SONY FOUNDATION YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE IN GOODNA, SOUTH WEST OF BRISBANE. PIPELINE REPORTER **SIMONE WORTHING** AND PHOTOGRAPHER **SHAIRON PATERSON** RECENTLY TRAVELLED TO GOODNA AND TOOK IN TWO OF SOUNDPOINT'S EVENTS – THE YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION AND THE GOODNA YOUTH SERVICE SKATEBOARD AND BMX COMPETITION – TO COMPILE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS





Railslides, aerials, barspins and 540s were the order of the day at the Springfield Skate Park as youth, from beginners to sponsored riders, competed in the Goodna Youth Services skateboard and BMX competition on 12 April.

These large competitions take place at two venues in the Ipswich area during school holidays every April. Goodna Youth Services (GYS) has also been running skateboard competitions for 13 years, adding scooters and BMX bikes as they became more popular.

Junior, senior, and sponsored events are part of each competition.

"These competitions are always a part of Youth Week celebrations that involve local and non-local youth," explains Noel Collins, Youth Outreach Worker with GYS. Noel facilitates the event, under the guidance of Vince Tawora, Team Leader for the outreach program.

The outreach workers at Soundpoint - The Salvation Army

and Sony Foundation Youth and Community Centre at Goodna - are key participants and supporters of these events.

Community spirit

GYS is trying to create a community event through these skate park competitions.

"We invite as many community groups as possible to come out and support the young people, and display their services," explains Vince.

"The Salvos always come out and support us and make their services available to the kids. They are very well-liked by the young people, too."

Vince was delighted that many skaters and riders from nearby Brisbane, and as far afield as the Gold Coast [100km away] had come to the day's competition, many with their families.

"For me, it brings everyone together and gives us all a chance to connect with the families >>>

of the kids and build relationships with them," he says.

Youth advisory group

GYS is focused on mentoring the young people and walking alongside them to help them develop leadership skills, and then put those skills into practice.

"We have a Youth Advisory Group, made up of local young people who share the main concerns of youth in the community with GYS," explains Vince.

"We then intentionally help them work towards achieving what they would like to see in their community – such as activities and programs to relieve boredom.

"The youth then learn what goes into organising events; it gives them a sense of leadership in the community, of being appreciated by adults and a sense of belonging. The more they have this, the less issues they will have in life."

The youth were instrumental in designing the Springfield Skate Park, as well as organising the competition, leading the announcements and judging at the event.

Awareness

GYS, in partnership with The Salvation Army at Soundpoint, Ipswich City Council, Footprints in the Park and other local service providers, also raise awareness of drug and alcohol-related issues and homelessness.

"We are letting the wider community know what we're all about, where the youth fit in, and their need to feel that they belong," says Vince.

"Without such great collaboration, goodwill and service providers, we couldn't do what we do for and with the youth. We are thankful for them, and blessed that we can all work together like this. Everyone has their role in working together."

Salvos connection

The youth van, part of The Salvation Army and Sony Foundation Youth Community Centre, is a regular feature at the skate park competitions.

"We partner with the Goodna Youth Services and bring the van so the kids have a place to come and relax," says Sally McGregor, Youth Caseworker (Education Support) at Soundpoint.

"We serve chocolate frappes, water and also have a PlayStation



"It gives us all a chance to connect with the families of the kids and build relationships with them."



set up. It's a great place for us to connect with the kids who come to Soundpoint and to continue to build relationships and link them in with other services.

"The kids get to know us as workers, and to know that our centre can be a safe place for them."

Footprints in the Park, a Christian organisation that works closely with The Salvation Army at Soundpoint, and in community events around the district, served a free barbecue and drinks during the competition.

Sponsors

The main supporters for the skating and BMX competitions are: The Salvation Army and Sony Foundation Youth and Community Centre (Soundpoint); Colony BMX; Chemical Storm; Mark Brimson, Ipswich City Council and

Councillor David Morrison.

Local businessman and CPA John Preston is also a sponsor, and was at the competition.

"I used to ride BMX bikes in Goodna when I was young and we didn't have anything like this," says John. "When I heard about the competition, I rang Vince to see if they needed any help.

"I am doing well in my business and wanted to give something back. The guys here are having a great time and it's a pleasure for me to help out a little bit and be involved."



Simone Worthing is a writer for Pipeline and supplements



TOP ROW, FROM LEFT: Competitors and their friends began early to line the sides of the park to watch the competition; Vince Tawora, team leader for the GYS outreach program, oversees the day's proceedings; spectators focused on one rider at a time during each event.

BOTTOM ROW, FROM LEFT: Ashleigh (centre) and Sally McGregor, youth caseworker at Soundpoint, make chocolate frappes from the Salvos van at the skate park; John Preston (centre), one of the event's sponsors, talks with some of the competitors. Photos: Shairon Paterson



Photo: Shairon Paterson

SALVO LINK PERFECT FIT FOR KATE

When Kate Barber became the manager at Jetts Goodna fitness club last year, she called into Soundpoint to introduce herself.

She discovered that some of the young people there were keen to lose weight and improve their fitness. That inspired her to start free weekly training and exercise programs for kids in the 13-15 years age bracket.

"These kids are in this program because they have had trouble in mainstream education, with things such as bullying, troubled backgrounds and family issues," Kate says. "Over the past year, I've seen an increase in confidence, respect and trust. Getting involved in Soundpoint was the best decision I've ever made."

Giving youth a VOICE



ABOVE: Sony Music star Taylor Henderson was one of the main attractions at the Youth Day celebration at Soundpoint. Taylor sang for the crowd, and spent time signing autographs and chatting with them afterwards. Photos: Shairon Paterson

By **SIMONE WORTHING**

An appearance by Sony Music star Taylor Henderson added to the crowds and the excitement at the Youth Day celebration at Soundpoint.

The popular event, held in April, was part of Soundpoint's National Youth Week celebrations, focusing on the theme "our voice, our impact".

A climbing wall and horizontal bungee run attracted children of all ages, local dancers and entertainers were popular with the teenagers, and everyone enjoyed the barbecue provided by Christian group "Footprints in the Park".

"Most importantly, the day showcased different services available to youth and their families in the area, that work together with Soundpoint and refer clients to each other for the best overall outcome," says Sally McGregor, a youth caseworker at Soundpoint.

The Salvation Army's Bundamba Corps provided support in the form of a jumping castle and volunteers.

"We work closely with Soundpoint and have a shared client group with the asylum seekers," says corps officer Captain Ben Johnson.

"Goodna Salvos hold a Thursday night chapel at the centre to help build a community of faith, and both the [Bundamba] corps and the centre are aware of each other's needs and resources."

Celebrating youth

John Williams, Soundpoint Manager, is focused on raising awareness of issues facing youth in the local community.

"Having the young agencies we work with together today, and in National Youth Week, is an opportunity to celebrate young people, raise awareness of some of the issues they struggle with, and offer support and services," he says.

"We support the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council and local youth services, to help give our young people a voice and a way forward.

"We are also thankful to Sony for providing an artist for today, and for all their support throughout the year."

Community of faith

Soundpoint is definitely a faith community. The centre hosts a community barbecue and chapel service each week, with up to 25 adults and 20 children attending.

"We have a speaker, sharing time and rowdy worship songs," says John.

"It's a time for people to connect with God and explore faith and a relationship with him."

John's wife, Sharon, works with the children in the chapel service.

"We use the Sony Space in the centre and do worksheets, crafts and songs, which the kids love," she says.

Sharon is also active in Mainly Music, held at Soundpoint. Up to



TOP ROW, FROM LEFT: Children of all ages enjoyed the day's entertainment and rides; Forest Lake Salvationist Shane Wilson spent time with the young people who came to Youth Day.

BOTTOM ROW, FROM LEFT: Goodna Youth Services set up ball games and challenges during the event.

15 local and mostly unchurched families now attend, after hearing about the program either at the centre or in the community.

"I like that the centre can connect people physically, emotionally, spiritually and socially and meet their needs," she says.

"A lot of people who were emotionally isolated are now connected to relationships outside their own walls, and also to services. They can explore their faith and volunteer.

"The centre offers community. It's physically a central space in our community and complements other services."

Joint approach

During the day, Soundpoint staff used an empty couch to raise awareness of youth homelessness, specifically couch surfing where young people sleep on the couches of friends and family but have no permanent home.

"This is a hidden part of youth homelessness and one we want to

raise people's awareness of," says Ashleigh, who is studying social sciences and doing her practical hours at Soundpoint.

Ashleigh also assisted children and youth in painting a dream wall.

"The theme for National Youth Week is 'our voice, our impact' so we are encouraging young people to visually display their dreams, and the impact they are having and want to have," she says.

"It's great to see a lot of younger kids wanting to have their voice heard as well."

Local youth agency, Goodna Youth Services, provided a basketball competition, set up for children and teenagers, in addition to a pool table and a punching bag. These were popular activities throughout the day.

"The Base" youth agency, a referral service for the counselling and support of young offenders, sent workers and volunteers to the Youth Day event and provided a beading and rainbow loom table for people to explore.

This agency makes referrals to The Salvation Army for programs that fit with their case management – for young people aged 10-18 with high to extreme complex needs.

Messages of hope

During the event, young people and their families could also write a message to others about the use of drugs and alcohol.

These messages will be transferred to canvas and displayed.

The messages focused on warnings against drugs and alcohol and the hope that is possible in life without them.

Throughout the day, the volunteers from Footprints in the Park, a Christian group who feed the homeless and youth at risk and support The Salvation Army at Soundpoint, cooked a huge quantity of sausages and made sure people didn't go hungry.

"We're just really happy to be here to help," says Maree, a local volunteer. □



Larney was
homeless, penniless
and pregnant.
But, she tells **BILL
SIMPSON**, the love
of Christ led her to
a safe refuge in The
Salvation Army

No longer alone

Photo: Shairon Paterson

Almost four years ago, aged 16, Larney Arthurson gave birth to a little baby boy.

She was living in a youth refuge. Although in the centre of Australia's biggest and busiest city – Sydney – she felt alone. Home had not been a safe place – not since she was a very little girl.

Police and government agencies had been called in several times to intervene. For legal reasons, we can't go into details. But she felt let down by those who were there to protect her.

Even at school, she didn't feel safe. She felt bullied – physically and mentally. She confided in her high school counsellor, but was too scared to take her issues – especially at home – any further out of fear of what might happen to her. That was a mistake, she now admits.

At 14, she met her first boyfriend. He was 16 and kind. He would pick her up after school, buy her dinner and basically make her feel a bit special. Sometimes when life got too tough at home, she would stay over at her boyfriend's house, sneaking through his bedroom window so that his father didn't discover them together.

She started smoking and drinking alcohol to deal with the stresses of life. That didn't help. She tried suicide in several ways – overdosing on medication; cutting herself – but it didn't work.

Over the following five years, she and her boyfriend were in and out of the relationship like a couple in a television soap opera series. It was, she says, an unhealthy and unstable relationship.

She even tried going back home for a while. But that didn't work, either. Police had to get involved.

>>>



Salvos help

In December 2009, there was an incident at home. She was taken to a police station, where she made a statement. It was around 2am when the statement was completed. She was, she says, told to go home. She was afraid, so was given a blanket and told to sleep on a chair in a police station office.

After a 6am shift change at the station, a woman officer offered food and a ride to wherever she wanted to go. She declined the lift, fearing she would be returned home. Instead, she accepted \$5 for a public transport fare.

She caught a train to Rockdale and walked to the local Salvation Army centre. She had been to The Salvation Army with friends a few times and knew some people there whom she considered safe.

After waiting in the early morning for about two hours, a “friendly face” appeared. It was Captain Clayton Spence, the corps officer at the time. He took her inside for some food and a hot chocolate.

“He sat down with me. He didn’t say a word. He just listened,” Larney says.

Captain Spence called in a couple Larney was comfortable

with and they got to work for her.

“They immediately sprung into action,” Larney says. “Three phones were being used at one time to try to find suitable accommodation for me. It was like everything was put on hold for me. Prayers were answered as I had a place at Oasis in Surry Hills.”

After a few days at Oasis, she moved into another refuge. There were more personal issues – not of her doing – and she needed to leave.

At 15, she was homeless, penniless and pregnant. The Salvation Army connection had again become irregular. She spent the next two weeks living in Hyde Park. She met an older man who gave her a blanket, advice on how to survive street living and a promise not to harm her. She lived off food from charity vans and washed in a park fountain. Eventually, she was given a place at another refuge.

Motherhood

Her baby was born on 15 August, 2010. She called him Caleb. “The name means devotion and courage, and a strength that I wished to show Caleb along the journey that we were going to take together.”

It was the happiest day of her life. But friends deserted her. She took her baby back to the refuge.

There was another move when short-term community housing was offered, followed by the opportunity of permanent accommodation. Her “unhealthy and unstable” relationship worsened. Eggs were thrown at her home and the word “whore” painted on an outside wall.

By this stage, she had returned to Rockdale Corps and was now a regular attender. It was early 2012.

“I went to Rockdale Salvos because I wanted to ‘go home’. I felt safe there. I knew I could walk through the doors and feel safe. I had realised it wasn’t just a brick building. It was the people. I could trust them.”

She was assaulted again at her unit. The people at Rockdale got behind her. The attacker was charged. Larney was called to give evidence. She was afraid.

“But the people [at Rockdale] prayed for me. [Her attacker] changed his plea to guilty and I didn’t have to appear. God really does answer prayer.

“It’s really hard, when you’re in that kind of situation, to find someone who will not only believe



you, but will support you.

"I got the support and the belief. I wasn't judged by what was going on. Even when I fell pregnant underage and out of wedlock, there was no judgment; just understanding and compassion."

Finding happiness

In July 2013, Larney Arthurson got her first full-time job. She is now a human resources employment screening officer at The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters in Sydney. She is the happiest she has been since Caleb was born. A new boyfriend is on the scene.

Life, now, is so different. She was baptised by her Salvo friends in a Sydney river early this year. She calls it a mud baptism. They had to wade through 20m of thigh-high mud to get to the water.

"It didn't matter," she says. "It was the intention that really mattered. It was me declaring who I wanted to be.

"I wanted to feel a love bigger than ever before. I wanted to be closer to Jesus, because I had realised the number of times he had worked a miracle in my life.

"I could have died a few times. I went through a phase many times in my life of asking where God

was in my hard times. But when I looked back, I could see that he was there all the time.

"I believe that Jesus stood by me through it all. Now, he is showing me the good things in life.

"I grew up in another church that insisted I could only talk to God through a priest. But The Salvation Army showed me that I didn't have to go through a priest; I could have a personal relationship with Jesus. And that's what I have.

"God has given me a good job in The Salvation Army. He is giving me the strength to carry on and he answers my prayers every day.

"I still have nightmares and flashbacks, and have recently been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. My son is still affected by what he saw done to me. But, you know what, things are changing in our lives – and this time for the better."



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

*"I went to
Rockdale Salvos
because I wanted
to 'go home'. I felt
safe there."*

ABOVE, FROM LEFT: Larney Arthurson's three-year-old son Caleb has brought much joy into her life, which has become more stable since gaining a fulltime job at Territorial Headquarters in Sydney. Photos: Shairon Paterson

Vision Vanuatu

When Ian and Marion Dooley first went to the Pacific Island nation of Vanuatu in 2009, it was for a holiday. What they saw there touched their missionary hearts and they knew immediately that God had brought them to this island country for a greater purpose. *Pipeline's* **SIMONE WORTHING** reports

The Dooleys had first received a call for missionary service in 2005, as part of a church mission to Fiji before they became soldiers in The Salvation Army. Ian, who is legally blind, was initially concerned about what he could do on a mission. "The mission leader told me, 'You have a mouth', and I haven't looked back since," he says with a smile.

Ian and Marion made several trips to Fiji, carrying school supplies and other essentials so poor children in the village of Kulukulu, Sigatoka, could go to school.

The Fiji mission was due to conclude at the end of 2009. Just prior to this, the Dooleys decided to go somewhere different for a holiday and, after seeing a DVD, chose Vanuatu.

Welcome to Vanuatu

During a tour in Vanuatu's capital, Port Vila, the Dooleys spoke to the tour guide, Ellen, a local Christian. Ellen explained how many tourists come and go, say they will send toys and other items back for the many local children who have nothing, but never do.

"We had such a heart for this kind of ministry and the needs of the poor, particularly the children, went into our hearts," says Marion.

The Dooleys returned to Vanuatu in early 2010, taking soft toys to children in hospital in Port Vila. They reconnected with Ellen and her husband, Fred, pastor of the local apostolic church and, after several discussions, decided to regularly send school supplies so Ellen could distribute them to all the people she knew on the archipelago. >>>



Ian and Marion Dooley, who have a missional heart for the people of Vanuatu. Photo: Shairon Paterson

VANUATU'S FIRST SOLDIERS ENROLLED

Major Darren Elsley, Tweed Heads Corps Officer, conducted the first enrolments on the Pacific Ocean island nation of Vanuatu on 16 March.

In the little village of Tagabe, Major Elsley enrolled two senior soldiers – William and Lillyrose Sarilobani – and eight junior soldiers – Byron, Kaiana, Martin, Marie Ellen, Melissa, Moses, Steward and Yonnie.

Another 19 people – 11 senior and eight junior soldiers – have already begun soldiership preparation classes.

"It was a powerful moment, witnessing the depth of devotion of Lillyrose and William dedicating themselves to the mission of The Salvation Army to win the world, and in particular Vanuatu, for God," said Major Darren.



"For two years we sent packages of clothing, books, craft supplies and whatever else was needed, and Ellen would distribute them through 16-18 islands," says Marion.

During one of their visits, Ellen took the Dooleys to visit inmates at a low-risk prison and shared God's Word with them. There she also introduced them to Lillyrose Sarilobani, from Tagabe village on the outskirts of Port Vila, who was counselling and witnessing to the prisoners.

Tagabe village

Lillyrose and her husband William run a shelter in the village – taking in many disadvantaged children, some abandoned by their parents. The children range in age from babies to 11. Some come and go; others are there permanently. Between 10 and 20 people live in the home at one time.

"They live in a tin shed with two rooms and a roof, but they feed and clothe the children, teach them a godly lifestyle and give them basic school tuition," Marion explains. "The kids are happy and grateful and they flourish."

Lillyrose and William, devout Christians, also run a church service

in their home each Sunday.

The Dooleys began taking school supplies, clothes and toys to Lillyrose for the children and others in the village.

During their regular visits to Vanuatu, Ian and Marion join in the mission of the Sarilobanis to reach out to the people in the community, preach God's Word and host community meals.

Marion preaches in the 24-hour market place in Port Vila which is open six-and-a-half days a week. Lillyrose and William are also regular preachers there.

The Dooleys also assist Lillyrose and William with a children's prison ministry which involves ministry to prisoners with corporate worship, preaching the gospel and Bible action songs from the children.

This dedicated couple fund their ministry themselves and call Lillyrose each week to see what the prayer needs are in the village and what they can take on their next visit.

For quite some time, Lillyrose had been talking to the Dooleys about The Salvation Army and what it meant to be a soldier.

"I saw a documentary about the Army around the world and

“We had such a heart for this kind of ministry and the needs of the poor, particularly the children, went into our hearts.”



FROM LEFT: Ian and Marion Dooley with six of the newly enrolled junior soldiers, (from left) Byron, Kaina, Martin, Moses, Yonnie and Marie Ellen. Melissa and Stewart were absent; William and Lillyrose proudly show their new soldier's covenants; Villagers gather to praise God at the Tagabe village worship centre.

was so impressed with what they were doing and wanted to be a part of it," says Lillyrose. "I also saw opportunity for support in the work we've been doing here for years – preaching, teaching, praying, helping and serving.

"I love the Lord, want everyone to know him, and there's nobody to back me up."

Tweed Heads Salvos connection

Ian and Marion, who became senior soldiers of The Salvation Army at the Tweed Heads Corps in Northern NSW in 2011, often share their experiences in Vanuatu with their corps family.

In August last year, Ian and Marion, with Lucy Powis from the Tweed Heads Corps; corps officer Major Darren Elsley and his father, Kevin Elsley from the Lismore Corps, conducted an evangelical mission that took them into Tagabe Village, the market place and a prison.

They also took with them basic essentials for needy villagers, including footwear and Bibles. The corps had also fundraised to build a "worship centre" for the village to use, and locals constructed it, under Ian's supervision, in front of the

home where Lillyrose and William live.

This shelter, made of a corrugated iron roof and planks supported by concrete blocks for seating, is where Sunday praise and worship services are held.

It's a kind of unofficial Salvation Army hall, according to Lillyrose.

Major Darren preached several times, including for the Friday night rally and at the Sunday meeting. Around 200 people attended, including 30 children, and stayed afterwards for a community meal.

"The Spirit of God is moving in this village and it's exciting to be involved and a part of it," says Major Darren. "After the rally it was just like a revival with people singing and dancing, having a great time in God.

"To enhance what the Dooleys are doing, to see salvations and people responding to God and the Army is a blessing."

Lillyrose and William began soldiership classes, and Marion led junior soldier preparation classes.

First enrolments

In March this year, Major Darren accompanied the Dooleys to Vanuatu and enrolled the

Sarilobanis as senior soldiers, as well as eight junior soldiers (see story above left).

"It was a powerful moment – witnessing the depth of devotion of Lillyrose and William dedicating themselves to the mission of The Salvation Army to win the world, and in particular Vanuatu, for God," says Major Darren. Another 19 recruits – 11 senior and eight junior soldiers – have already begun soldiership classes.

Vanuatu is now an unofficial "outpost" of the Tweed Heads Corps.

"It's been self-funded by us until now, so we will see how things move going forward," says Ian. "Marion and I are going over again (this month) to keep the momentum going.

"We never anticipated this; we are just ordinary people going to help other ordinary people who have less than we have, and are hungry for God."



Simone Worthing is a writer for Pipeline and supplements



Mission Priorities

- 1.** Our people marked by prayer and holiness.
- 2.** Our people in every place sharing Jesus.
- 3.** Corps healthy and multiplying.
- 4.** Our people equipped and empowered to serve the world.
- 5.** Our people passionate about bringing children to Jesus.
- 6.** Youth trained and sent out to frontline mission.
- 7.** Significant increase of new soldiers and officers.

One Army, One Mission, One Message



We're about people finding freedom.



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. Here Major Deslea Maxwell shares her favourite piece of Scripture

My Favourite Verse – Major Deslea Maxwell

"He who fills me with his dynamic power has made me able to cope with any situation"

Philippians 4:13 (William Barclay, *The New Testament, A New Translation*)

A number of years ago, my husband, Phil, and I had the opportunity to attend Camp Wonderland in The Salvation Army USA Central Territory, where we spent our days sharing life and God's Word with the young campers.

During the recreational time a number of the campers, as well as my maturing husband, went on the flying fox while I stood to the side enjoying the experience from a safe place. However, it was not too long into the week before I was challenged to confront my secret fear.

With the pressure from my fellow campers mounting, I felt I couldn't decline

the invitation any longer. The day came. I eyed the cable suspended high above the ground, slowly climbed the flimsy wooden stairs to a rickety platform some 40m in the air, and stepped into the harness. The instructor buckled me in and I walked tentatively to the edge.

At this point, I was confronted with a choice – I could either leap from the platform or back away and say "no thanks". I jumped.

In my spiritual and ministry journey, God has required my obedience and, at times, a leap of faith.

Some 30 years ago, I came across this paraphrase of Philippians 4:13. At that time, it helped to realign my focus, and continues to do so today. It helped take the spotlight off myself and place it on Jesus – for it is *his* power that enables me to handle any situation. It reminds me daily that I have received the anointing of God – the power of God, and the Anointed One. Christ lives in me and, therefore, I am not limited by anything because the God that is in me is unlimited.

So often, however, I have said *yes* to God but lived *no* because of fear. I have stood on the precipice of belief knowing a decision still had to be made. Am I going to trust God or not? Am I going to attach my heart to the harness of his love and take the leap of faith, or am I going to freeze in fear? Am I going to settle for safety and miss the thrill of seeing God work through me?

As I have lived and moved and had my being in Jesus, God has taken me to some amazing places. I have met some incredible people and had some wonderful experiences. But there has always been a choice whether I would jump headlong into the adventurous journey of his perfect plan or hang back because of a lack of faith.

I have come to know and prove on a daily basis that as I continue to put my faith and trust in God, "*he who fills me with his dynamic power has made me able to cope with any situation*" (italics mine) because I am only limited by God's limitations – which are none!

Evans set to take up European appointment

By SCOTT SIMPSON

Twenty years after entering The Salvation Army Officer Training College in Sydney as raw cadets, Majors Stuart and Donna Evans are about to embark on another journey of faith.

The Evans' will this month take up three-year appointments in the Army's Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory. Based at territorial headquarters in Almere, about 30km from central Amsterdam, Stuart is the territory's new Secretary for Business Administration, while Donna is Assistant Field Secretary with specific responsibility for children/youth and special projects.

"I could never have imagined just three months ago that Donna and I would be packing our bags to travel to the other side of the world to serve in the Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory," says Stuart, who has most recently been based in Sydney as the Training Principal at the School For Officer Training.

"Ministry certainly takes you to unknown places, presenting challenges that at times seem insurmountable. Yet as I look back at God's faithfulness I am assured of the future."

It's not the first time that Stuart has served internationally with The Salvation Army. His involvement in emergency relief and recovery projects over the past decade has taken him to Sri Lanka, Uganda, Haiti and the Philippines. Those experiences, he says, will help equip him for this next stage of his officership.

Donna's most recent role has been at Booth College in Sydney, where she was the Vice-Principal. While excited by the opportunity her new appointment brings, there is also a natural sadness at being so far from home.

"Leaving family is probably the biggest sacrifice we are making," she says. "But there's so much that I'm looking forward to experiencing."

"I've no doubt that through it all I'll be learning once again how to trust in the faithfulness of our great God."



Majors Stuart and Donna Evans, who this month take on new roles in the Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory.

SALVATION ARMY TO CELEBRATE 150 YEARS IN STYLE

Major JANE KIMBERLEY speaks to the coordinator of the Army's international congress, Lieut-Colonel Eddie Hobgood, about what to expect at the event, known as Boundless, in London next year



BOUNDLESS
the whole world redeeming

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

How's the planning going for Boundless?

There's a buzz starting to generate with more activity in the congress mailbox and more traffic on the website. In the past few months the performance groups have been selected and notified. We are now waiting for their responses. Every kind of variety that you can think of in The Salvation Army is going to be reflected at the congress. One of the things that General André Cox (The Salvation Army world leader) has said to the groups is we don't want you to come and be a clone of the ISB (International Staff Band) or ISS (International Staff Songsters) – as wonderful as they are – we want you to be true to your culture. So, whatever the music, whatever the dress – not everyone needs to be in navy blue! – we want to see the colours of your country, a truly international Salvation Army. When

we march down The Mall (a main thoroughfare running towards Buckingham Palace) we want the world to see how diverse the Army is.

Tell me a little bit more about this march down The Mall?

I know that a lot of people here in the United Kingdom will have been at ISB120 (International Staff Band 120th anniversary) and the 1990 congress. I've seen video footage of both of those and they looked absolutely extraordinary. Thousands of Salvationists and friends lined The Mall cheering and applauding as they saw and heard the bands. It's going to be that kind of thing because most of the delegates will be there, with thousands of tourists as well.

What about the history of the Army?

All the programs will have bits and pieces of history, but it's not going to be an observance only of the past. Our buzz words are: "commemorate the past, celebrate what God's doing today and innovate for tomorrow". In the

exhibition hall, there will be a magnificent historical display which we're calling the Boundless Experience. It will be a significant creation as you walk through 150 years of Salvation Army history. We are in the process of partnering [with] Getty Images – they've uncovered some images we don't believe anybody has seen in more than a hundred years. They have shown us some amazing photographs that have just knocked our socks off! In the afternoons we are going to be doing East End and Abney Park tours. We are going to train some guides for the walkabouts, so history will be a significant part of the five days.

Can you give us a little taste of what we might expect?

Imagine an arena filled with 16,000 people and at one end a giant wall of video screens. We want to say we're in the 21st century and technology has advanced so much since the last congress. The screens will be able to change to reflect what the speaker is saying so you can see and hear what's happening. We're hoping to have quite a few



FAR LEFT:
Lieutenant-Colonel Eddie Hobgood is the co-ordinator of the Boundless Congress, to be held at the O2 Arena in London.

massed groups. Can you picture the arena filled with 500 timbrellists or a youth chorus of 750? With technology we are able to teach people all over the world a song; they would then come together for one rehearsal and sing like they've been singing together for a year. Another thought is that for one of our congregational songs we would pre-record a soundtrack and then you could go to a place on the website and record yourself singing all the verses of that song in your native tongue, so that when we're singing it in the arena – if you can't come to the congress – you can still be represented there in hundreds of squares on a screen. Among those hundreds of squares will be large ones of people we have Skyped in live to sing along as well – and so the whole Army world will be singing together. Through webcasts, two million Salvationists around the world will be able to experience congress as we're experiencing it.

What do you think the founders would have made of all this?

I believe William Booth would have embraced technology years before

we have. He would have utilised it in every meeting just as he used the technology of his day in his car tours (of the UK) – that was cutting edge. I believe he would be saying to Salvationists, use the technology for the glory of God – reach people. I think he would be dancing a jig at this congress.

What about people who say “why do we need a congress”?

I remember the first planning meeting we had with General Linda Bond (ret.). She said: “I believe this is something that God wants us to do. As far as The Salvation Army is concerned, this needs to be our alabaster box that we break and give to the Lord to show him our gratitude for what he has done, what he is doing and what he will do with The Salvation Army and the impact it's made on the world during the past 150 years.” Congresses on any scale are not inexpensive, but I don't think you can calculate the benefits. If you come from a small corps you don't always realise that you are part of something so much bigger. Then you hear how God has moved in

people's lives and how he's touched them and transformed them. God spoke to them in that bigger setting like he would not have spoken to them anywhere else. We believe the same is going to happen here and that God is going to reinvigorate the Army and place callings on people's lives. I am trusting for amazing outcomes.

Why would you encourage Australians to attend Boundless?

There have only ever been seven international congresses in our 150-year history. While there was a congress 14 years ago in Atlanta, there is no guarantee there will be another international congress in the foreseeable future. These events are historic and bring the Army together in a way that is unparalleled. There are Salvationists spread right round the world and many of them are serving in small to medium-size corps and centres. This congress will open all of our eyes to the internationalism of The Salvation Army like never before and help us see that we are part of a family that is almost two million strong.

Major Jane Kimberley is editor of *Salvationist* magazine in the UK with the Republic of Ireland Territory

Holiness, health and consumption

WHAT WE PUT ON

Over the next three months, Salvationist eco-theologian **MATT SEAMAN** will explore the theme of holiness, health and consumption. His three articles will be entitled “What we put on” our bodies, “What we put in” our bodies and “What we do with” our bodies. In this article, Matt reflects on the products and items we put on

“Didn’t you realise that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don’t you see that you can’t live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you. God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (The Message)

“But as the One who called you is holy, you yourselves also be holy in all your conduct and manner of living. For it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.” 1 Peter 1:15-16 (Amplified)

While the above passages are fairly well known, when actually contemplating the scope of these verses in our lives, we find them to be all encompassing – “be holy in all your conduct and manner of living”.

I have found it very challenging to personally consider these verses and the practicalities of living a life aimed towards holiness that is mindful of spiritual, social, personal and ecological issues in today’s society.

While these articles will cover a wide and disparate range of topics, when studied in more depth, there comes a realisation that there is significant interconnectedness between so many areas of life, between people and the places we live in – the seemingly insignificant choices we make every day can and do impact ourselves, others and the planet.

I must also strongly emphasise that I share my reflections in a spirit of love, care and encouragement – certainly not in a spirit of

judgement, legalism or negativity.

We each have our own story, our own experiences, challenges and understandings. These are personal reflections on challenges to a holy lifestyle, yet my hope is that they may be of value and encouragement to you in your journey towards wholeness and holiness with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

So, let us consider these verses and how we might better live in light of the gospel and God’s call to live holy lives.

Throughout the rest of this first article, let’s specifically take a closer look into “what we put on” our bodies. “What we put on” can certainly cover a wide range of areas. Items we could consider include clothing, shoes, all sorts of accessories, “beauty” products, toiletries, etc.

While the simple act of selecting an item off the store shelf or clothing rack may seem incidental, these small choices we all make can impact our own personal health, the health of our local communities and ecosystems, the well-being of

people and ecosystems right across the world.

Personal health

There are many viewpoints on the positive and negative health impacts of many of the products and items that we put on our bodies. For example, substances that were previously used more widely have since been found to negatively impact human health. Doing some research can certainly be informative.

In addition to our personal physical health, there can also be consumer-related issues around health in emotional and psychological ways. For instance, certain feelings can emerge when seeing others, say, wearing really nice, expensive clothing.

These unhelpful, negative and unhealthy feelings can include jealousy, envy and even greed. It can send us further down the path of unnecessary worry, concern over money and our “status”. The philosopher Alain de Botton has termed this increased worry over our position in society as “status

anxiety". He states this "story of our quest for love from the world is a ... secret and shameful tale" and can be an intense issue that can have harmful consequences.

These thoughts from a humanist philosophical perspective resonate strongly with scriptures such as 1 John 2:15: "Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you" (NLT).

These personal feelings can strongly and negatively impact our mental health and our attitudes – which can lead us to head in the wrong direction from living holy and whole lives in light of the gospel.

Social health

We can also see these unhealthy emotions at large in today's society. Advertising can literally aim to increase the concern or anxiety over not having the latest item to adorn our bodies.

How might we live holy lives in the world – but yet not be enslaved to the world's anxious and materialistic ways? How might the idea of social holiness be a part of our decision making?

As Salvationists, we have become increasingly aware of the social and economic benefits for people in other countries through our choosing of fair trade products. Collectively we have joined and supported the fight against human trafficking and modern-day slavery practices.

How are we going individually with making the small everyday choices that will positively impact the physical, social and environmental health for people and communities around the world?

There are a lot of complicating factors in our consumptive choices, however a lifestyle of holiness should aim to be a blessing in as many ways as possible.

Ecological health

Regardless of culture, place or time, our lifestyles all have some impact on God's earth. However, the choices we make in our consumption can significantly vary the amount we impact the earth.

The amount of pollution and waste in today's society is unparalleled in human history. These levels of pollution in our air, water and soil can impact personal and social health, with many of the worst consequences falling upon the poor. How might holy lifestyles lessen negative environmental impacts on the poorest and most vulnerable?

Two thoughts come to mind: the statement "Just because we can, doesn't mean we should"; and the encouragement by both John Wesley and William and Catherine Booth towards a life marked by simplicity and frugality.

In closing this brief reflection of how we might aim for "being holy in all our conduct and manner of living", here's a thought-provoking quote from theologian Miroslav Volf. He contends that we as Christians are called to "live an alternative way of life within the political, ethnic, religious and cultural institutions of the larger society."

How might we as Salvationists live in alternative ways that point to the gospel of God's love for all of creation?

Holiness involves transformation. May we continue to wisely transform our everyday lifestyles to care for ourselves, to show love to all creation and to bring glory to God!



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



THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

SOCIAL JUSTICE

As Christians, our lives are to provide others with a glimpse of God's Kingdom, says **CASEY O'BRIEN**

The beautiful thing about being an advocate for social justice is that while our focus is on this world, our hope is in another. In this column over the past few months, we have looked repeatedly at the fact that the bringing about of social justice is "the Kingdom of God on earth".

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we ask: "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Yet we rarely take the time to think about this Kingdom for which we are praying, and what that actually would look like on earth.

In Isaiah 65, we read of "a new heaven and a new earth" (verse 17) – that is, God's Kingdom.

We read:

"Therefore this is what the sovereign Lord says, 'I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands. They will not labour in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.'"

This is the Kingdom which we are waiting, working and hoping for. This is the Kingdom which we are trying to bring to earth – the Kingdom of God. A kingdom where babies will not die, where cancer does not take those we love, where houses are not destroyed by fire or flood, where drought does not destroy the crops of hard-working farmers, where workers are treated fairly and where generational poverty is non-existent.

The scriptures are full of descriptions of this incredible Kingdom which we are going to experience, if we will only keep our eyes on God.

Reflecting God's Kingdom

While as humans we do not have the power to eliminate pain, hurt and death, as God's people on earth we have been given a mandate to show the people of this world a snapshot of the Kingdom to

come. As Michael Frost, in *Purpose of the Church*, puts it: "The purpose of our lives is to be like a trailer of an upcoming feature."

In the same way that a movie trailer gives a glimpse of what the film in its entirety will be like, we are to give a glimpse of what the world to come will be like. Our lives are to provide a glimpse of God's Kingdom. In doing so, we are to ease the pain and hurt and to comfort in death in preparation for the coming of that Kingdom.

The problem is that in a world that is so often dark and damaging, it is so easy to become discouraged. When working for social justice and in serving others, the problems of those we serve can become so all-encompassing and heavy that we struggle to carry them.

In addition, we are not immune to the problems of this world ourselves. Sometimes, Christians cause more damage to people's perception of God than they do good. Sometimes, the Church is not what it should be. Sometimes, those we love hurt us, and things and people are not what we thought they were. Sometimes, for a whole array of reasons, the very fabric of what we believed is ripped out from under us. Sometimes, the world simply seems too dark to handle. How, then, do we respond?

Our only answer is to keep our eyes on the Kingdom to come and on the Ruler of that Kingdom. In God alone do we find the hope of a world that is so different to the one in which we live. It is this hope to which we must hold when our efforts seem useless and our hearts are hurting.

It is Christ's love which compels us – not the love of recognition from others, or even a love of The Salvation Army. We do not serve others to look good or to further the brand of an organisation – we serve others because that is what God called us to do, and it is the only reasonable response to the grace which we have been shown. Let us live like it!

"This is my Father's world,

O let me ne'er forget

That though the wrong seems oft so strong

God is the ruler yet."

– Song 42, *The Salvation Army Songbook*



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

MENTORING PROGRAM TAKES GREAT STRIDES IN HELPING PNG ATHLETES



A group of runners from Papua New Guinea, sponsored by a Salvation Army mentoring program, will take part in the Gold Coast Airport Marathon next month.

They will run under the banner of Salvo Striders, a running group within The Salvation Army, in the annual event to be held over the weekend of 5-6 July.

The PNG Youth Ambassadors Marathon Mentoring Program has given the runners the opportunity to not only compete in the marathon but go on to train and earn qualifications in health and fitness.

"Many PNG adolescents and young adults face challenges with lack of self-confidence and limited education and employment opportunities," said Commissioner James Condon.

"So, under the guidance of senior leaders and Salvation Army mentors, the PNG candidates will be provided with the opportunity to enrol in further education. This will enable them to return to PNG and share their knowledge and newly acquired skills among their local community."

A large contingent of Salvation

Army personnel will take part in a variety of events over the weekend, gaining sponsorship for their efforts.

Among them will be the Territorial Commander, Commissioner Condon, Lieutenant-Colonel David Godkin, (Secretary for Personnel), Bill Hunter (leader of God's Sports Arena church in Brisbane) and Captain Brett Mitchell (Director, Salvos Counselling).

"Those participating in the marathon will have the opportunity to be part of daily devotional times over both days," said Commissioner Condon.

"A Bible study and, on the Saturday following dinner, there will be a time for worship with myself and Commissioner Jan, together with Lieutenant-Colonels David and Sandra Godkin. In celebration and to give praise and thanks for all the achievements over the weekend, Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, with Captains Kila and Kemo Apa from Papua New Guinea, will lead a further time of worship on Sunday afternoon.

"I encourage you to prayerfully consider becoming involved, especially if you live in Queensland. Your support as a team member of



Salvos Striders will demonstrate both fellowship and solidarity with the youth ambassadors coming from PNG to compete in their first marathon.

"While, like me, you may be walking or jogging a much shorter distance, just being there and cheering on the youth ambassadors will speak so clearly of your support for this memorable life-changing experience for them."

The closing date for registrations has been extended to 22 June.

For information on the event, email Major Annette West (Annette.west@ae.salvationarmy.org) or go to goldcoastmarathon.com.au

TOP FROM LEFT: In training for the Gold Coast Marathon – Teggy Gomara, Isaac Yasaking, Philip Murry, Willie Gobana, Dorothy Gabi, Maimu Kala, Kila Apa, Karogo Rotona, Morgan Sevi and Kemo Apa. **ABOVE:** Captain Kila, who is leading the PNG contingent. Photos: Shairon Paterson

GRIPPED BY THE GRACE OF GOD

UNLOCKING THE ARMY'S ARCHIVES

Concluding his two-part series, **Major DAVID WOODBURY** says for George Walker and his family, a firm belief in God's grace was to be their safeguard as the clouds of war began to gather

George Walker's return with his family to China in 1936 was a courageous decision. The region was highly unstable and skirmishes between China and Japan had commenced in 1931. On 7 July 1937, full-scale war erupted and during 1938 it was decided that the Walker's eldest son, Wilbur, should return to Australia.

To hamper the invading Japanese, the Chinese forces cut the dikes on the old channel of the Yellow River, releasing a huge flow of water which flooded the countryside around Tientsin. Floodwaters crept into lower-lying areas of the city and Salvation Army officers, under George Walker's command, were active in rescue work in the districts of Shengfung and Su Ch'iao, providing accommodation for 25,000 refugees.

In a brief space of time this tragic event changed The Salvation Army's public image from an aggressive evangelical organisation to a competent social relief company.

Working in what was then a British-controlled area of the city, George set up camps in which the refugees helped build their own accommodation and took responsibility for the running of the centres. Basic mud huts, designed and organised by George, were fabricated by teams of refugees, each housing a family for many months during the emergency. George proved to be a natural leader who had authority over these people: he spoke their language and his sympathy and sincerity were transparently genuine.

Housing around 12,000 men, women and children the camps catered for all aspects of the daily life of the refugees, with hospitals, schools and food supplies carefully arranged and maintained. Jessie Walker took a keen interest in the work of the hospitals, helping to maintain the necessary supplies and assisting the doctors and nurses in practical ways with 109 babies born during this period. A spiritual ministry to the refugees resulted in all families returning home with a Bible in their possession. During 1939, Jean finished school and

returned to Australia.

By April 1941, with World War Two raging around them, George and Jessie Walker were transferred to Shanghai which, at that time, contained the world's largest prison, holding up to 8000 prisoners. This became a special ministry for George, who frequently had the opportunity to pray with a condemned man prior to his execution.

Prisoner of war

During his time in Shanghai, George endeavoured to get the support and assistance of the Japanese army which occupied the city. Such support was essential for the ongoing ministry of The Salvation Army.

However, on 5 November 1942, everything changed when Japanese authorities arrived at George and Jessie's quarters, near the Yang Terrace Men's Hostel. They informed George that he was to be arrested and interred for the duration of the war. He was given just minutes to pack a few belongings, wrap them in a blanket and sling them over his shoulder before being marched off by the military police. Jessie and the children were forbidden even to wave goodbye.

In seeking to secure his release, George wrote to the camp commandant pointing out that

The funeral cortege of Brigadier George Walker leaving Dulwich Hill Temple in Sydney in 1952.





The Walker family reunited on their return to Australia after being interned in a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

the focus of his ministry in the city was to the poor and destitute, particularly orphaned children. In response the commandant, having heard of George's previous radio broadcasts, requested that he broadcast for the Japanese. Despite constant interrogation and threats, he steadfastly refused his captors.

Men in the camp were often taken away and subjected to torture. Some never returned and those that did, were exhausted and speechless. Despite the conditions, George, along with other interned ministers, regularly held worship services and Bible studies.

On 29 January 1943, Jessie and their two younger children, Joan and Howard, were arrested and sent to a camp at Yangchow, 200 miles away. Having previously contracted typhoid, Jessie's health began to decline. In July 1943, they were transferred to Pootung camp, across the river from Shanghai.

There was very limited communication between George and his family during the years of internment. During a rare visit by his wife and children to his camp in 1944, George was shocked to see how emaciated his wife had become. Jessie was so ill she was transported on a stretcher for the visit.

In June 1945, the prisoners were informed that they were to be transferred to a camp in northern

China. Two months later, George heard the sound of an approaching aircraft and saw food parcels and American soldiers descending by parachute. In the days that followed, thousands of Japanese soldiers in the area surrendered to the four Americans who had arrived by parachute.

Freedom at last

In September 1945, George was reunited with Jessie, Joan and Howard. Seeking out Brigadier Su Chien-Chi, who had helped keep The Salvation Army operational during the war, George sought to re-establish Army ministry in China. When peace was declared he was privileged to "break" the flag over the Peking headquarters and lead the thanksgiving service.

Later that month, George, Jessie and the two children returned to Australia and were reunited with other members of their family including Wilbur, who they had not seen for seven years, and Jean.

Appointments as territorial spiritual campaigner and divisional commander in the North Sydney and Newcastle divisions followed, where George gave strong leadership and clearly demonstrated his concern for his officers and soldiers through genuine pastoral care.

During his time in Newcastle, George became seriously ill with a

heart condition and was promoted to glory on Easter Sunday 1952. His last words to a fellow patient in a nearby bed were, "Brother, the Lord is risen". Jessie survived him by 30 years and was promoted to glory on 7 June 1982, from Macquarie Lodge in Sydney.

Many years later, Wilbur re-established relationships with many of the officers who his parents had known in China before The Salvation Army was proscribed by the communist government.

When God calls a man to his service, he does not promise a life of ease. What a man makes of his life in God's service is largely dependent on his response to God and his reliance on God's grace.

George Walker never sought greatness for himself. But in choosing to serve God and others – no matter where it was – he became a great man of God.

Part one of this article appeared in the May issue of Pipeline.



Major David Woodbury is Pipeline's founding editor

The hero who never dies



Mark Hadley
is Pipeline's
culture writer

Several times in the past months I've curled up in the comfy womb of a cinema and prepared myself for another Marvel adventure – *The Winter Soldier*, *Days Of Future Past*, previews of *Guardians of the Galaxy*. It doesn't really matter which one I think of, each occasion has included an equally comfortable feeling of familiarity that every cinemagoer will recognise. We don't know what we're about to watch, and yet we do – and we're OK with that.

Marvel Productions may begin each of its films with a flickering montage referencing decades of comic-book stories, but actually it's the same tale, told over and over again. We're going to see a battle of epic proportions.

It could involve epic monsters like *Godzilla* or epic machines like *Transformers: Age Of Extinction*. We don't really mind. The unchanging variable we're looking for is a hero we'll hopefully admire enough to identify with. And even though this week he'll have knives coming out of his fists, while last week he carried a shield, it will be the same

hero. In fact, there are four key characteristics you can tick off in each and every successful film that will keep us coming back for his adventures again and again ...

1. The hero is a lover

Hero or anti-hero, it doesn't matter. Very early on in the film we'll discover that his/her heart is captured by a deep and abiding love. It might be love of knowledge, country or even an ideal like freedom.

This month's animated remake of *Tarzan* introduces us to the most enduring love of all, that of one heart for another. From the day the animal-child heir to the Greystoke business empire saves Jane Porter from a viper's bite, we know he is smitten for life.

Of course, that love can be complicated too, like that between Jupiter Jones and her genetically engineered bodyguard Caine Wise in July's sci-fi opera *Jupiter Ascending*. But the important thing is that the hero can be trusted because they understand that most basic of human feelings.

2. The hero is challenged

Every hero faces a moment where the safety of their love comes into question, and the depth of that threat will ultimately measure the height of their triumph.

This month will see the release of *How To Train Your Dragon 2* and the return of Hiccup, the inept Viking boy who befriended the wounded Night Fury, Toothless.

In the first film, the matched pair had to defeat a monstrous dragon to save their village; in the sequel it's the reaver Drago Bludvist who threatens to enslave their scaly friends.

In reality it doesn't matter whether it's *Godzilla's* flying lizard menacing Lieutenant Ford Brody, or the *Guardians Of The Galaxy* overcoming their own shortcomings. There will be an obstacle to overcome and that triumph will come at a price.

3. The hero sacrifices

A point will arrive in the film where all the hero's weapons, skills and pluck will fail him. In order to save his love he will have to sacrifice



Three movies on offer this year which epitomise the familiar characteristics of a hero, including his resurrection – *The Lego Movie*, *How To Train Your Dragon 2* and *Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes*.

himself. In April's *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*, the title hero allows himself to be beaten to a pulp by the brainwashed Bucky in order to convince him of his undying friendship.

In July's *Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes* the genetically advanced primate Caesar will put his life on the line for his nation of simian followers. Of course, it's not always physical death that threatens. Death of a career, respect or a dream will suffice. But whatever death the hero ends up confronting, it will represent the end of a way of life, the end of happiness, the end of hope. Death is the ultimate villain because Death is the ultimate full stop.

4. The hero rises again

But have you ever wondered about the fact that, as a species, we're not content to leave it there? Hollywood tried to make Death attractive in the evolution-driven movie *Creation*, but it was a flop.

We can't accept that the final curtain should come down with the hero in the grave. We hunger for

a resurrection moment, and most films oblige. Last month *Wolverine* managed to survive death in both the past and the future.

Meantime, in a neighbouring cinema *Lego* hero Emmet was flinging himself off the edge of the universe, only to return from the "real world" courtesy of "The Man Upstairs".

This is the resurrection moment, and the best ones the big screen has to offer are those that benefit more than just the hero.

Indiana Jones climbs back over the cliff to save Willie Scott; Gandalf returns from the beyond to rescue Middle Earth. It's not enough for the hero to defeat Death. We expect their return will have positive implications for everyone associated with them.

Sound familiar? The stories that we entertain ourselves with are not just ways to while away the hours.

For thousands of years the humble story has been the preferred method for passing on truths that cut under ethnic and cultural differences.

These story truths resonate

with audiences all over the planet because they reflect the God who made us all, and who designed us to be part of a much larger tale.

If you like, the best elements of the stories we tell each other today are the thousand fractured pieces of a mirror that reflects the greatest story every told – not the George Stevens classic, but the great story of God's redemption of the world through Jesus Christ.

If all creation, "... waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed," and longs for its liberation, "... from its bondage to decay," is it any wonder that all culture in some way echoes that longing?

Admittedly Emmet dying and rising to save his friends from Lord Business is a pretty dull reflection of the life offered to the world through Jesus' resurrection.

But the real wonder is not that we regularly see heroes rising to defeat death but that, in the wake of that one history-changing resurrection, we still refuse to see the real hero they're pointing us back to.

Coffee 'n' Chat still the meal deal



FROM LEFT: Tireless worker Lyndell Peachman serves up Coffee 'n' Chat's 20,000th meal to Michael, a regular attendee of the Friday gathering; Newcastle corps officers Captains Sharon and Scott Allen celebrate the milestone; Ken Lawrence on the barbecue; and the dedicated Coffee 'n' Chat kitchen team. Photos: Esther Pinn

It started as a humble ministry, says **ESTHER PINN**, but has quickly become an integral part of The Salvation Army's outreach in Newcastle

Ken Lawrence has counted every meal Coffee 'n' Chat has served. Early last month, he passed the 20,000 mark – a milestone that has been seven years in the making.

"I've never missed a meal," he says while standing behind a barbecue cooking sausages for the celebration of the achievement.

Coffee 'n' Chat is a community ministry with a broad clientele – whether you are in need of fellowship, would like prayer, or just looking for a free meal, Coffee 'n' Chat is the place to be every Friday morning at The Salvation Army Newcastle Worship and Community Centre. Whether homeless, poor or just in need of company, Coffee 'n' Chat has something for everyone.

"People want to feel like they belong to something," explains Captain Sharon Allen, corps officer at the Newcastle Worship and Community Centre.

"It provides a safe place, a meal, provides them with friendship [and] provides them with the practical things."

No-one goes home from Coffee 'n' Chat empty-handed. Along with a free meal, a few tables are set up with donated goods from the local community, including clothes and books. Even if they don't pick up a jacket, the people who come will always leave in possession of a food takeaway pack.

Michael, who has been attending Coffee 'n' Chat on and off for three years, received meal number 20,000 last month. While he primarily comes for the free food, he also enjoys connecting with other people, some of whom have become close friends.

Between 70 and 90 people turn up to Coffee 'n' Chat every

Friday. It caters all ages and is not limited to the Newcastle region. Some people even travel up from Sydney, among them Maryanne, who makes the long return journey because she enjoys catching up with friends.

Since 2007, Coffee 'n' Chat has seen an increase in the amount of meals it provides each year and the number of people who are ministered to. In addition to the 20,000 meals served, more than 10,000 takeaway meals, which includes fruit, have been given out. Much of the food has been donated through Oz Harvest and Baker's Delight in the Newcastle suburb of Waratah.

Humble beginnings

Before the amalgamation, in 2007, of Mayfield, Lambton and Hamilton corps into what is now known as the Newcastle Worship and Community Centre, Coffee 'n' Chat was a much humbler operation.

Russell Baker, a member of the former Mayfield corps, said God put the ministry on his heart. In 2001, they started with cups of coffee and biscuits for people on the streets. Russell says he never imagined it would one day be serving meals, let alone 20,000 of them.

"I didn't know where it [Coffee 'n' Chat] would go," he says. "It was in God's hands. God laid it on me right back in Mayfield to care for people who were lonely. I don't take any credit for it, God said, 'just do it'."

Coffee 'n' Chat offers more than just a meal, says Russell. His



priority is to speak to as many people he can, build relationships and offer care and support. Through the relationships built, many have asked Russell for prayer.

"Importantly, we are continuing to bring people together who are vulnerable and needing help, and sometimes this human element of reaching out is even more appreciated than the food we offer," explains Captain Allen.

Coffee 'n' Chat has even linked individuals to the corps. Lyndell Peachman is an example of this.

For the past three and a half years, Lyndell has been running the kitchen at Coffee 'n' Chat, having first come into contact with the ministry while supporting a friend who had a terminal illness.

She says that she kept coming back because her life was being impacted by the Army. Eventually, she was asked if she would like to volunteer and she hasn't looked back. Lyndell is now an adherent at the Newcastle Worship and Community Centre.

"I think it was just finding a family [at the Army] and being welcomed," she says. "Having Christianity explained to me, that I'm worthy, feel worthy and that I'm accepted by God."

Lyndell loves helping people through Coffee 'n' Chat. She explains that she sees herself as a director. People come to her for a cup of coffee or tea and she will often direct them to someone they can talk to.

Along with Lyndell, a number of other people, from both the corps and Newcastle community, volunteer to help at Coffee 'n' Chat. Russell says they are motivated to be part of the ministry because they see the positive impact it is having. □

Restoring hope to refugees

The Refugee Council of Australia has chosen Restoring Hope as the theme of Refugee Week, which runs from 15-21 June. Incorporated in this week is World Refugee Day on Friday 20 June.

Refugee Week is Australia's peak annual activity to raise awareness about the issues affecting refugees and to celebrate the positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society.



The Refugee Week theme has a number of important functions:

- It raises awareness;
- It helps to make Refugee Week a national celebration;
- It promotes harmony and togetherness.

During the year, conflict and persecution forced an average of 23,000 persons per day to leave their homes and seek protection elsewhere, either within the borders of their countries or in other countries. This equates to a new refugee or internally displaced person every 4.1 seconds.

According to UNHCR, there are 45.2 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide. Last year, 46 per cent of refugees were under 18 years. Refugee women and girls accounted for 48 per cent of the refugee population.

Developing countries host about 80 per cent of the world's refugees. Pakistan hosted the largest number of refugees in relation to its economic capacity, followed by Ethiopia and Kenya.

"The Salvation Army as part of its ministry to the marginalised and persecuted is committed to upholding the needs of refugees across the world," said Lieutenant Tara McGuigan, The Salvation Army's Asylum Seekers Mission Coordinator for NSW/ACT.

"We are reminded that our own Saviour was born under the threat of death by the cruel King Herod who when he heard that the future King of the Jews was born, ordered that all male babies under the age of two years should be killed (Matthew 2). We read how Mary and Joseph fled with baby Jesus to Egypt."

Refugees are the inevitable result of war and terrorism. Many corps around AUE are assisting refugees and asylum seekers as they seek to settle in and find their feet in a foreign land, a foreign culture, away from their families and friends, having arrived in desperate circumstances.

"Let us join hands as a movement this June to uphold the plight of refugees and asylum seekers, and ourselves be a source of restoring hope to these vulnerable people," Lieut McGuigan urged.

Family Place relocates to bigger, brighter premises

By SIMONE WORTHING

Logan Deputy Mayor, Councillor Russell Lutton, has officially opened the new venue for The Salvation Army's Family Place.

The Family Place, south of Brisbane, has been operating at its new location in Woodridge since moving from the Salvation Army's Life Community Church in Slack's Creek in February.



TOP: Young mother, Lyric, with her son Hudson, (centre, on couch) was one of those who shared her story with those gathered for the opening of the Family Place. BOTTOM: Deputy Mayor Russell Lutton, Family Empowerment Worker Tracie Nelder, and Community Development Worker Holly Rynsent, unveil the official plaque to open the Family Place.

A number of Queensland state politicians and community and business leaders, as well as the Army's Major Julie Campbell, South Queensland Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, attended the opening.

"Other important guest speakers for the day were our families," explained Holly Rynsent, a Salvation Army community development worker in Logan. "Via video, they spoke about their journey through the Family Place and how our services have impacted and changed their lives.

"We hope that the revamped premises and central location close to public transport will lead to more families making the most of our available support services and activities, and we are very excited to be running our program from such a lovely centre."

Eight local Bunnings Warehouse stores donated goods and the time of several employees to build play equipment, create and plant gardens, and paint what was the former Albert Park creche and kindergarten centre.

Other major donors included Dulux Paints, Hyme Timber, Euroreed, Ki Carma, Pohlmanns and Yates. "The playground is sporting new equipment with natural outdoor play spaces and lots of shade," said Holly. "There is a veggie patch, a yarning circle and a children's performing stage.

"The inside of the building has been renovated and the space has been designed with creative play in mind."

The Family Place is a venue where families can have fun, make new friends, seek support, learn about child development, and increase parenting skills.

"It is a place of connection for families who may be isolated in the community, vulnerable or disadvantaged, but most importantly, it is open to anyone who would like to come," said Charmaine Stubbs, who co-ordinates the new venue.

The Family Place offers Communities for Children programs that include playgroups, a family drop-in space, parenting programs, dads' groups, antenatal classes, educational support and family fitness.

The Community for Children program had been running at The Life Community Church for eight years before its relocation. All workers are employed by The Salvation Army under its mission and values.

For more information on the Family Place and Communities for Children, go to salvos.org.au/communitiesforchildren

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

Refresh button pushed on territorial website



The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territory website, salvos.org.au, has been relaunched with a fresh design, new features and modern technological advancements.

Jarrold Newton, the Director of Digital and Special Projects (Online, Video and Internal Communications), explained that the website overhaul had been a long time coming.

"It's been eight years since it was launched in its previous version and eight years pretty much makes you the grandfather of all websites," he laughed.

For the past six months, the Territorial Communication and

Public Relations Department's online and content teams have not only been working on a fresh design but catching up with the latest technology to improve users' experience.

Due to the easy access of broadband connections and 4G mobile networks resulting in faster loading times, website users can enjoy a more image and video-rich website than ever before. Also, users can easily view the website on a mobile phone or tablet device.

"A lot of the significant changes and work to the website are all behind-the-scenes things which are about bringing our technology up-to-date so users get a seamless and

most enjoyable use of our website as possible," said Jarrod.

While the new design is important to the website, Jarrod explained that their main aim was to enable individuals to connect with The Salvation Army through the website.

Whether or not someone is searching for a Salvation Army service or looking to volunteer or donate, the website has been designed to suit all types of people.

"We're really happy with how simple and straight forward we think it is. Everything's built around helping someone, who knows nothing about The Salvation Army, find the right connection for what they need with minimum amount of fuss," said Jarrod.

When building the new website, the online and content teams aimed to capture both global and local aspects of The Salvation Army for the website to appeal to a wide range of people.

"One of the things our website has to do is show people the umbrella of who we are and show the bigness of the programs we're running such as the big work in homelessness ... but the site also has to function locally as well and for people to see the level of what's happening in their local suburbs."

Jarrold would also like to commend both the online and content teams for the hard work in developing this website. Visit salvos.org.au to view the new website (screenshot above).

Taree Corps 125th Anniversary

2nd & 3rd August 2014

Special Guests: Chick & Margaret Yuill

Saturday - Outreach, Bible Study and

Concert featuring Port Macquarie Band & Songsters

Sunday - Celebration Meeting, Lunch (tickets required)
and Youth Service

For more information contact (02) 6551 2570
tareecorps125th@hotmail.com



Mobile mission carries hope through Qld outback

By KEVIN ELSLEY

“Caravans of Hope” is how the ABC described the Territorial Mobile Mission on its Facebook page after the group presented an impromptu concert and gave interviews at the commission’s Longreach studios.

Twenty vans conveyed the mainly retired Salvationists, plus support from people of other denominations, on a three-week Queensland tour that took in Boonah, Kalbar, Longreach and Mount Isa. The mission involved street outreach, indoor programs of music and song and Sunday worship services.

Despite a fly plague, heat and drought, the Holy Spirit took control of the mission from the outset, resulting in decisions to attend local corps meetings from among the many contacts made. It was a rare sight for Queensland Outback residents to see so many musical Salvationists in their midst, the warm reception making the long haul so rewarding for mission members, some of whom had travelled all the way from the NSW South Coast.

There were many highlights of the trip. Local town band members played along with the mission

band, staff from The Salvation Army’s Territorial Headquarters in Sydney flew in as special guests and the mission visited two cattle and sheep stations.

Contact with a couple cycling around Australia to raise funds for Kids with Cancer saw them attend mission gatherings in Longreach and Mt Isa and, during the Sunday meeting at the latter corps, an acquaintance of mission members was enrolled as a senior soldier.

The visit to Boonah and Kalbar was the first by a Salvation Army band and songster brigade since these corps recently united as Fassifern Valley, the mission’s weekend visit being shared between both centres. A men’s breakfast at Boonah on the Saturday morning also was a first for the corps.

Traditionally, a welcome barbecue is held at each centre visited by the mission and at Fassifern Valley, Major Mark Campbell, South Queensland Divisional Commander, insisted on being “head chef”.

The mission was led by Noel Druery and sectional leaders were Avenel Gray (band), Lenore Whittaker (songsters) and Trevor Williams (devotions and male voices).

BELOW LEFT: The Territorial Mobile Mission band, under bandmaster Avenel Gray, performing in the main street of Boonah.

BELOW RIGHT: Members of the Territorial Mobile Mission band in an impromptu performance in the Longreach studios of the Australian Broadcasting Commission.



Century of Home League celebrated at Maitland

Maitland City Home League celebrated its 100th Anniversary in February, with festivities taking place over two weeks.

Under the leadership of Nancy Bower, Home League secretary, the first celebration meeting focused on Home League’s origins, purposes and achievements over the past century. Twenty-four past and present members attended the birthday lunch that followed.

Major Joyce Olaisen led the next meeting where members enjoyed memories and memorabilia from the Maitland Home League, and also shared their thoughts on the future of Home League.

Maitland Home League commenced in February 1914 and has continued to serve the corps and community to the present day.



Members past and present celebrate 100 years of Home League in Maitland City. Corps Officer, Major Ian Channell, joined the celebrations.

Making others the focus for one week

By ESTHER PINN

Whether taking someone out for coffee or making cupcakes for your local fire brigade, random acts of kindness will be performed all over the Australia Eastern Territory to celebrate OTHERS Week from 29 June to 6 July.

Anyone associated with The Salvation Army is invited to participate, with people encouraged to complete acts of service for their friends, neighbours, work colleagues or anyone they are in contact with.

"The territory is holding OTHERS Week to intentionally focus on caring for others in practical ways, without it being prescriptive or a particular program. This is the foundational culture of The Salvation Army," explained Lieutenant-Colonel Simone Robertson, Salvos Caring Coordinator.

The word "Others" has been taken from a telegram that was thought to have been sent by General William Booth, founder of The Salvation Army, in 1908. In those days, communication was by telegraph and you paid for each word that was sent. Times were tough and the Army was short of money so William Booth sent a one-word telegram, "Others", for his annual Christmas message to Salvationists around the world.

William Booth hoped the one-word message would encapsulate the mission of their movement and inspire individuals to even greater acts of service.

"In living out the spirit of this telegram, we are all invited to participate in OTHERS week," said Lieut-Colonel Robertson.

"It is an opportunity for the territory to highlight what it is already doing for others. It is an opportunity to be inspired and to be creative in reaching out to others."

Creative ideas

Acts of service include and are not limited to, paying for a coffee for the person behind you in line at a cafe or similar, making lunch for a homeless person or even someone at work, and taking someone to a doctor's appointment.

For those who are cash or time poor, Lieut-Colonel Robertson and Major Karan Ross, Associate Salvos Caring Coordinator, both said there were many acts of kindness that individuals could complete during OTHERS Week.

These include writing a letter of encouragement to someone, smiling at someone you walk past in the street, mowing someone's lawn, praying for people as they come to mind or simply taking time out to listen to a friend.

"OTHERS Week reminds us that caring is part of who we are; it may not be anything extra that we do," said Lieut-Colonel Robertson.

Special OTHERS badges are available for \$2 for individuals to wear as a conversation starter.

"It gives an opportunity for people to share their story, their



ABOVE: Jonathan Browning's workbook *Soul Companions* will compliment OTHERS Week with its theme of caring for others from a biblical perspective. BELOW LEFT: The 'Others' badge which is available for \$2.

spiritual journey, their reaching out for others in whatever way is natural for people to share," said Lieut-Colonel Robertson.

Soul companions

The Salvos Caring team hope that people will find freedom through the acts of service completed during OTHERS Week.

A workbook called *Soul Companions*, written by Jonathan Browning, Salvation Army Welcome Home team leader, will also be available for OTHERS Week. The book provides the opportunity to journey with others as a group or individually by studying the biblical foundation for caring for others.

Along with encouraging individuals to complete acts of service, the Salvos Caring team would like people to share their stories with them. From the start of June, Salvos Caring is launching a Social Media photo competition.

The team is asking individuals to be creative and submit a photo and caption by 30 June of what acts of service look like to them. You can email your photo to salvos.caring@ae.salvationarmy.org and it will be uploaded on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest. The competition winners will be decided by how many likes each photo receives. The Salvos Caring Facebook page is also full of ideas of what acts of kindness looks like. Go to facebook.com/salvoscarings

Bundamba Salvos roll out the welcome mat

By SIMONE WORTHING

The Salvation Army, in partnership with Ipswich City Council and Anglicare, has launched the Ipswich Welcome Centre for asylum seekers, refugees and new arrivals, hosted weekly at the Bundamba Corps.

More than 40 people attended the April launch of the Welcome Centre. Salvos Legal, visa brokerage firms offering a free service and 20 other local service providers, joined the launch to share information on the visa application process, and referrals, with the group.

"The Welcome Centre is a 'hub' concept where services for new arrivals will gather and make themselves available in one place; a one-stop-shop drop-in centre that runs from 7am-noon each Wednesday," said Captain Ben Johnson, corps officer at Bundamba.

"It's a meeting place for agencies where asylum seekers and new immigrants can get referrals and the best information and representation possible to get a good outcome. It also allows us to assess what we can do without making the clients' lives harder or giving false hope. We also offer free internet access and a place where people can practise for their immigration and driving tests."

Ipswich City Council and Anglicare support and resource the Welcome Centre.

"The council has been trying to get this up and running for over a year," said Captain Johnson. "They needed somewhere to host the mornings and we said we'd do it. It's exciting to have our church be the centre of the community."

Other community agencies support the partnership, including St Vincent de Paul and the multicultural mental health services team.

Each week, different community agencies will support The Salvation Army at the Welcome Centre with personnel, information and referrals.



The asylum seekers and new arrivals who come to the centre will have a point of referral and people to assist them walk through different processes.

"We are helping people with lease applications, getting electricity connected, basic material and financial assistance and helping them connect with local cultural, sporting and arts groups as ways to integrate into the community," said Captain Johnson.

"One of the greatest challenges we face is ill-informed people making blanket statements about asylum seekers, so a lot of what we are doing involves helping people see that they are just people and they need community to be happy and to thrive. Cultural barriers just aren't a good enough excuse."

Now that funding has been confirmed, the Bundamba Corps is looking forward to hiring a dedicated outreach worker to work with asylum seekers and refugees in the Ipswich area.

Captain Ben Johnson, Bundamba corps officer, outside the Welcome Centre at Ipswich.

Toowoomba women go into battle for the Lord

Women from a number of churches in Toowoomba recently gathered for a combined event from 15-16 March.

The hall at the campsite where the event was held was decorated in military battlement style to match the weekend's theme, "The Battle Belongs to the Lord".

Adding to the theme, brass band members from The Salvation Army's Warwick, Bundamba and Toowoomba corps surprised the women with military-style music on the Saturday evening. Led by Adam Cole, the band performed a repertoire of timeless classics as well as modern arrangements.

Vocal items by Lieutenant Lydia Spencer and a solo by Salvationist Colin Christelow reminded the group about the battle Christians faced every day against evil.

An arrangement of the timeless hymn *Abide With Me*, combined with the *Last Post*, was an emotional moment during the evening where everyone paused to remember those who had fought in past battles.



Ladies attending "The Battle Belongs to the Lord" weekend in Toowoomba get into the spirit of celebration.

Student volunteers dig deep at Pacific Lodge



The group who worked hard to spruce up the gardens at The Salvation Army Pacific Lodge Aged Care Plus centre at Manly.

A group of students from the International College of Management at Manly have taken just one day to transform part of the gardens at The Salvation Army's Pacific Lodge Aged Care Plus centre.

The students volunteered their time at the centre as part of

their leadership foundations subject. One of the students, James Caufield (pictured far left), said the assignment was set to test how a group of people, previously unknown to each other, would perform in discerning, planning and implementing a volunteer project that would involve all group members.

"One of the team lives not far from Pacific Lodge and we all agreed it was a worthy cause to create some physical transformation there in one day," James said. "When we approached the staff at the centre they were thrilled, a date was set and we got busy."

The students approached local businesses to ask for help with bringing their plans to fruition, and also sought items to reuse or recycle. James said he was surprised by the generosity of the businesses and, with very little lead time, they helped with the project.

"It really was a great group effort and went surprisingly smoothly," said student Melissa Cole. "When we arrived there was just a patch of dirt under a lovely tree. Now there is a beautiful garden space for the residents to enjoy."

The students were warmly thanked by the team at Pacific Lodge and were rewarded with a sausage sandwich and a smile from the residents that looked on.

Arthur honoured for two decades of service

A special Recognition Morning Tea has been held at The Salvation Army's Newcastle and Central NSW Divisional Headquarters to acknowledge the faithful service of Arthur Soper.

Arthur, who attends the Army's Newcastle Worship and Community Centre, has retired after 22 years as a part-time Wills and Bequests Department representative for the area.

Major Jeff Winterburn, Divisional Secretary and Second in Command, presented Arthur with a Certificate of Appreciation and a gift during the morning tea, at which many of his friends and members of the Army's territorial bequests team were present. Major Winterburn also acknowledged the support of Arthur's wife, Joyce, who often accompanied him on his visitations and worked alongside him.

Glen Evans, Wills and Bequests Director - NSW, said Arthur had represented The Salvation Army to hundreds of people over the years and had been a good pastor to them. Glen also introduced Captain Elizabeth Wiggins who is the new part-time Wills and Bequests representative for Newcastle.

In responding, Arthur said he was grateful for the opportunity of ministry and was pleased he had been able to assist The Salvation Army.



Arthur and Joyce Soper with (back row from left) staff from the THQ Wills and Bequests team – Rosemary Reay, Marla Edwards and Glen Evans – divisional secretary Major Jeff Winterburn and Major Sue Winterburn; and Captain Elizabeth Wiggins, the new Wills and Bequests representative for Newcastle.

*my*Salvos

ESSENTIAL READING FOR WORSHIP LEADERS

If you're a worship leader in your corps or centre, be sure to visit the new worship leaders resource page on **mySalvos!** Full of original, practical tools for worship leaders from the Territorial Worship Arts Team, it's not to be missed! Check it out today at mySalvos.org.au/worship-leaders

ENROLMENTS

FORBES/PARKES CORPS

Corps officer Lieutenant Donna Munro enrolled her son, Jamie Benton, as a senior soldier on Palm Sunday 13 April.

"It was a very proud moment for me, to enrol and pray for Jamie, but Jamie was very proud to put on a uniform and make it known that he is a follower of the Lord," said Lieutenant Munro.

Jamie gave a short testimony after his enrolment. "I always believed that Jesus was my saviour, but I would go along with my mates and deny Christ, pretending I didn't believe," he shared honestly.

"At my mum's commissioning last year, I realised I could no longer ignore the call on my life to follow Christ."

Lieutenants Donna and Troy Munro, from the *Disciples of the Cross* session, are in their first appointment as corps officers at the Forbes/Parkes Corps.



Lieutenants Donna and Troy Munro join with new senior soldier Jamie as he proudly shows his soldier's covenant.

GYMPIE CORPS

Corps officer Major Peter Maynard enrolled four new junior soldiers – Holly, Eddie, Taylah and Christina – on Sunday 30 March, the Day of Prayer for Children.

"We thought it was so relevant to do the enrolment on this day and focus on the kids," said corps officer Major Royalene Maynard. "It was a highlight of the meeting."

The junior soldiers are active in the corps. The girls play the timbrels and Taylah is in the band.

"They all pray in the meetings and tell the corps what they do at school to tell people all about Jesus," said Major Royalene.

Major Peter also enrolled three "junior junior" soldiers during the meeting – Bailee, Joshua and Porsha.

"A few years ago we became aware of a group of under 7s who were not old enough to do junior soldiers but were keen, so keen, to be involved," explained Major Royalene.

"We decided to let them come and participate in the first part of junior soldier classes, and then an adult would take them out for games and craft.

"This way they learned what it meant to be a junior soldier, even before they started their junior soldier preparation classes."

During their enrolment, they promised to learn to love Jesus, and to be good. Each child received a certificate and a white cap that says "junior junior" soldiers.

Majors Maynard have enrolled five junior soldiers in the past three years who have been "junior junior" soldiers.

"We did want to come up with a different name for them, but the kids



TOP: Major Peter Maynard enrolls Gympie's three "junior junior" soldiers – Bailee, Joshua and Porsha. ABOVE: The new junior soldiers at Gympie (from left) – Holly, Eddie, Taylah and Christina, making their promises with their prayer pals.

wouldn't have it," said Major Royalene. "They wanted to be 'junior junior' soldiers."

During the meeting, a huge poster hung on the wall, featuring a photo of each child in the corps, their interests, and their prayer requests.

OASIS YOUTH CENTRE, WYONG

Mission director Lieutenant Vanessa Hunt enrolled 10 junior soldiers on 6 April, the first junior soldiers enrolled at the mission.

"It was a momentous occasion at Oasis Wyong Chapel," said Lieut Hunt. "At Oasis we really feel a passionate call to minister to children, young people and their families and so most of our programs are focused around this.

"The kids who were enrolled are all kids who we have connected with by sending them to the Red Shield Kids Camp at The Collaroy Centre.

"Without that vital ministry we

wouldn't have these kids today! Each of these kids is really excited about their journey with Jesus and we believe for greater things in these days to come. We pray and believe that each of these junior soldiers will be world changers for the Kingdom."

The new junior soldiers and their supporters: Top row, left to right: Mary, Felicity, Jess (helper), Michael (helper), Bronnie, Michaela and Skye. Bottom row left to right: Robyn (leader), Makaylah, Chloe, Tahmaya, Tyrone, Justin and Lieutenant Vanessa (leader).



General meets Crown Prince during landmark visit to Kuwait



General André Cox with Sheikh Nawaf during the visit to Kuwait.

By Major STEWART GRINSTED

The first visit of a Salvation Army General to Kuwait has included a meeting with the Crown Prince that is being spoken about as a significant moment for all Christians in the country.

General André Cox, the world leader of the Army, and his wife, Commissioner Silvia Cox, were welcomed to Seif Palace by Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. During a cordial and friendly meeting, the General told the Crown Prince that Christians were grateful for the freedom they had to worship in Kuwait, and assured him that The Salvation Army sought to be of help to the state and its people. Sheikh Nawaf replied that he, too, wanted to help the Army.

The Crown Prince then asked, "Why the name 'The Salvation Army'?", which gave the General an opportunity to speak

about the Army and its work for the Lord, at the same time advocating for all Christians in Kuwait.

The meeting was shown on TV in Kuwait while reports and pictures have featured in newspapers throughout the Gulf countries.

The visit and its coverage have been greatly encouraging to The Salvation Army's members in Kuwait, and senior leaders of other denominations have said it would be beneficial to all Christians in Kuwait.

During their visit to Kuwait, the General and Commissioner Cox also met Salvation Army leaders from the Gulf countries that make up the Army's Middle East Region – Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates – and took part in several praise and worship services, at Kuwait Corps and the 500-seat National Evangelical Church.

Commissioner Cox inspires women leaders in Brazil

By Lieut-Colonel LUZ NESTERENKO

After several years of planning and prayer, Salvation Army women leaders have gathered for a series of meetings in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Thirty-three officers from six territories (representing 45 countries) attended the Women in Leadership Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, which took the theme Women: Strength and Perfection (based on Psalm 18:32).

Guest speaker was Commissioner Silvia Cox, the Army's World President of Women's Ministries, who told the women that God wanted his people to be free from the culture of sin, slavery, indifference and insecurity, and that they were strong and could do everything in Christ.

A number of workshops were presented in creative and informative ways, challenging the women to lead with efficacy, to have a balanced ministry between home and family, to have confidence for God-given tasks, and to be financially accountable. The leaders were encouraged to use new ideas in programs to reach women.

In her final challenge, Commissioner Cox explained how in the Lord each person can not only be strong, but perfect.

"The closer we get to Jesus," she explained, "the more we pray, the more we preach and read God's Word, the more we dedicate our lives to him, the more like Jesus we become."

New 'One Army' resources launched

The Salvation Army's International Headquarters has released a new multi-format teaching resource, aimed at bringing Salvationists into a deeper understanding of what it means to be part of "One Army".

The resource builds on the International Vision of One Army, One Mission, One Message, launched in October 2011.

"For those who want to know more about The Salvation Army, this is the most up-to-date, informative and concise guide available," said General André Cox, world leader of the Army.

"For Salvationists who want to confirm their own faith and mission, this is as reliable and authentic guide you will find

anywhere. For those who want to broaden their horizons, support and encourage others around the world and learn about other cultures, this will achieve all those aims."

Commissioner Robert Street, chair of The Salvation Army's International Doctrine Council, was given the task of devising and producing the teaching resource.

It is available in a variety of formats, through booklets, videos and other online material.

To find out more, go to salvationarmy.org/onearmy, and to read a full interview with Commissioner Street about the new resource, go to sar.my/atwonearmyarticle

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Selfless service



Noted Salvation Army music leader, retired bandmaster Max Percy, was promoted to glory on 12 April, aged 92.

Following a private cremation, a celebration for his life, led by Major Barry Nancarrow, was held at Gold Coast Temple on 17 April. As a tribute to Max, bandsmen travelled from Sydney and Brisbane to join with Gold Coast Temple Band in a composite band of 46 players. Following a request from the family to include two band marches, a prelude by the band included the march *Montreal Citadel*, reflecting Max's great interest in Salvation Army brass band music.

In his introductory remarks, Major Nancarrow extended sympathy to Max's wife, Norma, and members of the family. He spoke of Max's depth of character, referring to him as a "top bloke" whose presence and influence will be greatly missed at Gold Coast Temple Corps. The major then led the congregation in the singing of *Simply Trusting* before offering prayers of comfort for the family and thanksgiving for Max's life.

Long-time friend, Bill Scotney, reflected on their 80 years of friendship and recalled Max's iron self-discipline that was counterbalanced by his unique sense of humour. Bill commented: "You only had to watch his eyebrows to know if he wasn't happy with you."

Fellow Gold Coast bandsman, Barry Stevens, paid tribute to the influence of Max and remarked that he "was always willing to give advice and help when

asked ... and he was the most humble and sincere man you would ever meet".

In paying tribute to her husband, Norma said: "I chose you as the one person I wanted to spend the rest of my life with, because I fell in love with the qualities you possess."

Daughter, Brenda Philippe, recalled her life with her father, sitting in Sydney Congress Hall watching him conducting the band on practice nights. "He cared for and respected all his bandsmen in Sydney and the Gold Coast, and knew they would always give of their best," she said. She also recalled him waiting for her at Manly wharf on the nights she had to work late.

A tribute from the five grandchildren was preceded by the singing of *The Lord's Prayer* by grandson Joel Philippe.

Son, Ian Percy, in paying tribute to his father, reflected on Max's unique musical talent, describing him as "a legend, the master, a freak, a true virtuoso". Ian recalled that an encounter with the Tommy Dorsey Band during the war resulted in an invitation to join the band in the United States. "However," said Ian, "Dad's love for The Salvation Army and his Lord were always the reason his talent was used."

Ian also recalled that his father was prone to do his preparation for band practice at Sydney Congress Hall on Freshwater Beach, and it wasn't unusual for sand to fall from the pages of the band scores on practice night. Ian concluded his tribute by singing *It is Well With My Soul*.

In his message, Major Nancarrow quoted the words of Jesus in John 14, reminding the congregation that as Max now enjoyed his promised mansion they,

too, must ensure their readiness to enter eternity. The celebration concluded with the singing of one Max's favourite songs, *O Boundless Salvation* followed by the march, *The Wellingtonian*.

Born into a Salvation Army officer family at Casino, NSW, on 1 December 1920, Max Percy played his first solo on the trombone at six years of age and commenced learning the violin at eight. Participation in a number of bands followed; Taree in 1931, Dubbo in 1934, Petersham young people's band in 1935 and North Sydney in 1940.

The advent of World War Two saw Max enlisted in the military, where he saw service in Papua New Guinea with the 36th Battalion Band and then back in Australia in the Eastern Command Band.

Following the war, Max served in the Granville and Auburn Salvation Army bands. At Auburn, he was appointed as the male voice party leader. It was here that Max met and married Norma Gambrell on 7 December 1946, a partnership that lasted for 68 years.

A move to North Sydney Corps saw Max appointed as bandmaster and male voice party leader in 1951, serving there in those positions until 1962. In 1963, Max took up the baton from deputy bandmaster Alan Staines as bandmaster of the Sydney Congress Hall band, then one of the premier Salvation Army bands in Australia. He served as its bandmaster from 1963 to 1975 and a second term from 1978 to 1980. During this period, the band travelled internationally to New Zealand, Canada and the US. From 1978 until 1980, Max served as the Australia Eastern territorial band inspector.

Following his retirement from Sydney Congress Hall, Max and Norma moved to the Gold Coast where Max has served continuously as a bandsman for 33 years in Gold Coast Temple band, often filling in as the bandmaster when needed.

- Report by Major David Woodbury



The North Sydney Corps band in 1957, with Max Percy as the bandmaster.

Active servant



Les Moore was promoted to glory on 20 April in Brisbane, aged 83.

A thanksgiving and celebration service was held at Brisbane City Temple on Monday 5 May, with Major Dean Clarke giving the message.

Family tributes were given by granddaughter Pauline Smith and grandson Scott Moore, while Major Ken Beer read from the scriptures.

Two of Les' favourite songs were sung, *A Wonderful Saviour is Jesus my Lord* and *Safe in the Arms of Jesus*.

Leslie Norman Moore was born in Rockhampton on 16 July, 1931, the ninth child of Kate and Alec. Like the rest of his family he was dedicated in the Salvation Army, at North Rockhampton. He attended Sunday school, becoming a junior soldier and company guard, having accepted the Lord as his Saviour.

At the age of 19 he entered the Officer Training College in Sydney. Upon being commissioned he was posted to Indooroopilly Boys Home, then to Roma Corps where he met his future wife Muriel. In 1954, he left officership and returned to his hometown of Rockhampton where he married Muriel on 1 March.

The birth of their daughter, Ruth, came in February 1955 and the family moved to Zillmere in the northern suburbs of Brisbane. This was to be their home for the next 49 years. April 1956 saw the birth of their son, Mervyn.

Les was active in the Zillmere corps for around 35 years, before transferring to the Brisbane City Temple Corps. He was never very far away from the Salvation Army, gaining employment at the People's Palace for nearly 20 years, until its closure in the 1980s.

He enjoyed his time there as it also maintained his close ties to the Salvation Army. A job opportunity arose at the city hall and Les took on many, varied roles until his retirement.

Les shared a deep mutual love with his two children, Ruth and Mervyn, and his six grandchildren - Pauline, Jeffrey, Kerrie, Scott, Jacqueline, Katherine and great grand-daughters Brittany and Ruby.

A general decline in health, following Muriel's passing away in 2003, saw Les move to the retirement village at Albany

Creek and then to the Lucinda nursing home at Sandgate Masonic Care for two years until he passed away peacefully.

English rose



Freda Smallbone was promoted to glory on 8 April, aged 88.

Family and friends attended a commemorative service at Brisbane City Temple on 17 April.

Freda Amelia Smallbone was born on 22 January 1926 in Gloucester, England, the fifth child of eight, to Albert and Elizabeth Gambling.

She was brought up in a close and loving Salvation Army family. World War Two intruded on her world and changed her life forever when she was only 14 years old. When she finished school she worked at Marks and Spencers and later in a munitions factory to help the war effort, even being part of the Land Army digging up potatoes on the weekends.

She recalled exciting but frightening times. Even many years later a low-flying aircraft would wake her in terror and bring back memories of the bombing raids on England.

Flying in a Lancaster bomber with the Australian Air Force in 1945 was her future husband Jack. Their meeting was decided when he set off on his first fee Sunday in England to find the nearest Salvation Army corps. Coming to a T intersection he had to decide to go one way to Gloucester or the other to Cheltenham. He turned his bicycle to Gloucester.

Freda's story is that they met at a cricket match between the English and Australian servicemen where she was scoring.

She was taken with all the Aussie

nicknames and she had been "walking out" with Jack for some time before finding out that Smallbone was actually his surname and not another nickname!

They were married in Gloucester six months later in November 1945, but by 1946 Jack had to return by ship to Australia to be demobbed. With the 12-week round trip and the official paperwork done, he returned to England to welcome their first child, Carol.

Freda, Jack and Carol sailed for Australia in 1948 and their second child, Jackie, was born on Christmas Day.

They returned to England still deciding where to put down roots but returned two years later to live permanently in Australia. Two sons followed - John and Stephen.

The family attended The Salvation Army, originally at West End Corps and then Brisbane City Temple, but in their 80s found it increasingly difficult to travel into the city. After Jack retired, they were able to fly to England on several occasions and although Freda never alleviated her fear of flying, she was grateful to spend time with her much-loved siblings and spend time in the English countryside.

Freda lost her soulmate, Jack, four years ago, but again drew on her remarkable inner strength to continue to attend family celebrations and still lived independantly, attending the local Presbyterian Church, until six months ago when her health issues encouraged her to move into residential care.

Sadly, of Freda's original family, only her loved sister Floss and brother-in-law Albert (UK) and her sister-in-law Diane Gambling (Melbourne) are left to mourn her passing. She is also remembered by her remaining Australian family of Lurline and Keith Lucas (sister-in-law and brother-in-law), Norm Hung (brother-in-law) and Ray Smallbone (sister-in-law).

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



Include a bequest to The Salvation Army in your Will and leave behind a future for people in need. To find out more please call **1800 337 082** or visit us online at salvationarmy.org.au/wills

Name _____	Address _____
State _____	P/C _____
Email _____	Tel _____ Time to call _____ AM/PM
<input type="checkbox"/> I have already included The Salvation Army in my Will	
Yes, I'm interested in: (Tick one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Leaving a Bequest to The Salvation Army	<input type="checkbox"/> Information to assist with preparing a Will
Please send to: The Salvation Army, Sample Street, Sample Town, Sample State, 3000.	

about people

Appointments

Effective 12 May: Major Jeanette **Stoltenberg**, Territorial Mission and Resource Director – Social Program Administration; Envoys Victor and Vicki **Keenan**, Chaplains, Weeroona Village, Aged Care Plus, Program Administration; Lieutenant Stephen **Gorringer**, Assistant Manager/Chaplain Montrose, Aged Care Plus, Program Administration; Lieutenant Kim **Gorringer**, Assistant Corps Officer, Gosford Corps (pro-tem), Newcastle and Central NSW Division.

Effective 1 June: Major Donna **Evans**, Assistant Field Secretary for Children/Youth and Special Projects, The Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory; Major Stuart **Evans**, Secretary for Business Administration, The Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory.

Bereaved

Majors David and Joan **Tong** of their niece, Lieutenant Lisa **Collins**.

Promoted to glory

Envoy Matt **Blessington** on 30 April.

time to pray

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).

8-14 June

Major Alison Cowling, Canada and Bermuda Territory; Inverell Corps, Job Link, Kempsey Corps, Leeton Corps, all NSW; Ipswich Corps/Indigenous Ministries, Ipswich Community Welfare Centre, both Qld; Sydney Staff Songsters Weekend – Kempsey (14-15).

15-21 June

Papua New Guinea Territory; Life Community Church Mission, Lockyer Valley Corps, Logan City Community Welfare Centre, Longreach Corps/Rural Chaplaincy Base, Mackay Corps, all Qld; Lismore Corps, Long Jetty Corps, both NSW; Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Review (19-20).

22-28 June

Mackay Northern Beaches Mission, Maroochydore Corps, both Qld; Maclean Corps, Macquarie Fields Mission, Macquarie Lodge Aged Care Services, Maitland City Corps, Manly Corps; Calling (Candidates) Sunday (22); THQ Officers Fellowship (23-25).

29 July – 5 July

Maroubra Corps, Maroubra Welfare Centre, Menai Corps, Miranda Corps, Moree Corps, all NSW; Maryborough Corps, Qld; Moneycare Financial Counselling NILS, THQ; Territorial OTHERS Week (29 June-5 July); Officers Kids Camp (4-7).

6-12 July

Majors Bruce and Cheryl Carpenter, Caribbean Territory; Montrose Residential Aged Care, Nambucca River Corps, both NSW; Mount Isa Corps, Mount Isa Recovery Services Centre, Nambour Corps, all Qld; Mountain View Aged Care Services, ACT.

engagement calendar

Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

*Sydney: Sun 1 June – Rotary International Convention Interfaith Service

Sydney: Mon 2 June – Inter-Territorial Executive

Sydney: Tues 3 June – Territorial Chaplains Conference

Sydney: Tues 3 June – Officers Five Year Review

*Sydney: Thu 5 June – Official opening, William Booth House Rotary Life Skills Centre

*Sydney: Fri 6-Sun 8 June: Rural Chaplains Conference

Kempsey: Sat 14-Sun 15 June – Kempsey Corps 125th Anniversary

Sydney: Thu 19-Fri 20 June – Divisional Review, Sydney East and Illawarra

Bowral: Mon 23-Wed 25 June – Territorial Headquarters Officers Retreat

Sydney: Sun 29 June – In-Sunday, School For Officer Training

*Commissioner James Condon only

#Commissioner Jan Condon only

Colonel Richard Munn (Chief Secretary)

Sydney: Sun 8 June – Corps visit, Dulwich Hill

Sydney: Fri 13 June – Sydney Prayer Breakfast

Newcastle: Mon 16-Thu 19 June – Divisional Officers Fellowship, Newcastle and Central NSW

Collaroy: Fri 20 June – Salvos Legal Retreat Dinner

Bowral: Mon 23-Wed 25 June – Territorial Headquarters Officers Fellowship



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