

pipeline

THE SALVATION ARMY
AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY
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STRIDING OUT

SALVOS RUN THE GOOD RACE



ARTICLES BY

COMMISSIONER JAMES CONDON | MAJOR DAVID WOODBURY | MAJOR NORM BECKETT | ROBYN EVANS | MATT SEAMAN

COMMISSIONING & CELEBRATION

Heralds of Grace
2013-2014

Sunday 30 November 2014

10.00am Commissioning & Ordination
2.30pm Sending Out
6.00pm The Movement

Brisbane Convention Centre
Merivale Street, South Brisbane

Leaders:
Commissioners James & Jan Condon
Colonels Richard & Janet Munn



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Photo: Carolyn Hide

34



COVER STORY

6 STRIDING OUT

The Salvation Army had strong representation at the Gold Coast Airport Marathon, including a group of eight Papua New Guinea nationals.

FEATURES

12 ADDICTED TO A HIGHER POWER

Elderly Salvationist Gordon Hume is an inspiration to many people as he drags around a trolley containing an oxygen tank which helps him complete his hotel and clubs round each week.

18 BAYSIDE BLITZ

The spirit of community was in full swing when 75 employees from professional services firm Ernst & Young joined forces with volunteers from The Salvation Army's Streetlevel to spend a day transforming a property in Brisbane.

22 HIS GRACE IS ENOUGH

Australian officers Majors Phil and Deslea Maxwell speak about their new appointments to The Salvation Army's International Headquarters in London after four years serving in Papua New Guinea.

REGULARS

- 5 TC@PIPELINE
- 16 INTEGRITY
- 30 ENVIRONMENT
- 33 SOUL FOOD
- 36 ARMY ARCHIVES
- 40 WHAT WOULD JESUS VIEW?
- 43 COALFACE NEWS
- 50 PROMOTED TO GLORY

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Tapping into the power of persistent prayer

George Müller is one of the giants of the Christian faith, an inspirational figure throughout the 1800s who cared for more than 10,000 children in his life as the director of an orphanage in Bristol, England.

He established 117 schools which offered Christian education to about 120,000 children and, as an evangelist, it is believed God used him to bring salvation to 30,000 souls.

And the secret to this achievement? Persistence in prayer.

George Müller prayed continually. He prayed about anything and everything, no matter how seemingly trivial, and expected each prayer to be answered. Some prayers were answered instantly, others took time, even a lifetime. But that didn't deter George. He prayed on.

The story goes that God one day laid the salvation of five friends on his heart. So began a commitment to a specific prayer that lasted more than 50 years.

"In November 1844, I began to pray for the conversion of five individuals," George is quoted as saying. "I prayed every day without a single intermission."

Eighteen months passed before the first was saved. Five years lapsed, then

the second was converted. Six years passed before the third came to Christ. Nearly half a century later, the last two remained unconverted.

During an interview late in his life, George said: "I have been praying every day for 52 years for two men, sons of a friend of my youth. They are not converted yet, but they will be! How can it be otherwise?"

In 1898 George died, praying firmly in faith, thanking God in advance, for the salvation of those men. Several months later the two men were converted.

Pressing on

Dr David Livingstone is another example of persistence bearing fruit. During his 32 years of service in Africa, it is thought that Dr Livingstone managed to convert only one person. Despite the hardship of bringing the gospel to this continent, he persisted in preaching and teaching, praying and caring for the African people.

And his one convert? Chief Sechele of the Bakwena tribe in Botswana went on to become one of Africa's greatest evangelists, with thousands of converts to the faith. According to Neil Parsons, of the University of Botswana, Sechele "did

more to propagate Christianity in 19th-century southern Africa than virtually any single European missionary".

God asks us to be persistent in our Christian walk. Three verses which come to mind are: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9); "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14); and "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial" (James 1:12).

This issue of *Pipeline* echoes the theme of persistence, with our main feature focusing on the Gold Coast Airport Marathon and The Salvation Army's involvement. Highlighted is the story of eight Papua New Guinea nationals who ran in the marathon as part of a mentoring program to equip them for service in the fitness and health industry.

Then there's the story of Gordon Hume, an 82-year-old Salvationist with chronic lung disease, who continues to fulfil his pub-round duties each week while dragging around an oxygen bottle. Now there's an example of grit and determination, running the race to the end in order to win the heavenly prize.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It's time to stop talking and start doing

Major David Woodbury's letter ("Compromising our unique identity" - *Pipeline*, June issue) which was responding to Commissioner James Condon's statement "we need to do church differently", I thought called for a response from me, being the officer at The Foundery (Port Kembla mission).

I believe the identity of The Salvation Army is captured in the single-word telegram of our founder General William Booth - "others".

We can have a band, songsters and uniform aspects we identify as Salvation Army, but if we neglect others we neglect what it is to be The Salvation Army.

At The Foundery we have others at heart and this is what motivates us to do what we do. Let's stop the talk of what is Salvation Army identity and start reaching out to others.

The Foundery allows us to connect

with people, from the prostitute to the CEOs of major companies and all in between. We have a heart for all people.

We can relate to our founder's heart



for others and Jesus' words to love God and love others and to go into the world and make disciples of the nations. That is what motivates us.

I, for one, am tired of the discussion "What is The Salvation Army?". Let's stop the talk and start reaching others by whatever means our community needs.

When we start to do that and stop our inward-focused discussions, people will see Jesus through and in The Salvation Army.

Maybe the more appropriate discussion is how can we best impact our communities. Now that is a conversation I won't fall asleep in!

We are not doing anything different, only continuing the principles Jesus and William Booth left for us.

Lieutenant Paul Kurth,
Port Kembla

TC@PIPELINE

FAITH TO THE FINISH LINE

First-hand experience of the recent Gold Coast Airport Marathon has prompted **Commissioner JAMES CONDON** to reflect on the race of life and how we are training ourselves to run it



Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory

Yes, it was a first for me but it was also a very significant experience. I particularly noticed the people who were struggling, the people who were in pain, the people who were stretching themselves.

You could see the expressions on their faces. I particularly focused on cheering these participants.

Most of them wore their number which also displayed their name and some certainly responded with surprise when I called out their name as I cheered them on. I felt incredibly for just a few who had dropped out in close proximity to where I was standing.

I would not want to be misunderstood, but it was quite a spiritual experience standing on the

My attendance at and participation in the Gold Coast Airport Marathon was a first for me.

Now, don't misunderstand me. I didn't run the marathon, but I entered the 5.7km Challenge Walk on the Saturday morning, as did my wife Jan. She beat me. Oh well, there is always another time.

On the Sunday morning, I stood on the sideline of the marathon, at the halfway point. There was a small number of us who were there to cheer on the runners and, in particular, a group who were representing The Salvation Army.

I couldn't help but think of the race of life that we are in. I thought of the great cloud of witnesses referred to in Hebrews chapter 12, who watch on as we run the race. I thought about the times when I have had to persevere.

Many years ago, during a corps appointment, I gathered for prayer with some of our corps leaders. I asked that they pray for me and that they pray for perseverance.

We thank God for those who cheer us on, for those who encourage us, for those who are there for us along the way.

Focus on Jesus

It was great to have eight runners from Papua New Guinea participating in the marathon.

This was certainly a first for them and I want to commend the mentors who went to PNG to prepare them and who were there for them in the race. They ran alongside them, they encouraged them to keep going, they crossed the finish line with them.

There are lots of challenges for us as an Army and as individuals; in pressing on, in running the race, in throwing off that which so easily entangles us, as the writer to the Hebrews mentions in chapter 12. Most importantly, the call of Hebrews chapter 12 is to keep our eyes on Jesus.

For me, it has never been about winning the race - I don't think I have ever won a race - but I finish and that's what I did in the 5.7km Challenge Walk on the Saturday. I didn't win it, but I finished.

God bless our Army, as we run the race marked out for The Salvation Army and, as individuals, we press on, encouraging, affirming and acknowledging each other's part.

God help us to get to the finish line.

MORE THAN A MARATHON

PNG GROUP RUN THE RACE OF LIFE



Eight young people from the Papua New Guinea Territory took on the challenge of a lifetime and represented team "Salvos Striders" in the Gold Coast Airport Marathon last month, writes

SIMONE WORTHING.

This event though, is only part of the PNG Youth Ambassadors Marathon Mentoring Program - an ongoing leadership program designed to bring hope to this developing nation, and beyond



I will never be the same again," says Isaach, after completing the Gold Coast Airport Marathon - 42.195km. "God gave me the strength to finish the race and he will do this for me in life as well."

"It was a struggle to finish, but God encouraged me through my mentor and another one of the runners, and I made it," says Dorothy. "I am now determined to finish my spiritual, emotional and physical race of life and help others along the way."

"I was so nervous starting the race, and I had to keep praying to finish, but I finished the race and am grateful to God, and my mentor, for getting me through," says Teggy. "Now I can do anything!"

All eight PNG runners, including 17-year-old Maimu, who ran the 21.1km half-marathon due to the 18-years minimum age for the marathon, felt the experience of training for and completing the endurance event was an experience that has changed them forever.

"Whatever lies ahead we can conquer through Jesus who has given us strength," says Phillip.

Salvation Army officers, employees and supporters took part in the 5.7km walk and 10km run on Saturday 5 July, and the half-marathon and marathon on 6 July. These included Commissioners James and Jan Condon, territorial leaders; Lieutenant-Colonel Sandra Godkin, Assistant Secretary for Personnel; Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, Chief Secretary of the PNG Territory; and Mrs Fay Foster, Territorial Human Resource and Training Consultant in the PNG Territory for the walk; and Lieutenant-Colonel David Godkin, Secretary for Personnel; and Captain Kemo Apa from PNG for the 10km.

"This is a great opportunity for The Salvation Army to reach out into the world around us and promote fun, friendship, education and training for the participants," says Commissioner James.

"It's been great seeing people have fun but also strive to achieve their personal goals, and just keep going despite the struggles.

"I have really enjoyed the experience - even if Lieutenant-Colonel Sandra Godkin beat me!"

Vision of hope

The idea for the program was initially discussed in a meeting between Lieut-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, Major Sere Kala from PNG, and Sharon Callister, CEO of The Salvation Army's Aged Care Plus (ACP) and Humanitarian Missions Services (HMS).

"We wanted to do something to develop our young people now, spiritually, physically and through education as we looked towards the future development of PNG," says Lieut-Colonel Gluyas.

The detailed proposal Sharon put forward included not just the marathon but was combined with educational prospects and leadership opportunities. Both the PNG and Australia Eastern Territory embraced the proposal.

Major Annette West, Strategic Team Leader at ACP and project team leader for the PNG Youth Ambassadors Marathon Mentoring Program, played a major role in developing the program, >>>

"This is a great opportunity for The Salvation Army to reach out into the world around us and promote fun, friendship, education and training for the participants."

▲ ABOVE: The runners and their mentors enjoy the view from the beach as they keep up their regular stretching routines.

◀ LEFT: Captain Kila Apa believes his months of training and the strength of God gave him victory - crossing the finish line of the marathon.

FRONT COVER: PNG runner Dorothy Gabi celebrates the joy of crossing the finish line and achieving her goals with her mentor and marathon partner, Karin Tappouras.



◀ **LEFT:** The girls hydrate and stretch as the sun comes up, just prior to the start of the race.

▶ **RIGHT:** A Salvos cheer squad encouraged the runners at different points throughout the race.

All photos:
James Horan



“When I run I think of Philippians 3:14: ‘I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus’.”

working with the HMS team and providing leadership support.

“This is more of a start than a one-off,” explains Sharon. “When these young leaders were selected, we made sure they were motivated and had potential in all areas of development.

“A marathon was something tangible we could organise to help them start developing discipline and commitment. The next step will be tackling further education, whether that’s in health and fitness, education, community services, business or youth work.”

Fay Foster will play an instrumental role in assisting the young people to move forward with ongoing studies.

The project was mainly funded by HMS and some small sponsorship from suppliers and ACP.

“The HMS mandate was to invest in the local communities we were operating in,” explains

Sharon. “As Manus is part of PNG, that fitted the mandate.”

Mentors

Captain Brett Mitchell, Director of Salvos Counselling and an experienced marathon runner, served as both mentor and team leader for the mentors – Bill Hunter, leader, God’s Sports Arena; Karin Tappouras, Tuggerah Lakes Corps, and AJ Thomas, member of the HMS Board of Management.

Each mentor spent time with the group over several months, including in PNG, and worked with them on health, fitness, training, discipline, commitment and life skills.

“I was impressed with the capabilities of the young people and their levels of maturity, and loved the opportunity to sew into potential leaders of The Salvation Army,” explains Brett. “In 10 years’ time, these young people will be leaders in their local community

and in the Army. The development of their faith now will help to build and strengthen a faith community, and a faith community will help change a nation.”

Ali El Khansa, Finance Manager at ACP who was on secondment in PNG and worked closely with the group, agrees.

“I have seen how they have grown in different contexts - school, music, and working for the Army,” he explains. “They want to help, they want to give back to their country and change it.

“Through their running, they are seeing the battle ahead.”

Pressing on

Captain Kila Apa, PNG Territory, believes preparing for and running a marathon is good for a person’s spiritual and physical health, and contributes to the development of a nation.

Captain Kila would now like to host PNG’s first marathon in

the future, with the program participants serving as mentors.

Further development

In the two weeks after the marathon, the group attended the EQUIP youth leadership conference on the Sunshine Coast; led chapel at Riverview Gardens; shared and led worship at God’s Sports Arena; and were delighted to attend a surprise training session with the Brisbane Broncos rugby league team. Program mentor Bill Hunter is chaplain to the Broncos.

When the PNG team arrived home in Port Moresby, national TV cameras were there to greet them. The headline on the station’s website read “SALVOS STRIDERS BRING BACK GOLD”.

“They are national heroes, and it doesn’t matter where they came in the race, they finished the race – they won gold,” says Major Annette. □

▼ **BELOW:** Salvos Striders who completed either the 5.7km walk or the 10km run, celebrate their victory on completing the course.



TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS ON THE MOVE



► **FROM LEFT:** The Colony War office in the 1890s; the Provincial War Office in 1912, incorporating Sydney Congress Hall; Territorial Headquarters in the 1950s on the present Elizabeth St site.



▼ **FAR RIGHT:** Commissioner James Condon outside the site of the new headquarters building in Redfern. Photo: Shairon Paterson

By **ESTHER PINN**

The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territorial Headquarters (THQ) will relocate in mid-2015, with Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon announcing the move from its current location in Elizabeth St, in the Sydney CBD, to nearby Redfern.

Last month, the Army finalised the purchase of the former South Sydney Leagues Club site at 261-265 Chalmers St, Redfern. A firm of architects has been appointed to redevelop the building for the Army's purposes, with staff expected to be in the new complex by no later than August next year.

Commissioner Condon said the cost of purchasing the building and its redevelopment will be met by the sale of other Salvation Army

properties as well as investment funds.

"We see this as an investment in the future of The Salvation Army in the Australia Eastern Territory," he said.

"It is important that I stress that no donated funds from the Red Shield Appeal will be used for this relocation, and I reiterate that we are investing in the future of the territory."

Territorial Headquarters will occupy three floors of the 11,500sqm, five-storey building in Redfern. South Sydney Rugby League Club and Woolworths will continue their tenancy of other space in the complex.

Commissioner Condon said the decision to relocate had been in the making for many years. The Elizabeth St building was becoming increasingly cramped and would have required an extensive – and

expensive – upgrade. Almost 50 potential sites had been considered – in the Sydney CBD, Darling Harbour, Strathfield, Parramatta and Hurstville – before the Redfern property was identified as a suitable new home for THQ.

"The [Redfern] building is more than adequate to house us now and the acquisition is futuristic in terms of there being adequate space well into the future for any possible expansion of Territorial Headquarters," said Commissioner Condon.

Along with more space, office areas will be open plan to allow better interaction between departments, and balconies can also be used as work areas. Wireless technology will be available across the building.

A chapel will be built to seat 400 people on the first floor along with meeting rooms, and the building

has an underground car park with 175 spaces. The complex will also contain kitchen facilities.

The territory will keep its Elizabeth St premises, leasing out the office space to generate additional income. The building will remain the home for Sydney Congress Hall Corps.

The Army purchased the Elizabeth St building in 1926. Two years of substantial renovations followed and were officially opened by Commissioner Charles Sowton in May 1928.

The building underwent further renovations in 1990, and the new-look premises, incorporating Sydney Congress Hall, was officially opened on 20 October of that year by NSW Premier Nick Greiner.

To watch the THQ relocation announcement, go to video.salvos.org.au

AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS TIMELINE

- 1882** – Captain Sutherland acquires the lease of a building at 260 Castlereagh St to act as a headquarters of The Salvation Army's work. It was called The Colony War Office.
- 1890** – Commissioner Thomas Coombs opens a newly built Colony War Office at 29 Goulburn St. (Edward Saunders architect).
- 1911** – Now called the Provincial War Office, a new headquarters is built at 73 Goulburn St (Edward Saunders architect), and is opened on 3 February 1912, incorporating the newly named Sydney Congress Hall Corps.
- 1921** – Two territories are formed with their own headquarters – Southern Territory based in Melbourne and Eastern Territory based in Sydney. Headquarters in Sydney moves to a larger building at 63-69 Goulburn St.
- 1926** – Building at 140 Elizabeth St purchased and Territorial Headquarters moves to this location, although several floors are leased to tenants.
- 1928** – Major renovations are completed and Sydney Congress Hall moves into 140 Elizabeth St and is officially opened by Commissioner Charles Sowton on 5 May.
- 1990** – Major renovations performed and newly refurbished building officially opened on 20 October.
- 2014** – Relocation to Redfern announced on 3 July.

ADDICTED TO A 'HIGHER POWER'

Gordon Hume knows he doesn't have much longer to live. But, he tells *Pipeline's* **BILL SIMPSON**, he's determined to share the powerful story of God's amazing transformation in his life with as many people as he can



It's an unusual sight – maybe one of a kind. An elderly man in Salvation Army uniform weaves his way through drinkers in the public bar of a coastal hotel. He has a collection box in one hand and drags behind him with the other hand a trolley housing an oxygen bottle.

Plastic tubing from the bottle leads over his ears and into his nostrils. The oxygen keeps him alive. There isn't one second in a day or night that Gordon Hume isn't attached to this life-saving breathing apparatus.

The 82-year-old Port Macquarie-based Salvation Army soldier has asbestosis – or chronic pulmonary artery hypertension, as he puts it. Life, for Gordon, is precious. It

could end at any time. He knows he doesn't have long.

His handicap won't prevent his ministry to the pub and club population of Port Macquarie, on the NSW North Coast. In fact, it inspires him to go even harder.

Two nights a week, Gordon drives himself to the local hotels and clubs listening to the stories of drinkers, accepting their donations for The Salvation Army but, more importantly, sharing his own story.

It goes back a long way, as you would expect of an elderly gent – back to the streets of working-class Redfern, only a stone's throw from Sydney's Central Railway Station.

For those familiar with Redfern, Gordon was born in Eveleigh St, beside the railway tracks. You can't

▲ **ABOVE:** Armed with his collection box, cap and oxygen bottle, Gordon Hume is ready to tackle his weekly round of clubs and hotels in the Port Macquarie area. Photo: Shairon Paterson

get much more Redfern than that!

His father was an unlicensed bookmaker (SP bookie they were called), an ice-carter and, Gordon suspects, a womaniser. His mother was a heavy gambler.

They were not often at home. When they were, they usually bashed each other – and their kids. Gordon often copped a thrashing from a cruel and sadistic father.

One day, Gordon and a little sister were left by their mother sitting in the gutter near Redfern Railway Station. Mum had departed for a day at the races.

A Salvation Army lady saw Gordon and his sister. She took them to a Salvation Army hall and gave them sandwiches and soft drink. After that, Gordon and his

sister went to The Salvation Army hall every Tuesday afternoon for games and something to eat.

At 13, Gordon had had enough of the beltings. He left home, renting a room at a house run by a kind lady. He paid the rent himself, earned by waking at two o'clock every morning and riding his bike (rescued from a local tip) to sell newspapers on a street corner from 4am. He returned to his job after school until around 6pm.

His landlady provided him with food and comfort. She was, he says, like a "real mother".

They were some of the happiest days of his life. He was loved in the real sense.

At the end of his schooling, he got a job as an apprentice in a

woodworking factory. He stayed a couple of years, but didn't complete his apprenticeship.

At 18, he earned a truck driving licence and entered an industry that provided his income until he retired 40 years later.

He was 26 when, in 1958, he married his sweetheart Nancye. They are still together after 56 years of marriage, despite a series of temporary separations.

The marriage strain started soon after the birth of their first son two years later. Gordon wasn't a drinking man. But he was given a drink to celebrate his son's birth.

"I couldn't put the drink down after that," he says. Alcohol consumed him for the next 40 years. He became a full-on alcoholic. >>>



“I FOLLOWED DAD’S EXAMPLE
AND, WELL, THE MIRACLE
HAPPENED FOR ME, TOO.”

Two more children – both boys – followed the first. Life could be hell for the family. The misery caused by his drinking, gambling and the financial cost tore them apart – often. Nancye was forced to take her boys and leave the home on several occasions.

His drinking didn’t affect his work. Gordon was manager of a trucking company, whose biggest client, ironically, was a major brewing company. His could hide his addiction because he was the boss.

Tragic accident

In 1996 – then living in retirement at Shoalhaven Heads on the NSW South Coast – Gordon’s life changed just as dramatically as it did on the day he took his first drink.

His youngest son was killed in a car accident, leaving a partner and two small children. The funeral was held at The Salvation Army Shoalhaven Corps at Nowra. Something in the service impacted Gordon.

“I didn’t know at the time that

The Salvation Army was a church – until I went to the funeral,” he says. “I thought The Salvation Army was an organisation that just helped people, like they did for us when we were kids.”

Four weeks after the funeral, Gordon went back to The Salvation Army at Nowra for a Sunday morning service. Something was drawing him back. He wasn’t sure what it was. But it was powerful.

Nancye, a strong Anglican, didn’t go with him, at first.

“The greeting I got when I walked through the doors of The Salvation Army at Nowra was phenomenal. People were just walking up to me, shaking my hand and telling me it was good to see me.

“It was something I will never forget. The friendship of the people at the church, well, it changed me. They were so sincere and compassionate; no questions asked.”

He kept attending – every Sunday. “Nancye was intrigued. So, she finally came with me one Sunday. She said she wanted to

see what was drawing me there. I reckon she came to keep an eye on me because she wanted to be sure I was going to church and not to the pub.”

They kept attending together and eventually agreed to be adherents.

Between his first visit to the Shoalhaven Corps and adherency, Gordon’s doctor told him it was time to choose. If he didn’t stop drinking, he would die – very soon.

Gordon chose life – and the Lord. His drinking stopped immediately – 40 years of drunkenness was over! He succeeded, he says, because of the “Higher Power” spoken of by his addiction counsellors. For Gordon, the “Higher Power” was God.

Another miracle

In 2001, Gordon and Nancye became soldiers of The Salvation Army. A few years earlier, the sister he sat with in the gutter at Redfern as a child also had joined The Salvation Army at Maroubra Corps in Sydney.

Becoming a Christian was,

Gordon says, a big thing for him. God hadn’t meant anything to him before and, anyway, he didn’t feel worthy.

“It’s funny. People often say that the death of somebody close in the family drew them away from the church and God. The death of our son drew me to God and the church.”

Gordon’s personal life was turning around rapidly. But serious social issues with another son was tearing the family apart.

Second son Grant was heavily involved in the drug scene for years – since he was 17. He was now 37 and living on the streets of Nowra. He could no longer live at home because he was stealing from his parents to pay for his addiction. The stealing caused friction in the family.

“Mum and Dad couldn’t bear to see me on the streets. It was embarrassing for them,” Grant tells *Pipeline*.

Gordon and Nancye left Shoalhaven and moved to Port Macquarie in 2005. In 2006, Grant

agreed to enter a Salvation Army rehabilitation program, with the encouragement of his mother.

He spent 10 months at Miracle Haven (now Dooralong Transformation Centre near Wyong, on the NSW Central Coast). With the help of God and staff, he says, he was able to defeat his drug habit.

Grant committed his life to Christ at Miracle Haven. “Dad was my inspiration. Seeing him overcome alcoholism with the help of God convinced me that there must be some truth in this God thing. I followed Dad’s example and, well, the miracle happened for me, too.”

After graduating from Miracle Haven, Grant moved to Port Macquarie for family support. He attended Port Macquarie Corps, worked in the local Salvation Army Family Store and completed a certificate course in community services. He married Wendy in 2009 and was later offered a position as support worker at Miracle Haven. Today, he is senior case worker at the new Dooralong centre.

Grant is now a Salvation Army

soldier at Gosford Corps. Wendy is also a regular attendee. Back in Port Macquarie, a faithful Gordon loads his trolley with precious oxygen two nights a week and heads for the local hotels and clubs.

“I love what I’m doing,” he says. “It’s not an onerous task – far from it. See, I’ve got a great story to tell and a lot of people to tell it to.

“There are parents, grandparents, partners, family and friends of people with addiction issues like Grant and I had. I’ve got the answer for them. I need to tell them and I will keep doing it by the grace of God and my wife’s help.

“God performed a miracle for Grant and for me. He can do the same for anybody who asks for his help.”



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

▲ **ABOVE LEFT:**
Their marriage has had its ups and downs, but Gordon and his wife of 56 years, Nancye, remain firmly committed to each other.

▼ **ABOVE RIGHT:**
Gordon chats with patrons during his clubs round. Photos: Shaïron Paterson

FIRST IMPRESSIONS: DESTINED FOR DISCRIMINATION

INTEGRITY

In the first of a four-part series on social justice issues, **JAMES READ AND DON POSTERSKI**, of The Salvation Army’s International Social Justice Commission in New York, look at how we can interact with people who often experience marginalisation and discrimination

“Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” (Philippians 4:8 NRSV)

First impressions are consequential. They can open doors or slam them shut. Some of us see a person begging on the street and think, “You can’t judge a book by its cover. There’s a story here. I wonder what happened?”

Others see the same person in the same situation and conclude, “What you see is what you get. I’m glad that’s not me.” For them, the story is over.

People who are marginalised suffer the consequences of first impressions. So often, like people with disabilities, they have doors slammed in their faces before they have a chance to tell their stories. They are destined for discrimination.

Who are these people? What is it about them that triggers discrimination?

- The list is long.
- People who are chronically unemployed and long-term welfare recipients;
 - Sidewalk panhandlers and

- transient street people;
- Addicts and drunkards;
- Prostitutes, adulterers and HIV carriers;
- Pregnant teenagers;
- LGBT advocates;
- Widows and orphans;
- Unemployed youth;
- People of colour;
- Indigenous people;
- Religious zealots;
- Foreign language speakers;
- Mentally ill persons;
- Obese people and others with distorted physical appearances;
- Social misfits;
- Minorities;
- Recent immigrants;
- Released criminals;
- The poor in the eyes of the rich.

Let’s face it. Encountering people who are vulnerable to discrimination often catches us off guard. We are on the way to somewhere else. We suddenly encounter them. They invade our comfort zones. Sometimes we feel like they are a nuisance.

Still, we do not want to

embarrass them or ourselves. Too often, as we walk away, we don’t feel we have been our best selves.

What do we think? Do we plan ahead?

The intent of this article is not to set up a framework for social planning and policy development. Rather, the aspiration is to probe how we can personally respond to people who often experience marginalisation and discrimination.

What we believe about people can help us. Followers of Jesus believe that the image of God is in everyone.

Capacities to think and love, abilities to make positive decisions, and resourcefulness to express goodness are all human beauty marks that reflect God’s image.

Because people have made bad decisions does not make them bad people. Because people are different from you and me or because their lives are off track doesn’t diminish their human worth.

Before walking out the door in the morning we can remind ourselves that whoever we encounter today, we can begin with, “I see God in you.”

Showing acceptance

Another pre-commitment we can make is to humanise our

interaction. Whether individuals have disgraced themselves or they find themselves to be outsiders through no fault of their own, we can send signals of acceptance to them. In our minds, we can pre-schedule an interruption. We can stop, look people in the eye, greet them and break the awkward silence.

Instead of being befuddled by the encounter with an unexpected panhandler, we can graciously put our hand into our pocket for the coins that were put there precisely for this anticipated moment. Encouraging them to “have a good day” as we walk away lifts life.

Living with foresight we reduce stigmatisation and counter discrimination.

In his award-winning book, *Tattoos on the Heart*, priest and social worker Gregory Boyle tells the story of taking his shaved head, body tattooed, baggy-clothed gang buddies to a restaurant.

Overcoming the host’s resistance to seating them, the three are ushered through the maze of other customers to a back corner table.

In Boyle’s description, “All the diners stop what they’re doing, silverware suspended in midair, and a disquieting silence descends

on the place.” This is Richie and Chepe’s first time in a restaurant.

Richie speaks first. “Everyone is looking at us. We don’t belong here.” Chepe chimes in, “There’s just pure, rich white people here.”

Then it happens. The waitress comes toward them. Instead of the earlier frozen and awkward reception, she verbally puts her arms around them, “Hey, fellas, what can I get you?” Looking at Chepe, “How about you sweetie?” And then Richie, “Well honey, what do you want?” After cleaning their plates and being served refills they didn’t even ask for, they make their exit.

On the way to the car, the talk was about the waitress. Chepe said what was important: “Yeah, she treated us like we were somebody.”

“What you see is what you get” people have had their imaginations crushed. They slam doors shut.

“You can’t judge a book by its cover” people inherently believe there are more chapters to be written. They open doors.

We can choose to treat people as assets rather than liabilities.

At the International Social Justice Commission, we think about these things and try to do something about them.

What do you think?

“FOLLOWERS OF
JESUS BELIEVE THAT
THE **IMAGE OF GOD**
IS IN EVERYONE.”

Bayside blitz



Dozens of employees from a Brisbane firm have volunteered their time to work alongside The Salvation Army. Pipeline's **SIMONE WORTHING** went along to find out why

“When people love other people and do community it has an energy and life of its own,” says Major Bryce Davies, The Salvation Army’s Brisbane Streetlevel Mission Leader.

The spirit of community was in full swing in late June when 75 employees from professional services firm Ernst & Young joined forces with volunteers from Streetlevel to spend a day transforming a property in Ormiston, in the Bayside region.

The property, which can house six residents, provides a safe and supported space where the clients, either currently in recovery or homeless, can learn new skills in a caring environment and better transition into the private rental market.

The Ernst & Young team was allocated different jobs and projects based on their skills, experience and areas of interest. The level of

energy and enthusiasm stayed high throughout the day as they landscaped gardens and paths, installed a water tank, cleaned and rebuilt a barbecue area, constructed a chicken coop, planted herb and vegetable gardens and painted inside the house.

“It’s good to get everyone out as a team,” says Daniele, as she removed wallpaper in a bedroom. “It feels good to come out and help a good cause, it’s very rewarding.”

Cassie was digging ground for a vegetable garden. “It’s great to get out and do things for people and to realise that multiple people will come through this place and be helped,” she says.

Territorial Envoy Scott Frame, who pastors The Salvation Army’s nearby Bayside Community Church with his wife, Envoy Natalie, joined the volunteers. Bayside has partnered with Streetlevel to nurture, encourage and support the residents of the Ormiston house (see story page 20).

Meeting a need

Each year, Ernst & Young give their staff a day to volunteer in the community.

“People aren’t always able to utilise this time so we organise a day and give them that opportunity as well as provide logistical support to make it happen,” says Craig Sydney, a partner at the firm.

“Hearing Major Bryce and David from Streetlevel speak to our group a few weeks ago was so motivational and got everyone on board.”

David, who was destitute and struggling with addictions and relationship breakdowns, is now living at the Army’s Pindari Resident Recovery Service. He serves as a Christian mentor to others at Pindari, volunteers at Streetlevel and is studying a double diploma in counselling and community services.

“I told my story [at Ernst & Young] and explained that being at Streetlevel, we see a massive

need for houses like this one,” says David. “So many people are struggling with mental health, drug and other issues and just need a start sometimes.”

Mair Brooks, a director at Ernst & Young and project manager for the volunteer day, was the driving force behind the event.

“We work hard in the corporate world but don’t give anything back,” she explains. “This is a way to give our staff an opportunity to give something back and keep a long-term view of what we’re doing. We hope this is the beginning of a long-term relationship.”

Trophies of grace

Robyn Sully has owned the one-acre Ormiston property since 1977. She bought it with the purpose of seeing it used for Christian work.

“In the past it’s been used for persecuted people, home-school groups and other community activities and now it’s taking a >>>





new turn under the auspices of The Salvation Army through Streetlevel and Bayside Community Church,” she says.

“Today it’s just lovely and humbling to see what God can do. I am filled with gratitude to God for fulfilling his purpose for this place and for the trophies of grace he will win for the Kingdom of God.”

Adam and Catherine, who have been residents at the house for nearly two years, are now the caretakers of the property and will also facilitate the needs of the people who stay there.

“This is just a great day and it’s wonderful to see God’s presence in full swing and the centre of all we do here,” says Catherine.

“It’s a place to provide people in recovery and those in need a good, peaceful and tranquil environment in which to put their lives back together and continue their journey.”

Adam agrees. “This is so uplifting,” he says. “Through the connections with Scott and Bayside, I have been empowered in my recovery in both strength and confidence. Now I have faith which I didn’t before, and I am looking forward to being a part of what is happening in this house.”

Many companies were an integral part in supporting the renovation of the property. These include Ernst & Young, Bunnings, Kennards, Haymes Paint and Subway.



Simone Worthing is a writer for Pipeline and supplements



▲ TOP: The volunteers from Ernst & Young joined with a crew from The Salvation Army to transform the Ormiston property; ▲ BELOW: One of the teams designed and built a chicken coop so residents can enjoy fresh eggs.

► RIGHT: Brisbane Streetlevel Mission and the Bayside Community Church have formed a key partnership to work closely in a local community. From left to right: Envoy Scott Frame; Adam, caretaker of the property; David from Streetlevel; Major Bryce Davies; and Mo, also from Streetlevel and a resident at the house.



Partnership links Streetlevel with local corps

By SIMONE WORTHING

The Salvation Army’s Bayside Community Church and Brisbane Streetlevel Mission have formed a partnership that is helping transform a community – and it all started with a phone call.

Ormiston house owner Robyn Sully called Streetlevel Mission Leader Major Bryce Davies at the suggestion of a friend.

The lease on Ormiston was due for renewal and the friend, who had contact with The Salvation Army through Streetlevel, suggested to Robyn that the Army could be interested in the property.

“On the way out to meet Robyn and see the property I thought how close it was to Bayside Community Church and the possibility of the corps partnering with Streetlevel and having the opportunity to be involved in something that wasn’t just a Sunday meeting in a corps,” says Major Davies.

He spoke to Territorial Envoys Scott and Natalie Frame, corps leaders at Bayside, who were immediately supportive and keen to be involved.

The Bayside team now shares a weekly meal with residents at Ormiston, holds a Bible study every Friday and runs weekly house meetings where rules and responsibilities and the challenges of group living are discussed and solutions to problems worked through.

“We are being the local church in the local community,” says Envoy Scott.

Major Davies agrees. “Through this partnership with Bayside, Streetlevel is infiltrating the communities where we have supportive corps – it’s messy and organic and has a life of its own.

“We can already see the flavour of Bayside through their involvement with the residents and community here and through this connection, as social work becomes an organic part of what they do, a Streetlevel community is being planted.”

Opportunity to connect

The Frames believe that the corps’ involvement with the house gives them an opportunity to show the residents that The Salvation Army is there for them.

“We are here to support them

on their journey to independence and a major part of that is connecting them with other people, both in the corps and in other expressions of the Army,” says Envoy Scott.

“This is a model for similar activities to be repeated elsewhere – we don’t want this to be something isolated but rather to replicate it in other areas.”

The residents themselves want to be a part of starting new places of ministry and outreach.

Two of the residents, Simon and Mo, take the Streetlevel fishing trailer to the local skate park each week to feed the homeless and to encourage the young people and build relationships.

“This is giving people an opportunity to connect with others who can help change their reality, as theirs has been changed,” explains Envoy Scott.

“This is about transforming the community person by person and house by house. God’s plan is about renovating people, transforming them and giving them freedom.

“It’s a key partnership [with Streetlevel]; we work better together.” □



Pipeline's **SCOTT SIMPSON** caught up with Australian officers Majors Phil and Deslea Maxwell in London, where they are settling into new roles at The Salvation Army's International Headquarters after four years serving in Papua New Guinea

Among the treasured possessions of Phil and Deslea Maxwell is a letter from their youngest son. It was written a few years ago and ends with the words, "You have no idea, Mum and Dad, how proud I am of you".

Phil keeps the letter in his travel wallet, an appropriate place given the context in which it was written. They get it out occasionally – particularly during the tougher times of their Salvation Army officership – and read it for encouragement. They cherish those

six words, "... how proud I am of you". To them, they are validation that despite the pain of being separated from their children in recent years, God is blessing their family in ways they could never have foreseen or imagined.

Phil and Deslea, who now serve with the rank of major, have been officers for more than 30 years. They entered The Salvation Army's training college in Sydney, as part of the *Heralds of Hope* session, in 1982. They have three children – Kylie, Chris and Nathanael.

Kylie is also a Salvation Army officer and with her husband, Nathan Hodges, serves as a corps officer at Panania in Sydney. They have a six-month-old son, Caleb, Phil and Deslea's only grandchild.

Chris, with his wife, Nichole, is currently in his second year at the Army's School for Officer Training, while Nathanael, married to Rachel, is in the Royal Australian Navy and is the bandmaster at Parramatta Corps in Sydney.

God's blessing

For much of their officership, and while they were raising their family, the Maxwells served in a variety of roles in the Army's Australia Eastern Territory. Then, just over four years ago, they were appointed to Papua New Guinea; Phil as Territorial Secretary for Business Administration, and Deslea as Director of Schools.

HIS
grace
IS ENOUGH



◀ **FAR LEFT:** Majors Phil and Deslea Maxwell now call London home after their appointments to International Headquarters. Photo: Scott Simpson.
 ▶ **LEFT:** Major Deslea teaching at Tamba Elementary School in Papua New Guinea. ▲ **ABOVE:** Major Phil being presented with a quiver and some arrows during his time in PNG.

Their children, despite still all living at home, were by now adults with intentions of moving out. That, says Phil, made the decision to go to PNG fairly straightforward.

Very quickly, though, it all began to unravel, particularly when their two sons were confronted with some deeply significant personal issues. Suddenly, for Phil and Deslea, the thought of living in another country while desperate to be a close support to their children, was a daunting prospect. That's when, they say, God stepped into the gap and poured out his blessing.

"There is no denying we have paid a price in what we have done," says Phil. "We have paid a price for our obedience, but the blessings that we have received have been disproportionate and so we don't begrudge it.

"Personally, we would love to be the type of parents and grandparents who are always around for their kids and grandkids, but we believe that wasn't God's plan for us and that wasn't God's plan for our kids. And he has stepped into that gap and he's made some amazing things happen in their lives and he's made some amazing things happen in our lives."

To listen to Deslea reflect on the past four years, and in particular the family upheaval that marked their early days in PNG, the pain

of separation, and the awareness of God's provision, seem even more acute.

"To this very day I still feel like I deserted my boys," says Deslea. "But God has just done some incredible things in their lives during the time we've been away that I can only think, 'God, you are a much better parent than I could ever have been'.

"When you get a letter from your then 21-year-old son to say, 'you have no idea, Mum and Dad, how proud I am of you' ... we will never part with that letter.

"And even today, four years later, he still won't hang up the phone without saying how proud he is of Phil and I. And have we done anything? No, we haven't. All we've done is try to be obedient to God's call on our lives."

New roles

Like most Australian Salvation Army officers who serve in PNG, the Maxwells have been deeply impacted by their time in the country. "Some of the trappings that we get familiar with in our comfortable Christian journey in Australia, they're just not there in PNG," says Phil. "So, there's a depth and a strength to your own relationship with God that develops while you're there, that otherwise would not occur."

A year into their appointment to PNG, Deslea was asked if she

would add the titles of editor of *Tokaut* (the Army's magazine in PNG) and literary secretary to her responsibilities. She happily accepted, she says, adding, with a hint of irony, that the 12 months she spent as a secretary in the Army's editorial department at Territorial Headquarters in Sydney prior to entering officer training, prepared her well.

That decision, however, has subsequently had a much deeper influence on her officership journey than she could have foreseen.

Earlier this year, when their time in PNG came to an end, instead of an expected return to Australia and a reunion with their growing family, the Maxwells were appointed to the Army's International Headquarters (IHQ) in London.

Deslea's new role is as editor of the Army's global women's magazine, *Revive*, and the *International Year Book*. It's an appointment, she says candidly, that "isn't really a 'me' thing", but she is determined to give herself wholeheartedly to the ministry while she's been asked to do it.

"My officership, as far as the different appointments I've had, seems to have zigzagged all over the place, but I don't have an issue with that because I believe that every experience I've had God is going to use," she says.

"I've had many experiences >>>



◀ LEFT: The Maxwell family together at Nathanael's wedding.

▲ ABOVE: Major Deslea with two children of a staff colleague at the Property Department at THQ in Papua New Guinea.

in my officership where at the time I wasn't sure why it was happening, yet a few years later I've been able to look back and understand why God had placed me there.

"And to be honest, that's how I feel about my editorial appointments, that in time I'll be able to look back and see why God has given me this experience."

Phil's new job is as part of a team of seven international auditors based at IHQ, a role, he acknowledges, that probably begs the question of *Pipeline* readers: "What on earth do you do?"

"Well, once they get over the excitement that the job title obviously generates," jokes Phil, "I would explain that we go into a Salvation Army territory for two weeks and do a financial audit, but we also do a further business appraisal and business audit as well to make sure all their processes are correct."

"Our responsibility, really, is opening their eyes to best practice, taking them from the point where they're at, to a point where they're doing things better."

It's a job that obviously involves a lot of travel. In his first seven months in the role, Phil estimates that he'll be away for more than half that time with trips to the United States, Pakistan, Austria,

Switzerland, Hungary, South America, Tanzania and South Africa.

"I have to admit that audit was not something that resonated within me when the Army told me that's what I was appointed to, so my prayer life was, 'Lord, you'll have to give me a vision and a hunger so that I will see that I am making a valid contribution'. And he has. On that basis I can sit comfortably with what I'm doing."

"I believe God's better at pulling these things together than I am and so I've just allowed him to guide and direct me. For all of us, there are certain skills and abilities that God sees within us that he will use for his Kingdom. God's just utilised all the circumstances and all my learning along the way to prepare me for what I'm doing now."

Family journey

The Maxwells have been appointed to IHQ until early 2017. By then, including their stint in PNG, they will have been away from Australia for seven years.

Since they've been absent, all three of their children have married (Phil and Deslea were able to return to Australia for the weddings) and a grandchild has been born.

Naturally, they would dearly love to be intimately involved with

their family during this time. That longing, however, is overshadowed by a resolve to remain obedient to God's call on their lives.

"We have experienced so much of God's grace and lived in the glow of his glory so much over the last four to five years, that even though our heart would have us back in Australia we wouldn't want to rob ourselves, or God, of what he wants to do in our lives," says Phil.

"Where we have a comfort is that our journey hasn't been our journey alone. Our kids have journeyed with us, they know our heart and they know our calling and because of that they've got a willingness to let us go."

"They often say we wish you were closer, we wish you were home, but in the next sentence they're saying that we understand you are where God wants you right now. So, that makes it a lot easier for us."

"It's nothing super-spiritual," he adds, "It's just the way that God uses circumstances to shape us into the people he wants us to be."



Scott Simpson is a freelance writer for *Pipeline*

Composer honoured with ORDER OF THE FOUNDER



Noel Jones, an exemplary bandsman, bandmaster and writer of more than 80 musical compositions, has been awarded the Order of the Founder – The Salvation Army's highest honour.

He was recognised during a banding appreciation and celebration festival, honouring his recent retirement as bandmaster of the Melbourne Veterans' Band (renamed Melbourne Red Shield Band on the night), held at Waverley Temple Corps in Victoria.

"I count it a great honour to be a recipient of the Order of the Founder," Noel said. "Both Mary [Noel's wife] and I love The Salvation Army. It is our life and joy. I find great joy in writing music for our Salvation Army bands, particularly devotional music."

"I never cease to be amazed by the achievements of our founder William Booth who was continually guided by the Holy Spirit. I thank the Lord for, and am amazed by, the wonder-working power of Jesus in my life."

The evening included pieces played by the Melbourne Red Shield Band – with Noel conducting his own composition *Praise Him*,

performances by the Melbourne Staff Band, a presentation by Just Brass Ringwood and a massed band piece, *Keep In Step*, another of Noel's compositions.

With Mary by his side, Noel was presented with his Order of the Founder certificate and badge by the Army's Australia Southern Territory Chief Secretary Colonel Peter Walker, who drew attention to his notable musical accomplishments.

"[Noel] has many gifts, including the gift of encouragement which has been evidenced throughout his life in the way he has influenced both young and old," said Colonel Walker.

"He has been a local officer for over 53 years, serving as songster leader, young people's band leader and bandmaster. He held the position of territorial music director for 14 years, and was also a member of the Melbourne Staff Band for 14 years. For the past 13 years, he was bandmaster of the Melbourne Veterans' Band until he retired from that position in January."

Noel has also directed local music camps, guest-led international camps, mentored young musicians at his home corps

of Ringwood, and raises thousands of dollars each year for the corps by playing his cornet at a local shopping centre.

"Noel has worked tirelessly in serving God through The Salvation Army for more than 50 years," concluded Colonel Walker. "His service and ministry is outstanding, above and beyond the call of duty. His personal sacrifice in the interests of the mission and ministry of the Army both locally and internationally is exceptional."

A DVD played special messages from Colin Woods (former bandmaster, Melbourne Staff Band), Dr Stephen Cobb (conductor, International Staff Band) and well-known Salvation Army composers Lieut-Colonel (Dr) Ray Steadman Allen and Major Howard Davies.

The certificate's citation commended Noel's "faithfulness to God and The Salvation Army as a true example of Christ-like holy living, and for exemplary service as a local officer, musician, composer and mentor for over 53 years".

Watch the tribute video at youtu.be/enMe_UiBuWI and the presentation of the Order of the Founder award to Noel Jones at youtu.be/BaqS19I7clQ

◀ LEFT: Colonel Peter Walker presents Noel Jones with his Order of the Founder certificate.

▲ ABOVE: Noel Jones conducts the Melbourne Red Shield Band. Photos: Simon Loukes



UNCOVER 150 YEARS OF ARMY HERITAGE AT BOUNDLESS

Salvos worldwide will find their roots through historical displays and Salvation Army-focused tours while attending the 2015 Boundless Congress in London, writes **CHRISTIN DAVIS**



Following through London, the River Thames is a longstanding maritime route, boundary and economic resource. As merchant ships sailed throughout the world, they brought back its riches to store in the city – the financial heart of the British Empire.

Yet the area is flanked by London's East End, long synonymous with poverty, overcrowding, disease and crime.

As the river brought treasure to the empire, it also brought an expanding population to the East End. Waves of immigrants – French Protestant Huguenots, Irish, Ashkenazi Jews, and Bangladeshi – poured in and general conditions worsened.

According to the 1881 census, over one million people lived in London's East End, where the life expectancy of a labourer was less than 19 years. Two out of every 10 children died, and diseases like tuberculosis, rickets and scarlet fever were common.

"In that context began the Christian Mission," says Lieutenant-Colonel Alex Morrice, who retired as the Assistant Chief Secretary of the United Kingdom and Ireland Territory in 2001.

A self-described historian, Lieut-

Colonel Morrice leads Salvation Army-focused tours through the East End. Post The Salvation Army's 150 year celebration in July next year, 10-day Army heritage tours will also be held.

"If you don't know our roots – where we've come from – you don't know where we're going. We get information and inspiration from our history, and while we can't be imprisoned by our past, it gives us signposts for the future," he says.

Today, as in the 1800s, vendors peddle everything from produce to household supplies in market stalls down Whitechapel Road. It's alongside these stalls that the East London Revival Association first held an open air outside the Blind Beggar pub.

"The slums were indescribable with dreadful squalor," explains Lieut-Colonel Morrice. "Large families lived in tiny apartments with no water or heat. They were the neglected poor, the outcasts of society."

It was a life so bad, the pub advertised, "Get drunk for half

penny; blind drunk for a penny."

When the leader of that revival meeting asked if anyone wanted a word, William Booth stepped forward. The following Sunday, 2 July 1865, he preached his first sermon under the association's tent in Vallance Gardens.

History holds that Booth returned home that night and said to his wife, "Kate, I have found my destiny." He became the movement's leader, and so began what was renamed The Salvation Army in 1878.

"The Salvation Army – what a strange name!" Booth wrote after The Christian Mission's renaming. "What does it mean? Just what it says – a number of people joined together after the fashion of an army; and an army for the purpose of carrying salvation through the land ..."

Army anthem

The Blind Beggar still operates today. Two nearby statues commemorate Booth's work in the area, and a street mural features

influential people – from Queen Elizabeth, to George Bernard Shaw, and Booth. Two corps, the longstanding Cambridge Heath Corps and the more recently opened Stepney Corps, work in this community, along with the 150-bed Booth House for homeless men.

This is the birthplace of The Salvation Army, and in 2015 – the organisation's 150th year – Salvationists will gather at the O2 in South East London for Boundless: The Whole World Redeeming. The 20,000-person capacity arena will host representatives from each of the Army's 126 countries of work.

Only the seventh international congress – the last in Atlanta, Georgia in the United States, in 2000 – this anniversary congress is named after Booth's timeless song, *O Boundless Salvation*, which has been called the anthem of this army.

"When William wandered into the East End and saw the poverty and neglect of the church, he was moved to do something," says Lieutenant-Colonel Eddie Hobgood, USA Southern Territory officer and congress coordinator.

"We believe very strongly the call to save the world is as strong today and The Salvation Army needs to sometimes be reminded of what we're all about. 'Boundless' is

a call to continue into the next 150 years."

From 1-5 July, seven main sessions, concerts, musicals, after hours sessions, seminars and workshops will be held at Boundless. Forty performance groups from throughout the world will participate – from hula to Chinese lion dancing and the Angola National Band.

The original Larsson and Gowans musical will also be showcased and there will be 40 restaurants, a bowling alley and movie theatre. The arena will also feature an interactive heritage display with rarely seen early Salvation Army artifacts and highlights into features of today's Army and where it's headed.

Call to authenticity

Lieut-Colonel Hobgood says the congress will have an "incredible international flavour," and has included people from around the world in planning. Through the Mind the Gap initiative, Salvationists can sponsor international delegates from financially supported territories.

A one-mile march down the mall from Horse Guards Parade to Green Park beyond Buckingham Palace with the participating

performers will give the event great exposure in the city.

"The call is to authenticity, to individual Salvationists leading authentically Christ-like lives so that people notice a difference," says Commissioner William Cochrane, International Secretary to the Chief of the Staff and chairman of the Congress Planning and Advisory Council.

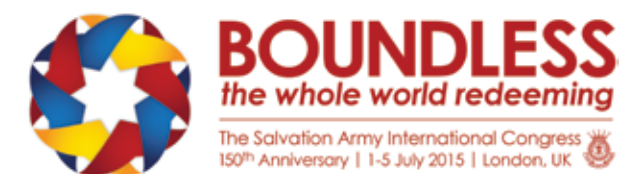
"Booth saw Salvationists as a going people – going out into the open air because people weren't coming in to the church."

The congress is being funded by contributions from self-supporting territories throughout the world.

"The Salvation Army has a remarkable testimony of trust in God. When the first Salvationists gathered in the East End, they had nothing – no place to call their own, no building, no money and very few people – but somehow God took the commitment of those few people and multiplied it," explains Commissioner Cochrane.

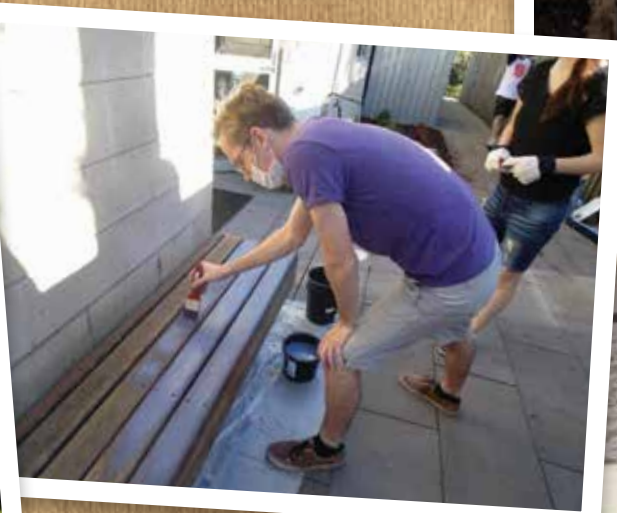
ABOVE:

The Salvation Army's founder William Booth is honoured near the Blind Beggar pub in the East End of London, with a statue and mural marking the site of his first open air meeting.



SERVICE SUNDAY

CENTENARY CONNECTS WITH
COMMUNITY AND CORPS



By **SIMONE WORTHING**

Serving the community took on new meaning for the Centenary Corps on Sunday 22 June, when both morning and evening meetings were cancelled for the first time and replaced with the inaugural “Service Sunday”.

About 50 people from the corps, in Brisbane’s south-west, ranging in age from six months to 82 years, came together to renovate and restore the gardens at nearby Youngcare, a residential facility that provides 24-hour care to people with disabilities under the age of 65.

“We basically did whatever was needed, from painting a wall, stripping back and painting benches, mulching a garden and planting flowers,” said Captain Sonia Whitehouse, Centenary corps officer, with her husband, Captain Derek.

“The staff at Youngcare thought it was fantastic and were

so thankful. They have no money in their budget to do the things we did, so it wouldn’t get done otherwise.”

Captains Sonia and Derek are planning a Service Sunday every quarter. Those involved will go to different locations each time, in order to connect with more of the local community.

“We are trying to get the corps mission focused and actively serving in the community,” said Captain Sonia.

“Worship is more than just turning up to church on Sundays.

“Everyone worked hard and really enjoyed it.

“It gives people a sense of involvement and shows the younger ones what serving others is all about.

“Everyone is now asking when the next one is going to be!”

Corps connections

At the end of this month, “Connect Sunday”, another new initiative

at Centenary Corps, also planned to take place each quarter, will be launched.

“We have morning family meetings and night youth meetings at Centenary, which are really two congregations, so it’s difficult to get everyone together,” explained Captain Sonia.

“Connect Sunday is about meeting together in a park for a very informal get-together to connect and build relationships.

“It’s a picnic and a chat, a few songs, a guitar and perhaps a short message.”

Café church is also becoming a regular feature at Centenary Corps, primarily in the school holidays when many people are away.

“Smaller numbers mean we can do an informal café church with just a couple of people sharing, worship from CDs, a few songs, a short devotional and good coffee,” said Captain Sonia.

“This is also a great opportunity for us to invite others to church.”

Community connections

The Mini Musos program – songs and musical activities for children and adults to enjoy together – is the only program at Centenary Corps where the attendance consists almost 100 percent of people from the local community.

“We are trying to integrate these families into the corps, so on Friday night 20 June, we had a family night and specifically invited the dads to come along and join in the Mini Musos activities, doing everything with their kids that the mums usually do,” said Captain Sonia.

All the fathers came to the event and joined in the singing, games and crafts with their children before joining their families and people from the corps for a barbecue dinner.

“All the dads loved it and asked when the next one would be,” said Captain Sonia. “This is such a simple and effective way of involving families with the corps.”

◀ FROM FAR LEFT:

Volunteers from the local community and other churches worked in partnership to transform the gardens at Youngcare; Part of the Centenary team at Youngcare, left to right, Captain Narelle Unicomb, Melissa Nichols, Josh Nicols and Craig Pennell.

▶ RIGHT: Great teamwork and lots of fun were all part of Service Sunday.

Holiness, health and consumption

WHAT WE DO WITH

In the third of a three-part series, Salvationist eco-theologian **MATT SEAMAN** continues to explore the theme of holiness, health and consumption. His first article focused on "What we put on" our bodies, the second on "What we put in". In this article, he reflects on the biblical stance of "What we do with" our bodies

"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)

In the previous two articles we have reflected on the significant interconnectedness between diverse areas of life, between people and the places we live in. The seemingly insignificant choices we all make every day can impact our personal health, the health of others, of communities, ecosystems and the land, locally and globally.

We have considered the impacts of what we put *on* our bodies, how "status anxiety" – unnecessary worry based on what we buy and wear – can hinder our spiritual journey, and that what we put *in* our bodies can affect our engagement within the body of Christ. We discovered William and Catherine Booth's endorsement of vegetarianism, and reflected on how food production and consumption can contribute to social and environmental issues.

We also contemplated holiness as encapsulating social and ecological issues, that holy living considers the wider impact of our lifestyles on local and global communities and ecosystems, and

that living a life aiming for holiness requires continual recalibration and transformation.

I must emphasise again that I share my reflections in a spirit of love, care and encouragement. These are personal reflections on the challenges of living a holy and healthy 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.

In this final article, we briefly consider what we do *with* our bodies living in light of the Gospel and God's call to loving, holy lifestyles.

Personal health

First, linking with ideas and thoughts from the previous article in this series (what we put in) – how might the ideas and thoughts we put in correlate with what we do *with* our bodies? As an example for reflection, how might watching television maximise our physical, emotional and spiritual health?

In an interesting pilot research

study, Dr Winnifred Louis, a social psychologist, observed that pilot survey respondents who primarily used commercial media rather than non-commercial media were less likely to be engaged in their community and less involved in community activism.

The varying circumstances we encounter throughout life can certainly impact our physical health and the amount of activity we can undertake. As we are finite beings, we have physical limits. Still, the health benefits of keeping active and exercising our bodies daily are well documented. Although, it can be easy to excuse ourselves from exercise through the feeling of pressure from the "to-do" list, with being too busy.

In today's society we can at times be made to feel lazy if we don't appear to be "busy". However, if we are too busy to care for ourselves properly – both spiritually through prayer and scriptural study, and physically through exercise and rest – how might this impact on the "sacred place" of our body (1 Corinthians

6:19-20), and therefore our partnering with God and the church to share and live out the good news of Jesus?

Rest and restoration

Theologian Steven Bouma-Prediger states, "Work is good, but so is rest. We all – people, animals, land – need a Sabbath from our labours. We must allow for times of rejuvenation." We are also reminded of – and even commanded to – consider this need for rest in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20: 8-11). Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. In this and other passages, such as Leviticus 25, we can see that the Sabbath is beneficial for the earth, for other creatures as well as for ourselves. Bouma-Prediger observes that "the Sabbath reminds us, among other things, that the world is in God's loving hands and, therefore, will not fall to pieces if we cease from our work ... Where, then, are we? On an earth not of our own making, blessed by God."

Contemplating how the Sabbath gives us freedom to live in humility and peace on God's earth reminds us that we are members of God's community here on earth – members of the earth community. As farmer and writer, Wendell Berry states we are "inextricably joined to each other, indebted to each other, receiving significance and worth from each other and from the whole." In this, Berry also argues our living "must be the maximum of well-being with the minimum of consumption, which both defines and requires neighbourly love."

Balance

To conclude this series, I refer to a relevant finding from a thesis I completed last year. Through this research, which involved interviewing a number

of Salvationists, one idea that appeared repeatedly was "balance".

Responses underlined the importance of personal balance as followers of Jesus, collective balance in the life of the church, and the balancing of social needs and ecological health. For example: "The Salvation Army ... needs to be careful with what it does and seek not only to promote the well-being of the people and communities but also to seek the earth's well-being, knowing that by balancing those needs you're providing the best long term future."

These views on balance are supported in this excerpt from a statement by the Canada and Bermuda Territory: "The earth is an interconnected whole, each part interdependent. As an intricately ordered system it must be kept in careful balance. Human sinfulness continues to contribute to destruction of the earth and cause significant degradations ... These imbalances have consequences for the poor, our global neighbours and future generations."

Through our reflections on the voices of fellow Salvationists, the needs of humanity, the wider earth community and the Gospel story, let us continue to personally and collectively consider how we might balance our daily journey towards practical holiness.

In contemplating what we do *with*, what we put *in* and what we put *on* our bodies, may we continue to be mindful of personal, social, spiritual and ecological health and well-being in light of the saving and liberating good news of Jesus!



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



ENGAGE, INVEST AND DEPLOY

Continuing an emphasis on The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory Mission Priority 6, **ROBYN EVANS** asks what role are you willing to play in seeing young people grow and flourish?



This mission priority is one of our most exciting! Being able to see generations rise to fulfil their potential and become leaders both in the church and in their field of expertise gives us so much hope for the future.

What does it mean to train youth for frontline mission? In every place it looks slightly different and I'm glad that when I was considered "youth" there were people who invested in me and gave me a go at ministry, being part of something bigger than my own world.

Lots of people talk about "youth these days" in a problematic sense. Every generation brings new challenges, but also new opportunities. Our youth are tech savvy, well connected and many of them are hungry to be part of something much bigger than themselves.

Through schemes such as Edify and the Salvo Ambassador Program we are seeing sacrificial living and giving by youth wanting to make a difference with the skills and abilities they have. Young people working together, often across generations, to help offer solutions and face the issues of our society.

From my experience, youth training and development is a strategy of:

- Engage
- Invest
- Deploy

Often these three aspects are overlapping and you can be doing all at once, in the very messy reality of ministry and youth work.

ENGAGE – Seeing opportunities to engage youth in the mission. It can be as simple as taking them with you, helping them be part of something in the community or church and assisting them with a dream and vision that they want to see fulfilled. Be real and have some fun on the way, it will make you feel younger too.

What can the youth in your community and church do? I am sure there are many things. Will it take time to organise them and help them get there? Yes, probably. But it's worth it. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it," (Proverbs 22:6).

INVEST – Jesus said: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19). It is likely that young people are right in front of you, wanting to be invested in and discipled. They want someone who is "real" with them and will continue to believe in them.

Maybe they seem resistant

and you just need to get alongside them. Investing in relationships is often long term and full of ups and downs, but it adds great meaning to the lives of both people.

DEPLOY – This can take time, but gradually each young person will become more confident in the mission. Some will want to run as soon as they have an opportunity and will need guidance and wisdom, others will need support just to take the first step. Whatever the scenario, having someone to support and assist them will add great value, but we should ensure that we always point them to Jesus in whatever they do.

Some of the most profound insights about mission come from youth. They notice things that many of us have stopped paying attention to. Once they're engaged and being invested in, what's stopping them from being deployed? We might need to clear a few barriers, but it's worth it to see new generations grow and flourish and be part of ushering in the Kingdom of God.



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Department



Every Christian has a favourite Bible verse that has either impacted them at one stage in their walk with Christ, or continues to encourage and nourish them on their spiritual journey. In this *Pipeline* column, Major Norm Beckett shares his favourite piece of Scripture

My Favourite Verse – Major Norm Beckett

"And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the beloved, with you I am well pleased', "
- Mark 1:11

It is Gary Chapman who has written the book *The Five Love Languages*. Anyone who has read the book will know that he relates that people have a primary and a secondary love language that they naturally respond to and operate from.

Many years ago, I was helped through

Chapman's book to understand that my primary love language is "affirmation" and that my secondary love language is "service".

Of interest to me are the first words of the Father to Jesus at his baptism and inauguration of his preaching, teaching and healing ministry. They are strong words of affirmation – "You are my Son" – followed by an even stronger affirming word of God's approval of him – "with you I am well pleased". Closely associated with the word of affirmation is also the note of affection. Jesus is loved of the Father. While Gary Chapman has written the book, God is the author of the language of love, for he is love.

As Jesus began his ministry God chose this particular aspect of the language of

love. I think that is significant. To think that Jesus was "affirmed" by his Father cannot be quickly skipped over. It is pregnant with meaning.

The words of the Father offer a challenge: The need to speak affirming words to people.

In my own life experience and spiritual journey the affirming word of relationship with my Father is paramount. I am loved of him! And I live to please him.

I have come to know that it is the Father's affirming word that is of vital importance. Certainly, those who know me well will understand why this verse is meaningful to me. I don't know my biological father, and the father figure of my life has left wounds that still, at times, require healing.

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Beautiful Africa



Children of Uganda's Watoto choir presented an evening of colour, rhythm and song during a concert at Sydney Congress Hall last month. Photos: Carolyn Hide

Watoto songs burst with joy, hope

More than 250 people were entertained by the Watoto Children's Choir at The Salvation Army's Sydney Congress Hall as part of their Beautiful Africa: A New Generation tour.

"They're a very impressive group," said Major Lyn Edge, Sydney Congress Hall corps officer. "I asked people, 'What's one word to describe the night?' and the response was 'gratitude'. People were both deeply moved and full of joy and hope from the night."

The choir, with members ranging in age from six up to young adults, are part of the Watoto church and community in Uganda, Africa.

Each child from Watoto has

suffered the loss of either one or both parents, through disease or war. Along with their entertaining performances, some of the Watoto children shared their heart-breaking stories of loss and the joy they now have at being part of this unique community.

"The kids' gratitude for what they have when they've come from such trauma is beautiful," said Major Edge.

"The joy, the hope they showed on the night; they're there [at Watoto] because they've been left all alone and they were just [overflowing] with remarkable joy.

"I was also impressed by the kids' self-confidence to engage with adults.

"Outside the show, their social skills and confidence with adults

made me think they [Watoto] are doing this thing of raising leaders really well."

After missing out on the opportunity to host the Watoto Children's Choir the last time they were in Australia, Major Edge said she was eager to have them perform at Sydney Congress Hall after Year 12 school student and corps member Shushannah Anderson visited the Uganda ministry last year.

"Shushannah went with her school group on a mission trip as part of a building program and this just increased our interest in hosting them," said Major Edge.

To find out more about the Watoto Children's Choir, go to watoto.com

— Esther Pinn



DIVINE INSPIRATION

UNLOCKING THE ARMY'S ARCHIVES

The horror of war fought in the jungles of New Guinea was the unlikely background, says **Major DAVID WOODBURY**, to one of The Salvation Army's most cherished brass band compositions



▲ **TOP:** Arthur Gullidge photographed in his service uniform with his wife, Mavis, and daughter, Judith.

▲ **ABOVE:** Brunswick Salvation Army band under bandmaster Arthur Gullidge – 1939.

Arthur Gullidge is revered as one of The Salvation Army's noted composers and arrangers of brass band music.

Born on 9 April 1909 at Broken Hill, to Salvationist parents William and Emily Gullidge, he faced hardship early in life when his father was killed in a mine cave-in. His mother, who had previously been a Salvation Army officer, returned with young Arthur to her family home in Tasmania. She was later re-accepted as an active officer.

During his formative years, Arthur shared life in his mother's appointments in Salvation Army social homes, eventually becoming involved in Melbourne City Corps where the deputy bandmaster, Allen Sharp, gave him a cornet and took time to tutor him. Sharp was later to recall: "Before long, I had to confess to the young man that I had taught him all I knew. I could see that he wanted to delve into the mysteries of harmony and counterpoint to a degree beyond my knowledge. When, a few years later, I entered the Army's training college, Arthur [at 17 years of age] was appointed to the position I had occupied as deputy bandmaster."

A short appointment as bandmaster at Collingwood Corps

was followed by Gullidge taking up the baton at Brunswick Corps.

His growing interest in brass band music soon saw him composing music for both The Salvation Army and a secular publication, the *Regal Brass Band Journal*, under the name of W. Arthur Greendale.

Following the outbreak of World War Two, Gullidge enlisted with a number of his men from the Brunswick Corps band and together they formed the core of the 2/22nd Battalion Band. Members of the band, as stretcher bearers, soon faced the reality of war when they arrived with the battalion in Rabaul, New Guinea. It was here, amid the trauma of the battle field, that Gullidge was to write a piece of music that would forever regard him as one of the Army's great composers; *Divine Communion*.

Fellow Salvation Army bandsman, Wilfred Trigg, was to write from New Guinea: "Arthur has written a simple selection around two or three songs that I played one day down at Bonegilla, while amusing myself on the accordion – *All There is of Me*, *Sweet Will of God* and *Holy Spirit Faithful Guide*." Trigg then went on to make what was to become a classic understatement: "It is in the



The band of the 2/22 Battalion c.1941.

usual Gullidge style, but should prove very useful if he sends it for publication."

Divine Communion was, indeed, published, although Gullidge was never to see a printed manuscript. It went on to become one of the greatest pieces of music in the history of Salvation Army brass bands. Its sense of intimacy with God permeates the music, perhaps in a way that could only be inspired by the spectre of eternity that hung over Gullidge on the battlefields of New Guinea.

*All there is of me Lord, at thy feet I lay,
Now thy gracious purpose,
O fulfil I pray;
Each moment, Lord, be spent for thee
Thou shalt have all there is of me.*

*All there is of me, Lord,
all there is of me,
Time and talents, day by day,
all I bring to thee;
All there is of me, Lord,
all there is of me,
On thine altar here I lay,
all there is of me.*

*Sweet will of God, still fold me closer,
Till I am wholly lost in Thee.*

Holy Spirit, faithful Guide, ever near the Christian's side;

*Gently lead us by the hand,
pilgrims in a desert land.
Weary souls fore'er rejoice, while
they hear that sweetest voice,
Whispering softly, 'Wanderer, come,
follow Me, I'll guide thee home'.*

Over the years, many Salvation Army congregations have been drawn intrinsically to the throne of God by the simple yet powerful message of self-surrender, closeness to God and the assurance of eternal guidance.

The composition has recently been re-edited for smaller combinations and recorded afresh by the Army's International Staff Band.

Ultimate sacrifice

Gullidge, along with many of his fellow Brunswick bandsmen, was to pay the ultimate sacrifice.

On 23 January 1942, Japanese forces invaded Rabaul and of the 1400 Australians defending the town only around 400 made it safely back home. Arthur, with 15 of his fellow bandsmen, was taken prisoner by the Japanese and along with other prisoners of war, was embarked on the Japanese transport ship the *Montevideo Maru*. On 1 July 1942, the *Montevideo Maru* was torpedoed off the coast of

the Philippines by an American submarine. In what was one of Australia's greatest maritime disasters, 1053 prisoners lost their lives.

Commissioner Leslie Rusher, a cousin of Gullidge, in his book *Tuned to the Celestial Pitch*, pays a definitive tribute to the life and creative work of Arthur Gullidge who gave a distinctive "Gullidge sound" to the world of brass banding. "Cut off at its source by the tragedy at sea when Arthur was only 33 years old, the compelling sound has, for over half a century, continued to re-echo around the world, attracting people and drawing them toward the kingdom of God."

Perhaps it is in the way of God that in the crucible of war and suffering he wrings from a man's soul the riches of his spirituality.

In the years since the death of Arthur Gullidge, his music lives on, enriching the spiritual life of thousands around the world.



Major David Woodbury is *Pipeline's* founding editor



Big changes on the menu at Inala

By SIMONE WORTHING

In a bold move that has seen the traditional Sunday morning worship meeting at Inala Salvation Army come to an end, the corps has instead introduced a community breakfast.

Bible study home groups on Thursday nights, and a monthly non-traditional celebration service on Sunday afternoons, will replace the traditional morning worship meeting. Almost 70 people attended the first breakfast on 22 June.

"This is pioneering work for The Salvation Army," says Captain Lincoln Stevens who, with his wife, Captain Leanne Stevens, is Corps Officer at Inala. "It's not something that would work, though, in every Salvation Army church, but certainly in communities like Inala.

"We are aiming to give people

a really good meal, but we also want to get to know them, become their friends and create a sense of community and belonging with people they can trust.

"By doing this, over time we will see what issues and needs they have and can help direct them to the right support services. We believe that many will then want to come and do things with us, get to know our God and believe."

Vision for the lost

The Stevens' began their appointment at Inala in November last year, immediately seeking God for his direction. "God kept giving me the words 'community' and 'breaking of bread' and I kept praying, asking him to reveal what he meant," explains Captain Leanne.

At the same time, Captain Lincoln had a vision of a hall full of

people sharing a meal.

"We believe that God is taking us back to basics and doing what William Booth did in the early days of The Salvation Army, and certainly what Jesus did," says Captain Lincoln.

"We are still doing church; it just looks completely different to the norm."

After much prayer, Captains Lincoln and Leanne presented their vision to the leadership team at the Army's South Queensland divisional headquarters. Leadership, including Divisional Commander Major Mark Campbell, accepted and supported their plans. The Stevens' then shared their vision with the corps leadership.

"They have always had a heart for the community and were excited, but also a little apprehensive," says Captain Lincoln. "All in all they were very

◀ LEFT: Inala corps officers, Captain Lincoln and Leanne Stevens are building their ministry on community breakfasts.

▶ RIGHT: Generous ladies from the local community heard about the breakfasts at the corps and brought along hand-knitted beanies and scarves to give out.

▲ BELOW LEFT: Volunteers from the Inala Corps help serve a hearty meal to community members at the weekly breakfast.

▲ BELOW RIGHT: Much chatter and laughter can be heard at the breakfasts as people enjoy their meal and positive fellowship.



much in support of the new mission and direction for Inala Corps.

"We can invite people to church until we're blue in the face and some might come, but they often don't stay as it's a culture shock to them and they don't feel accepted.

"If we invite people to a free breakfast where they sit with a bunch of Christians, get to know them and can get help in life through the services we offer, then we can more naturally invite them to the Alpha course, Bible studies, Mainly Music and other things. We believe more people will want to come, than are coming now."

Relaxed atmosphere

Around 30 people regularly attend Inala Corps and many of them were rostered on for the first community breakfast to either help cook and serve food or chat with visitors.

"We didn't preach at them

[visitors] or make them feel pressured," says Captain Lincoln. "We just gave them a hearty breakfast and made sure they knew they were loved and accepted. If people wanted more information, we provided that or took down their contact details to follow up."

Information about Salvation Army services and corps activities was available on the tables.

The breakfast ran from 9-10am, with many staying to chat in a relaxed atmosphere until nearly midday. Three people have already indicated their interest in attending a Bible study while several others have asked for help with specific services. Many community members said they would be back with friends and relatives.

On Thursday nights, the corps runs Bible study home groups. These are currently taking place at the corps hall, with the ultimate

aim of splitting into small groups to meet in each other's homes.

"The aim is for the groups to become close and get deeper in their discussions, prayer and relationships with God and each other," says Captain Lincoln.

A monthly celebration service will also take place at the hall on Sunday afternoons.

"It will be more like a regular service, although still not traditional," he says.

"The main part will be a sharing time and celebrating answered prayers, changes for good in people's lives and, of course, when people give their lives to Christ.

"Our corps folk will still get their teaching and fellowship on Thursday nights, and more fellowship at the monthly service.

"Church is still Sunday morning, it just looks different!" □

Moving beyond the Christian cringe



LEFT AND ABOVE: Cuba Gooding Jr. stars as Samuel, a family man fighting his way to liberty, in the distinctly Christian story *Freedom*, which (right) centres on the slave trade which was at its height during the 18th and 19th centuries.



Mark Hadley is Pipeline's culture writer

August marks the release of *Freedom*, a distinctly Christian tale that details the extensive involvement of believers in redeeming men and women from American slavery. But will its release inspire churches to use the big screen to affirm faith and spread God's word, or represent another lost opportunity to the Gospel? Pipeline's culture writer **MARK HADLEY** explores the question

My first hint that the launch of the film *Freedom* was going to be something outside of the ordinary came from the invitation I received – or lack of it.

The directions came to me rather randomly, via a Christian friend. I remember thinking, "Do they want the media to know about this?" The second hint was the screening itself. Walking in, I realised *The Sydney Morning*

Herald was missing, as was *Empire Magazine*, and Margaret and David were nowhere to be seen. Instead, the seats were filled with people who looked more like churchgoers than film critics – which is exactly what they were. *Freedom* is a distinctly Christian story, and its makers are starting their campaign with those who should be the first to recognise its merits.

Freedom builds its tale around four slaves who escape from a Virginian plantation and their journey to the free North. Cuba Gooding Jr. stars as Samuel, a father and husband determined to fight his way to liberty. However, his mother Adira (Phyllis Bash) is a woman of faith who believes Samuel has to escape from a greater slavery than his chains.

As their journey progresses it becomes clear her son is caught up in a very Christian tale. His grandfather came to America on the ship that saw John Newton converted, and the songs they sing, including *Amazing Grace*, are Samuel's link to that heritage. Even the white men who risk their lives

for him do so because they believe in a higher judge than any the South has to offer.

Hollywood has produced many films about this dark period of history – *The Colour Purple*, *Amistad*, *12 Years A Slave* – but by its end *Freedom* has restored its faith-shaped context. Which is exactly why *Freedom*'s producers might choose to begin its launch within "the family" rather than trust it to the usual marketing methods. Hollywood doesn't have a good track record for understanding faith.

Box-office potential

The film industry woke up with a jolt to the potential of faith-based productions with the 2004 release of *The Passion of the Christ*.

Its \$30 million budget garnered a \$604 million return worldwide, making it the most successful independent production of all time.

The following year's *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* confirmed that potential – \$180 million in production costs returned \$739 million at the

box office. But try as it might, Hollywood has been unable to bottle that lightning. Faith-based stories like *The Blind Side*, apocalyptic action movies like *The Book of Eli* and retooled Bible stories like *Noah* all represent this desire to sell some aspect of Christianity to Christians. But the returns have never been spectacular, mainly because the movie-makers have misunderstood their audience.

Christian viewers look at faith-focused storylines differently to other demographics. For most films the goal is escapism; entertainment, pure and simple. But Christians see stories like these as opportunities to affirm what they believe. They sit in their cinema seats listening carefully, rather than letting go. And that, in part, explains why they can perversely be among the first to ridicule a faith-based production.

It's not enough for a story to convey the essence of a Christian life or a Bible story. This is not fantasy but real life to the ticket buyers, so scriptwriters have little margin for error. And so strong Christian franchises like *The Narnia*

Chronicles falter because instalments like *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* are criticised for drifting too far from their literary roots. But are Christian audiences in danger of forgetting what films are for?

Focus on God

The film *Freedom* has shortcomings that are hard to deny. It often surrenders its drama to poorly placed musical numbers. It's also hard to deliver the thrill of a life-threatening storm at sea without million-dollar effects to draw on. There's even an occasional sense of unreality created by the need to spare family audiences the real degradations of the slave trade. But the film does achieve what should be considered its primary goal: it makes us feel differently about a life built on God.

The most impressive characters are not the film's stars but its everyday Christians, like the Quaker who chooses to hide Negroes beneath his floorboards:

Tracker: You've broken a federal law!

Quaker: I but follow the dictates

of my conscience. We're just God-fearing folk, Mr Plympton.

Tracker: God-fearing folk are my biggest problem!

Freedom corrects the idea that a general love of humanity was enough to bring about the end of the slave trade. It makes you respect the bravery of little men who put God first, even in the face of guns. Believers are no longer baffled do-gooders, but bulldogs. And that, especially, is why Christians should be prepared to back Christian cinema.

The library is where we go to find facts; the Bible, the ultimate source of our knowledge of God.

Cinemas, though, are where we learn how to feel about a subject. We might cringe as actors strive to convey deeply personal convictions. But we forget that the unbelieving, postmodern world is still amazed that convictions exist. This is the question that should be levelled at every faith-based story: does it lead us to feel about God the way we should? Then that's enough to be getting on with. One good conversation will fill in the rest.

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Fiji challenges and inspires Menai mission team

A group from Menai Salvos in Sydney travelled to Taveuni, Fiji, last month on a two-week mission trip. The team was made up of 10 people, ranging in age from 13 to 40.

Menai and Taveuni have partnered as sister corps since 2012. Upon the team's arrival they were warmly welcomed by Captains Toto and Seva Wawa, the leaders of Taveuni Corps.

Over the fortnight they were in Fiji, the team made evangelical home visits to community members, shovelled sand for a new concrete driveway and ran youth, church, Sunday school and children's events.

"The activity that impacted me the most was the evangelical visits," said team member, Sian McIntosh. "We entered the houses of so many different people – Christian, non-Christian, Muslim, Hindu, those struck by disease or illness, birth deformities and just plain hard-working poor."

"Some hosts were more welcoming than others, some were familiar to the Fijians that accompanied us and some were not. Amazingly, we did not get turned away by anyone; apparently it is a common occurrence to not be allowed in."

"I was fascinated at how open the community was, whether of Christian faith or not, to hearing about Jesus. We just knew God's presence was in each home with every person we visited."

The team also enjoyed the opportunity to experience some recreational activities – some of them on the extreme side – and do some sightseeing.

"We were taken to a natural rock waterslide, swam near a blowhole and went on a four-hour hike up a



mountain to a volcanic lake – a wet, marshy, painful journey we won't forget anytime soon," said Sian.

One of the more prominent aspects of the team's trip was being able to spend time with Captains Toto and Seva and be inspired by their amazing ministry.

"Meeting such a warm, hospitable and godly couple is a rare, humbling opportunity," said Sian. "From the beginning of our trip they treated us as their own children. I have been inspired by the way that they purposefully choose to run their home – a comfortable family atmosphere that is so undeniably God-centred and driven by love."

Ten members of Menai Corps, the youngest just 13, spent two weeks ministering to communities in Fiji. Team leaders were Melissa Murphy, and Ally and Matt Godkin. Sian McIntosh (second row, second from left).

Warm-hearted response to winter coat appeal



By NATHALIA RICKWOOD

The people of NSW have literally given the coats off their backs in a generous response to an appeal to help keep those living on the streets warm this winter.

The "Coats for Everyone" appeal, run by McGrath Real Estate in conjunction with The Salvation Army, has

so far seen more than 2000 coats donated and more are arriving every day. The clothing has been donated at a drop-off box in Martin Place in the Sydney CBD, and at selected McGrath offices around the state.

The campaign is the vision of long-time McGrath Real Estate agent Bernadette Berlyn, who was moved to organise something after enduring a bitterly cold night last year when taking part in a sleep-out.

"In the first of year launching 'Coats For Everyone', I've been absolutely overwhelmed with the success and momentum we've achieved," she said. "I would not have reached my target to collect over 2000 warm coats without The Salvation Army's support."

The Army's Australia Eastern Territory Community Fundraising Director, Andrew Hill, has been delighted by the public response to the appeal.

"I watched as people took coats off their own back and donated them," he said. "Bernadette Berlyn from McGrath Real Estate is amazing. I'm so happy her original vision now means many people have warm coats this winter."

The Salvation Army will distribute the coats through various social service centres in Sydney, and send around 300 to centres in Bathurst and Orange.

LEFT: Samantha Brown (Westpac) and Charlene Hughes (BT team) with the racks of coats that were donated.

New facilities offer fresh approach for Ipswich

By SIMONE WORTHING

Ipswich Salvation Army has officially opened its new combined Family Store and Community Support Centre, which also incorporates an Indigenous Ministries Support Service.

"The move from the two old stores on the South and Ellenborough streets church property has trebled the size of our Family Store floor space and enabled us to have all our services under one roof," said Captain Greg Pack, Ipswich Corps Officer with his wife, Major Lenore Pack. "It's also given us a much better location in the centre of town."

"The amalgamation of our two community welfare offices, Ipswich and North Ipswich, onto this new site has made assisting the community with their needs both easier and more accessible for those without transport."

Ipswich Mayor Paul Pisasale officially opened the premises, offering to provide new shirts for the team of 20 volunteers.

The Army's South Queensland Divisional Commander, Major Mark Campbell, prayed a prayer of blessing and gratitude for all those who enter the new Family Store

and Community Support Centre.

The support services offered follow the Doorways philosophy of walking alongside clients.

"For our clients seeking assistance, coming into a building that looks like a shop is much less intimidating and gives them a much better feeling about themselves. We are working together to help our clients become self-sufficient and not rely on welfare," explained Captain Greg.

The merging of services in the new building reflects the unity of the faith and indigenous communities who now worship together at Ipswich Corps.

A special Acknowledgment and Thanksgiving Service to highlight the milestones of the past 10 years in indigenous ministries at North Ipswich Salvation Army took place in early July. Special guests at the service included Shayne Neumann, Member for Blair, and Lieutenant-Colonels Bert and Iris Hill who were part of the original Indigenous Ministry management team.

Local indigenous volunteers, Aunty Lee Thompson and Aunty Jenny Lee, took part in the service, and Major Rick Hoffman, Sth Qld Divisional Mission and Resource Director - Social, gave a message.



Councillor Andrew Antonioli; Sarah Millyard, Ipswich Family Store Manager; Councillor Paul Pisasale, Ipswich City Mayor; and Major Mark Campbell, South Queensland Divisional Commander, cut the cake to celebrate the opening of the new facility (top).

Freedom donation improving children's lives in Africa

A special collection, conducted at The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory's Freedom Celebration in September last year, raised more than \$17,000 for a school in Tanzania.

The impact of those generously donated funds is now being felt at the Army's Matumaini School in its Tanzania Territory, with a dilapidated medical dispensary now rebuilt and being used to improve the lives of the more than 200 physically disabled children at the boarding school.

"We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the donor[s] who sponsored this project," said Salvation Army International Development (SAID) Director Major Julie Alley.

The dispensary is overseen by a medical professional and offers basic health care to children such as simple wound care and treatments for malaria, colds and stomach bugs.

A new bathroom with a shower has also been installed to provide improved hygienic care for the children and an isolation room has also been built in



the dispensary, with many of the children at the school susceptible to contagious diseases such as pneumonia, chicken pox, dengue fever and tuberculosis.

"Previously, sick children were having to go back to the dorms which meant they would spread the sickness through the school," said Major Alley.

"With the construction of the isolation room this can now be controlled."

The official opening of the newly refurbished medical dispensary at The Salvation Army's Matumaini School in Tanzania was a huge boost for the 200 children who will benefit.

Youth thrive on intense musical training experience

By ESTHER PINN

Young people aged seven to 25 spent three days last month sharpening their skills at the inaugural Winter Music Intensive, hosted by Sydney Congress Hall Corps.

Twenty-two young people from Sydney-based corps and the local community, gathered from 2-4 July to be part of the intensive.

"It grew out of the passion of some people at Congress Hall for music and the desire that we offer our young people as much encouragement as we could for musical excellence," said Sydney Congress Hall Corps Officer, Major Lyn Edge.

"We were very much focusing on helping the kids really develop well. This included their personal musical skills as well as their performance skills."

There were two electives on offer; vocal, taught by professional singer and Adelaide Salvo, Sharon Raymond, and brass, which was led by Brian Hogg, music consultant for The Salvation Army's Australia Southern Territory.

"It was excellent to have leaders who stretched the kids," said Major Edge. "We were specifically looking at helping the kids' abilities. It was about developing them."

Winter Music Intensive also included a group vocal workshop



and a worship session that was led by Lieutenant Peter Gott, Divisional Youth Secretary for the Sydney East and Illawarra Division. Three musicians from Sydney Congress Hall - Sue Anderson, Phil Rees and Ash Sellers - also joined the workshops to offer teaching assistance.

At the end of the three days, delegates were given the opportunity to put into practice

what they had learned by giving a concert at Sydney Congress Hall for family and friends.

"Brian commented on how much all the kids improved and I was staggered at the quality of the concert," said Major Edge, who added that she received an overwhelmingly positive response from the delegates.

"Every kid said they would come back and invite their friends."

Day of prayer for victims of human trafficking

In support of The Salvation Army's Annual Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking 2014, its International Headquarters (IHQ) has made available a new selection of resources.

The resources can be found on the new anti-trafficking section of the IHQ website - www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/antitrafficking - and include promotional posters, a Bible study and sermon outline, PowerPoint presentation, prayer ideas and information about The Salvation Army's anti-trafficking ministry.

Sunday 28 September has been set aside as this year's day of prayer, when Salvation Army corps and centres around the world are encouraged to call on God, through focused prayer, to bring hope and freedom to the staggering number of people who are trafficked every year.

The statistics paint a grim and desperate picture:

- 1.2 million children are being trafficked every year; this is in addition to the millions already held (UNICEF)

- Every two minutes a child is being prepared for sexual exploitation (UNICEF)
- The average age of a trafficked victim is 12-14 years (United States Department of Justice)
- Approximately 30 million children have lost their childhood through sexual exploitation over the past 30 years (UNICEF)
- The total market value of illicit human trafficking is estimated to be in excess of \$32 billion [www.crisisaid.org/ICAPDF/Trafficking/traffickstats.pdf]
- Human trafficking is the fastest-growing business of organised crime and the third-largest criminal enterprise in the world.

This is the eighth year that The Salvation Army has specifically set aside a day to pray for the victims of trafficking.

As in 2011 and 2012, the Bible verse chosen as the theme for the 2014 day of prayer is Jesus' words from John 10:10: "I have come that they may have life."

BRISBANE STREETLEVEL MISSION

Team leader Major Bryce Davies has accepted three new adherents – Andy, Margaret and Rosie – at the weekly chapel service.

“It was a packed house and the love and joy of this amazing community was terrific,” said Major Davies. “Only God can do this stuff.”

Each of the new adherents gave a powerful testimony.

Andy volunteers each week at Streetlevel and is loving being part of the community. He has recently started a prison ministry, visiting those associated with Streetlevel who are serving time.

Rosie has been coming to Streetlevel for six months and is finding a place to belong after years of feeling she didn’t fit in anywhere.

Margaret has experienced many hard times in her life and she and her husband are regular volunteers at Streetlevel who love giving back to this caring community.



Major Bryce Davies accepts (left to right) Margaret, Andy and Rosie as adherents, supported by Janetta.

SINGLETON CORPS

Captain Peter Bennett has enrolled three new junior soldiers – Correena, Estelle and Ruby Cox.

Since Easter, a further 13 junior soldiers have been enrolled at the corps and another nine children are working on their junior soldier promises. Remarkably, these are the first junior soldiers at Singleton for more than 20 years.

Captains Peter and Leanne Bennett, Singleton Corps Officers and Red Shield Defence Services representatives, introduced both the junior soldiers program and Sunday services at the beginning of this year. Over the past two and a half years, they have commenced Kids Club and youth group activities. They average 22 children at junior soldiers on Sunday morning, more than 40 at Kids Club on Fridays, and between 15-25 young people attend youth group.

“When we started our appointment as corps officers two and a half years ago there were no functioning programs, no services and nothing was happening,” said Captain Leanne.

“It’s so exciting to see the turnaround in a corps that was going to close and is effectively now a new plant. We thank God for his amazing provision.”



LEFT: Captain Peter Bennett enrolls (left to right) Estelle, Correena and Ruby Cox, while Mark Cederblad holds The Salvation Army flag. **BELOW LEFT:** On Easter Sunday, Lieutenant Vanessa Hunt, Mission Director, Oasis Youth Network, Wyong, enrolled the first junior soldiers in the Singleton Corps for over 20 years: Left to right; Tupou More, Stephanie Cederblad, Terapii More, Taylor Bowman, Emma Compton, Olivia Munro, Georgia Smith, Brayden Smith and Lieut. Hunt; Back row: Captain Peter Bennett, Corps Officer, joins the new soldiers on stage.

SCHOOL FOR OFFICER TRAINING

Commissioner Jan Condon has enrolled five new junior soldiers – Kimberley Greenaway, Alexander Hartley, Isabel Smith, Emma Sutcliffe and Hannah Wang – at the School for Officer Training in Sydney.

The new junior soldiers shared their testimonies via video and also presented a song and dance item to those gathered for this special occasion.

Earlier in the year, Cadet Jodie Sutcliffe commenced the training college’s first junior soldiers program.

“Most of the kids at the college, and some other Salvo kids that lived locally, didn’t have a regular junior soldiers program they could attend,” she explained. “Now we have 10 junior soldiers who attend once a fortnight; five who are already enrolled and the five enrolled at this meeting.”



Commissioner Jan Condon enrolls (left to right) Hannah Wang, Emma Sutcliffe, Isabel Smith, Kimberley Greenaway and Alexander Hartley. The children are standing with their prayer partners, with Cadet Nicole Park holding The Salvation Army flag.

FORSTER/TUNCURRY CORPS

Captain Chad Pethybridge, Forster/Tuncurry Corps Officer with his wife, Captain Jodie, accepted two adherents, Wes and George, on Sunday 29 June.

“Since coming to the corps in January, George has immersed himself in the Word of God and has become like the Apostle Paul – his eyes have been opened and he has been leading others to faith in Christ!” said Captain Jodie.

One of these people was Wes, who now brings his children to

Sunday school and church.

Captain Chad is discipling the two men, and the corps is supporting them as their lives are transformed.

“These two are truly inspiring and contribute to the corps in many ways, not least of which is their testimony and desire for more of Christ,” said Captain Jodie.

“Please pray for our corps, that each of us would hunger more and more for Jesus as these men do each day.”



Captain Chad Pethybridge accepts Wes (left) and George (centre) as adherents.

WODEN VALLEY CORPS

Corps Officer Captain Vannessa Garven has enrolled six new junior soldiers – Jennifer Boyle, Fergus and Hugo Keating, Isaiah and Patriah Mini, and Lucius Shaw.

“The kids are all very excited about being enrolled,” said Captain Garven. “They are active in the corps and in Kids Club and they all collected for the Red Shield Appeal in their uniforms. They love coming to junior soldiers and are already working hard towards their bronze awards.”

Five junior soldiers – Connor Anderson, Joanna Boyle, Dyllan Morgan, Zachary Muggeridge and Natalie Turner – also re-signed their promise in front of many family and friends.

“The corps is blessed and excited to have so many junior soldiers,” added Captain Garven. “The corps believes it is important to invest in and disciple our children and junior soldiers is an avenue in which we can do this.”



(Back row, left to right) Captain Vannessa Garven, Zachary Muggeridge, Connor Anderson, Dyllan Morgan and junior soldiers leader Bev Shaw; (middle row) Isaiah Mini, Natalie Turner, Hugo Keating and Joanna Boyle; (front row) Fergus Keating, Lucius Shaw, Patriah Mini and Jennifer Boyle.

Warmth of God's love melts hearts in Jindabyne

For the third consecutive year, two teams gathered at The Memorial Hall in Jindabyne for 13 days last month to take part in the Salvos Snow Mission.

"We praise God for the way he moved. The Gospel was shared in word and action and lives were transformed," said Captain Louise Nicholson, Cooma Corps Officer.

While Snow Mission visitors came for a free hot meal, many also enjoyed the opportunity to relax, meet other people in a safe environment and connect with the Snow Mission's friendly team members.

"In this environment many asked, 'Why do you do this?' and doors were opened to talk about Jesus," explained Captain Nicholson.

Many who asked this question last year, returned to the 2014 Snow Mission and brought along some friends. Annie, one of the Snow Mission's international visitors, brought a few friends and left saying she was going to join The Salvation Army in Taiwan, when she returns home at the end of the season.

"People wanted to know more about Jesus, they asked us to pray for their families and they wanted to know more about The Salvation Army," said Captain Nicholson.

The Snow Mission team created a home away from home environment for the visitors. As people relaxed in recliner chairs and sofas, some asked if they could move in. Others played board games, built jigsaws, played Xbox or Wii and enjoyed conversation. The goal of creating an environment for God's love to shine through was achieved.

More than 1000 cards were handed out with the message of the Gospel, The Salvation Army's web address and contact details for Cooma Corps in an effort to continue the mission throughout the winter

season and beyond.

The entire mission has been covered in prayer since its inception and the planning team was intentional about creating an environment that would encourage mission team members to be spiritually enriched. Each morning Salvation Army pastoral care officers, Majors David and Lea Palmer, led devotions for the team.

Afternoon praise and worship was also held at The Memorial Hall each afternoon at 4pm and Sunday worship was held at 2pm.

As team members from Canberra, Sydney, Cooma and Jindabyne found opportunities to impact the lives of those who came to the Snow Mission, many also travelled the road of transformation as God began to thaw the hearts of those they ministered to.

BELOW: Snow Mission team workers offered a place of food and conversation in a relaxed environment at Jindabyne.



Commissioner measures justice at annual Coutts Memorial Lecture

Commissioner Christine MacMillan spoke at the annual Frederick Coutts Memorial Lecture this year on the topic "Where Justice is the Measure".

The Commissioner, who retired from active service in 2012 after her final appointment as Director of The Salvation Army's International Social Justice Commission in New York, continues to be a strong voice for social justice and works with the World Evangelical Alliance as the Senior Advisor for Social Justice and the Chair of the Global Trafficking Taskforce.

Commissioner MacMillan delivered her lecture at the Booth

College Conference Centre on 10 July and at the Carindale Corps in Brisbane on 13 July.

The Commissioner focused on Jesus as the ultimate example of justice and the one who, throughout his ministry, was never afraid to speak the truth and always included the excluded, challenged cultural practices, confronted the powerful and advocated for the oppressed.

"We, too, have to fight for justice, to be in it for the long term, and not be afraid to speak up against the injustices we see all around us," she said.

"We should be getting mad at

injustice and acting on the things that make us mad; living right while righting wrongs and understanding that, if we're doing this, being misunderstood will just become incidental."

Commissioner MacMillan encouraged the Church to listen to stories of injustice, to relive them and take on the horrors they reflected in order to fight against them and be the voice of justice in the world.

She issued a challenge to consider some probing questions in the context of fighting injustice, like "What happens when who we are is no longer who we were?"

As in the early days of The Salvation Army, Commissioner MacMillan encouraged the Church to pose a threat to dominant culture because of our views towards poverty and injustice.

"Let's not have a sentimental and traditional view of charity," she emphasised. "Let's also champion the voices of the suffering and brand the authentic lives of believers in Christ, as well as The Salvation Army."

The Commissioner stressed the need to re-write the stories of injustice and interweave God's love and salvation in the darkness. Hear the lecture at: boothcollege.edu.au/about-us/events/archives-coutts-memorial-lecture/

General encourages congress delegates in Canada

By PAMELA RICHARDSON

Escorted to the platform by two of Canada's world-famous Mounties – officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police – General André Cox (The Salvation Army's world leader) and Commissioner Silvia Cox (World President of Women's Ministries) were greeted with enthusiastic applause as they joined thousands of Salvationists at the Canada and Bermuda Territorial Congress 2014 in Mississauga, Ontario.

A poignant moment saw representatives of Canada's First Nations, cloaked in traditional garments, speak words of welcome and present gifts to the General and Territorial Commander, Commissioner Brian Peddle.

Acknowledging the importance and place of children and young people in The Salvation Army, a number of congress events were planned just for them, including Sunday morning's Kids' Church and a youth concert by contemporary Christian musician Tim Neufeld. "As I look around the room," said the General at the concert, "I see the potential not only to change Canada, but to change the world."

On the Saturday afternoon, 17 cadets of the *Disciples of the Cross* session and one auxiliary-captain were ordained and commissioned by the territorial commander.

"They have entered into a covenant relationship with God and that first step of their journey has begun," Commissioner Peddle told the congregation.

During Sunday morning's holiness meeting, which took the theme "One Message", the General challenged Salvationists to take what they had seen and heard throughout the congress weekend and to use it for God's glory.

"What's going to change in your life because you came here?"



General André Cox, waving the Boundless 2015 flag, and Colonel Mark Tillsley, chief secretary for the Canada and Bermuda Territory, with the Army's colours, encouraged Salvationists to attend The Salvation Army's international congress next July in London, England. Photo: Timothy Cheng

he asked. "How are you going to respond?"

Many people accepted his invitation to kneel at the mercy seat in re-dedication of their lives to God's service.

In the afternoon, Salvationists gathered for a "sending out" service, the final meeting of the congress. In her Bible message, Commissioner Cox spoke about the importance of bearing witness to God's goodness. "We have to say what the Lord has done," she exclaimed.

Submissions wanted for Boundless Film Festival

Next year's Boundless 2015 international congress in London will include some unexpected and innovative programing, among which is the Boundless Film Festival, celebrating Salvation Army film-making from around the world.

Whether it's a gripping drama, cutting-edge animation or riveting documentary, the International Congress office wants to see the best examples of innovative, high-quality film-making. Submissions should be based around the congress theme: Boundless – The Whole World Redeeming.

A panel of judges will review all submissions before choosing a group of films that best represent the theme, with entries being

broken into two age categories – 25 and under, and 26 and over.

The best films will be shown on the big screen at The O2's Cineworld Cinema, where three screens – the largest of which can be viewed by 750 people – have been set aside for the congress. The new films will be shown alongside a selection of archive footage and professionally made documentaries.

Films must be no longer than 15 minutes in length and all entries must be submitted by 30 April 2015. If it's not in English, the film must be subtitled.

Full details, guidelines and rules, go to www.boundless2015.org/boundless/film_festival

Young Salvos to converge on Cologne

More than 500 young Salvationists, aged from 15-25, will gather near Cologne, Germany later this month for the Army's European Youth Event.

The event, known as EYE2014, has the theme "Vision and Action" and has attracted delegates from 24 countries.

General André Cox (The Salvation Army's world leader) and Commissioner Silvia Cox (World President of Women's Ministries) will take part in the main celebration meetings.

During the four-day event, which starts on Thursday 14 August, there will be Bible studies focusing on the Old Testament man of "vision and action", Nehemiah.

Delegates will also be able to attend three out of 24 seminars which focus on a variety of issues under the headings of body, mind and soul.

The main meetings and Bible studies will be live-streamed at sar.my/tv.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Faithful worker



Rod and Deb Parsons.

Tributes were given by Jeanette Eirth, on behalf of the corps, and a family tribute was read by Captain Dulcie Cocks.

Sylvia Edith White was born into a Christian family, the second daughter of Phyllis and Arthur White, at West End, Brisbane, on 3 August 1928.

She attended West End Corps and was a company guard, timbrellist and corps cadet guardian for several years. She was a competent stenographer, having worked at King and King's Music Store, RACQ and later at McDonald, Wagner and Priddle – Consulting Engineers. She spent some time in Townsville, where the climate better suited her health, and was involved in work with young people as well as other duties in the corps.

Sylvia had several trips overseas and in 1977 she resided in Liverpool, England where she worked in a bookstore for 15 months and attended Rock Ferry Corps.

After her father passed away suddenly in 1978, Sylvia came back to Brisbane.

In 1981 there was another extended trip overseas and during this time the family relocated to Mt Warren Park.

On her return to Australia, Sylvia gave up her work to care for her mother. After her mother passed away in 1986, while on a holiday to Albury she visited the corps where she felt “at home”. With West End Corps having been closed, she decided to move permanently to Albury.

While there she was responsible for the weekly newsletter, doing this work conscientiously for six years, and later worked in the corps office. She helped

with junior soldier classes and also became corps secretary for some time until her health prevented her from continuing in that position. She passed away on 20 July last year.

She is remembered by her surviving sisters, Marjorie (Mrs Berghofer), Thelma White and Major Daphne White. Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

A life well lived



Charles Ryder was promoted to glory on 19 June, aged 91. Following a private family cremation, a service of celebration of his life, led by Major Stan Evans, was held at Gosford Corps, attended by a large congregation.

Major Evans spoke of the special spirit that Charles displayed, saying how he did not often testify in words but his lifestyle showed how he “lived for Jesus”.

Captain Megan Couchman (corps officer) shared prayer at the beginning of the service. Kevin Reddie, who helped Charles write his autobiography, presented the corps tribute. Several family members, including nephews and grandchildren, brought tributes and Gosford Corps band accompanied the service bringing their special tribute, “*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me*”.

Joe Harmer (brother-in-law) read from the scriptures and Captain Adam Couchman (corps officer) shared a Bible message based on Galatians 5:13-26 – the fruit of the Spirit. The concluding hymn was *To God Be The Glory*.

Charles was a well-known Mini Cooper S owner and driver. He became the founder of the Mini Club of Australia and drove all around the country in rallies including the “Cannon Ball Run”.

Charles had imported the very first Mini Cooper to Australia. Several mini-

car enthusiasts attended, bringing their special cars with them to form a guard of honour.

Charles was born in Osmotherly, Yorkshire, England, on 30 September 1922. Here he would learn his trade as a motor engineer at the family business, Ryder's Garage.

In 1941, two months before his 18th birthday, he volunteered to go to war with the Royal Air Force where he served with distinction in Africa, the Middle East and Southern Europe for over four years.

He became a wartime pen pal with Joyce Eaton. They had a courtship of four years and went on to marry in Chingford on 21 June 1947. In January 1951, they welcomed Allyson, and then Oriel in July 1955 to complete their family.

In 1957, Charles and his family moved to Australia to begin a new life, setting up home in Melbourne, then Moree and finally settling on the Central Coast of NSW, establishing “Ryder's Garage” in each place.

Charles was married to Joyce for 47 happy years. Following her passing, in 1994, Charles married Evelyn Walz in 1997. He was so enthused with Evelyn's style of worship in The Salvation Army that he wanted to become a member himself. Charles was enrolled as a soldier in 1997.

Charles quickly became involved in the Army, conducting a street ministry at Erina Fair shopping centre with Evelyn every Friday for eight years. Every Sunday, his welcoming style of Christianity encouraged all who knew him.

Charles was a regular member of the corps' men's fellowship group. Several times he was the guest speaker, sharing his experiences of car racing and from World War Two.

He became known as a “Genuine English Gentleman”.

about people

Appointments

Effective 30 June: Major Paul **Moulds**, Consultant, Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Social (pro-tem); Major Robbin **Moulds**, Assistant Officer, Maroubra Corps, Sydney East and Illawarra Division (pro-tem).

Effective 3 July: Lieutenant Belinda **Atherton-Northcott**, Divisional Mission Support Officer, The Greater West Division.

Bereaved

Captain Karen **Keddie** of her grandmother Major Thelma **Roberts** on 26 June; Major Tony **De Tommaso** of his father, Vincenzo **De Tommaso** on 29 June; Lieutenant Ged **Oldfield** of his brother on 1 July; Captain Ben **Wakpi** of his grandfather on 9 July. Major Maggie **Smith** of her mother, Margaret **Wright** on 17 July; Captain Daniel **Ross** of his grandfather, Cyril **Ross** on 17 July.

Birth

Lieutenants David and Tahlia **Grounds**, a boy, Frederick Thomas, on 15 July.

Engagement

Captain Zane **Haupt** to Ayly **Steep**.

Married

Major Colin **Maxwell** to Jan **Geaney** on 28 June.

Promoted to glory

Brigadier Beth **Drew** on 26 June; Lieut-Colonel Philip **Cairns** on 16 July.

Promotion

To Major: Captain Deon **Oliver** on 23 June.

Recognition

Major Lillian **Hodge**, Major Tony **De Tommaso**, Major Kaye **Townsend**, Envoy Ian **Kelly**, Major Christine **Tamsett**, Major Graham **Tamsett** have been recognised as Paul Harris Fellows.

Resignation

Lieutenants Ged and Jeanie **Oldfield** on 8 July.

Title change

Major Topher **Holland** from Territorial Director for Strategic Disaster Management to Territorial Director for Strategic Disaster Response.

time to pray

27 July – 2 August

Captain Kaye Barber, Australia Southern Territory; Noosa Shire Crisis Housing Program, North Brisbane, both Qld; North NSW Divisional Headquarters, North NSW Chaplains, Northern Beaches Aged Care Services, Northern Rivers Corps Based Transformation, all NSW; Territorial Communications and Public Relations Conference (28-30 July); Youth Ministry Conference, Sydney (1-3 Aug); Salvos Stores Review (1 Aug).

3-9 August

Northside Corps, Oasis Youth Residential Service, both ACT; Oasis Young Centre Wyong, Oasis Youth Network Hunter, Oasis Youth Support Network, Sydney, Orange Corps, all NSW; Brengle Conference, Geelong (5-14); Central and North Qld Division Review (8); Sydney Staff Songster Weekend, Nambour (9-10).

10-16 August

Colonel Geanette Seymour, The Salvation Army International Social Justice Commission; Northlakes Corps, Panania Corps, Parramatta Corps, all NSW; Outback Flying Service, Palm Beach Elanora Corps, both Qld; Salvos Women Tanzania Trip (14-26); ACT and South NSW Division Review (15).

17-23 August

Hong Kong and Macau Command; Pastoral Care and Officer Well-Being Team, Personnel Administration, both THQ; Penrith Corps, Petersham Corps, both NSW; Pindari Services, Qld.

24-30 August

Pine Rivers Corps, Qld; Port Kembla Mission, Port Macquarie Corps, Port Stephens Corps, all NSW; Positive Lifestyle Programs, Program Administration, both THQ; Junior Soldier Renewal Day (24); Officers 19-20 Year Review (25-28); Youth and Kids Ministry Conference, Qld (29-31).

31 August – 6 September

Property Department, Red Shield Defence Services, both THQ; Queanbeyan Corps, Raymond Terrace Corps, both NSW; Redcliffe City Corps, Riverview Gardens/Warrina Village Aged Care Services, both Qld; South Queensland Division Review (4-5).

7-13 September

Captains Glenn and Julia Price, Eastern Europe Division; Rockdale Corps, Rouse Hill Corps, Ryde Corps, Sal's By The Lake, all NSW; Roma Corps (Qld); Father's Day (7); Wider Cabinet (8-10); Divisional Mission and Resource Team Leaders Forum (12).

engagement calendar

Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

Bundamba: Sun 3 Aug – Retirement Salute, Majors Rod and Denice Strong.

Riverview: Sun 3 Aug – Riverview Boys Home Reunion.

Geelong: Tues 5 Aug – Inter-Territorial Executive Meeting.

Geelong: Tues 5 Aug – Brengle Institute (Welcome Dinner).

Rockhampton: Fri 8 Aug – Divisional Review.

Sydney: Mon 11 Aug – Officers Three-Year Review.

Sydney: Wed 13 Aug – Salvos Women Tanzania Mission Trip Launch.

Sydney: Thu 14 Aug – Territorial Advisory Board.

*Sydney: Fri 22 Aug – Australian Christian Lobby Strategy Meeting.

Sydney: Sat 23-Sun 24 Aug – Sydney-wide Youth Councils.

Sydney: Mon 25 Aug – Officers 20-Year Review.

Gold Coast: Tues 26 Aug – Red Shield Defence Services Dinner Biennial Conference .

Sunshine Coast: Sat 30-Sun 31 Aug – Youth and Kids Ministry Conference.

*Commissioner James Condon only

#Commissioner Jan Condon only

Colonel Richard Munn (Chief Secretary)

Sydney: Fri 1 Aug – Review, Salvos Stores.

Geelong: Tues 5 Aug – Inter-Territorial Consultation and Brengle for Officers Welcome Dinner and Worship Meeting.

Wagga Wagga: Sun 10 Aug – Corps visit.

Canberra: Fri 15 Aug – Divisional Review, ACT and South NSW Division.

Collaroy: Mon 25 Aug – Officers 20-Year Review Dinner.

Collaroy: Fri 29-Sun 31 Aug – Ryde Corps retreat.

SALVOS LEGAL. PROPERTY LAW WITH A DIFFERENCE

It's not our lawyers who are different – it's what comes next that is.

Let's face it – Sydney is expensive. Whether it's a residential or commercial property, your first home, an investment or a business, there's a lot at stake. At Salvos Legal, we'll provide you with the highest level of property law services. It's what you'd expect from a team led by a property law specialist accredited by the Law Society of NSW. It's also what you'd expect from the Salvos.

But there's something else we can do together. Many people in the community desperately need legal assistance. Unfortunately, not all of them can afford it. By using the funds we receive from providing you with expert property and conveyancing services, we can ensure that everyone has access to legal services and access to justice – no matter what field of law they require.

If you're buying or selling property, you know you can trust Salvos Legal. And together, we can give hope to others as well.

We call it justice, together.

For expert conveyancing and property services contact:

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85 Campbell St,
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