

pipeline



BOUNDLESS 2015

I HAVE A DREAM

GENERAL'S GLOBAL VISION FOR THE SALVATION ARMY

► **TASTE OF HEAVEN**

CAPTAIN TARA MCGUIGAN

► **FREEDOM OF SPEECH**

MARK HADLEY

► **FROM DUBBO TO SIBERIA**

BILL SIMPSON



AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY
AUGUST 2015
VOLUME 19 | ISSUE 8
PIPELINEONLINE.ORG



COMMISSIONING & CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER

10.00am - Commissioning & Ordination
2.30pm - Sending Out

University of Western Sydney
James Ruse Drive, Parramatta NSW
(Enter via Victoria Road)

Leaders: Commissioners James and Jan Condon
Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell



GRADUATION OF MESSENGERS OF LIGHT

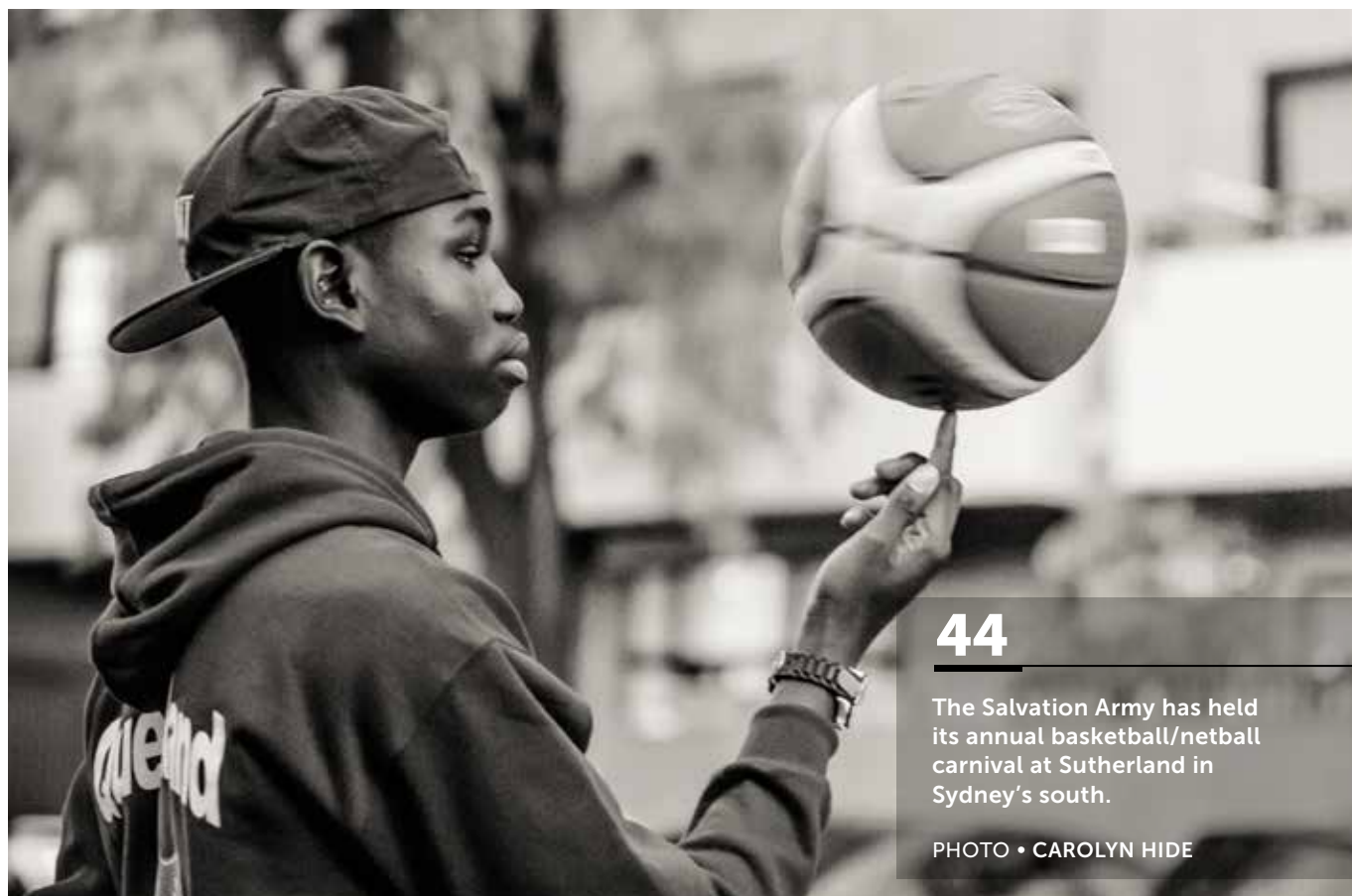
Thursday 19 November, 7.00pm
The Salvation Army Campsie
23 Anglo Road, Campsie NSW

COVENANT DAY *INVITATION ONLY

Thursday 26 November

PRINCIPALS RECEPTION & SILVER STAR LUNCH *INVITATION ONLY

Saturday 28 November, 12.30pm



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The Salvation Army has held its annual basketball/netball carnival at Sutherland in Sydney's south.

PHOTO • CAROLYN HIDE

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General André Cox has used Boundless to urge Salvationists to embrace his vision for the international Army

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The Australia Eastern Territory is placing renewed emphasis on raising up a new generation of leaders

The Salvation Army | WILLIAM BOOTH, Founder

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Taking God at his word

SCOTT SIMPSON • MANAGING EDITOR

Many years ago, God wrote a book. We call it the Bible. To my knowledge, and despite some claims to the contrary over the past few millennia, it's the only book he wrote. God, it seems, was pretty pleased with his work and didn't feel a need to divinely inspire a sequel or, perhaps, a spin-off series.

What can be confusing for those less familiar with scripture is that although Christians believe that God wrote the Bible – or at least, they should – it actually has many different "contributors". From Moses (the first five books of the Bible) through to John (the last book, Revelation), God has used humans to write down what he wants us to know. This – and the fact that *all* of scripture is God's handiwork – is confirmed in well-known Bible verses such as 2 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Peter 1:20-21.

In his book, God provides us with a model for living what his son, Jesus, calls the most fulfilling life possible (John 10:10). To achieve this, however, requires sticking to the plan. Sadly, God's rules for humanity – his plan – have led many to write him off as a killjoy; a kind of fun-denying, overbearing deity who is determined to suck as much enjoyment out of our lives as he can. His plan, they believe, is just a series of "don'ts".

Admittedly, God's summary of the "rules", the Ten Commandments, each begins with the words, "Do not". And to the casual observer they could read like a long list of restrictions. But to interpret them this way is to fail to grasp the intention of a loving and merciful God. His purpose for his "rules" is to protect us. By saying don't, what he is doing is warning us, "Don't hurt yourself". He then leaves it up to us to decide whether we want to follow his plan.

STAND FIRM

In this issue of *Pipeline*, we bring you the remarkable stories of two Australian families who have embraced "the plan", taken God at his word and stepped out in trust. Their journeys have led them a long way from home and probably even further out of their comfort zones. But for both these families, despite the obvious fears and uncertainties they must, at times, encounter, God, and his word, are sufficient.

These are days when all Christians need to stand solidly on biblical teaching about God's good and beautiful plan for the world and the people who populate it, without any swagger or fear. Our culture is in the midst of a passionate pursuit of self-destruction. Our demeanour should be a mixture of sorrow, compassion, anger, and total confidence that God is in control and will attain his purposes. ¶

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Direct
from the **TC**

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Commissioner Peddle new Chief of the Staff

CANADIAN OFFICER TO BE GENERAL'S SECOND-IN-COMMAND



Commissioners Brian and Rosalie Peddle will take up their new international leadership roles in November.

General André Cox, the world leader of The Salvation Army, has announced who is to become the next Chief of the Staff of the worldwide Army. The General has made the decision that Commissioner Brian Peddle will take over as the new "Chief" in November, replacing Commissioner William Roberts who will retire from active service as a Salvation Army officer. Commissioner Rosalie Peddle has also been given a new appointment as World Secretary for Women's Ministries. She will take over from Commissioner Nancy Roberts who is also entering retirement.

"After a great deal of prayer, reflection and, as you would expect, wide consultation with senior colleagues, I have decided to make the following appointments," said the General in his official statement. "Commissioner Brian Peddle, an officer of the Canada and Bermuda Territory currently serving as International Secretary for the Americas and Caribbean at International Headquarters (IHQ), is appointed as Chief of the Staff, effective 1 November 2015. Commissioner Rosalie Peddle, also from the Canada and Bermuda Territory and currently serving as Zonal Secretary for Women's Ministries, Americas and Caribbean Zone, is appointed as World Secretary for Women's Ministries at IHQ, also from 1 November 2015.

"It is of vital importance for the General of The Salvation Army to be supported in ministry and leadership by a trusted colleague who can effectively and efficiently fulfil the role of the

Chief of the Staff. I have been richly blessed thus far in my term as General to be supported in this way by Commissioner William Roberts. Commissioner Silvia Cox has appreciated the support of Commissioner Nancy Roberts in relation to the work of women's ministries. As the commissioners move towards the conclusion of their active service as officers, we salute them, thank them and pray for them God's richest blessing upon their lives as they continue to fulfil their lifelong calling to serve God."

The Peddles have served as Salvation Army officers since the mid-1970s, in a variety of ministry appointments – corps and divisional leadership, youth and training work – including service as divisional leaders in New Zealand and as chief secretary/territorial secretary for women's ministries in the UK. They led their home territory (Canada and Bermuda) with distinction and vision for more than three years before coming to their present appointments in 2014.

"I believe that the Lord's hand is upon these godly comrades, and that as they once again lay their lives before the One who called and ordained them for ministry, they will experience a new touch of Holy Spirit power that will enable them for the increased leadership responsibilities to which they are now appointed," said the General. "Please join me in praying God's rich blessing upon Commissioners Brian and Rosalie Peddle as they take up their significant leadership roles at the heart of the worldwide Army."

The Chief of the Staff is appointed by the General to be second-in-command of the international Salvation Army. The first Chief was Bramwell Booth, eldest son of Salvation Army founders William and Catherine Booth. Commissioner Brian Peddle will be the 26th Chief of the Staff, and only the second to have been born in Canada (the other being Bramwell Tillsley). Three other Chiefs were born in the UK but classed as Canadian Salvation Army officers because they entered training in Canada – Arnold Brown, William John Dray and John McMillan. ¶

Boundless salvation for you and for me

COMMISSIONER JAMES CONDON RECOUNTS HIS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AND THE IMPACT IT MADE FOR GOD AND THE SALVATION ARMY AROUND THE WORLD

COMMISSIONER JAMES CONDON IS TERRITORIAL COMMANDER OF THE AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY



Leading the Australia Eastern Territory delegation to The Salvation Army's 150th anniversary congress, known as Boundless, will go down as one of the highlights of my life. Add to that celebrating, worshipping the living God, connecting and reconnecting with people from across the world – indeed, people from 126 countries – 15,000-plus people who attended the congress provided a very colourful parade when they wore their national uniforms.

A poignant moment for me was when we sang the words penned by the late General John Gowans: "They shall come from the east, they shall come from the west and sit down in the Kingdom of God." Looking across the O2 Arena as I sang, I saw those people from many nations, people who have amazing stories to tell of God's boundless salvation, people who have been redeemed, transformed, given a future and a hope, and one day we will sit down in the Kingdom of God with them. There were many highlights of the congress for me. To name just a few:

- The inspiring messages of General André Cox, who spoke with a passion and conviction. Just a few days after returning from London, I attended Maroubra Corps and the congregation watched the General's message from the

closing meeting of the congress. It was good to sit in a small congregation and experience again the powerful message of our international leader.

- It was a moment of great pride as the Order of the Founder was presented posthumously to General Eva Burrows. This certainly came as a complete surprise to the great crowd who gave a standing ovation to our beloved General who grew up here in Australia and went to the Army's officer training college from Tighes Hill Corps.
- Another highlight was the musical *Covenant*, produced by the USA Western Territory. It was a great kaleidoscope of God's Army at its best, reaching the hurting, the broken, the lonely, the lost, the dispossessed. It was truly an inspirational musical.
- The Officers Councils was very special for those who share this common calling and covenant gathering, again from 126 countries. What a unique bond and fellowship is ours.
- Another highlight for me was the march down The Mall, as my wife Jan and I led the representative delegates in the march. It was on a beautiful Sunday

*I saw those people from many nations,
people who have amazing stories to tell
of God's boundless salvation, people who
have been redeemed, transformed, given
a future and a hope ...*

afternoon that we marched and took the salute from General Cox. Again, a proud moment. The police estimated a crowd of 30,000 people lined The Mall to watch and cheer on those who participated in the march.

I was interested to read the statistics from the Boundless website, noting that there were more than 500,000 views across 157 countries, with 50,000 people alone watching the opening session. While all 126 countries in which The Salvation Army has an official presence were represented at the O2 Arena, online participants added a further 31 countries to the tally. From Cyprus to Kazakhstan and Somalia to Saudi Arabia – tens of thousands of people swelled the numbers keen to follow events in London every step of the way. Scores used the website to record that they had committed their lives to Jesus, rededicated themselves to God or responded to a call to Salvation Army officership. What an opportunity we continue to have to spread the good news of the Gospel through social media!

The inspiration of the congress will live on. I continue to read stories of people who have returned with renewed vision, fresh spiritual vitality, renewed commitment to justice and reaching the poor and fulfilling God's calling on this Salvation Army. In this issue of *Pipeline* others have written about their experience of attending the Boundless congress. Again, I thank God for the privilege that was ours, for Jan and I to lead the Australia Eastern Territory delegation.

I pray that over the months ahead our territory will catch something of the fire of the Holy Spirit that has been reignited through celebrating God's faithfulness of the last 150 years. God raised up The Salvation Army and he hasn't finished with us yet. The best is yet to be and the Lord says, in Isaiah 43:19: "Watch! I'm about to carry out something new! And now it's springing up – don't you recognise it? I'm making a way in the wilderness and paths in the desert." (*International Standard Version*)

God bless this international Salvation Army.
God bless the Australia Eastern Territory. ¶



01



02

01.
The colour and pageantry as the international Salvation Army marches down The Mall in London.

02.
Commissioners James and Jan Condon, flanked by Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell, lead the Australia Eastern Territory delegation in the march down The Mall.

Why we proclaim salvation

CONTINUING A SERIES ON THE SALVATION ARMY'S
11 ARTICLES OF FAITH WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF ITS
INTERNATIONAL DOCTRINE COUNCIL, WE FOCUS
ON THE FIFTH FOUNDATIONAL DOCTRINE

WORDS • COLONEL JOHNNY KLEMAN

Sin can be very physical and concrete in the way it appears in an evil world, but the reasons behind sin are often much more theoretical – so we use metaphors, symbols and images, to try to formulate what is spiritual and abstract. We also need to look at the reasons for, and consequences, of sin from different viewpoints to get a more complete understanding of what it is. Scripture is full of historical events and stories that give us these different perspectives. They paint complementary pictures that we are able to interpret into knowledge, and into theology which help us to understand God and ourselves better. They have been interpreted and understood in various ways by men and women in contrasting cultures over the centuries. This is also true when we try

to understand man's broken relationship with God. The British evangelical, John Stott, shared some helpful wording in his book *The Cross of Christ*. "The essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for man. Man asserts himself against God and puts himself where only God deserves to be; God sacrifices himself for man and puts himself where only man deserves to be. Man claims prerogatives which belong to God alone; God accepts penalties which belong to man alone."

Based on the creation story, the apostle John and, later, other apologists like Irenaeus and Origen, proclaimed that all humans were created completely good and in the image of God: "God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them ..." (Genesis 1:27-28).

However, the first generations of Christians also communicated with others and sometimes argued with philosophers, sceptics and members of other religions about their faith – just like us. Thinkers like Plato, and religions like the different branches of Gnosticism, had dualistic views of human existence. They argued that the human body was evil, but contained a divine spark or an image of God embedded in the soul of man. We find similar dualistic arguments today, when people say that we are basically good and do not need salvation, or that we are "just human", with the conclusion that no one can blame or change our human nature.

THE NATURE OF SIN

Although we are created in the image of God, it is also true that this image has been distorted. In Genesis chapter 3 the story continues, and Adam and Eve become sinners. The Greek term the New Testament uses for sin,

We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness, and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

(The fifth doctrine of The Salvation Army)

αμαρτία (amartia), means that we are missing the mark and have not reached our goal; our fullest potential.

This already gives us new illustrations and perspectives to help us understand the doctrine. Other pictures that concern the alienation of man include images of humans who are: fallen, naked, enslaved, guilty, indebted, captured by sin, blind, in darkness, or spiritually dead. These illustrations help us think wider and create broader associations in relation to the images we use.

These metaphors also give us a broader understanding and provide answers to the questions of why we are sinners, and what is the nature of sin. Images and stories can also lead us to extend our thinking in a wrong direction and arrive at false conclusions. Therefore, it is important that, in studying Scripture, we communicate with God, and with others from different contexts

and cultures and learn the lessons of history, so that we are able to better understand God's love and the nature of sin.

At different stages of the history of the Church, theologians like Tertullian, Augustine of Hippo, Luther and Wesley have interpreted the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

They all understood that the essence of man was changed when they disobeyed God's command, and our doctrine formulates it: "... that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved ..." The reason for this change is understood by Augustine, Luther and the Swiss Reformed theologian Karl Barth as human pride. Barth writes in his book *Church Dogmatics* (Volume IV.1): "What is sin? The sin of man is the pride of man. Pride is the disobedience of man and, more specifically, the unbelief of man. The sin of man is the human action which

does not correspond to the divine action in Jesus Christ but contradicts it."

HOPE FOR CHANGE

This is true from one perspective, although some theologians argue that sin is the opposite; to lack pride and self-esteem. This illustrates why we need different perspectives and experiences – as Paul writes to the Ephesians: "... that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:17-19 NKJV).

Despite the distorted image and the sinful nature of man, there is hope for change through faith in Christ and through his death on the cross. Although we have broken the law, Christ's suffering and death justify us



Soul Food

My favourite verse

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. **REV. DR ARSENY ERMAKOV**, HEAD OF BIBLICAL STUDIES AT THE SALVATION ARMY'S SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES, BOOTH COLLEGE, IN SYDNEY, SHARES HIS FAVOURITE PIECE OF SCRIPTURE

"Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. He appointed 12 that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons. These are the 12 he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means "sons of thunder"), Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him." – Mark 3:13-19

One of the dominating themes in the Gospel of Mark is true Christian discipleship. It includes an array of important issues: suffering and bearing the cross (Mark 8:34-9:1), faithfulness and betrayal (Mark 14-15), misunderstanding and comprehension of God's will (Mark 8:14-21), servanthood and

domination (Mark 10:35-45), and so on. Mark 3:13-19 adds another aspect to this theme – a crucial interrelation between Jesus' presence and successful practice of ministry.

The calling of the apostles is one of the culmination points in the Gospel of Mark. Filled with images taken from Exodus (Exodus 19-24), the passage shows the appointment of the leaders for the new holy people of God. They were not called to rule but to be sent on the mission of God, to do what Jesus does (Mark 1:35-39). They left their simple jobs to become his followers (Mark 1:16-20) but Jesus makes them more – his co-workers. They have received authority to battle the powers of evil and to bring salvation, freedom, and restoration to the people around them. In contrast to Jewish rabbis at the time, Jesus is not just passing a corpus of scriptural knowledge to his followers; he gives them power and authority to actively participate in the work of the Kingdom. Disciples will receive

his teaching and knowledge as they journey with him and proclaim the good news through Galilee and Judea.

But the passage is not really about the Twelve; Jesus is at the centre here. He is the one who calls them, commissions them, gives them authority, and sends them to proclaim the gospel. Most importantly, Jesus appoints the Twelve "to be with him" (Mark 3:14). This is the key point for understanding authentic discipleship; it requires both remaining in the presence of Jesus and being sent out by him as the agents of God's coming rule. Disciples have to realise that their power and authority come from a close relationship with Jesus. When they recognise it, they are successful in their ministry (Mark 6:6-13). When they lose their focus on God and his mission, they fail miserably (Mark 9:14-29). This passage reminds us of that crucial interplay between experience of divine presence in our life and fruitful Christian practice. ¶

► *continued from page 9...*

and make us blameless (Romans 3:21-26). Through his death we become alive from our spiritual death (Romans 6:4) and are set free from our bondage to sin (Romans 6:16-18). Through his death the ransom is paid and we are released from slavery. Our guilt has been paid and we have no more debt (Matthew 6:12; 18:21-35; 20:28). The good

news is, therefore, that through Christ's salvation, God's image in us can be restored. (This will be considered further in an upcoming article).

PROCLAIMING SALVATION

When the doctrine says, we are all "totally depraved", it means that sin affects all dimensions of our existence. The spirit of love has been replaced with a spirit of selfishness and pride. This affects our mind, feelings and self-image. Our mindset is revealed in our behaviour and shows itself in our actions. It is not a sin to be sick, but sin can make us

sick. It is not a sin to be alone, but sin can make us alone. Our sins affect also our relationship with others. The spirit of sin, through our mindset, affects the community body that we belong to and, consequently, the body of our society.

That is why we proclaim salvation, not only for men, women and children. We proclaim salvation for the neighbourhood where we minister; the community where we serve; the society of which we are part. We proclaim salvation for the world. ¶

Aged Care **Plus**



WALKATHON

Use your freedom to inspire change. Join us at a 2015 Aged Care Plus Walkathon event near you or make a donation at:

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NEW SOUTH WALES

Canowindra

10 Sept

Collaroy

8 and 11 Sept

Dee Why

7 Sept

Dulwich Hill

11 Sept

Goulburn

10 Sept

Parkes

10 Sept

Sydney

10 Sept

ACT

Narrabundah

11 Sept



Supporting

The Freedom Partnership
End Modern Slavery

and other Salvation Army projects

I HAVE A DREAM

GENERAL'S VISION FOR INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY



01.
General André Cox preaches at Boundless, calling Salvationists to total commitment to the mission.

02.
General Eva Burrows is posthumously awarded the Order of the Founder. Commissioner Floyd Tidd (Australia Southern Territorial Commander) receives the award, on behalf of the Burrows family, from General Cox.

What will it take to make the dream a reality? That was General André Cox's "sending-out" message to Salvationists as the five-day international congress – Boundless: The Whole World Redeeming – held to celebrate the 150th anniversary of The Salvation Army, drew to a close in London last month.

The dream General Cox, the world leader of the Army, was referring to in his five-pronged vision for The Salvation Army. It's this dream on which he based the main congress sessions: "A Joyful Army"; "A Unified Army"; "A Caring Army"; "A Youthful Army"; and "An Army of Integrity". The final session featured a multimedia display of the General's vision, after which people were asked to consider what they needed to do to make the ideas of the dream a reality.

"What has this celebration been all about?" asked the General. "What is going to change? What is God calling you to do?" He said the dream will only become a reality when lives are transformed by the Holy Spirit, and that holiness is the visible sign of salvation. "We must be totally committed and dedicated to the task assigned to us," he added. "If we're convinced of our call we will live lives fully surrendered to God. Our worship needs to be more than speaking or listening to God. It must be about total surrender. We need a sense of urgency in a world where there is so much injustice and need."

He then referred to Vachel Lindsay's poem, *General William Booth Enters Into Heaven* with its images of people washed in the blood and the Army at war against darkness and despair, saying: "This is something that must engage every one of us. I fear we have become comfortable, contented and settled and detached from



the reality of world suffering.” He reminded everyone: “All have sinned – this was why God sent us a Saviour. Too many people are living in poverty and exclusion, too many are lonely.”

The General went on to remind delegates, and the international Salvation Army, that there were no limits to what God could do in individual lives. “This is boundless salvation,” he said. “A total surrender of our lives and the total commitment to the mission.”

The congress – from 1-5 July at the o2 arena – was held to mark 150 years since William and Catherine Booth started the mission, that would go on to become The Salvation Army, in the East End of London. The celebration also featured many other highlights including concerts, a musical, international prayer meetings, and sessions for youth and children. During the congress the latest version of *The Song Book of The Salvation Army* was officially launched, and On Founders’ Day (2 July) a statue of Catherine Booth was unveiled in the East End of London (see story in international news section).

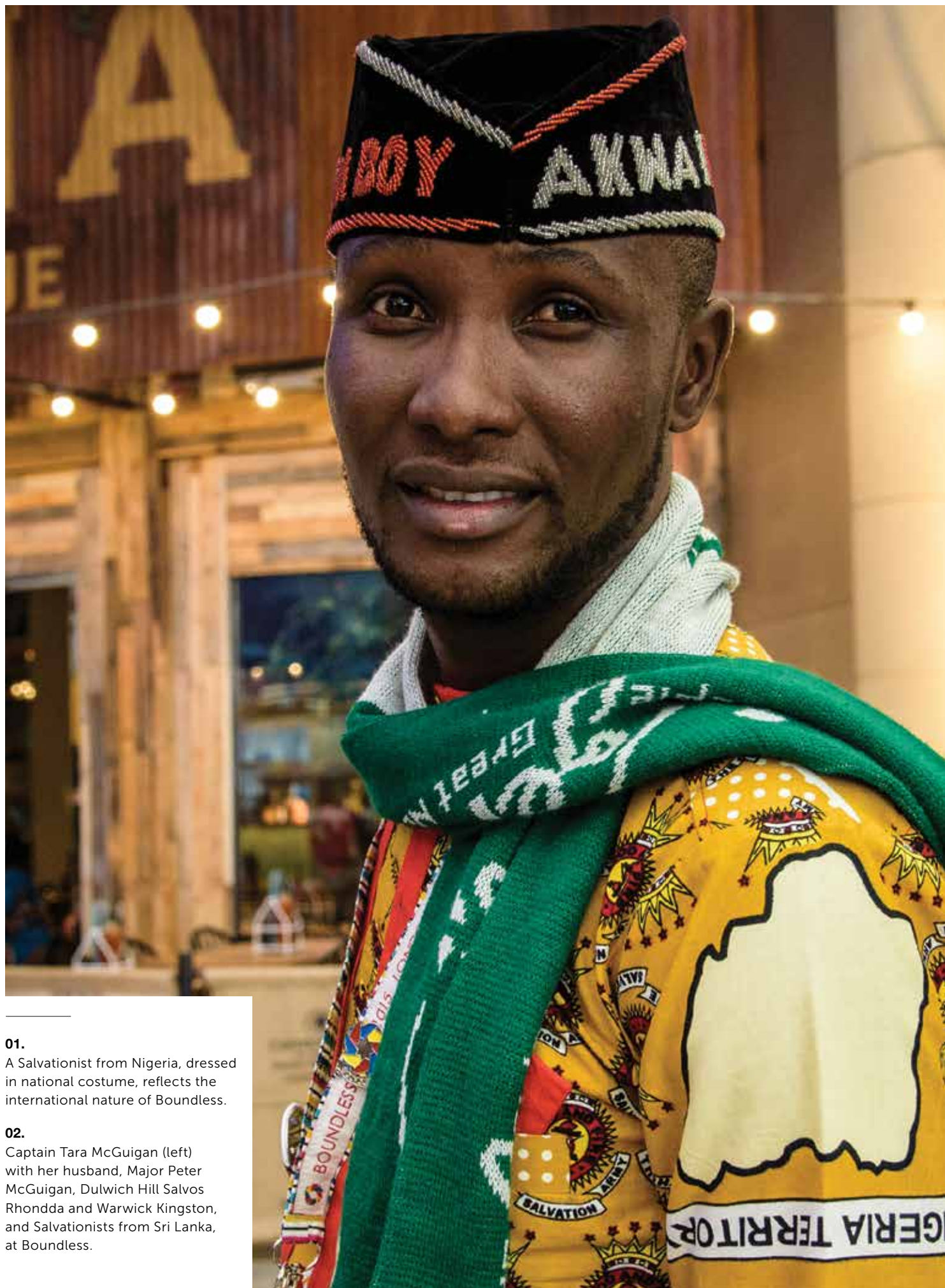
Also on Founders’ Day, in a poignant moment particularly for Australian Salvationists, there was the posthumous admitting of former General Eva Burrows to the Order of the Founder, The Salvation Army’s highest honour. Presenting the award to Australia Southern Territorial Commander Commissioner Floyd Tidd, on behalf of General Eva’s family, the General said that the life and service of Eva Burrows, who was promoted to glory earlier this year, “would have recommended itself to our Founder. She inspired countless people around the world.” ¶

CONGRESS MAKES DIGITAL IMPACT AROUND THE WORLD

Boundless – The Whole World Redeeming was The Salvation Army’s “most international congress”, thanks to the internet. The www.boundless2015.org website attracted more than half a million page views across 157 countries during the 1-5 July event in London. More than half of the website visits were from tablets or smartphones.

Live streaming of the main sessions was popular, with more than 50,000 viewers watching the opening celebration. A one-off “Thunderclap” on Founders’ Day (2 July) reached a million social media users across Twitter, Facebook and Tumblr. Subsequent sharing and retweeting achieved a social reach of 3.3 million people. The #Boundless2015 hashtag, which delegates were encouraged to use in their own social media output, was seen by 16.1 million Twitter users – at one point being a more popular topic of online discussion than the Wimbledon tennis.

The streamed video content, along with electronic copies of the daily newspaper *Boundless Today* and the engaging “social wall” remain available at: **boundless2015.org**



01.

A Salvationist from Nigeria, dressed in national costume, reflects the international nature of Boundless.

02.

Captain Tara McGuigan (left) with her husband, Major Peter McGuigan, Dulwich Hill Salvos Rhondda and Warwick Kingston, and Salvationists from Sri Lanka, at Boundless.

A taste of heaven

THE MULTICULTURAL FLAVOUR OF BOUNDLESS SHE EXPERIENCED IN LONDON HAS GIVEN AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY OFFICER **CAPTAIN TARA MCGUIGAN** AN INSIGHT INTO ETERNITY



General André Cox on personal holiness and corporate holiness. We must be a holy people and our lives must reflect this. "The greatest threat to the church comes from Christians who fail to live the Christian lifestyle," the General cautioned. "Our lives need to point to Jesus."

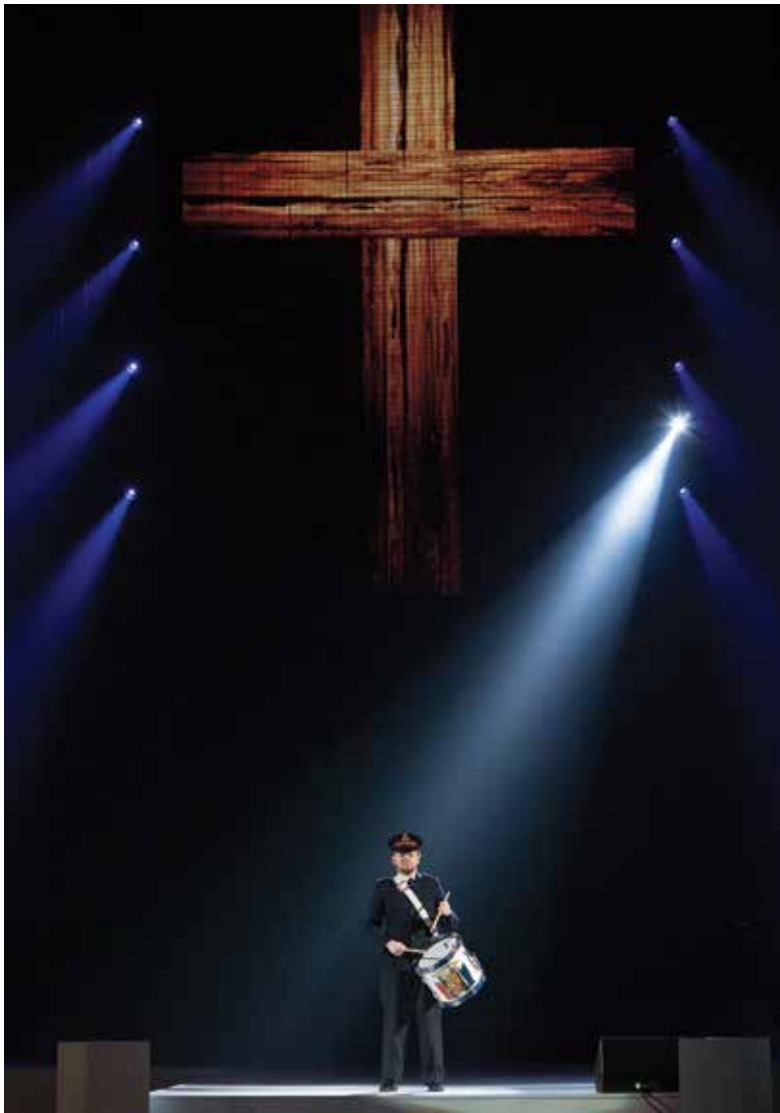
I was convicted. The message culminated with a time for reflection introduced by the haunting sounds of the flugal horn, its instrumentalist playing the lovely Psalm, "As the deer pants for the water so my soul longs after you". I realised I was like the deer, that morning, needing the refreshing water of the Holy Spirit. How thirsty was I! When the body is parched we are quick to reach out for a drink of water but when the soul is parched we are slow to realise thirst. "Arouse a perpetual thirst in my soul for you, Lord", I prayed.

Later that day, while visiting the well-stocked Boundless shop, I met some Kenyan Salvationists. Eunice, Celline, Injite and Rose were from Kenya West Territory, the largest Salvation Army territory in the world with 121,000 senior soldiers and 115,000 junior soldiers! These have to be some of the most humble of God's people, I thought as we parted. I felt a deep respect for these four women with their innocent display of humility, but pride in their corps and division in Kenya West. Introducing ourselves by territory was a whole new experience for me. "I am Tara from Australia Eastern", I explained to them, and promptly gave them each an Australia Eastern Territory congress badge which they received with such gratitude. ►

Boundless Army! In a nutshell that's what I've been thinking ever since I stood in a fast-moving line of people waiting to register for the 2015 Boundless international congress. I had already said hello to people from Norway, the United States and India. As the days passed I met others from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Malaysia, Singapore, Russia, Chile, Bermuda, the Netherlands and, of course, Australia. I got to see heaven in all its international and multicultural glory by simply saying hello and striking up conversations with delegates.

I believe this is The Salvation Army General William Booth envisioned when he decided to send those early missionaries out to the US, France, India, Australia and beyond. What vision! What determination! What faith!

My Boundless experience began with Officers Councils. The New York Staff Band accompanied us and was not only flawless, but inspiring. A variety of vocal and musical items by groups from all over the world paved the way for a mighty message from



"... I became convinced that General Cox is the man for the hour at this time in a world of complex justice issues."

► MINISTRY CONFIRMED

The highlight day for me was Friday, when the congress focused on "A Caring Army". Commissioner Jane Paone delivered a powerful message on justice and oppression that got me thinking about how I might be an oppressor even though I hate seeing oppression. As I later sat in on a forum titled, "How can people of faith better fight for social justice in the 21st century?", I became convinced that General Cox is the man for the hour at this time in a world of complex justice issues. This has been important for me as a Salvation Army officer.

Saturday showcased Salvation Army youth, "A Youthful Army", and was yet another marvellous and moving expression of talent, hope and evidence of young lives transformed by the love of God. General Cox drove home that this is The Salvation Army of today, not tomorrow! The testimony of Mercy Gabriel Christian, a young woman in her 20s from Chile who had been diagnosed with leukaemia at the age of nine and had undergone more than 140 rounds of chemo, brought tears to many eyes. She had been healed, she announced. She was grateful for the faithful prayers of friends and the healing of a loving Saviour.

Sunday morning was consolidation day for me. Shadows of doubt were dispelled. Bright light illuminated the path the Lord is taking me on. Phrases from General Cox's message, like "we are not superior in any way to the people we are serving"; "This is a mission in which we are all engaged, not only specialists in social ministry or whatever"; "Our programs are a gateway into the hearts and minds of people", are etched in my mind, confirming my call, firing my love for the Lord Jesus Christ and defining my purpose through The Salvation Army for "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done" ministry.

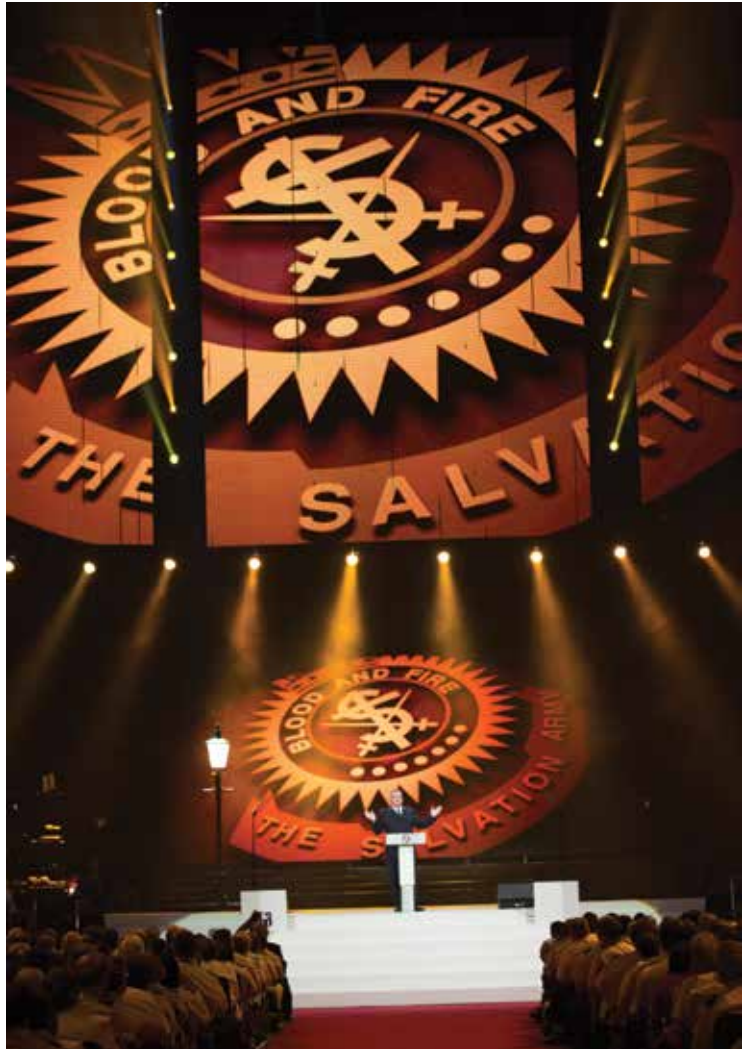
The march down The Mall was a great "sending out" of the international Salvation Army. Flags flying, bands and timbrellists, much cheering and straining necks of thousands that gathered to catch a glimpse of this movement like no other, all brought home to me what a great reflection of the gospel of Christ The Salvation Army is.

You and I are part of a Boundless Army. General Booth knew this and it hit me with full force at Boundless! As I observed the other 16,000 Salvationists who filled London's O2 arena each day, I had no doubt that they felt it too, and that God had done a new thing in the Army which would reach every corner of the globe. □

Boundless was a photographer's dream with Salvationists from 126 countries providing a kaleidoscope of colour.







FROM DUBBO TO SIBERIA

A SALVO FAMILY HAS SWAPPED THE CENTRAL
WEST OF NSW FOR RUSSIA'S FROZEN NORTH

WORDS • BILL SIMPSON / PHOTOS • GRANT TURNER





There was a time when being “sent to Siberia” meant that you were in trouble. It was one of those colloquial phrases – certainly in Australia – that was used to describe punishment or banishment (e.g. “They have been sent to Siberia”) for doing or saying something wrong. The saying, apparently, has some link to the salt mines of Siberia, hence the expanded phrase: “Sent to the salt mines of Siberia.”

Part of Russia, Siberia is not generally the sort of place to which you would go for a relaxing holiday. By Australian climate standards, Siberia is freezing for six months of the year. Mid-year can be quite pleasant, though, with mid-20 degree temperatures for a few months. Dubbo Salvation Army family Brett and Janene Phillips and their five children (pictured above) have actually chosen to go to Siberia. They have left behind in Dubbo an expansive four-bedroom home with big yard for a small two-bedroom apartment, which they rarely leave for six months of the year because it’s too cold to go outside.

Brett and Janene are first-generation Salvationists. As a young engaged couple, they walked into The Salvation Army centre in Dubbo 19 years ago looking for a church. They found what they wanted

and stayed. They became soldiers. Brett became a youth leader and although he did not have musical experience, discovered some old corps instruments, learned to play, taught others and formed a band, which is still playing. He ran kids church and a junior band, and, with Janene and others, started a SAGALA youth program. He spent seven years as assistant manager of The Salvation Army Dubbo Family Store and opened a second shop. Janene worked at the community welfare centre and held a paid position as corps secretary. All of it is on hold now as Siberia and its orphans have overwhelmed their hearts.

MISSION TRIPS

Brett traces the interest in Siberia – especially its orphans – back to a shopping trip to a Christian bookstore in Canberra when he was captured by a brochure titled *Love for Kids Russia*. An international outreach group was inviting people to join its team for a two-week summer camp for kids in Russia. Brett was interested. But the trip was expensive. However, he easily found sponsors and attended a camp in St Petersburg for the first time in 2008 and then on each of the following three years. He recruited half-a-dozen other Australian Salvationists to go with him. He also took his young sons, Eli and Clayton. ►



**"EACH LITTLE BREAKTHROUGH
HERE REMINDS US OF GOD'S
ORIGINAL CALLING TO US AND
WE ARE HAPPY TO STAY."**

- The short-term mission trips were enjoyable, but Brett knew in his heart that he needed to give more. During a 2012 trip with Janene, both felt called to move to Russia long-term to live and work among the locals. They met an Australian family operating a home for teenagers leaving orphanages. They were inspired by the example of the Australian family.

In September 2013, Brett, Janene and four children left Dubbo to live in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia's third largest city with a population exceeding one million. "We came with many plans," Brett says, "though they never seemed to happen as expected. Instead, totally unexpected and amazing things happened, which have been much greater and helped us avoid what would have been huge mistakes. What we've learned so far is that we just need to show up. God does the rest."

DESPERATE NEEDS

Brett and Janene have been allowed into Russia on study visas. They study Russian at university. But their study has allowed them to help in a social program for young people in a very poor area of their town. The program has enabled them to interact with other Christians. "Just recently, we were unexpectedly invited to visit one of the many local orphanages. It's hard to explain how amazing that invitation was," Brett says. "We were not attempting to gain access to orphanages, although we very much wanted to. It can be very difficult for foreigners to get a foot in the door."

"I was concerned that my view of Russian orphans and social problems was just a skewed, over-exaggerated Western perspective and that things were not really that bad, and that Russians are more than capable of dealing with it without outside help. However, I am constantly meeting Russians who feel desperate about the situation here – the drug and alcohol problem, the broken families, the social orphans and the harsh poverty. The people here constantly express their deep gratitude that we have come to try and help. We would like to stay and help."

"On Sunday afternoons, we head to a rough district. People there live in public housing, which is basically an old building with one small room per family. Shower and toilet blocks are on each floor of the buildings and are shared. It's a little frightening to come each week, but the local kids seem unfazed by their environment of drugs, alcohol and gangs. I help a Christian lady who was given access to a small hall in one of the housing blocks. They have games, craft, singing, a Bible story and a meal. There are so many opportunities here. It's an area barely touched by mission-oriented organisations."

"I wish I was much wiser than I am so that I could help more. I wish I had spent time working with the Salvos in Kings Cross [inner-Sydney] or dealing with recovering addicts at Dooralong [Salvation Army addiction centre on the NSW Central Coast]. I don't have that experience, but I do know that God is teaching us extremely valuable stuff."

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

Although they arrived in Russia as a family of six – Brett, Janene, Eli (15), Clayton (12), Layna (8) and Amalia (5) – they have unexpectedly grown to seven, with the arrival of Anna. The family returned to Dubbo mid last year for Anna's birth, and embarked again for Russia last November. Each of the school-age children is doing the Australian school curriculum through distance education. The family travels by bus or



02



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01.
Cricket in the snow outside the Phillips' apartment in Krasnoyarsk.

02.
The Phillips family – (from right) Brett, Janene, Eli, Clayton, Layna, Amalia and Anna.

03.
Brett signs a rugby ball for boys during a visit to the Krasnoyarsk orphanage.

04.
A typical apartment block hallway in Krasnoyarsk where shower and toilet facilities are often shared.

05.
Handing out Christmas gifts to orphans.

on foot. There is no car. Due to living and retail conditions, grocery shopping has to be done on a daily basis.

"In Australia," Brett says, "we ordered groceries online and the Woolies truck would bring a fortnight of groceries to our front door. Every purchase [in Russia] is carefully considered and often postponed. After more than 12 months, we finally bought a vacuum cleaner. Our girls sleep in the lounge room – one on the floor and another on the lounge. A short-term missionary family who are leaving in a few weeks are donating their two children's beds to us. So, that will help.

"We get lonely here sometimes," Brett adds. "Life can be pretty hard, especially coming from a comfortable existence in a beautiful country like Australia with a car, house, wage, private school, church, friends and family. But each little breakthrough here reminds us of God's original calling to us and we are happy to stay. We survive on personal donations from family, friends and even strangers."

Initially, costs were met from their own savings, which are now running low. Their home in Dubbo is rented, which offers some financial relief.

"We have spiritual needs, too," Brett says. "We need spiritual support, leadership, recognition from our brothers and sisters back home, accountability partners, prayers, fundraisers and advisers. We would like to hear from individuals or corps who would engage with us in projects."

The family returned to Dubbo last month (July) to apply for work visas and hope to be back in Siberia in a few months to continue their mission. "We are hopeful God will continue to work through us and we will find additional supporters to carry us through," Brett says. □

To contact the Phillips family, email: phillipsmission@gmail.com

Having the courage to follow

GRAFTON SALVATIONIST SAMUEL BACON AND HIS FAMILY HAVE INVESTED MORE THAN 10 YEARS OF THEIR LIVES INTO HELPING THE PEOPLE OF TIMOR-LESTE, A SOUTH-EAST ASIAN NATION, REBUILD AFTER MANY YEARS OF CIVIL UNREST. IN THIS *PIPELINE* ARTICLE, SAMUEL GIVES AN ACCOUNT OF THE WORK HE IS DOING IN THE NAME OF JESUS AND THE SALVATION ARMY

When God calls us to follow him, he doesn't give us all the details up front. He asks us to have the courage to follow him without knowing the full plan. We, as humans, typically want to know where we are going. Before we start out on any journey in life, we want to know how long it will take to get there and how we are going to get there. When Jesus commands us to follow him, we feel like echoing the apostle's words: "Lord, we don't know where you are going. How can we know the way?" (John 14:5).

When I came to Timor-Leste, I did not have any grandiose plan of what I was going to do. I didn't really know where I was going and I didn't know how I was going to get there. The more important objective was to trust in Jesus and live a life of obedience. I came to Timor-Leste with a simple desire to help the people. Timor-Leste is only an hour's flight from Australia. Yet the country has been on an incredible journey of suffering which has included slavery, civil war, the horrors of World War Two, invasion by Indonesia and its subsequent withdrawal. All this has left a small nation, on our doorstep, ravaged with deep scars of mental and physical hardship at both individual and national level.

In 1999, almost all infrastructure, communications and power supply were destroyed. There was no government and

no law. Over the next decade, the impact was felt in the next generation, with a 2013 UNICEF report listing Timor-Leste as having the highest percentage of children under five in the world who were moderately or severely stunted. Stunting is a condition that arises from poor nutrition in the first 1000 days of a child's life.

PREPARED FOR SERVICE

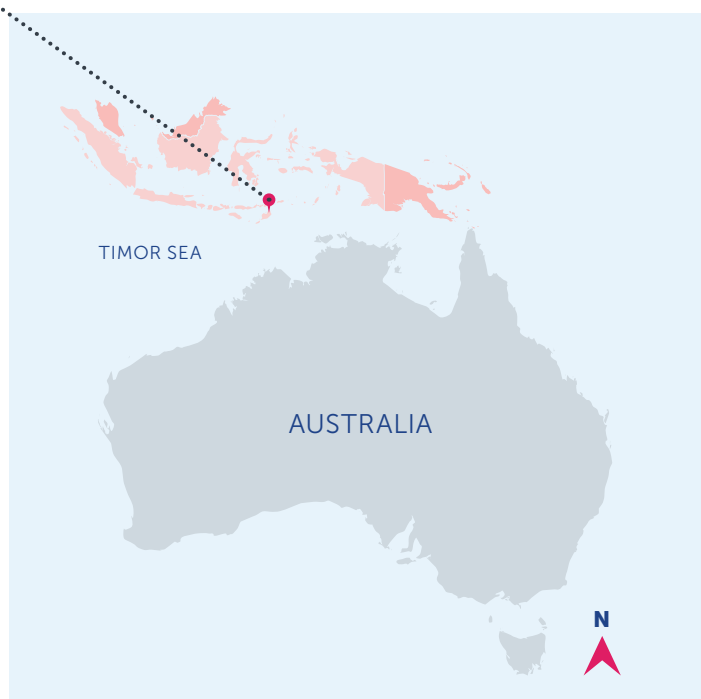
So what is an Australian Christian supposed to do? Imagine that this place doesn't exist? And so, in 2004, I just went there to see what I could do to help out. Most people in Australia seemed to think I was nuts. Wiser Christians advised me that it was not the right time. They reminded me that I had a wife and young daughter who should not be taken to live in a war-torn country rife with malaria and dengue fever. But I've never quite understood this line of thought. I thought Jesus called us to lose our lives in service to him. I thought Jesus died for me. Should I do less for him?

It turns out that God had been preparing me for this work for a long time. I had grown up on a farm in northern NSW where we had to manage our own water from tanks and springs. We milked goats, grew vegetables and kept chickens. We had our tough times and it was hard work. In Timor-Leste, the people have many of the same struggles, although it's much tougher. There is less





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01. Samuel Bacon with his wife, Cynthia, and children (from left) Serenity, Israel and Yakira.



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02.
Supriyono's village in the mountains is typical of life in Timor – rocky mountains with poor soils and difficult access to water. Supriyono's sister is showing us the path to her family's house.

03.
Guspal and Samuel inspect a spring in the mountains in order to pipe the water down to Guspal's house and gardens.

04.
Supriyono, the first Timorese cadet, and Samuel in Timor-Leste.



03

"To be honest, it's been a pretty lonely and difficult journey. But I've learned that being negative is like putting the vehicle of your life in reverse and stepping on the accelerator – you go backwards real fast."



04

- water and it has to be shared by many more people. The soils are far less fertile and they have only a few basic hand tools. Added to this, life in a tropical world is full of disease and sickness with difficult access to quality medical knowledge and medicines. This reality is then built on a spiritual world of rituals performed for ancestors and spirits of the land.

So I started out just helping the people I met. Usually this would be Christian organisations that needed some practical help. For example, building a toilet block for a school or fixing a septic system in a clinic. Sometimes I was asked by communities to help with water supply. I just did the same things for them that I did on our farm – a few rolls of polypipe, some fittings and a bit of hard work, and a village gets water. Then I found out that most people didn't have a Bible but really wanted one, so I started distributing Bibles. As I got a better grasp of the language I began to realise that church leaders needed a better understanding of the Bible and how it fitted into their world, so I put more time into Bible teaching.

LESSON IN PERSEVERANCE

All along I was wondering why more Christians and, more specifically, Salvation Army soldiers were not involved in this vital work. Why was there not a Salvation Army presence already in Timor-Leste when the Army had been in Australia for more than 100 years? What was it about language, culture and geo-political challenges that prevented The Salvation Army from getting into the action? Is it about God's timing or is it about a lack of courage and commitment on our part? These are questions that each of us must have the courage to explore.

I have learned that following Jesus also requires perseverance. For some years now I have been advocating for The Salvation Army to get into the action in Timor-Leste. To be honest, it's been a pretty lonely and difficult journey. But I've learned that being negative is like putting the vehicle of your life in reverse and stepping on the accelerator – you go backwards real fast. The good news is that incredible things are coming together this year. We have had our second visit of representatives from Britain, Australia and Indonesia to consider the possibility of an official

Salvation Army presence in Timor-Leste. And, on top of this, they brought a young Timorese Salvation Army cadet, Supriyono. Unknown to me, God was already training up an officer in Indonesia who was from Timor-Leste. During the crisis of 1999, this cadet found himself on the Indonesian side of the border as a 12-year-old boy with no carer. The Salvation Army of Indonesia was there at the border helping, and eventually he found his way into their care. Through God's elaborate tapestry, our two lives have crossed paths and who knows what the great Architect will make of this.

OBEYING GOD'S CALL

In the meantime, I am building a new centre in which to incorporate the work and dreams that occupy my life here, such as a women's sewing business, training room for Christian leaders, library, recording studio, appropriate technology research, and accommodation for women at risk. It's the biggest project I've taken on so far but God has proved faithful in the past and I think he'll take a punt on me one more time.

I tell you this to encourage you to get into the action. Enter into the fight for the kingdom of God. We all know that there are challenges all around us, whether it is showing kindness in your local church, volunteering at the community soup kitchen, getting into prison ministry, spending a year working in a drug rehabilitation centre, working on the challenges faced by indigenous communities, or plunging into poverty in some not-too-distant country. One thing I do know is that we must trust God and simply obey. Obedience will require perseverance and courage. Don't be afraid. Unless one kernel of grain dies it remains a single seed (John 12:24). So go ahead, follow Jesus. □

For more information, go to
www.baconsbatimor.blogspot.com

Samuel and his wife Cynthia have three children – Serenity, 15, Israel, 9, and Xakira, 2. They live in Dili, the capital of Timor-Leste, which has a population of around 200,000. Between 2004 and 2009 they visited Timor-Leste regularly (for three months in 2004; 18 months in 2006-07 and eight months in 2008), but for the past five years they have spent up to 11 months a year living in the country.

AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY



Welcome

Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell
Chief Secretary and Principal of School for Officer Training

The Installation will be conducted by
COMMISSIONER JAMES CONDON

Sunday 9 August 2015

3:00pm

Sydney Congress Hall



Supported by PARRAMATTA BAND and SYDNEY CONGRESS HALL SONGSTERS
Afternoon Tea will be served on Level 4

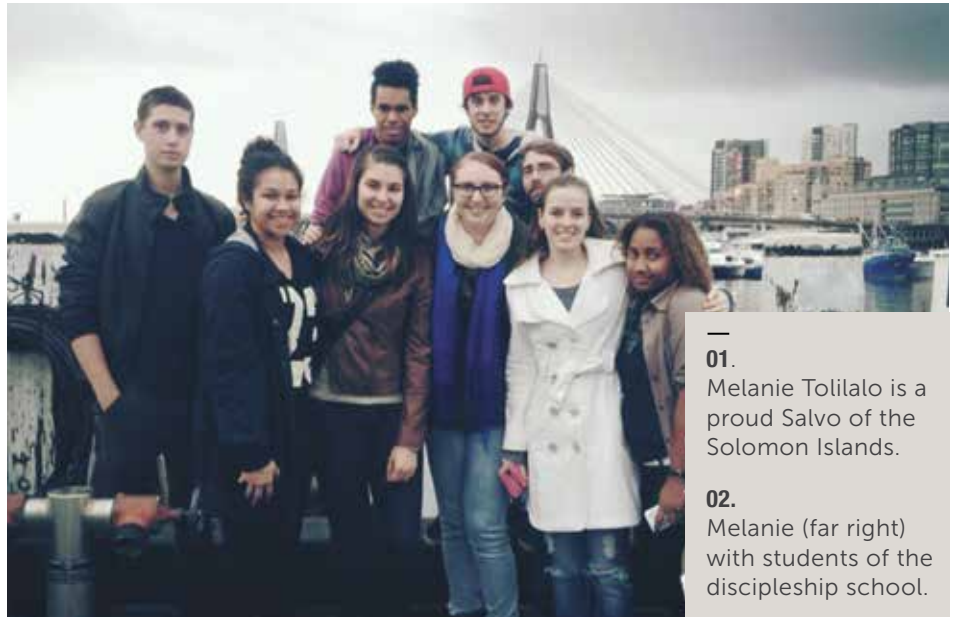
Melanie's mission for island's youth

THE SALVATION ARMY'S DECISION TO BEGIN THE WORK IN A TINY SOUTH PACIFIC NATION IS ALREADY BEARING FRUIT, WITH GOD GIVING ONE YOUNG LEADER A VISION TO DISCIPLE THE YOUTH OF HER CORPS

WORDS • ANNE HALLIDAY



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01. Melanie Tolilalo is a proud Salvo of the Solomon Islands.

02. Melanie (far right) with students of the discipleship school.

Solomon Islands Salvationist Melanie Tolilalo, 20, is almost 2800km from her home country and out of her comfort zone, but she wouldn't be anywhere else. A student at the Salvos Discipleship School on the NSW Central Coast, Melanie is passionate about seeing the emerging generation of teenagers in her homeland come to faith –and that's why she's here.

She was just a teenager when her family began attending The Salvation Army four years ago in Honiara, the Solomon Islands capital, when the Army's work officially began there. It wasn't long before Melanie started serving in the corps' worship team and youth ministry, and for the past couple of years has emerged as a leader in these areas. "I was brought up in the Christian faith, but I would say before I came to the [discipleship] school, I just had a surface-level faith," she says. "Sometimes I would be going well and sometimes I would not be going well. But since I have been here, I have really seen my faith grow."

Melanie heard about the school when she was sponsored by the Army's South Queensland Division to attend the EQUIP creative arts and discipleship conference in Queensland last July. "I was working with the youth in my church and I was finding it hard to lead them," she says. "I met a girl, Natasha, from Russia who was attending the school and, after talking with her, I thought if I went to the school I would gain more experience in leadership and also grow in my relationship with Jesus. I didn't have the money, but I felt it was God's calling, so I stepped out

in faith and applied to the school. My parents weren't very encouraging to begin with as they wanted me to attend [tertiary] college or university, so I applied to them as well and prayed to God: 'Which one do you want me to do?'. When I didn't get into college or university, my parents realised what God had planned for me and they are now really supportive."

Melanie, with her school fees sponsored anonymously, left her parents and younger brother to attend the nine-month discipleship school in Berkeley Vale, with seven other young people. "I am hoping through this year to grow in my leadership and discipleship of our youth ... and older people too," she says. "I hope to grow deeply in God and learn more about myself. Already I am reading the Bible every day and growing stronger in my faith."

Church culture in Australia is very different to her experiences growing up in a Christian community in the Solomon Islands. "Here, people are more polite when they preach, while at home they are strong and direct. Here they will choose music that sometimes is more attractive to young people and other times, more attractive to older people. At home we are more traditional which means that it's very boring for young people and it makes it hard to attract them to church. I also see here a real freedom in the church with the youth and the church leaders communicating well together. At home, it is the leaders who make decisions." □

Safeguarding the future

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DEPARTMENT FOCUSED
ON RAISING UP A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS

WORDS • ESTHER PINN

The United Nations has set aside 12 August as International Youth Day. It's a single day devoted to celebrating young people. For The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territorial Youth and Children's Secretary, Major John Viles, however, every day is an opportunity to celebrate and equip young people for mission and ministry. For the past six months, Major Viles has been leading a team of people whose vision is to see every young Salvo become a disciple-maker. To achieve this, Major Viles says his role is to help build the next generation of leaders.

Recently, both social and faith expressions of youth work within The Salvation Army were brought under one banner. Within Major Viles' team at territorial headquarters is resource development led by Claire Hill. Her team includes Rod Allen, Creative Arts Production Designer; Ben Ward, Media Coordinator; Jessica Poutawa, Territorial Children's Resource Developer; and Nicky Gangemi, writer and administrator. Shandri Brown develops youth and children's training programs and conferences, and Derek Hughes is the territory's Life Skills Coordinator. Bee Orsini is the Salvos Schools Coordinator, Madeleine Mackay-Law works with Bee to develop education resources, and Jason Poutawa heads up the territory's Salvos Youth Foundation. Lauren Mason recently filled the Young Adults Coordinator position (see separate story on pages 32-33). Within the territory there are also a large number of volunteers and employees in social work and corps youth ministry positions.

The decision to combine the Army's social and faith expressions is crucial to developing pathways for children, youth and young adults to move into mission and ministry opportunities within the Army, says Major Viles. "The vision for the future is to make sure every young person in The Salvation Army has an opportunity to experience the whole expression of God in every way," he says. "God's not just a God of worship and glory, but a God of justice and mercy which sits both with our social expressions as well as our faith expressions."

Street Dreams is a prime example. Partnering with Musicians Making A Difference (MMAD), Street Dreams offers free dance and mentoring classes in 12 NSW communities, held at different Salvation Army corps. Through this program young people and families have joined the Army. "Street Dreams have been able to connect with people The Salvation Army normally wouldn't have been able to," explains Major Viles.

While there are many Salvation Army ministries operating in this manner, Major Viles is eager to broaden pathway opportunities for young people. Shandri is currently expanding the existing youth internship program, Edify, to include both social work and faith-based ministry work experience and study options. Bee is working to expand the Salvos Ambassador program outside Sydney for corps to use as part of their social response. Major Viles is looking to increase the number of youth "Champions" around the territory. Champions exist to inspire other young adults about the impact they can have in their local communities.



"We're seeing a great number of youth and young adults just wanting to express the practical faith of Jesus through mission."

Outside of official Salvation Army programs are many organic ministry opportunities. In Townsville, a group of young adults have dinner at their local skate park to intentionally connect with that community. "We're seeing a great number of youth and young adults just wanting to express the practical faith of Jesus through mission."

Ultimately, Major Viles wants to do himself out of a job. Raising up the next generation of youth and young adults leaders is his primary focus and he desires to see more young people move into leadership. "My vision would be that every child, youth and young adult would be so inspired by the person of Jesus and what he's done in their lives that they devote everything they do to expressing God's glory. I want them to realise it's time to step up to be the leaders of The Salvation Army." ¶



DISCIPLING YOUTH

Sarah Walker (above) still prefers to spend her Friday nights hanging out with teenagers at her youth group in Wollongong. In fact, her passion for engaging with young people has been behind her journey to leading youth ministry at Wollongong Corps – a role she's now been in for five years.

Having grown up in The Salvation Army in Wollongong, Sarah was invited to be part of the youth church team and help coordinate the monthly youth service program. In November last year, she was offered a part-time position as Youth Ministry Worker and Administration Assistant at Wollongong Corps.

Her passion for discipling young people extends to other areas of her life. When she's not at Wollongong Corps, Sarah spends her time teaching physical education at a number of high schools in the Illawarra. She also helps out at a high school with a Christian group that meets at lunchtime. "I've always liked working with young people, mentoring them and engaging with the youth of the church," says Sarah. "Starting off quite young, I liked working on the team and helping to improve youth church. But now I probably ... like developing young people in their faith and helping them make good decisions."

Sarah was recently awarded an Aged Care Plus Fellows Program scholarship (above left) to contribute towards her study of a Master of Divinity through Booth College. While surprised to receive the scholarship, Sarah says her study will be vital to her ministry work. "I think that it [Master of Divinity] will translate into my ministry. The knowledge, development and depth of understanding will be helpful when leading kids, particularly when they have big questions. I want to help answer those questions."

Keeping our young adults

THE SALVATION ARMY IS COMBATING THE WORRYING EXODUS OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ITS RANKS BY CREATING A NEW TERRITORIAL ROLE WHICH TARGETS THOSE IN THE 18 TO 30 YEARS AGE BRACKET

WORDS • SIMONE WORTHING



Lauren Mason has the responsibility of overseeing the territory's strategy to retain its young adult population.

When The Salvation Army in the Australia Eastern Territory saw that, along with many other churches, it was losing large numbers of its young adults, it decided that something needed to be done. As a starting point, the territory created the part-time position of Young Adults Development Coordinator, employing Lauren Mason to help corps bridge the gap for young people finishing youth group and entering the corps as young adults – basically, anyone between the ages of 18 and 30.

"This role is basically about assessing the state of young adults' ministry in the territory, developing a culture around our approach to young adults, and working with the divisions [of the Australia eastern Territory] to provide and build relevant Expressions of ministry for and with them," Lauren explains. "I believe that the solution to the exodus of young adults from churches isn't a program-based one. We need to change the way people approach young adults and we need to educate them in how young adults grow and can be actively disciplined. Young adulthood is less marked by an age group than it is by a developmental stage in people's lives, and we need to respond to that. If we understand the culture and society around young adults, that will help inform our practice of ministry."

MENTORING PROGRAM

Lauren liaises with the divisional youth secretaries around the territory as they engage with young adult ministries in their division. She then works with them in both coordinating local events and more effectively involving young adults in territorial events, such as the EQUIP creative arts camp, and the women's conference, Captivated by the Word. "I also work with The Salvation Army leadership development program,

where each division identifies their influential young adults and we all meet a few times each year," Lauren explains. "I mentor them in pioneering new initiatives and am also involved in coaching the divisional youth secretaries. At the gatherings we use the peer-to-peer model of ministry, consulting and coaching each other. If we are going to promote change we need young adults to be behind it, driving it."

After Lauren began in her new role, in July 2014, she spent the first six months interviewing young adults and researching why they were leaving their corps. "Young adults often don't know where they fit in," Lauren explained. "They are drawn to authentic expressions of worship and relevant ministries. If they don't see that in their corps and leaders, if they don't see what's being talked about being lived every day, it can be very discouraging."

As part of her work with corps, officers and leadership teams, Lauren runs workshops – "Engaging Young Adults" – to help leaders assess their approach to young adults and how to engage with them more effectively. "I also work with the leaders on where they are going to start and how to practically make this happen. Sometimes it might be seniors working with young adults, or older young people – an

intergenerational approach is very effective."

NEXT LEVEL

Lauren is also involved in changing some of the ways Salvation Army camps and conferences work with young adults. For example, at the Queensland Performing Arts School camps (QPAS) this year, youth and young adults had separate workshops and teaching times. "We taught and challenged the young adults at a deeper level, enabling them to go to the next level in their discipleship," Lauren said. "We also talked more about money, sex and power, because if the church doesn't educate into those areas, the world will."

Lauren wants young adults to know that they are not alone; someone is advocating on their behalf. She also wants the ministry leaders to know that she is available to help resource them to equip young adults for life and ministry. As an experienced youth pastor and Salvation Army chaplain at Sydney University, Lauren is passionate about young adult ministry. "I felt strong discontent in my youth ministry that if we didn't disciple our young people well, we would lose them to the world when they became young adults. I feel blessed now, to be in a role where that discontent can be targeted and the Lord can use me to help stop that outflow happening." □

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PNG runners praised for marathon effort

WORDS • SIMONE WORTHING / PHOTOS • JAMES HORAN

Four young people from The Salvation Army's Papua New Guinea Territory completed the Gold Coast Airport Marathon last month. Another two team members, who were younger than the minimum age (18) for the race, ran the 21.1km half-marathon. The group was supported by a mentoring team of officers and Salvationists from Australia, who ran alongside them in the race.

Representing team "Salvos Striders", the runners had trained for the event as part of The Salvation Army's Hope and a Future program. Now in its second year, the program gives young PNG nationals, identified as future leaders in their country, the opportunity to be mentored in leadership skills. It is modelled around four key pillars – faith, fitness, education and leadership. "There were some tough times in the race and some good times, just as there are in life, and I knew I just had to keep going," said Daniel Kelly. "That's what got me through."

Greg Vali was struggling at 30km into the marathon but the encouragement of his mentor and running partner, Envoy Bill Hunter, spurred him on. "I ran the last 2km so fast and now I just feel like a heavy load has been lifted. I will continue to work on my fitness and help others."

Joyce Gabi ran the half-marathon and finished the race despite thinking midway through that she couldn't go on. "I kept praying, asking God to help me and I know I couldn't have done it without him," she said. "I thank him for getting me through and I look forward now to giving back to PNG through this program."

Envoy Hunter, leader of The Salvation Army's God's Sports Arena in Brisbane and an experienced marathon runner, served as



team leader for the mentors who included Karin Tappouras from Tuggerah Lakes Corps, and Miranda Corps Officer, Lieutenant Brad McIver. Four young PNG nationals who ran the marathon last year – Teggy Gomara, Korogo Rotona, Willie Gobana and Philp Murry – were also on the mentoring team. "It's great to see the young people grow and develop physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally through this program," said Envoy Hunter. "I love being able to help and encourage them and they certainly encourage and inspire me."

As part of the program, the younger members of the group spent the week after the marathon serving and participating at EQUIP Brisbane, a Salvation Army's camp for youth and young adults that focuses on preparing participants for frontline mission in their communities. Philp and Teggy, meantime, spent the week helping at Brisbane's Streetlevel Mission and Youth Outreach Service. "This really is a big deal," said Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, Chief Secretary of the PNG Territory. "Last year, the young people came [to Australia] nervous and quiet and now most of them are leading within their corps, have gone forward in their education, become senior soldiers, and have brought leadership to a whole new level."

The Salvation Army Aged Care Plus is the major sponsor of the program, supported by Salvos Legal. □



01

"There were some tough times in the race and some good times, just as there are in life, and I knew I just had to keep going," said Daniel Kelly. "That's what got me through."



02



03

01.

On the day before the race, runners and mentors met for their final training session on the beaches of the Gold Coast. Greg Vali, Leoni Henari, Lt Brad McIver, Terry Nehaya, Joyce Gabi, Envoy Bill Hunter, Amanda Haoda, Karin Tappouras and Daniel Kelly.

02.

All the PNG runners met their goals by finishing their race, and were delighted with the medals to prove it!

03.

Mentor Karin Tappouras with her mentee, Leoni Henari, as they crossed the finish line.

For love of the king

SHUTTING ITSELF OFF FROM THE WORLD IS ONE OF THE CHURCH'S
BIGGEST FAILINGS IN THE EYES OF GOD, WHO DEMANDS THAT CHRISTIANS
SHARE THEIR FAITH THROUGH HEARTFELT ACTS OF SERVICE

WORDS • CAPTAIN BRONWYN WILLIAMS

In his children's book *The Last Battle*, C.S Lewis depicts a scene in which Aslan, Lord of Narnia, stands before the door into the new Narnia through which those who have been faithful to him are able to stream. Those who have been his foes remain outside in the darkness. This scene is reminiscent of that well-known Bible passage, Matthew 25:31-46, in which Jesus paints a graphic picture of the Son of Man coming in his glory, with his angels, to separate people, one from the other, as a shepherd separates sheep from goats.

I did some searching on the internet and found some interesting facts about sheep and goats. Physically, Middle Eastern breeds of sheep look much more like goats than the ones we are familiar with in the West, but there are still some distinct differences. Goats feed from higher-growing plants down to lower-level ones, while sheep tend to graze very close

to the soil, often pulling up grass by the roots. Goat's milk makes quite a different type of cheese than sheep's milk, while the cloth made from goat hair and wool is dissimilar in texture and quality. A flock of sheep and goats could, therefore, outwardly look quite homogenous, but the shepherd knows the difference between the two types of animals and can see the distinctions by their behaviour as well as in what they produce.

In Matthew 25, when the shepherd-king looks at his flock, it is not the outward appearance that proves to be distinctive. In fact, what the shepherd deems as noteworthy are not things that either the sheep or the goats see as particularly important. The qualifiers used by the shepherd are simple and rather ordinary – feeding, clothing, sheltering and visiting those in need.

CHURCH FORTRESSES

Over the centuries, the Church has found many ways to qualify people – to decide who is “in” the body of faith and who is not. Some branches of the Church deem a person to be “in” by birth and baptism. Others require that

adherence to a set of doctrines is essential, while others focus on an experience of conversion that can be dated and timed. As our Western societies grow less religious, the felt need to be different and distinct from “the world” has seen Christian believers withdraw into their church fortresses, raising the drawbridge and then lobbing the occasional evangelical grenades at the wicked world “out there”. The hope is that some may “see the light” and come knocking on the door of the castle. Perhaps one of the driving forces behind this need to distinguish between the church and the world is that a cursory interpretation of this parable could imply that all God looks for are people who do good works – feed, clothe, shelter, visit – which can be done by anyone, regardless of “faith”. In taking a step back and looking at the bigger picture and context of this parable, it is worth noting that prior to this parable, Jesus told two other stories.

The first is about the 10 wise and the 10 foolish virgins, where the message is that preparedness is imperative for those who follow the king (Matthew 25:1-

"... Jesus calls believers to live well with what we've been given, and to use wisely the resources at hand, but always for the furtherance of the king's work. And he declares that it is imperative that we be active in our worlds, helping, visiting, sheltering and feeding..."

13). The second story details the activities of three servants who have gold entrusted to them by their master, and how they then respond to that responsibility (Matthew 25:14-30). They were expected to do something with the money and those who did the best they could would be rewarded.

Immediately prior to these two parables, Jesus speaks at length about not knowing the day or the hour of the end of all things and when the king will return (Matthew 24:36-51). Jesus' message moves from a general warning about the need to be prepared, through the imperative to use well what we have been given, until finally he says that what we will be judged on is how we've dealt, not so much with time or money – as important as they are – but with other people, specifically those in need. It is love for the king – the "doing it for me" – in the ones we feed, clothe, shelter and visit that is the attribute that distinguishes the sheep from the goats.

How can we reinterpret this first-century story for our 21st century world? Is it important

that Christians continue to draw lines of distinction between those who share our faith and those who don't? Should we protect our faith by staying in our church fortresses and Christian subculture? Is it wise to determine that finding favour with God is done solely on the basis of helping others? There is no indication in the teaching of Jesus that we are to hide away from those who need us, but neither are we to live unthinkingly in our communities.

GODLY DISTINCTION

From these parables, Jesus urges his people to be prepared and alert, because we don't know what today will bring, let alone tomorrow or next year. Jesus calls believers to live well with what we've been given, and to use wisely the resources at hand, but always for the furtherance of the king's work. And he declares that it is imperative that we be active in our worlds, helping, visiting, sheltering and feeding. However, if the parable of the sheep and the goats teaches us anything, it is that only the shepherd-king is able to discern the difference between those that are sheep and those that

are goats. Further, it is only the shepherd-king who has the right to make those distinctions – because it is his flock – and we must not usurp his role and try to do the distinguishing ourselves. After all, the shepherd didn't say: "If you think you're a sheep stand on this side and if you think you're a goat go to that side". Neither did he appoint a sheep or goat to sort out which was which.

The divisions Christians make around doctrine, experience or even activity are not then necessarily accurate. Shutting ourselves off from the world is unhelpful to both ourselves and to those who don't know Jesus. And nowhere are we asked to condemn the world. Only the shepherd-king – who knows his flock intimately – can differentiate a "sheep" from a "goat", and he makes that distinction based on what he sees in people's hearts. Only the king can see why we do what we do. The parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25 affirms that on that final day it will only be the things that are done for love of the king that will be of any value.¶

Sparks that lit a fire of salvation

AS THE SALVATION ARMY CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY, *PIPELINE* LOOKS AT THE LIVES OF ITS FOUNDERS, WILLIAM AND CATHERINE BOOTH. IN PART ONE OF A TWO-PART SERIES, WE INVESTIGATE THE EARLY LIFE OF WILLIAM BOOTH AND THE FORMATIVE INFLUENCES THAT EVENTUALLY LED HIM TO FOUND THE SALVATION ARMY

WORDS • MAJOR DAVID WOODBURY



01

The early life of William Booth was anything but promising. He was born in Nottingham, the third of five children, on 10 April 1829 to Samuel and Mary Booth. In that era Nottingham was an important centre for the manufacturing of clothing material, but life was difficult for most families who existed on poor wages. It would appear that initially the Booth family was well off, as they could afford to employ domestic help. William's father was a builder, and was obsessed with making money. Somewhere around 1837, he experienced a significant business failure and the family found themselves under financial strain, resulting in William being withdrawn from the private education he was receiving at Biddulph's Academy in the city.

One of the most formative influences of William's early life was his mother, whom he described as being an unselfish and compassionate woman. He was later to

recall that her aim was to make others happy, particularly in regard to her children and domestic help, and that no beggar ever left her door empty-handed. It may well be that her influence on his life was to mark out his later ministry to the poor.

Because of the family's deepening financial situation, William was forced to leave school at age 13 and his father apprenticed him to Francis Eames, a pawnbroker. This was a life that was little more than legalised slavery, a life William was later to refer to as a "humiliating bondage". Here the young William was exposed to the sheer poverty and oppression of the working-class masses, which was no doubt instrumental in forming his strong social conscience later in life.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Perhaps one of the most meaningful influences in the early life of William Booth were Mr and Mrs Dent, who took a genuine interest in the tall, gangly, teenage boy. His resemblance to their deceased son resulted

01.

An illustration of a young Reverend William Booth preaching on the streets of London with his Christian Mission.

02.

William Booth's birthplace in Nottingham, England.



02

in them inviting William to their home, an invitation he readily accepted, no doubt influenced by the presence of their two teenage daughters. Occasionally, William would accompany them to the Broad Street Wesley Chapel, a place that was to become crucial in the spiritual journey of William Booth. While attending the chapel, he was challenged about his spiritual life and, in his own words, had a "sense of the folly of spending my life doing things for which I knew I must either repent or be punished in the days to come". It was here, in a small basement room that William knelt and determined that "God should have all there was of William Booth". Whatever the encounter entailed, God lit a fire in the heart of the young Booth that was never extinguished.

William was soon to make the acquaintance of Will Sanson, an enthusiastic evangelist. Sanson persuaded William to accompany him, with a small group of like-minded friends, in conducting evangelical street meetings in Nottingham. Although a reluctant participant initially, it wasn't long before William's natural ability saw him become leader of the group. William and his group were making a significant number of converts and it seemed only right to him to bring his new converts to the Broad Street chapel. However, it appears that the regular presence

of a large group of young ruffians did not sit well with the church authorities, particularly as William often placed them in the seats reserved for the more wealthy parishioners. Finally, the church leadership told William that he was to bring his ragtag bunch through the back door and seat them in the more obscure pews. Here he was to have his first lesson in the resistance of the established church to his evangelical efforts.

FULL-TIME MINISTRY

In 1849, William Booth moved to what was then the world's largest city, London. Not wanting to go back to his old trade as a pawnbroker, he soon found himself among of the ranks of the unemployed. Finally, not being able to find employment, William reluctantly went to work for another pawnbroker at the Elephant and Castle, William Fillmer, renting a small room above the shop.

William began attending Walworth Wesleyan Chapel and it was not long before his talents were recognised and he began to serve as a lay preacher, not only at Walworth but also other churches on the circuit. The fire that burnt in his soul led him to offer himself to ministry in the Methodist Church, but he was informed that "preachers of his type were not wanted by the Methodist Connexion". He resigned as a lay preacher, fully intending to retain his

membership of the Walworth Wesleyan Chapel. However, the minister refused to renew William's membership, effectively expelling him from the church. For a while he toyed with the idea of serving as a chaplain on an Australian-bound convict ship.

Nevertheless, William's fiery preaching style had caught the attention of Edward Rabbits, owner of a chain of footwear shops. Disillusioned with the stagnation of the Methodist Church, Rabbits, along with many others, left the established church to join a Wesleyan reform movement. The reformers soon welcomed the disillusioned William Booth into their community. His preaching at Binfield House, the reformers' chapel in Clapham, impressed the congregation – among them a young lady called Catherine Mumford – to the point where Rabbits persuaded William to resign from the pawnbrokers and enter into full-time ministry. When William raised the issue of funds, Rabbits offered to underwrite his stipend of 20 shillings a week for the first three months. Quitting his job with the pawnbroker on 8 April 1852, William found lodgings on nearby Princes Row and set his feet on a path that was to change the course of religious history. □

Part two will appear in the September issue of Pipeline.

Do we really believe in freedom of speech?

THE FALLOUT FROM THE RECENT APPEARANCE OF ZAKY MALLAH – CHARGED, BUT FOUND NOT GUILTY, UNDER AUSTRALIA'S ANTI-TERRORISM LAWS – ON THE ABC'S Q&A PROGRAM CONTINUES TO RESONATE AROUND THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE PROGRAM BY THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATION. *PIPELINE* CULTURE WRITER **MARK HADLEY** CONSIDERS WHAT THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE SHOULD BE



It is impossible to maintain freedom of speech without freedom of opportunity, and the moment we deny someone a platform to air their view we reduce our position to the more palatable freedom of conscience

Freedom of speech is a bedrock of Western society, but is it foundational to Christianity? The recent furore surrounding the appearance of a man acquitted of terrorist charges on the ABC's Q&A serves as a sobering reminder to Christians that the Bible does not naturally champion civil rights.

In the weeks following the airing of Q&A's 22 June episode, commentators were lining up to vilify and defend the ABC for allowing Zaky Mallah the opportunity to speak. Mallah pled guilty to charges of threatening to kill ASIO officers, but was acquitted by a Supreme Court of terrorist charges. "Allowing" is a euphemism; ABC producers actually invited Mallah onto the program with the specific goal of asking Liberal Parliamentary Secretary Steven Ciobo a question about the government's plans to remove the citizenship of Australians suspected of terrorism without trial. Mallah did so, and produced an unexpected/expected explosion from the minister: "I'm happy to look you straight in the eye and say I'd be pleased to be part of a government that would say that you were out of the country ... I would sleep very soundly at night with that point of view."

The problem with Ciobo's reaction was not his understandable aversion to people who threaten violence, but his preparedness to have a man who had been fully dealt with by our justice system evicted from the country for making those statements. Mallah's response was incendiary, but essentially suggested Ciobo's rhetoric was more likely to radicalise Australian Muslims than pacify them. But, again, the criticism levelled by Prime Minister Tony Abbott the next day focused not so much on what Mallah said, but on the ABC providing him the opportunity to say it: "I think many, many millions of Australians would feel betrayed right now ... I think the ABC has to have a long, hard look at itself and answer a question which I've posed before: 'Whose side are you on?'"

I'm not interested in singling out the Liberal Party here. Every politician who could find a journalist added their criticism of Mallah or the ABC or radical elements in



The ABC's Q&A, hosted by Tony Jones, has come under fire for allowing a man acquitted of terrorist charges to appear on the show.

general. They also asserted their belief in freedom of speech, but most generally qualified this support by suggesting that some opinions were too hateful, dangerous or misleading to provide them space on a public broadcaster. The contradiction in their position seemed lost on them. It is impossible to maintain freedom of speech without freedom of opportunity, and the moment we deny someone a platform to air their view (particularly a publicly funded one) we reduce our position to the more palatable freedom of conscience. Or, in short: "You can believe what you want, just don't say it in my hearing."

RESPONSIBILITY OF SPEECH

The furore did raise an interesting challenge at the point where my Western journalistic ethics met my Christian faith. Does the Bible actually support freedom of speech? As Christians it's worth reminding ourselves that our support for freedom of speech is more pragmatic than theological. You will look high and low before you find a verse in scripture that supports every person's right to voice their individual opinion. On the contrary, the second commandment specifically prohibits an ancient Israelite from vocally diminishing God's glory, and Jesus certainly believed that we could be held accountable for the use of our tongues, however sincerely or casually we might be speaking: "But I tell you that everyone will have to give

account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken" (Matthew 12:36).

That's not to say that believers aren't in favour of free speech. We find ourselves, like Voltaire, defending the right of the Zaky Mallahs of this world to speak because it practically protects our personal right to witness. We encourage freedom of speech, not because it's a virtue but because it generally creates the best circumstances for spreading the Gospel. Yet Jesus' command to "... make disciples of all nations," obliges us to witness even in countries where freedom of speech is not protected – it's just that there we speak as those prepared to bear the consequences of their actions.

And that is what I am personally convicted of: responsibility of speech. Christians may support freedom of speech in principle, but in our day-to-day lives we need to be preaching accountability. Everyone will be held accountable for what they say, and we want to be found to have said the words of life. Everyone will be held accountable for what they say, and if we're vilified like Mallah then we want it to be for good reason.

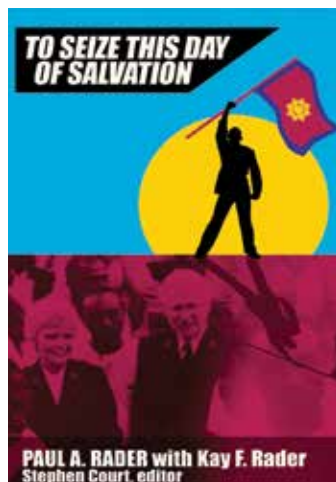
We live in a time where ignorance of the Bible amongst Christians regularly leads us to mistake our Western values for our faith. It can be amusing –

some believe "cleanliness is next to godliness" is scripture – but it can also undermine our trust in God when we don't see him conforming to our standards. The Bible does not guarantee men and women any rights unless, possibly, it's the right of the penitent to expect grace from God. But that's because this expectation is entirely wrong for creatures. God has the right to be glorified and obeyed as our Creator; we have the responsibility to heed his call. In general, humanity lives under the judgement of God for neglecting our responsibility towards *his* rights. Every civil right we claim is actually a gift from his hand.

We shouldn't be naive enough to think that defending freedom of speech will guarantee our right to exercise it. The media, politicians and their audiences are capable of preferring one opinion over another even as they cloak themselves with such liberalities. Free speech doesn't cut both ways. More often than not it's a variable tool used by majority opinions to cut down minority views. Today we're included in the "many millions of Australians" who were apparently outraged by Mallah's words or the ABC's choices. Tomorrow we may find the same phrase marshalled against us. But God will hold us responsible for speaking out, whether we're free to do so or not. □

NEW RELEASES

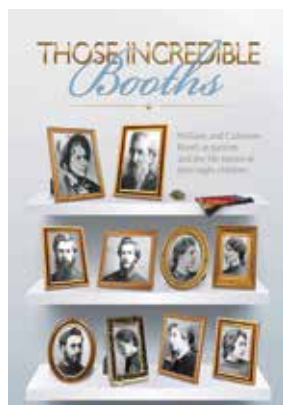
THREE FORMER INTERNATIONAL LEADERS OF THE SALVATION ARMY EACH RELEASED A BOOK AT THE 150TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS, BOUNDLESS – THE WHOLE WORLD REDEEMING, IN LONDON. THE FIRST THREE REVIEWS IN THIS SECTION FOCUS ON THESE BOOKS, WHICH WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FROM THE TRADE IN SYDNEY



TO SEIZE THIS DAY OF SALVATION

AUTHOR • GENERAL PAUL RADER (RET.)

As The Salvation Army's international leaders, the General Rader and his wife, Commissioner Kay Rader, travelled widely, inspiring Salvationists and others to preach the gospel of Jesus and meet human needs in his name. This book contains presentations which will inform and inspire action, exploring vital themes that lie at the heart of The Salvation Army's vision and mission. General Rader makes it clear that the issues are not only perennial – they are urgently relevant to this day of salvation.



THOSE INCREDIBLE BOOTHS

AUTHOR • GENERAL JOHN LARSSON (RET.)

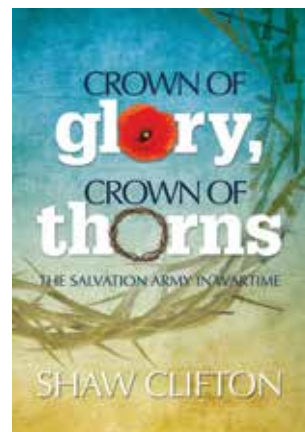
"The Booths astounded the world," writes General Larsson. "William and Catherine not only created a new dynamic force called The Salvation Army, but as parents brought into the world a boisterous crew of eight individuals – as gifted and headstrong as their parents." The book explores William and Catherine's approach to parenting and follows the children – through eight biographies woven together to form one fascinating narrative – as their influence spreads around the world. Good times and bad are treated with the same light but authoritative touch – including when three of the children rebelled against their father and left the Army, sending, in the words of General Larsson, "a shudder through its ranks". ... General John Larsson took office as international leader of The Salvation Army on 13 November 2002, retiring in 2006. Born in Sweden, he and his British wife, Commissioner Freda Larsson, served as Salvation Army officers in the United Kingdom, South America, New Zealand, his country of birth and at International Headquarters in London. He is the author of a number of books, a widely published composer of music and the co-writer – with John Gowans – of 10 musicals.

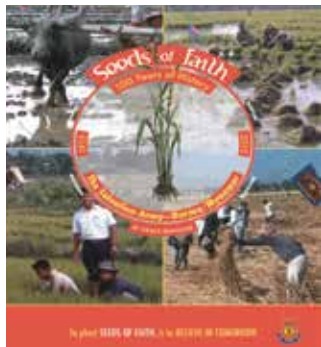
CROWN OF GLORY, CROWN OF THORNS – THE SALVATION ARMY IN WARTIME

AUTHOR • GENERAL SHAW CLIFTON (RET.)

In a literate and engaging manner General Clifton takes the reader on a journey through the dark days of three wars. Based on his 1988 doctoral thesis, *Crown of Glory, Crown of Thorns* is the most comprehensive analysis of The Salvation Army in wartime ever compiled. It provides a detailed account of Salvation Army work and attitudes in wartime – with a particular focus on the Boer War and the two World Wars. Meticulous research revealed three main principles which governed Salvationist war reactions between 1899 and 1945: the spiritual priority of Christian evangelism and soul-saving; the practical priority of compassionate good work; and the upholding of Christian internationalism. The book considers at length the difficulty of maintaining the third principle at times of particularly strong patriotism, "placing the movement," writes General Clifton, "and its leaders under perpetual strain". *Crown of Glory, Crown of Thorns* includes 16 pages of fascinating photographs that provide a visual background for the stories and discussions. Not only is this an invaluable addition to the annals of Salvation Army history and a work of substantial scholarship, but it is thoroughly readable, stimulating and challenging.

– Commissioner William Cochrane





SEEDS OF FAITH – 100 YEARS OF HISTORY OF THE SALVATION ARMY IN BURMA / MYANMAR

AUTHOR • COMMISSIONER GRACE BRINGANS

The “Golden Land” of Burma, renamed Myanmar in 1989, is an intriguing and largely unknown Asian country. How then was The Salvation Army planted in this predominantly Buddhist land? The answers are found in this must-read historical record that gives wonderful insight into Burma and its people, as well as the valiant Salvationists over almost 100 years, totally dedicated to fulfilling the Founder General William Booth’s vision to “win the world for Jesus”. Salvation Army “seeds of faith” were planted from 1915, trusting in God’s blessing that one day he would give a great harvest of souls. Now there are over 2000 committed Salvationists and a growing officer force of over 100 giving oversight to 60 centres of Salvation Army ministry throughout this country where life is still far from easy. If you want to be inspired, blessed and challenged, read this book.

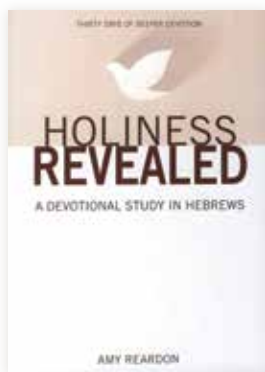
– Edited version of General André Cox’s foreword

Each book costs \$25. For every copy sold, \$5 will go towards the work in Myanmar. Orders can be made directly to: literary@smm.salvationarmy.org

HOLINESS REVEALED – A DEVOTIONAL STUDY IN HEBREWS

AUTHOR • AMY REARDON

In this accessible study of the New Testament epistle of Hebrews, Amy Reardon pulls back the curtain of ancient Jewish culture and tradition, allowing us to come face-to-face with the God-man Jesus Christ. “When God gives us a glimpse of who he is, we don’t want to miss it,” she says. Hebrews is not light reading for beginners, neither is it only understandable to scholars. Rather, it is written for regular Christian disciples who are willing to seek a deeper understanding and deeper love for Christ. Ideal for group Bible studies or individual devotion, Reardon’s personal approach engagingly unpacks some of the most challenging Scripture. Through her daily devotional-paced writing, disciples of all levels are invited into the depths of God’s holy design for their souls.



GLORY DAYS – LIVING YOUR PROMISED LAND LIFE NOW

AUTHOR • MAX LUCADO

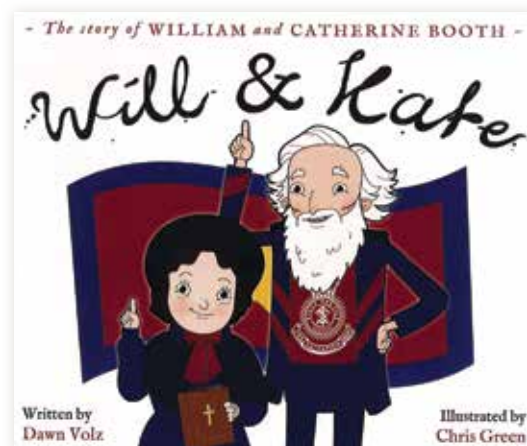
According to Max Lucado, the majority of Christians aren’t living up to their God-given potential. Lucado backs his claim by citing a 2007 survey of more than 100,000 members of 1000 churches in the United States: nearly nine out of 10 churchgoers admit they feel “stalled” in their spiritual growth and that they aren’t as close to God as they’d like to be. In this, his latest book, Lucado gives hope to the stalled-out and shows Christians how to enjoy full-throttle living. “As a follower of God, do you sense a disconnect between the promises of the Bible and the reality of your life?” asks Lucado. “With God’s help you can close the gap between the person you are and the person you want to be.” *Glory Days* is based on his life-long favorite book of the Bible, Joshua in the Old Testament. Lucado uses the life of Joshua and the Israelites as a model for modern victorious Christian living.



WILL & KATE – THE STORY OF WILLIAM AND CATHERINE BOOTH

AUTHOR • DAWN VOLZ / ILLUSTRATOR • CHRIS GREEN

This is a picture-book biography of The Salvation Army’s founders, William and Catherine Booth, which is presented in a format for children. The story follows the lives of “Will and Kate”, from their childhood in early 19th-century England, through to their courtship and family life bringing up eight children, and eventually their founding of The Salvation Army. Southern Territorial Literary Secretary Captain Mal Davies says the book serves to fill a notable gap in Salvationist literature. “We hope that children across the Army world read with excitement of two other children who, more than 170 years ago, committed themselves to God and saw amazing things happen as the Army grew and grew,” he says. “*Will & Kate*” will also be a resource for leaders of playgroups and pre-school activities. It will also give non-Army children and parents an introduction to the inspirational story of how The Salvation Army began.” Available from The Trade (thetrade.salvos.org.au)



SPORTS CARNIVAL AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE WINNING SIDE ▼

Close to 400 people participated in The Salvation Army's national basketball and netball carnival from 5-11 July. Held at the Sutherland District Basketball Association indoor courts in Sydney's south, 41 teams from the Australia Eastern, Australia Southern and Papua New Guinea territories competed. The carnival, which has been running for more than 40 years, is also an evangelistic outreach opportunity.

Hurstville Corps Officer Major Trevor Nicol, who heads up the territory's sports ministry, is passionate about using sport to spread the gospel. "I want to get this message out there to people that sport is another avenue of ministry and it's open to anyone," he said. "Nearly half of the carnival participants don't attend church and are invited by Salvos. It actually allows people [Salvos] to be in a relaxed atmosphere, allowing them to talk more easily about Jesus."

Some of the non-Christian participants have taken part in this competition for about 10 years. Through relationships built with Salvo participants over the years, Major Nicol said many are now more open to hearing the gospel message through taking part in this sports ministry. Further opportunities to share the gospel message occurred at the Sunday worship service, which was held prior to the carnival. Two Salvo participants shared their testimonies throughout the week and Major Nicol spoke about integrity on the last day of the carnival.

"I spoke on how we portray ourselves when on the sports field. I issued a challenge to the Christians to be the same on and off the courts," he said. The carnival's youngest competitor was seven and the oldest was 62. Men and women played in separate divisions and the under 14s competition played in a mixed gender team. ¶ – **Esther Pinn**



01.

Joel Nicol in action for the Sydney men's basketball team at The Salvation Army national championships at Sutherland. Photos: Carolyn Hide

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SOCIETY DELVES INTO DYNAMIC LITERARY PARTNERSHIP ▼



02



03

02. Jake Nicol gets his hands on the ball.

03. Natalie Sheehan was a member of the Sydney women's side.

The June meeting of The Salvation Army Historical Society, Brisbane Chapter, was introduced to two outstanding women of the late 19th and early 20th century who impacted The Salvation Army but came from the upper classes of society.

Garth Hentzschel, president of the chapter, outlined the lives of Mildred Duff and Sarah Morewood and what they contributed to a fast-growing Salvation Army of their time. It was revealed that Mildred came from the McDuff clan and included the Earls of Fife, royalty and is an ancestor of David Cameron, the British Prime Minister. She was converted in an evangelical tea meeting and soon came to run her own in the family's country estate. At the time of The Salvation Army's International Congress in 1886, Mildred became a translator for the European delegation and through this encounter became a Salvationist and went to Sweden to train as an officer. After time back in London, as staff on the Training College, she served as leader of the Slum Work. It was during this time that Mildred met Sarah.

Sarah, too, came from the upper classes, through her mother's link to the French Royal family. She went on to study art and work for the editorial department of International Headquarters. When Mildred was appointed as editor of *The Young Soldier*, Sarah took on the writing name of Noel Hope. As part of their research and writing they introduced story telling by sand tray. Major Glenda Hentzschel presented a story of the Prodigal Son using original sand-tray techniques to show those in attendance how this was used.

The long list of books and other publications were outlined and described. The series of biblical books, including *Where Moses Went to School* and *Where Moses Learned to Rule* used archaeological finds to help the Bible stories come to life in a real context. Mildred also compiled craft from *The Young Soldier* into a book entitled *Novelties and How to Make Them*. A selection of craft from this book was on offer and a number of people made items such a peg butterfly, wire people and paper daises. To conclude the evening Mildred's involvement in the 1929 High Council was unpacked before supper was shared. ¶

WEBSITE TO SHOWCASE CORPS HISTORY ▼

To celebrate The Salvation Army's international 150-year anniversary, Salvationists across the Australia Eastern Territory have been dusting off their corps history books. A territorial media campaign this month will highlight The Salvation Army's unique history in each local area, as well as how our dynamic organisation continues to make history today. A website – www.salvos.org.au/localhistory – has been built to showcase each corps' history. Check it out to be inspired by our past accomplishments, encouraged by our present work, and excited about the future of The Salvation Army in eastern Australia. ¶

SALVOS STORES SUPPORTS OP SHOP WEEK ▼

Salvos Stores is launching “The Style Army” campaign during National Op Shop Week from 23-30 August to raise awareness about the importance of supporting local op shops. This campaign exists to encourage consumers to reinvent fashion by shopping at local Salvos Stores. On 24 August, Salvos Stores is setting up a Salvo Street Boutique at Wynyard Park in Sydney’s city centre from 8am to promote The Style Army campaign.

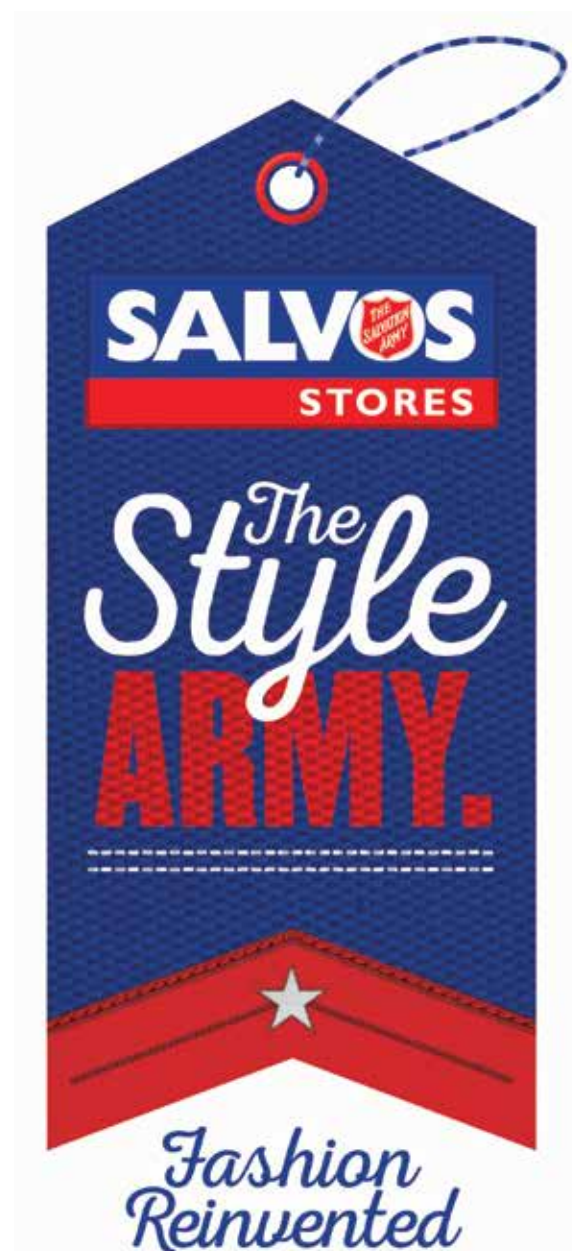
Other Salvos Stores fashion boutiques will also be held at various locations throughout the Australia Eastern Territory during National Op Shop Week. Fashion shows will be held throughout the day at the Salvo Street Boutique to showcase vintage and current fashion trends for the budget-conscious consumer, which can be found at local Salvos Stores. TV fashion commentator, eco-fashion blogger and Salvos Stores ambassador Faye De Lanty will curate The Style Army fashion shows in all locations during National Op Shop Week. She will also be attending the Salvos Street Boutique launch to offer styling advice.

Former *Vogue Australia* editor Kirsty Clements will also be available to offer styling tips at the Salvos Street Boutique launch. Additionally, Kirsty will edit this year’s Salvos Stores magazine, *The Style Army*, which will be released during National Op Shop Week. All profits from the sales of the Sydney Salvos Street Boutique and other territorial fashion shows will go towards supporting the Army’s many programs which assist the less fortunate.

“By taking part in National Op Shop Week and The Style Army campaign, as well as shopping and donating at your community Salvos Stores, you are supporting the mission and programs of The Salvation Army. Salvos Stores use all proceeds to fund vital work in the community on a weekly basis,” said Salvos Stores General Manager, Neville Barrett.

For further information about The Style Army campaign and Salvos Stores, go to salvosstores.salvos.org.au/the-style-army or ring 13 SALVOS (13 72 58).¶

– Esther Pinn



ROTARY HONOUR FOR SALVATION ARMY OFFICER ▼

Lieutenant Nathan Hodges, Corps Officer at Panania in Sydney, has been made a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Padstow. The honour is in recognition of his service to Rotary and the community.

Lieut Hodges is pictured receiving his award from club president Joan Wells at a special Rotary service on Tuesday, 14 July. ¶



WINTER NO OBSTACLE TO STREETLEVEL'S SERVICE ▼



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Brisbane Streetlevel Mission has continued its community outreach and commitment through several recent events. Around 12 Streetlevel community members attended the NAIDOC Family Fun Day at Brisbane's Musgrave Park on Friday 10 July. "This event, which attracted thousands of people, is designed to showcase, assist and inform people about indigenous issues," said Major Bryce Davies, Streetlevel Team Leader. "The many stalls and information booths gave great insight into the support services available to indigenous people and also the rich culture and spirit of these people. There was traditional dance, thousands of colourful shirts and costumes and a great atmosphere of fun and joy."

Streetlevel was one of only two coffee vans for the whole event and served hundreds of coffees. "We promoted and encouraged this event through 'Deadly Salvos' – our group that aims to increase engagement with indigenous peoples attending Streetlevel, and in the local community," said Major Davies.

For the past nine months, Streetlevel has been running an outreach at a local housing estate where many lonely and isolated people live. On Friday 3 July, Streetlevel hosted a 60th birthday party for Pete, who lives in the estate, with more than 50 community members attending. "Pete had no other celebration that day and was so pleased we were there to make his day special," said Major Davies. "We shared grace together where we thanked God for Peter and for the wonderful food and fellowship we were able to share. It was a terrific event!"

The annual Streetlevel winter camp was also a success, with 42 participants braving the cold to come together at Riverview on the weekend of 26-28 June. "The weekend teaching was the culmination of our Alpha series and being filled with the Holy Spirit was the main emphasis," said Major Davies. "Great times of prayer and renewal were experienced by many. We had a magnificent pork spit-roast dinner on the Saturday night followed by a dance party and bonfire." ¶ – **Simone Worthing**

BRISBANE CITY HONOURS LATE COMPOSER WITH CONCERT ▼

The late Lieutenant-Colonel Ray Steadman-Allen, one of The Salvation Army's great composers, was remembered in a tribute concert at Brisbane City Temple on Sunday afternoon 21 June. Barrie Gott, a good friend of Lieut-Colonel Steadman-Allen, organised the event which featured the Brisbane City Temple Band and the award-winning Brisbane Excelsior Band.

"Ray was a phenomenal composer, a very spiritual gentleman and so he deserves recognition for the contribution he made to The Salvation Army and music outside The Salvation Army as well," Barrie said. "He also spent quite a lot of time in Australia as the Territorial Music Secretary." Each band item was a composition that Lieut-Colonel Steadman-Allen had written or arranged. "The two leading bands that featured were outstanding," says Barrie. "The Brisbane Excelsior Band is Australia's leading

A-Grade band and Brisbane City Temple is one of The Salvation Army's leading bands in Australia."

Special guest artists Russell Gray and the Lofton Brass Quintet and Blindsight Vocal Quartet also performed. "The highlight for me came at the end of the concert when the bands joined to play Ray's most ambitious work – *The Holy War*," Barrie said. "It was a very successful afternoon. A very worthwhile event that everyone enjoyed – a wonderful tribute to a wonderful man."

A second tribute concert for Lieut-Colonel Steadman-Allen will be held at Sydney Congress Hall on Saturday 5 September (7.30pm). This will be a night of music and song featuring the Parramatta Citadel Band, Sydney Staff Songsters and the Ray Steadman-Allen Tribute Band. All are welcome to come and celebrate the life and musical work of Lieut-Colonel Steadman-Allen.¶

INDIGENOUS WOMEN BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS ▼

Seventeen indigenous women are now driving both progress and haul trucks as a result of the Oothungs (Sisters) In Mining training program – a collaboration between Thiess, Wesfarmers Curragh and The Salvation Army Employment Plus.

The program aims to create a sustainable entry pathway for indigenous women into the industry. The graduates are now employed as trainees at the Wesfarmers Curragh coal mine near Blackwater, the Thiess Mining operation at Curragh North or Thiess' Lake Vermont site near Dysart where they will complete their 18 to 24-month traineeships.

"The program will open up a whole new world for these women," said Barry Doyle, Senior Indigenous Mentor and Training Officer, Employment Plus.

"For the next couple of weeks, they will continue training on the simulator and then, after passing their simulator exam, they then can progress into the real trucks; observing at first, then driving with a trainer before the big day when they go solo." The graduates will then complete either a Certificate 3 in Surface Extraction Operations or Certificate 3 in Resource Processing.¶



Seventeen indigenous women graduated from "Sisters in Mining" – a collaborative program with The Salvation Army Employment Plus in Blackwater, Central Queensland.

COMMUNITY AWARD RECOGNISES WORK WITH CHILDREN ▼



The Salvation Army's Nell Kuilenburg (second from left) with the finalists of the HESTA Organisation Award.

The Salvation Army's innovative Safe from the Start project received one of five national community awards at the 2015 HESTA Community Sector Awards in Sydney on 25 June. Safe from the Start is an early-intervention, positive and evidence-based project that aims to raise awareness of the effects on children who have witnessed family violence and abuse. The project trains and assists support workers as they work with children under eight who have also been abused, affected by divorce, grief, bullying, or experienced a natural disaster.

The project originated in Tasmania, Australia Southern Territory, but as grown into a national project across both Australian territories.

The HESTA Community Sector Awards are presented by HESTA – an industry super fund for health and community services – and the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS). The HESTA Awards recognise outstanding service provision, advocacy and leadership in improving the lives of people who rely on access to the services of this sector. They are also intended to raise community awareness of the need for all members of our community to share the responsibility of working towards a more inclusive, compassionate and effective society. The Organisation Award recognises an organisation which has made an outstanding contribution to social justice in Australia, through the development and or provision of a high-quality and innovative program, project or specific service.

According to Nell Kuilenburg, Development Manager, Australia Southern Territory, Tasmania Division, the award recognises and confirms The Salvation Army's strong position of ensuring that children are safe and precious as well as the great support the project has received from local corps and Doorways centres in both territories. For more information, go to: salvationarmy.org.au/safefromthestart ¶ – Simone Worthing



ALBURY CORPS ▼



With Lieuts Debra and Rod Parsons (centre) are the new senior soldiers at Albury Corps, (from left) Lyn Gardnir, Tammy Hearne, Shirley Mousley and Linda Adam.

Four new senior soldiers were enrolled at Albury on Sunday 29 June – Linda Adam, Tammy Hearne, Lyn Gardnir and Shirley Mousley. Each new soldier shared their testimony with the congregation.

Linda spoke about the miracles that God had showered upon her in challenging times, and how she had finally found a spiritual home where the “down and out” were shown real and honest acceptance at Albury Corps; Tammy told of the love and support she had found at corps’ Mainly Music program; Lyn shared her story of hitting “rock bottom”, moving to Albury and finding the healing power of Jesus as she gave her life in service to him through the corps; and Shirley spoke of the “joys and trials” of living a “life of Christian ethics” within The Salvation Army, but that it was not until she saw Jesus truly alive in others that she was finally able to surrender her own life to him.

“The new lease of life that the celebration has given to the congregation, the visitors and the two people who God brought to the meeting that day has been amazing,” said Corps Officer Lieutenant Debra Parsons. “We can only watch and marvel as God works in the lives of his people.”

TWEED HEADS CORPS ▼



Corps Officer Major Leanne Elsley recently enrolled six junior soldiers, all of whom were delighted to make their promises and receive their certificates. One of the new junior soldiers grew up in the corps, while the others have all started attending over the last 18 months.

“With the influx of new families with younger children, our junior soldier program is growing which is very exciting,” said Major Elsley.

The new junior soldiers are (from left to right) Kirra Lamph, Jessica Beringer, Taleah Yaxley, Sophie Ellison, Joshua Foster and Rebecca Jecny. Colin Cotterill is holding the flag.

Mission
Priorities

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

One Army, One Mission, One Message



We're about people finding freedom.

STATUE HONOURS CATHERINE BOOTH ▼

Leaders of The Salvation Army from across the world met on Mile End Road in the East End of London on 2 July to commemorate Founders' Day and unveil a statue of the Army Mother, Catherine Booth, next to one of William Booth erected in 1979.

"This is a special day as we recognise the remarkable contributions Catherine Booth had in shaping The Salvation Army to be what it is today," said General André Cox in welcoming attendees – Army officers, local religious leaders, city workers and Booth family members alike.

Known for her partnership in beginning the ministry that would become The Salvation Army 150 years ago, Catherine Booth is heralded for advocating for women's equal rights to preach.

The statue, a depiction of Catherine in a bonnet, hand extended and clutching a Bible to her chest, was funded by women of The Salvation Army in the United States. ¶



The statue of Catherine Booth, unveiled in the East End of London on 2 July.

GENERAL CLIFTON TO WRITE NEXT HISTORY VOLUME ▼

General André Cox has decided that the next volume of The Salvation Army's official history will be written by General Shaw Clifton (Ret). The new volume will be number nine in a series whose first volume was published in 1947.

General Clifton will not be the first international leader to write a volume of the Army's history. Volume Seven – covering the years from 1946 to 1977 – was written in retirement by General Frederick Coutts. Like General Coutts, General Clifton will be writing about a period that includes his own term as the Army's world leader.

"Volume Nine will begin with the year 1995 and take the account right up to the 2015 Congress event in London, at the request of General Cox," said General Clifton. "I am grateful to him for entrusting this task to me. The first eight volumes of the Army's official history were compiled by gifted writers and it is somewhat daunting to be asked to

follow in their steps. I will do my best, with God's help."

The first three volumes of *The History of The Salvation Army* were all written by Colonel Robert Sandall. The first two told the story of The Salvation Army from its birth in 1865 through to 1886, by which time William Booth's fledgling Army was already at work in 16 countries including the United States, Canada, India and Australia. Volume Three changed its approach somewhat, focusing on the "Social Reform and Welfare Work" from 1883-1953. Volumes Four and Five, written by Lieut-Commissioner Arch Wiggins, took up the story in 1886 and continued through to 1914, and the start of the First World War.

The next two volumes were written by General Coutts, the first of which – covering the years 1914-1946 – included The Salvation Army's approach and response to two world wars. The most recent volume (1977-1994), written by Colonel Henry Gariepy, was published in 1999. ¶

CHIEF OF THE STAFF LEADS CELEBRATIONS IN MEXICO ▼

The Chief of the Staff, Commissioner William Roberts, and Commissioner Nancy Roberts (World Secretary for Women's Ministries) were at the heart of celebrations recognising The Salvation Army's 150th anniversary during a visit to Mexico.

The commissioners were received by the United States Ambassador to Mexico, Earl Anthony Wayne, and were accompanied throughout their visit by territorial leaders Colonels Ricardo and Sonia Bouzigues.

On the Saturday of their visit, activities began in a park close to where The Salvation Army had started work in Mexico 78 years ago. An open-air meeting was followed by a march of witness, with brass band, timbrels, flags and balloons. A big Salvationist crowd took part in the march, saluting the Chief of the Staff and Commissioner Roberts who were standing at the place where The Salvation Army started in Mexico.

The visit ended with the commissioning of cadets of the *Heralds of Grace* session. Commissioner Roberts had encouraging words for the new officers, calling on them to "fix their eyes on Jesus" and to continue learning at every step of their ministry. ¶ - **Major Ruth Ruiz**



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01. Mexican Salvationists gather for a march of witness.

02. Commissioner William Roberts commissions cadets of the *Heralds of Grace* session.

TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE HOLDS FIRST MEETING ▼

The first meeting of The Salvation Army's International Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force was held in London on 7 July. The taskforce has been appointed by the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner William Roberts, who defined its purpose to be "promoting, encouraging, supporting and coordinating an anti-human trafficking response within The Salvation Army around the world".

All 15 members of the taskforce attended the first meeting, which was held following the Boundless international congress. Responsibility for coordinating anti-human trafficking strategy across The Salvation Army rests with the International Social Justice Commission, whose deputy director, Lieutenant-Colonel Eirwen Pallant, has been appointed to chair the group. The other members

are: Commissioner Nancy Roberts (World Secretary for Women's Ministries, International Headquarters); Major Heather Grinsted (Middle East Region); Lieut-Colonel Marieke Venter (Bangladesh Command); Commissioner Nemkhanching (IHQ); Captain Andrews Christian (India Western Territory); Lieut-Colonel Ardis Fuge (USA National Headquarters); Lieut-Colonel Sara Chagas (Mexico Territory); Major Lenah Jwili (Southern Africa Territory); Commissioner Florence Malabi (IHQ); Commissioner Dorita Wainwright (IHQ); Major Estelle Blake (Italy and Greece Command); Anne Gregora (United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland); Ben Gilbert (IHQ); and Major Bong Salcedo (The Philippines Territory).¶

COMPASSIONATE HEART ▼



Major Elvie Baker was promoted to glory on 6 May, aged 88, in Sydney. Her funeral service, conducted by

Commissioners Ian and Nancy Cutmore, was held at Dulwich Hill Temple on 11 May.

Elvina (Elvie) Olive Baker was born on 16 September 1926, the first child to William and Olive Baker. Five siblings followed – Len, Gwen, Russell, Trevern and Glenys – and the family attended Parramatta Corps. Elvie was often called on to nurture, particularly the younger siblings, during times of their mother's illness. After leaving school, Elvie worked as a dental nurse.

Elvie answered God's call to officership in her early 20s, and entered The Salvation Army Training College in March 1948 as part of the *King's Messengers* session. She was commissioned in January 1949, with her first appointment being Assistant Corps Officer at Gosford Corps where she remained for a year. More appointments as a corps assistant followed at Portland, West Wallsend and Forest Lodge. In 1951, Elvie was appointed as Corps Officer to Mortdale, followed by Griffith, Portland, Paddington and Cardiff.

A change of work followed in October 1954 when Elvie was appointed to the Field (Personnel) Department at Territorial Headquarters where she remained for just over 10 years. Elvie was then appointed as the Secretary in the Public Relations Department, then a divisional appointment followed as Secretary of the Sydney East and Illawarra Division. She held this position for 10 years. Her next appointment was as Divisional Chancellor of The Greater West Division.

Another appointment followed

as Assistant Trade Secretary and about 12 months later Elvie was appointed as Trade Secretary. Her final appointment came in January 1985 when she became the Assistant Field Secretary. She held this position until her retirement on 1 October 1986. In retirement, Elvie worked as the assistant to the corps officers (Majors John and Narelle Rees) at Dulwich Hill Corps and remained a soldier of that corps. Elvie was a Salvation Army officer for more than 66 years, with nearly 38 years of active service.

She served God faithfully and obediently, with a caring and compassionate heart that enriched the lives of many people as she served her Lord. Elvie will be missed by all those who loved her – particularly her five brothers and sisters; her 16 nieces and nephews and their respective families. She has been described as “the glue that held the family together”.¶

LIFETIME OF SERVICE ▼



Lyle Dobbs was promoted to glory on 26 June, aged 75, in Rockhampton.

To underscore his reputation in the community, more than 400 people from all walks of life attended his funeral. The mayor of Rockhampton, Margaret Strelow, gave a wonderful tribute on behalf of the city. Graham Ivers voiced a moving tribute on behalf of the Capricorn Region Corps, and Lyle's sister, Lynette Ivers, and her husband, Trevor, joined the service via live streaming as they were attending the Boundless congress in London.

Lyle Dobbs had been a soldier of The Salvation Army for 60 years. Born in Rockhampton on 1 July 1940, Lyle lived in the suburb of Wandal where his parents attended the corps known as Hillside, situated in Murray St. Lyle was enrolled as a senior

soldier of the Hillside Corps on 19 June 1955, at the age of 15. He excelled as youth group leader of the corps. Lyle was still in his teens when his father passed away unexpectedly and he embraced responsibility for providing for his mother and sister. This included transporting them to the meeting each Sunday at the Temple Corps in Alma St.

At 19, Lyle was diagnosed as a severe diabetic and then later, in his 20s, he was diagnosed with cancer which required a number of surgeries. The effects of diabetes were always with him yet, even in the face of these illnesses and the affect they had on him, Lyle was never heard to complain. He continued to serve God at Rockhampton Temple and was well known and respected for his involvement and leadership of the State Emergency Services which lasted 40 years. Finally, when corps in Rockhampton amalgamated to form the Capricorn Region Corps, Lyle continued his service to God in this his third corps. He played in the band to support worship, and gave great support and outstanding service through The Salvation Army Emergency Services. Even as recently as Tropical Cyclone Marcia (February 2015), Lyle was a steadfast supporter and quiet achiever, fixing problems and giving good advice.

Lyle's interest in music and brass bands enabled him to play in community bands over the years and, as a tribute to him, many community band personnel joined the Capricorn Region Corps band to provide music for his funeral – a vacant chair was featured in the trombone section as a further tribute.

Lyle is survived by his wife Margaret and children Janelle, Ross, Tresna and their families, and a legacy of faithfulness and service.¶

ABOUT PEOPLE

BIRTH

Cadets Zak and Dee **Churchill**, a boy, Jeremiah John, on 17 June.

OFFICER REINSTATED

Lieutenant Penny **Williams**, Maclean Corps, was reaccepted as an officer on 28 April.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Major Merv **Palmer** on 9 July.

CONCLUSION OF SERVICE

Captains Chad and Jodie **Pethybridge** on 22 June; Captain Janelle **Spence** on 1 July; Envoy Anne **Ducray** on 13 July; Captain Raelene **Steep** on 17 July.

BEREAVED

Major Peter **Sutcliffe** of his mother and Lieutenant David **Sutcliffe**, Lieutenant Philip **Sutcliffe** and Cadet Matthew **Sutcliffe** of their grandmother, Dell **Sutcliffe** on 11 July.

TIME TO PRAY

26 JULY – 1 AUGUST

Caloundra Corps, Carindale Corps, Centenary Corps, Coolum Mission, Coomera Mission, Dalby Corps, Fassifern Corps, all Qld; Recovery Prayer Day (30); Youth and Kids Ministry Conference, NSW (31 July-2 Aug).

2-8 AUGUST

Forest Lake Community Church, God's Sports Arena, Gold Coast Temple Corps, Gympie Corps, Hervey Bay Corps, Inala Corps, all Qld; Junior Soldier Renewal Day (2); Officer 19 Year Review (3-6); Divisional Mission and Resource Team Leaders Forum (7).

9-15 AUGUST

Ipswich Corps, Life Community Church, Lockyer Valley Corps, Maroochydore Corps, Maryborough Corps, Nambour Corps, all Qld; Officer 3-Year Review (10-14).

16-22 AUGUST

Noosa Corps, North Brisbane Corps, Palm Beach Elanora Corps, Pine Rivers Corps, Redcliffe City Corps, Roma Corps, all Qld.

23-29 AUGUST

Soundpoint, South Burnett Region Corps, Stafford Corps, Toowoomba Corps, Warwick Corps and Stanthorpe Outpost, Wynnum Corps, all Qld; Tweed Heads Corps, NSW; Aged Care Plus Sunday (23); THQ Officers Retreat (24-26); Youth and Kids Ministry Conference, Qld (28-30).

30 AUGUST – 5 SEPTEMBER

Brisbane Central Community Welfare Centre, Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), Glen Haven, Gold Coast Recovery Services Centre (Fairhaven), Holland Park Community Welfare Centre, Horton Village, Inala Community Welfare Centre, Logan City Community Welfare Centre, Noosa Shire Crisis Housing Program, all Qld; Thought Matters Conference (4-6).

ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

COMMISSIONERS JAMES (TERRITORIAL COMMANDER) AND JAN CONDON

Brisbane: Sat 1-Sun 2 Aug – 130th anniversary celebrations, Brisbane City Temple Corps

North Brisbane: Mon 3 Aug – Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Launch, Indigenous Ministries

Collaroy: Mon 3 Aug – Officers 20- year review, dinner and fellowship

Sydney: Fri 7 Aug – Salvos Stores review

Sydney: Sun 9 Aug – Installation of Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell, Sydney Congress Hall

Stanmore: Mon 10 Aug – Officers three year review

Sydney: Thu 13 Aug – Territorial Advisory Board meeting

Bega: Sat 15-Sun 16 Aug – 125th anniversary celebrations, Bega Corps

Pokolbin: Mon 24-Wed 26 Aug – Territorial Headquarters officers retreat

*Sydney: Fri 28 Aug – 23rd annual Oasis Ball, Sydney Town Hall

* *Commissioner James Condon only*

COLONEL MARK CAMPBELL (CHIEF SECRETARY)

Collaroy: Mon 3 Aug – 20-year officer review dinner and panel

Bexley North: Fri 7 Aug – Leadership lecture to 1st and 2nd year cadets

Sydney: Sun 9 Aug – Welcome and installation meeting for Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell, Sydney Congress Hall

Stanmore: Tues 11 Aug – Dinner for third-year cadets, Lieutenants Residential 2 at Stanmore House

Bexley North: Thu 13 Aug – Historical society (Sydney chapter), AGM

Pokolbin: Mon 24-Wed 26 Aug – THQ officers retreat

Bexley North: Thu 27 Aug – Spiritual day at the School For Officer Training

A young child with short brown hair, smiling, is the central focus. They are wearing a white singlet with red trim and the text 'Salvos Striders' in red. The singlet also features 'THE SALVATION ARMY' logo on the lower right. The child is holding hands with two adults on either side. The adults are wearing similar white singlets with red accents. They are standing on a lush green grassy field with trees in the background.

**A LITTLE
HOPE CAN GO
A LONG WAY**

**SUNDAY
9 AUGUST
SYDNEY**

Grab the whole family and join us as we walk, run, dance or jog our way to the finish line to help raise vital funds for The Salvation Army.

Race for the Salvos and you'll receive a free singlet, entry to pre-race breakfast and entry to the Westpac tent at Bondi.

Sign up at city2surf.com.au and make sure to choose The Salvation Army as your charity of choice on the registration form.

The Sun-Herald
CITY2SURF
PRESENTED BY
Westpac

Erring on side of compassion

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE DEBATE DEMANDS GRACE



GRANT SANDERCOCK-BROWN

Why does discussion of homosexuality so often provoke aggression? In the wake of the recent United States Supreme Court decision, Christians have shared their opinions on same-sex marriage on social media. Doing so has somehow brought on the metaphorical and judgmental punches; people with differing views trying to land knockout blows. In contrast, no-one on my Facebook feed is offering strong opinions on the evils of de facto relationship and single-parenting. My problem is not really people's opinions on same-sex-marriage, but the judgment and labelling that follows in the wake of an opinion being offered. And while people are coming out swinging, no-one is winning. I think that's because people are looking in opposite directions.

There is no doubt that, overall, Christians proclaim a minority view when it comes to sex. Many would see us as prudes! We believe that sex outside of marriage and de facto relationships are immoral, perspectives that society in general does not share. If we were to unabashedly tell the truth on all things sexual, we'd probably have even less friends and boycott more movies. But we don't. When the young couple moves in next door and she introduces him as her partner and we see no wedding ring, we don't say a condemnatory word. We are friendly, invite them over for coffee, and mind their children. In

fact, we hide our prudishness for their sake; for the gospel's sake really. And we discover that there is great power in welcome and warmth in spite of moral differences.

But it's not just Christians versus the World but rather Christian versus Christian that's hurting us the most. "The Bible is plain on this matter," some say. "No it's not," say others. However, we Bible studiers know that Scripture is not always as clear-cut as we'd like it to be. And yes, we pick and choose and interpret which bits of the Bible we regard as important and carve off others as cultural accretions. We must accept that we are inconsistent in our application of Scripture. But it gets worse. Christians are being judged on whether or not they are true Christians because of an opinion. An opinion! Somehow we've moved from works righteousness to opinion righteousness. And this is the bit I object to most strongly. I reject the notion that I must have a line-in-the-sand "final" view on same-sex marriage that'll demonstrate whether I'm a Christian or not.

I think I can be a Christian who is trying to live a Scripture-shaped life, who is loving, compassionate, and welcoming towards gays and lesbians; someone who is pretty sure that it's not my business to tell non-Christians how to live their lives or rebuke other Christians regarding their theology. And I can do that while being undecided on the gay marriage thing but wanting to err on the side

of generosity and compassion. It's why I'm very happy with The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory's recent Holding Statement on same-sex marriage, because it's a loving, "we're not sure yet" document.

Eventually our loving prudishness may mean that we are pushed to our society's margins and no longer acceptable. Perhaps. But then again, it's where we have done some of our best work! Of course, most of us think that the judgmental, abusive label doesn't apply to us; that we can humbly say, or imply: "I claim the moral high ground here for I am right and you are wrong". Jesus told a story about that very thing. It was the story of a man who walked into worship and thanked God for his upright character that meant he was a better person than the desperate sinner beside him. The desperate sinner merely cried out: "Lord, have mercy" (Luke 18:9-14).

A heartfelt cry for mercy might be needed now; genuine and generous mercy. It is, after all, the heart of the gospel. If we are going to err, let's err on the side of compassion, of generosity, of grace. Let's admit our uncertainty, refuse to sit in judgment of sinner and saint alike. Let's not draw lines in the sand that exclude and alienate. Let's be soft at the edges. Being merciful at the edges may just mean that, thank God, many more undeserving sinners end up in church. ¶



SLEEP ON YOUR
COUCH
TO STOP SOMEONE
SLEEPING
ON THE
STREET



thecouchproject.com.au