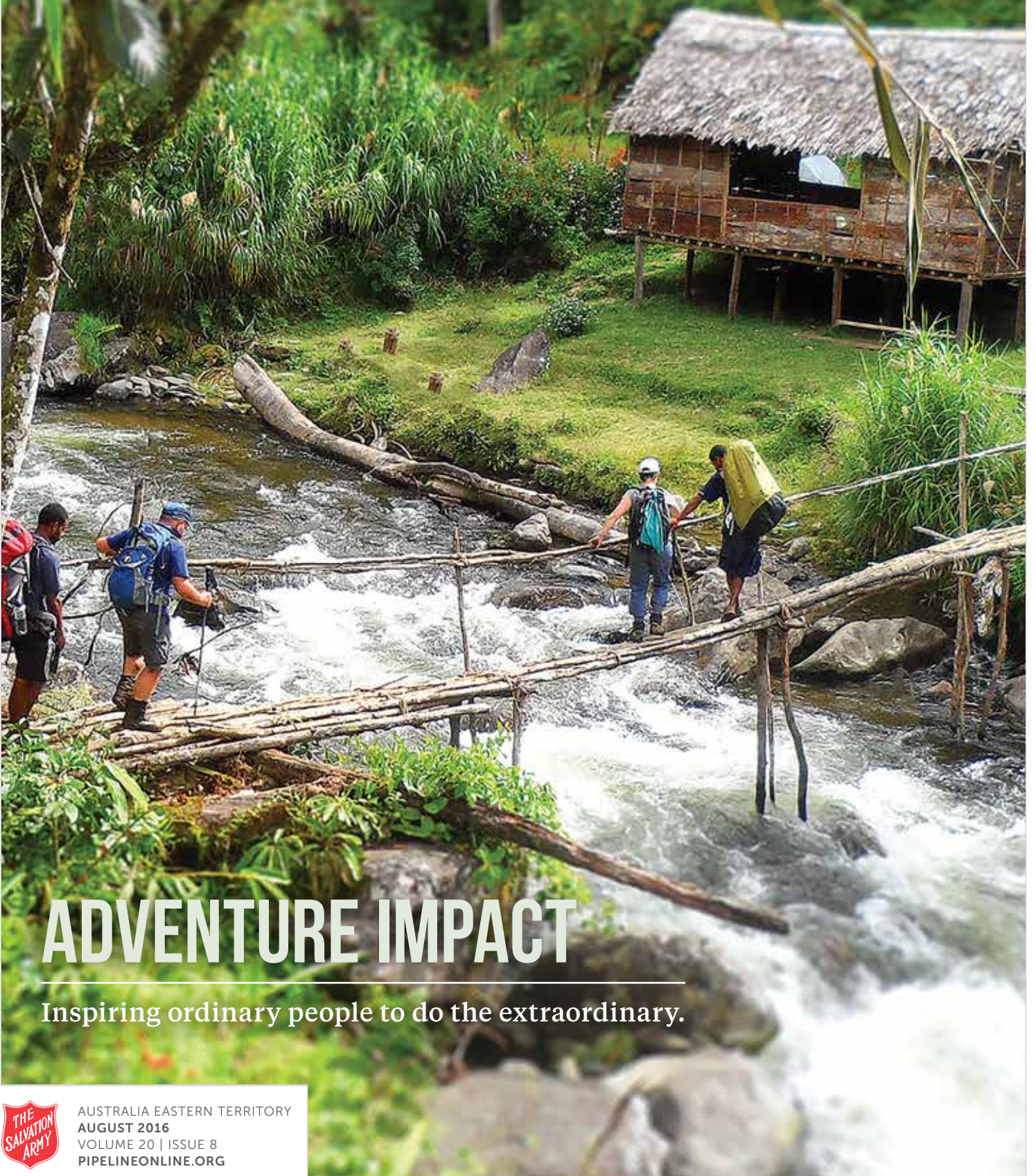


pipeline



ADVENTURE IMPACT

Inspiring ordinary people to do the extraordinary.



AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY
AUGUST 2016
VOLUME 20 | ISSUE 8
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Over 44,000* Aussies under 25 are homeless tonight, often because their family home isn't safe.

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COUCH
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* ABS, 2012, Census of Population and Housing: Estimating Homelessness 2011.



16 / Rapper and songwriter, Dwaine, will be performing as part of the Street to Stage tour, which aims to educate young people about the dangers of homelessness. See pages 16-17

The Salvation Army

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Five young people from PNG completed the Gold Coast Airport Marathon last month

ADVENTUROUS ARMY PROGRAMS MAKING A HUGE IMPACT

WORDS SIMONE WORTHING ACTING EDITOR

Adventure trekking, marathon running and sports ministry. As much of the world prepares to focus on the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brazil's Rio de Janeiro, The Salvation Army is expanding a range of programs involving disciplined physical training and achieving significant and challenging personal goals – with the aim of bringing hope and a future to individuals, families, communities and nations. In our cover story, "Adventure Impact", we explore the new Salvos initiative, Adventure Fundraising Program, and the impact it is having on everyday people who want to do something extraordinary, and change lives in the process – including their own. The funds raised by trekkers will assist some of the most at-risk and vulnerable in our communities, and those who are willing to stretch themselves and do something they never thought possible, are finding the experience to be physically, emotionally and spiritually life-changing.

Hope and a Future is the name of the program we feature on pages 24-25. Five young people from PNG train with Salvation Army mentors who prepare them to overcome physical and emotional barriers to run the Gold Coast Airport Marathon. Fitness is just one of the pillars of this program, which also focuses on faith, leadership and education.

Through the experiences they receive, these young people will become leaders in their corps and communities.

As winter continues, August is also a significant month for taking

time to consider our response to the needs of those experiencing homelessness – especially our youth. On any given night, more than 44,000 Aussies under the age of 25 are experiencing homelessness. Only six per cent of them are sleeping rough on the streets. The single most dominant form of homelessness among young people is couch surfing, where desperate youth, who don't have a permanent place to stay, sleep on people's couches in homes that may not be safe. The Salvation Army's annual Couch Project raises awareness of youth homelessness, as well as funds for its youth centres across the country. Two teenagers who have experienced life on the streets are part of the campaign this year, with their "Streets to Stage" musical tour. We bring you their stories, and photos, on pages 16-17.

The stories of those impacted by the work of The Salvation Army in so many different capacities, are always motivating and inspiring. In this issue we feature the personal journeys of David, who has found freedom from addiction and a new life in Jesus through the Army's rehabilitation centres; and of Margaret, who, traumatised and broken, was taken to the Army's trafficking and slavery safe house and is now reunited with her children and advocating for other victims of slavery.

As ordinary people, God has given us the ability to do extraordinary things for him, and for others, in his name. Perhaps now is the time for us to consider how we are extending ourselves to bring hope, and a future, to those we are called to serve. ¶

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FOCUSING OUR FUTURE ON GOD

Less of self and more of others



Commissioner Floyd Tidd is the National Commander, The Salvation Army, Australia

In the weeks following our appointment to national leadership of The Salvation Army in Australia on 1 June 2016, there have been many memorable days. For example, June 21 – International Selfie Day! It is no surprise that we live in a selfie-obsessed world, but just how obsessed we are might be surprising.

Did you know that about one million selfies are taken around the world every day. There are, in fact, almost 35 million photos containing the hashtag #Selfie on Instagram alone. Selfies are most popular in Australia, closely followed by Canada and the United States. It has also been identified that 14 per cent of selfies are digitally enhanced, with 34 per cent of men saying they retouch selfies, whereas only 13 per cent of women admit to it. For many millennials whose ages range from 18 to 34, taking at least one selfie with their cell phones on a daily basis is as much a part of their normal routines as brushing their teeth or putting on their shoes. Based on this estimated frequency of taking pictures each week, a millennial could eventually take up to an average of 25,676 selfies during their lifetime.

As we move together towards Australia One [the unification of our two Salvation Army territories], it is important that we step into the future with our eyes wide open. But what are we looking at?

There is a risk that in our reviews, studies, discussions and planning that we look inwardly with glances in other directions. The move to Australia One is not just about a merger of two territories. Australia One is a move after God's heart and mission. Therefore, our looking cannot be of a "selfie-nature". The invitation throughout Scripture is for God's people to look to him, and to others.

The prophet Jeremiah had a word for God's people regarding their

future. "I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jer 29:11). These are verses well known and often quoted today. There is a further word in the verses following that are sometimes overlooked: "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you" (Jer 29:13,14).

The late General John Gowans articulated the mission of the international Salvation Army as a movement created to "save souls, grow saints and serve suffering humanity". This is the mission of God that is the mission of The Salvation Army. As we look forward, we must keep our eyes fixed on the author and finisher of our faith. In our looking, we will look to God.

The first national initiative of Australia One commenced on 1 June 2016 – the journey of 100 Days of Unceasing Prayer – with an intention to focus our eyes upon the One who has in mind a hope and a future for Australia and a role for The Salvation Army.

Looking to God leads our gaze to that which he looks upon. People. Others! From its earliest days The Salvation Army captured the heart of God, expressed in keeping our view upon others. We are a saved people, seeking to lead others into the discovery of the hope, freedom and life abundant found in Jesus. The single-word message sent around the world by William Booth – Others! – directs our careful observation as we move towards Australia One.

The Salvation Army does not exist for itself. The Salvation Army in Australia is a vessel raised up by God for his mission in the world. The Salvation Army in Australia will remain focused upon others. Let's join in the prayer, "Open the eyes of our heart, Lord", as we step together into the new chapter for The Salvation Army in Australia. ¶

SEXUAL IDENTITY – A NEW CONVERSATION

In the first of a two-part series, **Caroline Jewkes** examines whether the Church's focus on sexual identity, particularly in terms of marriage, has actually undermined its witness in the world

Any time our own needs and desires are elevated above the self-sacrificial love of Christ and his claims upon us as his Body in the world, we are at risk of creating a self-centred religion, at odds with the generous and inclusive redeeming work of God.

One of my guilty pleasures is the television show *Friends*. The reason this is a "guilty" pleasure is that its values base and morality are so different from that presented within the Christian Church. For example, in one episode, where two characters are discussing the relationship of a third, one comments, "Well it's not serious. They aren't even sleeping together yet." However, what most intrigues me is that while the morality of *Friends* is clearly at the other end of the spectrum from that of the Church, in terms of the messages I receive as a single adult about what it is to be human, I find that the fundamental assumptions in these two different contexts are very much the same. Rather than presenting a radically different understanding of humanity and sexuality, in my experience, the Church is as sexualised as the world of *Friends*. This is certainly a contentious claim.

Our focus on marriage, "sexual sin" and sexual orientation places sexuality at the centre of identity and undermines our mission and identity in Christ. I propose a new conversation that creates space for the sexually marginalised "other" in our communities, whether those of different sexual identities, the unpartnered or those within marriages that are unhealthy, abusive or simply unfulfilling. In engaging in this new conversation, I believe we will better represent the Body of Christ and the purpose of the church within the world.

CHURCH AS A SEXUALISED INSTITUTION

As a single woman, I have often been told, "You need a man". Sometimes, this comes from someone who has experienced great happiness in marriage and wants me to share in that. This is a lovely thing. Sometimes this comes from another's perceptions of a lack in me that a man would complete – finding my "other half" – assuming that as a single adult I must be lonely, feel bad

about myself or be otherwise unfulfilled. This is not a lovely thing. Sometimes this comes from my own perceptions: that if I had a man I wouldn't be lonely or scared, or that I would be financially secure or able to open this jar of jam! From whichever source, this is a disturbing perspective, because it places my sense of identity, fulfilment and wholeness as a human being in the hands of another person. Unfortunately, this is reinforced in a number of ways within the Church.

One of the key ways this view is reinforced is through a focus on marriage and (nuclear) family as a marker of identity. While in the secular world, connections tend to be more about work, ideology, hobbies and the like ("What do you do?"), introducing yourself in a Christian context generally includes the question: "Do you have a family?". Rites of passage (engagement, wedding, babies) and celebrations (Mother's and Father's day, wedding anniversaries) are generally connected with marriage and, by implication, sexuality. Yet for many people, buying a home, travelling overseas, engaging in volunteer work or completing formal study is also significant. Achievements outside of marriage and family are not often brought into the Church context.

Associated with this focus on marriage and family is a normalising of heterosexual marriage as the common human experience. This is despite the fact that many (perhaps most) adults are, have been or will be unpartnered, that there is no guarantee of marriage for anyone, and that for some marriage is unlikely to occur. Even if we agree with Jane Austen's comment in *Pride and Prejudice* that, "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife", there are more single women in the Church than single men. Even Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce is followed

by the reminder that not everyone will marry (Matthew 19:1-12) – some by choice, some by circumstance.

With the normalisation of (heterosexual) marriage as common human experience, we have located the meeting of common human need (for companionship, emotional intimacy, physical touch, security, identity) within the sexualised context of marriage. In adulthood, we place great emphasis on friendship within marriage, yet little on friendship in other contexts.

SEXUALITY AND THE BODY OF CHRIST

As already intimated, I believe this focus on marriage and sexuality reinforces an idea that sexuality is the heart of human experience and identity, rather than emphasising and embodying our identity as "in Christ". At its most extreme, this could represent an idolisation of marriage and sexuality. Any time our own needs and desires are elevated above the self-sacrificial love of Christ and his claims upon us as his Body in the world, we are at risk of creating a self-centred religion, at odds with the generous and inclusive redeeming work of God.

When we locate common human need within the sexualised context of marriage, those outside of heterosexual marriage are positioned not as brothers and sisters within the family, but as sexual rivals, or worse, sexual deviants. Statistically, with one single adult for every couple, that is a lot of threat. This emphasises a sense of risk that becomes the defining feature of our narratives around sexuality.

Christian morality focuses on sexual issues: pre-marital sex, gender boundaries, modesty, homosexuality, sanctity of marriage, abortion, and the like. These examples reflect what

French philosopher Michel Foucault describes in *The History of Sexuality* as a discourse oriented around the inevitability and uncontrollability of sexual desire.

In turn, sexual morality becomes a litmus test for orthodoxy and grounds for division. If you fit within traditional views or modes of sexuality (heterosexual marriage and nuclear family), you are readily integrated within the Church. Those outside these traditional modes (including unmarried partners or those of different sexual identity or orientation) are marginalised. Churches and denominations are splitting over the issue of same-sex marriage. If, as theologians Scot McKnight and N.T. Wright suggest, one of Paul's primary concerns for the Church is to demonstrate unity in diversity, surely this division is of grave concern and is violating our very existence as the body of Christ.

With the focus on sexuality, other issues are sidelined. We ask if it is possible to be a "gay Christian", but we do not ask if it possible to be a "gossiping Christian", an "overweight Christian", or a Christian who drives a petrol-guzzling SUV the one-kilometre trip to pick up Johnny from pre-school, despite the fact that each of these may reflect unbiblical lifestyle choices. I believe there is a different way....

Caroline Jewkes is the Project Manager: Education and Training Framework, for the Booth College of Mission in Hamilton, New Zealand.

First published in *Thought Matters, Volume 4, Honour God with your body: A Christian view of human sexuality*. Part Two will appear in the September issue of *Pipeline*

Adventure impact.

New Salvos initiative inspires ordinary people to do the extraordinary

WORDS SIMONE WORTHING

Experiencing a life-changing adventure while enabling transformation in the lives of others is the focus of The Salvation Army's new initiative, the Adventure Fundraising Program (AFP). In partnership with Inspired Adventures, the AFP is focused on inspiring ordinary people to do something extraordinary for a cause they are passionate about.

The AFP organises treks, rides and runs throughout the year in which individuals, corporate groups, families and friends can take part. No relationship with, or knowledge of, The Salvation Army is required. All participants pay a registration fee, their expenses for the adventure, and raise additional funds to a set minimum target. The Salvation Army will then use these funds to help change the lives of the most marginalised, at-risk, and vulnerable people in our communities.

"The funds raised by trekkers through the adventures they experience will have an enormous impact on Australians in crisis and Australians who desperately need a helping hand," says Peter Cleave, Territorial Development Manager (Special Projects), who coordinates the treks. "The funds will go toward Salvation Army social welfare programs that service community needs and enrich people's lives. These include services in areas such as homelessness, youth, emergency and disaster response, recovery (drug, alcohol and gambling addiction), and rural services. The AFP will assist the trekkers to set up an online fundraising page, provide fundraising tips, as well as training and preparing for their chosen adventure."

The AFP's first adventure was the seven-day trip to conquer the famous Larapinta Track in Central Australia, in May. The adventurers spent five days trekking sections of the Larapinta Track from the old Alice Springs Telegraph Station to the peak of Mount Sonder and along the backbone of the West MacDonnell Ranges – taking in the breathtaking scenery, breaking out of their comfort zones, learning more about



the work of Oasis and the broader Salvation Army, meeting personal goals and bonding as a group. They experienced the diversity of desert habitats, learned the history of the local Indigenous people and slept under the stars.

Highly motivated, the 10 trekkers had all met, and exceeded, their fundraising goals – with just over \$40,000 going to The Salvation Army's Youth Support Network, Sydney. Peter Cleave; Major Bryce Davies, Sydney Inner City Mission Director; Katie Kirkpatrick, Oasis Youth Worker; Mark Dagleish, Salvation Army Advisory Board member, and his wife Sophie, represented The Salvation Army on the trek. A corporate group from Virgin Mobile, including one of the team's spouses, made up the rest of the trekkers.

BONDING EXERCISE

At the end of the trek, Major Davies and Peter interviewed the adventurers about their motivation for going on the trek, their expectations, their experience, and whether they would recommend the treks to others. They were unanimous in their positive reviews, glowing recommendations and reports on how the trek had challenged and changed them physically, mentally and emotionally.

"The trip exceeded all expectations," said Mark. "They definitely undersold it. The majesty of the environment, the culture and fitness angles, and making a tangible contribution to the work of Oasis ticked off all the boxes for me." (For more quotes, see page 10).

Peter Cleave was also delighted with the outcomes from the trek. "It was good to be able to spend the week talking about life with trekkers, giving them a greater understanding of The Salvation Army and the difference we make on the ground to individuals," he said. "The treks are designed to be challenging and reflect in many ways the challenges the people we are helping go through. By doing the challenge together, the trekkers also share a great bonding experience."

Other events this year include the "Salvos Striders" – runners in various sporting events around the country, including the City2Surf in Sydney, the Bridge to Brisbane in Brisbane, and

the Army's Aged Care Plus Walkathon, to raise money for The Salvation Army's services and programs.

In 2017, the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea, one of the world's greatest treks, is the destination for AFP trekkers. The Kokoda Track traverses the rugged Owen Stanley Range, tropical rainforest and passes remote villages. The 12-day trip in April includes the nine-day 96km trek, Anzac Day ceremony on Brigade Hill, a visit to Bomana Cemetery and a look at key Salvation Army programs in Port Moresby, PNG's capital. Significantly, 2017 marks 75 years since the Kokoda Campaign in WWII. The adventure has been named the Salvos 2017 ANZAC Kokoda Trek (see Fast Facts box).

"This historic track is a great fit for The Salvation Army, as the "Sallymen" – Salvation Army personnel – were there on the track in 1942, making a difference to the lives of the troops on the front line," said Peter. "Now



FAST FACTS

Salvos 2017 Anzac Kokoda Trek.

When: 19 April – 30 April 2017

Travel cost: \$5145 (+ \$770 registration fee), ex-Sydney. (Cheaper from Brisbane or Cairns)

Minimum fundraising target: \$3500

Level of difficulty: 5/5

Accommodation: Twin-share 4-star hotel in Port Moresby and single comfortable camping on the track

Minimum age: 18 (younger adventurers considered on application)

Email your interest to adventure@aue.salvationarmy.org or check out salvos.org.au/adventure or Inspiredadventures.com.au/events/salvos-kokoda-2017



The trekkers celebrate their achievements on reaching the top of Mount Sonder on the Larapinta Track.



it's our turn to do something to help change lives." During the 1942 Kokoda Campaign, 650 Australian soldiers were killed and more than 1000 injured, fighting the Japanese invasion force. Salvation Army personnel served drinks and snacks to the men, as well as provided encouragement and support.

"Not for the faint-hearted, this truly is a once-in-a-lifetime adventure on which, with every step you take, you will be helping The Salvation Army empower hope, recovery and resilience for Australians who need it most," said Peter. "The trek will certainly test your endurance, improve your fitness and help us raise funds for the Red Shield Appeal to transform lives and help where the need is greatest. "This trek is also being offered in the Australia Southern Territory, and places are limited."

FAMILY CONNECTION

In the lead up to the trek, AFP will organise monthly training treks out of Sydney, and possibly Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast also. Already signed up and training for the trek are three family groups – a father and son, father and daughter, and father with two sons. "This is a great bonding experience for the families as they work together to help make a difference in the lives of people doing it tough," said Peter.

Gympie business owner, Gary James, and his son, Brad, are preparing to conquer the Kokoda Track together, in honour of Gary's two uncles who were killed in PNG during WWII. "For me this is a meaningful way, on behalf of my family, to show respect for the men who fought in PNG and honour the sacrifice they made," said Gary. "Without their bravery and dedication we would not be able to enjoy the life we now lead in Australia," (see opposite page).

Next month, the AFP will announce its 2018 adventure destination. "It will be an easier trek than Kokoda, and more broadly appealing," said Peter. "There is definitely demand for Kokoda though, and we will go back there. All these treks, no matter their destination, are life changing experiences."

For information about upcoming treks and other events, go to salvos.org.au/adventure

"(I learned that) I can push myself further than I could imagine, but can rely on others to give me support and confidence, and can give that to others too." – Bridgette

LARAPINTA REFLECTIONS

"I realised I am a drop in the ocean and stress about the most ridiculous things. Understanding what the kids go through at Oasis helps me appreciate what I have. It was great to understand what Katie (Salvation Army Oasis Youth Worker) does on a daily basis, about The Salvation Army and how it links together. The hike, the charity, the fundraising – it all linked, and is beyond the money." – Sophie R

"It was amazing at all levels – raising funds, being able to challenge myself on all levels and it was highlighted by being with beautiful souls and amazing people." – Sophie D

"What Oasis do is amazing, and that motivated me. They deal with the core issues the kids are facing and helping them avoid others in the future. I loved the adventure; five days in the wilderness doing something special and

really stretching myself. It was a brilliant and fantastic experience, physically challenging but emotionally rewarding, a chance to do something completely out of day-to-day life. Plus, I got to see something unique with people I had a lot of fun with." – Nick

"For me, it was really about seeing the impact of Oasis, supporting them and getting a whole team together for this purpose. It exceeded expectations and the guides really helped connect us with the land. Personally, it was a really good chance to go offline properly, really disconnect, enjoy the land and the people, understand more about The Salvation Army and have free flowing conversations with everyone joining in." – Chris

"It was a great opportunity and we had the time of our lives. There was an incredible sense of camaraderie and support for every single person." – Major Bryce Davies

TREK A MATTER OF HONOUR FOR GARY

Gympie business owner Gary James is in training to tick off a major item on his bucket list and honour the sacrifice of two uncles who were killed in Papua New Guinea during WWII. Gary, with his son Brad, have signed up to The Salvation Army's Adventure Fundraising Program's (AFP) major trek in 2017 – the Kokoda Anzac Trek – and will walk the gruelling mountain terrain for 96km to raise \$5000 each for the Army's Red Shield Appeal.

Their nine-day hike will also commemorate the 75th anniversary of the WWII fighting on the Kokoda Track, against the Japanese, in 1942. Gary's uncles Joseph "Digger" James, 26, and Edward "Eddie" James, 19, were killed in combat on the track. Each were Privates in the 2/25th Infantry Battalion. Gary's father, Stan, returned from PNG, devastated that his brothers, with whom he was close, were killed. Gary and Brad will be walking close to the spot where Eddie was first buried, prior to his body being moved to the Bomana War Cemetery at Port Moresby. Sadly, Digger's body has never been found. The father-son team will place some poppies near the trees where Eddie and other brave soldiers were killed.

"This is going to be a physically and emotionally challenging journey for me, but with every step I take, I feel privileged to be helping The Salvation Army empower hope, recovery and resilience for everyday Australians, particularly youth and those in rural areas," said Gary, who has been attending Red Shield Appeal breakfasts on the Sunshine Coast for three years with a close friend and Salvos supporter, Laurie Clarke.

"It's been a long held-dream to walk Kokoda, and I just needed something really worthwhile to get behind to say I'd do it," Gary shared. "When I read The Salvation Army's brochure about the Kokoda trek, I was immediately interested and felt that The Salvation Army was an exceptional cause to get behind and fundraise for. Not long afterwards I was talking to a customer, a national serviceman, who was talking about Vietnam and said that the only people who cared for them there were the Salvos. I decided then that I would do Kokoda." Gary also wants to honour his friend, Laurie

Clarke, who originally invited him to attend the Red Shield Appeal breakfasts. Laurie is currently undergoing treatment for cancer. "Whenever my training gets tough I just think of Laurie and realise that my pain is nothing compared to what he is going through," Gary said. "It's what inspires me to put a greater effort in. He's the one who introduced me to The Salvation Army and I'm grateful for that. He's even sponsored me on the trek!"

Gary and Brad are both looking forward to what they see as an "exceptional" experience – conquering the Kokoda Track together, honouring Eddie and Digger, and making a difference to struggling Australians. □



01. Joseph "Digger" James (left), and Edward "Eddie" James, killed in combat on the Kokoda Track.
02. Gary and Brad prepare to conquer the gruelling Kokoda Track in honour of Gary's fallen uncles.





"Life is great now," says David Oliver, who found freedom from addiction through The Salvation Army. He also found Jesus, who he says is now central in his life.

Reborn and free.

David owes new life to Jesus ... and Jayne

WORDS BILL SIMPSON PHOTOS CAROLYN HIDE

An addictive lifestyle had driven David Oliver down a 'road to ruin' before The Salvation Army steered him onto a road to rehabilitation and recovery.

David Oliver thought about suicide to end his long and debilitating dependence on illegal drugs. At a critical time, his concerned father suggested a crucial alternative. Almost 15 years after accepting his father's advice and successfully completing a Salvation Army drug rehabilitation program, David Oliver remains "reborn and free".

"I owe my life to two people," David tells anybody who asks about his past, "Jesus and Jayne Wilson." And then, in deliberate and slow speech, he emphasises: "in THAT order". Jayne Wilson had always appreciated the order in which David places her. She knew it was the power of Jesus Christ that enabled addicts to overcome. Her role, she would say, was to "suggest Jesus and then provide support".

Jayne was the founder of The Salvation Army's First Floor Program in Wollongong. David was one of her first clients. She was promoted to glory two years ago, but her support program continues and has expanded to other areas of The Salvation Army world.

David's parents, Noel and Margaret, sought help through the program's family support group when their son's addiction became too hard to handle. They had taken on responsibility for raising David's two young children.

The children's mother was also an addict. After David's successful rehabilitation, Noel and Margaret stayed with the program to assist other parents and grandparents struggling with family members in addiction. They still support parents and grandparents affected by a family member's addiction to drugs and alcohol.

DOWNWARD SPIRAL

Now in his early 50s, David fell into a drug and alcohol culture almost from the day he started work at 15 years and nine months. He was an apprentice at the Port Kembla steelworks. "I found myself from the start fitting straight into a culture of working-class boys, where it was a constant competition to see who could drink the most alcohol. That led to pot (marijuana) smoking. It's the kind of lifestyle I soon discovered leads down the road to ruin."

The ruin was to last for the next 22 years. In that time he met his first wife. She, too, was part of an alcohol and drug culture. They had two children. David and his wife tempered their drug taking when the children ►

came along – but not enough to stop the destruction of their family. Through his addictive lifestyle, David lost his marriage, his family, his home, his job with company car, and respect – both that of himself and others.

His parents agreed to raise David's two children, then aged five and seven. Now alone, David dredged the depths of depression. He was unable to overcome his drug dependence. "I considered suicide. I was desperate," he says. "I found myself crying to my father for help after spending all of my money on drugs. Dad said he was sorry but he couldn't support me anymore. Mum and Dad had had enough. Dad said my only hope was to go and see Jayne Wilson."

Noel and Margaret Oliver were, by this time, getting help themselves through the First Floor family support program. "I was desperate, so I agreed to see Jayne," David recalls. "That's when my life started to change." After initial counselling, David agreed to participate in the William Booth drug rehabilitation program in Sydney. "Mum drove me to the William Booth centre in Sydney. She stopped at the front door and told me it was now up to me. Then she said: 'Goodbye.'"

"On my very first night at William Booth, I noticed that somebody had strategically placed a Bible on a small table beside my bed. I flicked through it, but didn't really understand any of it. I did not have a church upbringing." He was advised by a staff member to start with the book of Mark. "Reading Mark was like a lightning bolt had struck. I had blamed God for everything that had happened to me up to this point. Mark helped me understand who God really was and what he wanted for my life. Well, I handed over my life to God there and then – my second day at William Booth. I now understand that I was letting go and letting God (take over)."

CHURCH INFLUENCE

After a few weeks at the William Booth centre, David continued rehabilitation at Miracle Haven farm. He graduated 10 months later. "I loved life at Miracle Haven. It was the best time of my life. The mateship was amazing. I had already made the crucial spiritual decision to accept



01

Jesus before I got to Miracle Haven. Attending chapel was important to me." When he left Miracle Haven in 2003, he "grabbed church with both hands". He attended the Salvation Army corps at Berkeley (in Wollongong's south), until he and some mates discovered a singles group operating at a nearby Church of Christ. There, he met his second wife, Judy. They married in 2006 and remain active members of the church. David has a good relationship with his two children, now adults.

In December, 2014, David received a Graduate Certificate in Management (Professional Practice) after study at Charles Sturt University (Bathurst). He and Judy started their own business repairing mobility equipment for people with disabilities.

"My life is great now," he says. "There are stresses – of course – in business. My marriage is great and there is nothing I would do (like returning to drugs) to jeopardise what I now have. I am convinced, through my own experience, that there are a few things crucial to beating addiction. Jesus is at the top of the list. From the moment I handed my life over to him, he put my mind at ease. I felt safe and confident.

- 01. The late Jayne Wilson, who founded the First Floor Program in Wollongong.
- 02. David Oliver says he owes his life to Jesus ... and Jayne Wilson, who helped him in his recovery from addiction.
- 03. David and his second wife Judy, whom he met at a church singles group.
- 04. David with his parents, Noel and Margaret, who have been a solid support during his life.



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I just knew that with Jesus, I would make it. He is, after all, the Saviour of us all.

"I also think it is vital to deliberately change the culture in which you operate. I believe in the old adage that if you lie down with dogs you get up with fleas. That's what had happened to me. I was lying down with dogs. After rehab, I refused to return to the drug dealers and users. I associated with good church people whose interest in me was to build me up. That's where I am today – with Jesus and good church people."

Noel Oliver says he learned several lessons from his son's addiction. "The first was there really wasn't anything Margaret and I could do to get David off drugs. Another was the success of The Salvation Army's process of treating people in Sydney and then at Miracle Haven over 10-11 months. Trying to dry out over two weeks doesn't work. David also found something to believe in. He found God. That helped him to succeed." □

Need help? For information on The Salvation Army's various programs, including addiction services, go to salvos.org.au/need-help/

"I am convinced, through my own experience, that there are a few things crucial to beating addiction. Jesus is at the top of the list."

From the streets to the stage.

WORDS ESTHER PINN PHOTOS LENA POBJIE

While the heartbreaking story of two young teenagers begins on the streets of Sydney, it doesn't end there. Tragedy struck both Dwaine and Owen in different ways but saw them take the same path towards homelessness.

Grief took hold of Dwaine's life after the unexpected deaths of some family members. There was little community support available for Dwaine and his family. He quickly fell out of school and before he knew it, was kicked out of home. For a while, Dwaine "couch surfed" – a form of homelessness where individuals, who do not have permanent housing accommodation, sleep on a friend's couch for a period of time. But it wasn't long before he was back on the streets.

It wasn't until a pastor from a Sydney food shelter contacted The Salvation Army that Dwaine's life began to turn around. He was referred to the Oasis Youth Support Network in Surry Hills, Sydney, and was able to access all the services he needed to get back on his feet. "I feel really blessed because if I had not received that, I think my life would have taken some really different turns," he says.

Similarly, Owen life's life took a wrong turn due to continual family problems and drug use. Owen, too, was kicked out of home and lived on the streets of Sydney for several months. It wasn't until he was arrested that things began to change. The Salvation Army was called and Owen was taken in. He lived intermittently at Oasis for a period of time before attending a rehabilitation centre in Goulburn. "If it wasn't for the Salvos, I'd probably still be on the streets, in jail or dead," says Owen.

MUSICAL RELEASE

Both Dwaine and Owen began to find healing and a hope for the future through music. They took their passion for rap, rock and hip-hop



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*"I'm a living testimony that there is hope and that you don't need to be stuck in homelessness or in a life of hardship."
–Dwaine.*

01. Youth Foundation Coordinator, Jason Poutawa (left) and songwriter, Dwaine visited 12 high schools last month as part of The Salvation Army's Streets to Stage initiative.
02. After living on the streets of Sydney as a teenager, Dwaine found hope at the Oasis Youth Network in Surry Hills.
03. Owen is now using his musical gift to educate young people about the issue of homelessness.

music and started writing songs based on their personal experiences of living on the streets. "What we once tried to clutch to, to feel better was the wrong things, like drugs and alcohol, but we found this [music] a much better way to express ourselves and a release," says Dwaine.

From here, Dwaine and Owen's lives literally moved from the streets to the stage. Once given the opportunity to record music with Australian charity, Musicians Making A Difference, their lives began to move in a different direction. In 2013, Owen, known as Ozone on stage, released a collection of songs called *Clearly Invisible*, bringing awareness about youth homelessness through his lyrics. After one of Dwaine's recorded songs appeared on Channel V, he was given the opportunity to study music production and composition at the Australian Institute of Music.

While Dwaine and Owen have found a niche in music, ultimately, they said, it was the purpose they discovered through writing their own stories that changed them. "It [music] became this magical transformative thing and so amongst the vicious cycle of homelessness, something that was created was this amazing cycle of hope," says Dwaine.

Now Dwaine and Owen are using their musical talents to help younger generations. From 25 July-5 August, they visited 12 high schools



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throughout Sydney and the Central Coast to educate students about homelessness, as part of Salvos School initiative, Streets to Stage. Owen and Dwaine performed their songs and shared their testimonies to up to 6,000 teenagers. "If you can write a song and get 6,000 people to listen but doesn't actually help anybody, it's not as good as if you write a song and 10 people listen to it and it changes their life," says Owen.

Picking up on this theme, Dwaine, a committed Christian, says: "I feel like I have a duty of care to others who are in that situation [referring to homelessness]. If I don't hand the baton on, then I'm kind of being selfish. I want to give back and say, 'You've got a reason to live. There is a purpose for your life. I want to sow some seeds of compassion and hope into schools.'"

COUCH PROJECT

The Streets to Stage tour is part of The Salvation Army's annual Couch Project fundraising and awareness campaign. Young people are invited to host their own Couch Project sleepovers at their local school or church on 16 September to help raise \$120,000 for the Army's youth services, including the Oasis Youth Support

Network. Owen and Dwaine helped promote the Couch Project campaign while on the Street to Stage tour, educating young people about the dangers of homelessness and how they can avoid falling into the homelessness trap, through sharing their stories.

"It's about educating high school students about homelessness, how they can help a friend, how they can access help, or find help if they're ever in a situation where they may be experiencing homelessness," explains Jason Poutawa, Salvos Youth Foundation Coordinator. "People are going to remember this – the day that Owen and Dwaine came to their school."

Dwaine and Owen's lives look very different today. Owen has his own place in north Epping, while Dwaine lives in Midland, Western Australia, with this wife. "I'm a living testimony that there is hope and that you don't need to be stuck in homelessness or in a life of hardship," says Dwaine. □

For further information about the Couch Project, to host your own fundraiser or to donate to the campaign, go to thecouchproject.com.au



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Majors Hector and Melba Crisostomo are excited by their appointments at Salvos Stores, where they oversee mission and outreach opportunities.



A vast and untapped mission field.

Crisostomos get more than they bargained for at Salvos Stores

WORDS NAOMI SINGLEHURST PHOTO LENA POBJIE

In 2014 running frontline residential crisis services for the homeless, Majors Hector and Melba Crisostomo wondered at first how God would use them in their appointments at Salvos Stores. Major Melba had been appointed Mission Director and Major Hector as the Outreach Ministry Coordinator.

What they discovered very early on was a highly professional environment where Salvos Stores staff and management gave “110 per cent” to delivering around \$12 million a year in financial assistance to Salvation Army territorial projects and a number of corps – all this achieved in addition to providing low-cost goods to those in need, as well as the wider public. Digging a little further, it became clear that a vast and largely untapped mission field existed in and through Salvos Stores.

“We have around 280,000 customers a month to Salvos Stores, we have 3000 volunteers and work-for-the-dole participants, and we have 350 staff members,” says Major Melba. “I believe God is longing for these people to come to know him, or come closer to him, and out of that to reach out to customers and others. Walking into Salvos Stores I just had that wonderful feeling that the Lord was saying to me, ‘these are the people I long for.’”

The Crisostomos began to work collaboratively with management, staff, volunteers, customers and chaplains, to build a new framework to more closely connect Salvos Stores with the wider Salvation Army culture and mission values. After a range of training days, outreaches and a series of workshops, a new in-store cultural focus has been created and is being rolled out within stores. This focus is supported by posters, fact sheets and interactive material around the concept of “transformation”.

“We are working to draw The Salvation Army ‘family’ more closely together,” says Major Melba. “The first part of the role has been to encourage

and remind those in the stores that we are not just Salvos Stores, we are The Salvation Army and together we are a church with an incredible mission. It is a very successful, professional business and we are not trying to deflect from that. But, as a Christian organisation, we need to recognise that it’s first and foremost the Lord’s business!”

The Crisostomos will soon be increasing their visits to corps and social centres and encouraging them to reach out and more intentionally support those running, working and volunteering in Salvos Stores. They will also look at partnering with them to materially, emotionally and spiritually support customers who are in need. Major Melba is excited by the possibilities of deepening the relationship between corps and stores.

“Walking into Salvos Stores I just had that wonderful feeling that the Lord was saying to me, ‘these are the people I long for’.”

“So many good things happen in Salvos Stores,” she says. “The community is already very receptive to us. During our previous outreaches we met many lonely people who knew they could always come to the store even if they had nowhere else to go. They knew they would be welcomed and feel like they were part of a family. It was interesting that people were also very accepting about us praying with them and we met many people who had great needs. While those in many stores are already doing it, we saw so much potential for stores to become even more of a frontline ministry.

“There is such potential for those that come into Salvos Stores as customers, to go on to join corps or engage with our services or other ministries. I truly believe God is going to do mighty things through Salvos Stores!” □



Taking back what was stolen.

Margaret finds freedom from slavery

WORDS ESTHER PINN PHOTO LENA POBJIE

I had nothing – no money, nowhere to live. I needed medical care and so many other things. The salvation Army provided me with the chance to renew my life and God is helping me.



Imagine, after working a long 12-hour shift, you arrive home expecting to enjoy a hot shower and comfortable bed. Instead, you are told you can no longer access these everyday comforts. Margaret knows too well what it is like to be denied these basic human rights.

In 2009, Margaret left behind her three children in East Africa to take up a new employment opportunity as a domestic worker in Australia. Margaret's employer, a family she had previously worked for and trusted, made her travel arrangements and promised her paid wages at the end of each month. Upon arrival in Australia, Margaret's employer seized her passport. Those promised wages never came. And, to top it off, she found herself sleeping under her employer's kitchen table with their three dogs. "In my employer's house I was not a domestic worker but summoned into slavery," she says.

Margaret's movements were monitored. She wasn't allowed outside and could not make overseas calls to her family. Every day she worked from early morning to midnight cleaning, cooking, and taking care of her employer's children and their dogs while being denied the basic needs of food and a shower. "Being locked up in the house whilst everyone else was away, I didn't know where I was, so when I tried to leave I didn't know where to go or how I could get help ... I lost the future – the hope for the future. I was left with no choice but to submit under the authority of my employer."

Margaret's breaking point came when her employer refused to give back her passport. She decided she'd had enough. Margaret gathered her courage and escaped through a back door that had been accidentally left open. She fled across the street and sought refuge at the house of a neighbour, who contacted the police. While waiting for the police, a friend of her employer's attempted to bring Margaret back to the house, physically assaulting her in the process.

Four hours later, at midnight, the police arrived. The Salvation Army was called and Margaret was taken to the Army's Trafficking and Slavery House. Traumatized and broken, for the first time

Margaret was given a glimpse of hope. She was offered a place to sleep, financial assistance, access to medical care, legal advice, and study and employment opportunities. "I had nothing – no money, nowhere to live. I did not know my rights or how to stay in Australia. I needed medical care and so many other things. The Salvation Army provided me with the chance to renew my life and God is helping me," she says.

After being separated from her children for four years, Salvos Legal and The Salvation Army's Freedom Partnership worked together to reunite Margaret with her children in Australia. And, on Australia Day this year, Margaret became an Australian citizen. "I have taken back what was stolen from me," she says.

Margaret's story is not uncommon. The 2016 Global Slavery Index states there are an estimated 4300 people living in modern slavery in Australia. Modern slavery can take many forms including harbouring, deceptive recruiting, debt bondage, forced marriage, forced labour, trafficking and servitude.

According to The Freedom Partnership, victims of modern slavery are often hidden within society. They could be the person who cares for your neighbour's children or cleans your car. The Freedom Partnership is dedicated to ending modern slavery and works closely alongside the Army's Trafficking and Slavery House, the only one of its kind that exists in Australia.

Margaret is now an advocate for freedom. In early April, Margaret bravely stood before more than 600 attendees at The Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal launch at the Westin Hotel in Sydney and shared her heart-breaking story, before encouraging those in the room to give generously to the appeal. "You can give a new hope," she told the audience. "Your support will ensure that The Salvation Army can continue its commitment to protecting the most basic of human rights – the right to be free." □

To assist victims of modern slavery like Margaret, go to endslavery.salvos.org.au for further information.

Personal stories shed light on refugee suffering.

WORDS ESTHER PINN PHOTOS LENA POBJIE



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Nabieu Wallace knows too well what it's like to live in inhumane conditions. His family was forced to flee their home in Sierra Leone and sent to a refugee camp in Guinea. Unable to speak the native language, Nabieu couldn't find work, he lived on food rations and he described the toilet facilities as "beyond comprehension". Daniel Ajak has a similar story. He grew up in a refugee camp with his family in Kenya. His parents often went without food so he could eat. His family lived in a mud house and used a plastic sheet provided by UNHCR as bedsheet to cover the floor.

These two stories were shared at a Refugee Week event held at Territorial Headquarters on 23 June. The event, held as part of The Salvation Army Inclusive Australia program, aimed to create awareness about the refugee crisis facing the world. Territorial Multicultural Ministries Coordinator, Captain Nesan Kistan, explained that more than 43 million people had been displaced due to conflict and persecution.

While Nabieu and Daniel have suffered immensely, their stories have a happy ending. Both have been fortunate to find refuge in Australia. After five years in a



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- 01. Territorial Multicultural Ministries Coordinator, Captain Nesan Kistan (left) with Katherine Dale, who has just returned home from 13 years of service with The Salvation Army in Ghana.
- 02. Daniel Ajak explained how he has forged a life in Australia after growing up in a refugee camp in Kenya, at The Salvation Army's Refugee Week event.
- 03. Nabieu Wallace shared about the inhumane conditions he experienced while living in a refugee camp in Guinea with his family.
- 04. Songwriter Kartik Kuna shed light on the worldwide refugee crisis by singing in two different languages.



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refugee camp, Nabieu, his wife and five children were given the opportunity to apply for asylum in Australia in 2004. Daniel was also given the opportunity to move to Australia in 2004, albeit without his family. He worked his way through school and university and is now a qualified lawyer, interning at Salvos Legal. "When I was a kid I never dreamt of being a lawyer because it was never going to happen, but I'm here now because of the support here," Daniel said. Captain Kistan added: "The thing I love about Daniel's story is typical of most refugees – it is resilience, the attitude that even though things are tough, they never give up and they keep on persevering."

Captain Kistan challenged those present about their moral responsibility to speak out for refugees in Australia. "Can you imagine children growing up in conditions where there's not enough food? Can you imagine mums and dads crying out, hoping in desperation that someone will provide education for their children? We have a moral responsibility to make a difference. Forget about politics. As Christians we have a responsibility," he said.

Chief Secretary-in-Charge, Colonel Mark Campbell, echoed this sentiment by reminding the congregation that Jesus was once a refugee. "For Refugee Week we think about the heart of who we are as The Salvation Army – we're God's people. And out of the heart of that, we care for other people. And we care for refugees because they're God's people, too." Songwriter and singer Kartik Kuna was invited to perform two songs, one in English and the other in Hindi, shedding light on the worldwide refugee crisis. □

PNG youth run for hope and a future.

“I have gained strength from doing this and have learned that pain is just temporary but finishing is forever.”

WORDS SIMONE WORTHING PHOTO ANNA KUCERA



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Final training: (from left) David, Brigitte, Jon, Alice and Alvin all successfully completed the Gold Coast Airport Marathon.

Five young people from the Papua New Guinea Territory completed the 42km Gold Coast Airport Marathon last month as part of The Salvation Army's Hope and a Future program.

Representing team "Salvos Striders", Alice Johnnie, Alvin Apana, Brigitte Bugave, David Kepi and Jon Eric had trained for the event, held on 2 July, as part of the program, both with mentors from Australia, and those from PNG who had previously completed the marathon. Bill Hunter, leader of the Army's God's Sports Arena and experienced marathon runner, led the mentors: Captain Brad McIver and Alyce McLeod from the Australia Eastern Territory; and Greg Vali, Isaach Yasaking and Leonie Henari from PNG.

Now in its third year, Hope and a Future gives young PNG nationals, identified as future leaders in their church, community and country, the opportunity to be mentored in leadership skills and is modelled around four key pillars – faith, fitness, education and leadership.

"It was hard, and I lost hope in the middle, but my mentor, Bill, kept me going," said Alice. "He encouraged me along the way and, with the strength of God and Bill's help, I made it. It was really exciting when I crossed the finish line."

Brigitte felt challenged from the beginning, thinking she probably wouldn't finish the race. "My mentor, Leonie, kept pushing me, telling me we could do it with God by our side and that, through him, we have more strength than we could image," she shared. "It felt unbelievably good to finish. This program has helped me to run a marathon, and to understand that it's by God's strength that we finish a race."

Jon loved the challenge of running the marathon, but struggled during the last 10km. "My mentors, Alyce and Greg, helped me to focus, to use my mind and brain power, and it was just an awesome feeling to finish," he said.

Leonie found it challenging to both run another marathon, and mentor at the same time. "It felt great though, to see Brigitte get over the finish line," she said. "I have gained strength from doing this and have learned that pain is just temporary but finishing is forever."

Colonel Mark Campbell, Chief Secretary-in-charge, and Colonel Julie Campbell, Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries, completed the 5.7km walk challenge, and led a worship meeting with the runners the day before the marathon. "We were so pleased to be a part of this event and to encourage the young people to continue developing a healthy physical and spiritual life," said Colonel Mark Campbell.

As part of the program, the young people spent the following week serving and participating at Queensland EQUIP, The Salvation Army's camp for youth and young adults that focuses on preparing participants for frontline mission in their communities. Greg and Leonie served at Brisbane Streetlevel Mission, and Isaach at Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah).

Sharon Callister, Chief Executive Officer of Aged Care Plus, said the program was going from strength to strength. "This is an exciting opportunity for the young people, but also for corps to be involved," she said. "It's about fitness, but also community, fellowship and support." Aged Care Plus and Salvos Legal are the major sponsors for the program.

"This program is a dream come true for most of these kids," said Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, NSW and ACT Divisional Commander, who was instrumental in starting the program in PNG, with Sharon Callister, as part of their work in Manus Island with the then Humanitarian Mission Services. "They come to Australia, have people who mentor them, pray for them; they have educational opportunities in their own country and become leaders in their churches. I believe that they will also become leaders in PNG – the country needs some great leaders with integrity who have a heart for Jesus and their nation, and these kids certainly have that."

"Next year, to ensure that this program can continue, we are looking at developing a fundraising initiative whereby 200-plus people can commit to raising \$100 and participating in the weekend for their own benefit as well. Watch this space!" □

For more information, go to agedcareplus.salvos.org.au/hope-and-a-future/

FEARLESS PIONEER PAVED WAY IN PNG

WORDS LAUREN MARTIN

Sixty years ago this month, The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territory officially began work in Papua New Guinea. That moment was the confirmation of a long-held promise God gave to a young New Zealand nursing sister, Dorothy Elphick, who initiated a powerful ministry.

"I had always known that I was going to be a missionary nurse somewhere in the world but it wasn't until halfway through doing my midwifery course, which was the last nursing course that I did, ... I was in Christchurch and visiting with an officer and ... she said the word 'New Guinea' and it shot through me like a bullet," she recalled during an interview in 2006.

Dorothy had grown up in a family of pioneering New Zealand farmers. The dairy farm of her childhood did not have electricity – "just tank water and a wood-burning fire for cooking". Stoicism ran as deep within her as the red, yellow and blue of her Salvation Army faith. Two years after her initial calling, and nearing the end of her cadetship, Dorothy was called into The Salvation Army Training College office and told her first appointment was to PNG. "I thought, 'At last! A human being was telling me what I had known for some months!'"

Appointed in 1958 alongside Captain Ruby Dalrymple, the pair were tasked with infant and maternal welfare in the Eastern Highlands of PNG. The villages consisted of bamboo huts, and grass skirts and lap-laps was still the traditional dress. When the pair began, some tribes still practised forms of cannibalism. They were given a mobile clinic, a specially designed vehicle that was more "tank" than truck and proved to be "too long, too wide and far too heavy for the roads and certainly the bridges because sometimes it went through the bridges and not over them!" Despite the magnitude of the task, with a population of around 70,000 people in the Eastern Highlands without adequate access to medical services, Dorothy Elphick and Ruby Dalrymple could not ignore their



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01. The mobile clinic, which Dorothy Elphick described as a 'tank', gets stuck halfway across a bridge in the Eastern Highlands.

02. Dorothy Elphick (left) and Ruby Dalrymple standing alongside their mobile medical clinic in PNG.

higher calling. Within no time, they had started salvation meetings.

By 1970, Dorothy Elphick had more than a decade of experience living and working in PNG and a good grasp of Pigeon English. She set out, by herself, to pioneer the Army's work in a remote part of the Okapa District. She set up house in a small village hut on the edge of Misapi. She recalls: "It didn't have any windows, just a dirt floor ... it didn't have a kitchen, of course, but a few sticks of wood and a lean-to and a bit of grass thatch soon made an open-air kitchen – no windows to clean!"

Every morning began with a short time of prayer and a Bible talk. "Fortunately there was one man who seemed to understand Pigeon English – or my kind of Pigeon English – and he translated

for me," she said. From there, Dorothy walked further into the wilderness to bring medical services and Salvation meetings to other villages. She could be gone two or three days, tramping and camping along the way. "Witchcraft was very real and I think this was where the power of prayer came in," she said. "The knowledge that I lived and worked for one who had overcome the power of Satan held me in good stead."

In 2006, when The Salvation Army in PNG marked its 50th anniversary, the government released a set of memorial postage stamps for the occasion. One of them featured a young Lieutenant Dorothy Elphick holding a Highlands baby – such is the respect that the country has for the fearless women who brought medical services and the hope of Christ to their country. ¶



PASSING ON THE GREATEST STORY OF ALL

There's no trick in God's truth – it brings life!

WORDS MAJOR SHELLEY SOPER

When the first of my grandchildren started to arrive a few years ago, I decided to continue a family tradition started by my mother-in-law, Grandma Soper. It is the tradition of storytelling.

Grandma Soper would take every opportunity to tell her grandchildren stories from her growing-up years on the farm, flavouring those occasions with stories from the Bible. She proved to be quite gifted at holding the children's attention, telling the stories in a fun way that appealed to their curious minds. She sowed seeds and strengthened their fledgling faith.

Now that I'm the "Grammy" and the storyteller, the tradition has continued ... with a twist! It's called "Tricky or True" and commences with, "Once upon a time ...". The stories follow a similar theme – life stories about growing up, funny escapades and holiday adventures of their dad, uncles and Grandy. At the end of the "telling", I ask my grandchildren, "Do you think this story is 'tricky or true?'" Then the grandchildren take their turn to tell their stories. To "speak" into the hearts of my grandchildren is a privilege, and it is with an increasing sense of urgency that I realise it is also a responsibility and time is short.

In Psalm 78 the author retells "history". The story of the children of Israel until the time of King David is told with the express intent of reminding his listeners and readers of the faithfulness of God. He speaks of "tricky" things, things hard to understand from the past and, in the re-telling, he emphasises the great importance of the next generation knowing the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. Why?

In verses 1 to 8 there is a clear direction given for one generation to tell the next about God – so that they would *know* about his faithfulness, his power and his love; and so they would believe in the Creator God and not forget what the Lord had done in the past. "Tell them" so that they do not make the same mistakes as those who've gone before. "Tell them" so that they understand the importance of listening to God. "Tell them" that God is their leader and there is strength and peace when they continue to follow him.

I have my own stories and knowing of the "praiseworthy deeds of the Lord" and, yes, at times it has been "tricky" because I also have my own stories of disobedience and failure. But what I know to be true is this: God has never failed me. From generation to generation in

our family he has woven his story into our own and his truth has brought *life!*

What stories will I tell my grandchildren for the next "Tricky or True" time? I think I will tell them about their great, great grandfather, a poor shepherd in the north of England who battled alcoholism. How he went into town one day, heard an evangelist giving a Gospel message and accepted Jesus. I will also tell them that the choice made by their great, great grandfather changed his life and, in turn, changed the lives of successive generations, including mine. And I will tell them that it is their responsibility to continue to tell God's story.

Yes! That is the story I will tell when we snuggle into bed for our next time of "Tricky or True". God's story and our story joined together is powerful because it's *true!* It is also true that, regardless of your past, it is never too late to connect your family and your story, to God's story. He is in the business of transforming lives and restoring whole families to new life. ¶

Major Shelley Soper is the Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, NSW and ACT Division.

THE POWER OF CHOICE

Building kingdom values – it’s your decision



WORDS GRANT SANDERCOCK-BROWN

“Great choice”. “Terrible choice”. “No choice”. “We shouldn’t have let them choose.” Choosing is a perilous exercise. And it is rather topical at the moment, particularly in some major western democracies. Australia has just had a Federal election, Britain voted to exit the European Union (EU), and the United States is deciding between Trump and Clinton.

Choosing can be hard. It can be a great responsibility. Pundits would say too great a responsibility for some people. Therefore, lots of experts would say that many British voters made a poor choice in voting to leave the EU. On the other hand, the voters themselves might respond, “No, it was a great choice” or “I had no choice”. Are the pundits or the people right? You choose!

It is possible to have no choice. In fact, many aspects of our lives are not of our choosing. Our height, our natural hair colour, the family we’re born into, the triumphs and tragedies of life even. So while self-help books might quote the Invictus poem, proclaiming that you and I are “the masters of our fate”, in many ways, that’s not even remotely true.

But there is another way in which it is. You see, choosing and the capacity to choose is in a very real way fundamental in what it means to be human. As human beings we can decide to act against our instincts; to set aside our desires and longings; to opt for the greater good, or someone else’s good, even our enemies. We can say no to ourselves and yes to others. In fact, one of the greatest gifts God has given us is this ability to say no. And no is a very important word. A timely “no” can matter a great deal. Just ask Adam and Eve.

Eugene Peterson once wrote that, “No’ is one of the most impressive features of our language”. Imagine if when confronted with moral questions such as “Should I steal?”, “Will I lie?”, “I really want that, will I take it?”, we only ever answered “Yes!”. That’s why no is an important word. It is freedom. It is saying no that sets us free to follow Jesus. His call to us each is to “deny yourself, say no

to the world and follow me”. It seems that a gracious Creator God allows us to say no to the world or no to him, and, extraordinarily, he never takes away that privilege. Which may explain why the world is in a bit of a mess.

And of course, it is in the mess of partisan politics, polarising exits from the EU, and Democratic and Republican divides that our no starts to matter. We must act against our purely human instinct to lash out, to vilify, to mock, and to marginalise those who see the world differently to us. Oh sure, there are times to speak out, to make clear, and to justify, but they are far rarer than we imagine. And they are almost never on social media! Quite simply, the world is a better place when we say no to these reactions and respond with patience, understanding, tolerance, gentleness and kindness. And if that list is starting to sound a bit like a well-known fruit list in Galatians 5, we might be getting the idea.

Of course, Galatians 5 also reminds us that our capacity to say no to corrosive and hurtful ways of being and yes to life-giving and healing ways of being is helped by the Holy Spirit. And that, I think, is what is needed right now in our nation; a Spirit-aided people of God opting for the good, choosing to work constructively to make our world a better place, deciding to commit to helping human flourishing regardless of differing political affiliations. We will never legislate in the kingdom of God. No political party will ever succeed in doing so. But the kingdom does grow when its kingdom agents, you and me, choose to live kingdom lives.

So whatever our context, whether it is or isn’t our choice, let our yes be a yes to Jesus and our no be a no to the world. Because every time it is, you and I begin to change for the better, and, funnily enough, so does the very world we said no to.¶

Major Grant Sandercok-Brown, Salvation Army author, is the Strategic Team Leader, North West Sydney Hub, and Parramatta Corps Officer.



Q & A

WORDS ANNE HALLIDAY

Major Amy Reardon is an author, member of The Salvation Army international Doctrine Council and, alongside husband Rob, corps officer at Seattle Temple Corps in Western USA. Balancing work, life, faith and family (which includes five children) is something she tackles every day of her life and will be speaking about at the Axios Discipleship Conference in Sydney this month.

What have been some of your formative discipleship experiences?
When I was growing up, discipleship and mentoring weren’t talked about much. But in the corps band I sat next to the great euphonium virtuoso, Wilf Mountain, for a couple of years. As he coached my playing, he also coached my life. Despite this, I had a real problem. I was often convinced that God didn’t really love me. Everyone else, yes. Me, no. Eventually it drove me to do stupid things and make huge life mistakes. I went through some very dark years. But my life turned around when I encountered the Lord in a mighty way and promised him I would follow him no matter how scared I was. I went to training college about six months later.

What are the things in your life that help you juggle multiple roles and responsibilities?
It is realistic to realise that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you ... but not all at the same time. But to be practical and specific, let me offer two things. First, when I was in seminary I had young children and I was a busy officer. I asked God to take the hours of my day and multiply them as he had done centuries ago with the loaves and the fishes. Let me work faster, let my mind be more focused, I prayed. Long after graduation God continues to say yes to that prayer. Second, I have had to learn to let some things go. My first year back at the corps (after 11 years as headquarters officers) I would panic if I didn’t know every

detail of everything going on at the corps. Would people perceive me as a bad officer if I didn’t know where the light bulbs were? Finally, some close loved ones convinced me that not everything was my personal burden. That freed me up to pay more attention to my kids and to do some of the things that God has called me specifically to do.

What do you think are the most significant challenges this generation of parents face, and what are some of the practical things families can do in their relationships, faith and discipleship?
I think one of the toughest challenges is to convince our children that truth is not relative and that not all religions are equal paths to God. These are old ideas that never completely vanished, but they have come back with a vengeance. There is a true God. There is a true plan. Our children must know this. If we compromise on this truth in an effort to be accommodating, we wind up being cruel, hoarding God’s truth for ourselves. In addition to that, the world has changed dramatically, but the needs of children are as they have always been. They need to see their parents pray and study their Bibles. They need to be led in family times of Scripture and prayer. They need to know that regular worship with the body of Christ (i.e. in church) is the family priority over sports, recreation, etc.

What do you wish you had known or learnt earlier in your discipleship journey?
I wish I had known that the love of God is relentless. I wish I could have understood that nothing, nothing, nothing can separate us from the love of God, and that it is the ploy of the Evil One to convince us otherwise. I know that God has designed me purposefully and loves me the way I am, but it took me too long to learn that.¶

The Axios conference this month will focus on equipping followers of Jesus to live their faith in a practical, everyday way. The Axios conference will be held from 12- 14 August at The King’s School, Fetter Hall, Parramatta, Sydney. For further information or to register online go to axios.org.au



Love and Friendship

WORDS MARK HADLEY



RATING: M
RELEASE DATE: 21 July

Jane Austen fans are unlikely to be throwing their bonnets at the screen when *Love And Friendship* opens at their local cinema. The production not only showcases the author's considerable wit but reveals a welcome contrast between the worldly woman and the Bible's idea of beauty.

Love And Friendship is an adaptation of an early novella by Austen that was published after her death as Lady Susan. The author used a collection of letters to tell the fictional story of an unscrupulous widow who goes husband-hunting among the married and single men of her day. Writer/director White Stillman has used those letters and the talents of Kate Beckinsale to create a comic tale that introduces the world to the outrages of Lady Susan Vernon.

Beckinsale is both beautiful and terrible as a woman completely unencumbered by morality. Lady Susan enters the story as a widow, apparently dependent on family and friends for support with the passing of her dear husband. However, as this comedy of manners unfolds, it becomes clear they are the ones who are at her mercy. Lady Susan never seems to be at a loss for a way to profit from a situation, and when called on to explain her sister-in-law's cool attitude towards her, she replies: "It's that I opposed her marriage to Frederick – but it is decidedly illiberal [of her] to resent a plan that did not succeed!"

However high she rises, though, viewers of *Love And Friendship* will soon become aware that Lady Susan is being measured against another, silent standard. Austen chose her protagonist's name to parallel the apocryphal Bible story of Susannah,

a determinedly chaste woman who is unfairly accused of infidelity but finally vindicated. Lady Susan, by contrast, is a notorious seductress who twists the Bible to justify her every scheme. Even when confronted by glaring proof of her lack of principles, she always manages to rearrange perspectives to put herself in the right. Describing the outraged wife of one of her lovers, she says, "If she was going to be jealous she should not have married such an attractive man."

Yet, though Lady Susan is a strangely attractive character, Stillman's production ends with her triumphs eclipsed by her daughter Frederica's integrity: "Yet still an higher beauty is her care, Virtue, the charm that most adorns the fair."

The poem, put into the mouth of Frederica's husband, underlines Austen's intent and the Bible's way of judging loveliness. Virtue is far more attractive than appearance, acclaim or success. When the apostle Peter describes true beauty, he might well have been warning his readers about the likes of Lady Susan: "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewellery or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight" (1 Peter 3:3-4).

Love and Friendship is a ludicrous comedy that certainly finishes with Lady Susan on top, but I feel certain most viewers will read the deeper message. Attractiveness radiates from the heart out. The testimony of our character will not only outlast our looks, but outshine them as well.



Our Kind of Traitor

WORDS MARK HADLEY



RATING: MA 15+
RELEASE DATE: 13 August

In a world that has grown used to seeing its secret agents in the form of James Bond and Jason Bourne, *Our Kind Of Traitor* introduces a much more understated hero. He lacks the panache of a 007 and the deadliness of a Treadstone graduate, but the qualities its champion displays are much more in reach of the average man – if he can come to appreciate them.

Our Kind Of Traitor is based on a best-selling novel by John le Carré, the same writer who created suspense-filled tales like *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* and *The Constant Gardener*. A British couple are holidaying in Marrakech, trying to rekindle the romance of their relationship after a damaging affair. Naomi Harris plays Gail, a top-flight barrister, and Ewan McGregor her lecturer husband, Perry. When Gail answers a work call, Perry is thrown into the company of Dima, a boisterous Russian played by Stellan Skarsgård. Dima reveals he is a financial controller for the Russian mafia. He and his family are likely to be eliminated as soon as he transfers the final accounts under his control – will Perry help save their lives? All the "professor" need do is deliver a thumb drive to MI6 when he returns to London. However, Perry's fatal decision to help soon draws he and his wife into the orbit of conscienceless killers and international spies.

Our Kind Of Traitor is a plot that twists on the single value of honour. As Perry's wife observes, "When [Dima] asked for your help, I don't think he imagined in his wildest dreams how far you would go for him." Time and again it is pointed out to Perry that he could just walk away from

this deadly situation. But this everyman finds himself filling in the gaps for MI6 because a greater ideal drives him: "You don't know the people you defend – and you do everything you can for them whether they're innocent or guilty."

Integrity in *Our Kind Of Traitor* is defined as having the courage to stick to your decision, regardless of the consequences. This also happens to be part of the Bible's definition for a righteous man. Who can live in God's company? Psalm 15 says: "[One] who despises a vile person but honours those who fear the Lord; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind" (Psalm 15:4).

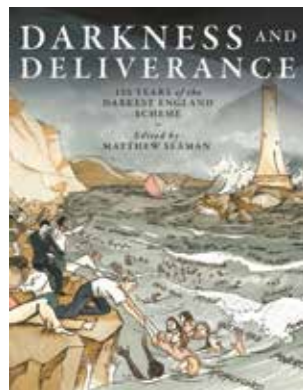
This is a constancy that is both easy to understand and instantly applicable to every adult: rejecting evil and embracing good, regardless of the consequences. It seems simple enough, but such an ideal is profoundly powerful in its ability to shape your life. Rest assured, your neighbours and co-workers will mark you out long before the Russian mafia comes looking for you. However, it is also well beyond our reach. Perry manages it for the duration of a movie, but he's also guilty of cheating on his wife.

In short, if we want to live with a perfect God, we are going to need a more consistent stand-in than ourselves. The Psalmist was pointing forward to Jesus, the everyman who put himself in the line of fire for more than just one family. If we stand in his shadow, we will find there more than enough integrity to save us.

+ READ

Darkness and Deliverance: 125 years of the Darkest England Scheme

–Edited by Matthew Seaman



In 1890, General William Booth outlined a scheme in a book titled *In Darkest England and the Way Out*, offering a plan he argued that “if realised would solve the worst problems of modern society”. This scheme aimed to see people saved spiritually from sin and temptation, as well as physically from the pollution and poverty that pervaded the increasingly industrialised cities of English society.

In Darkest England was a popular and controversial book when published 125 years ago. However, as Craig Campbell noted, due to the distance in time and culture between Booth and today “the language can appear quaint, the analysis inadequate, and the style somewhat anecdotal”. Yet, Campbell adds, “*In Darkest England* articulates foundational principles ... [society] must take responsibility to care for its citizens and in this the church is also responsible. Charity alone is not enough; the causes of need and injustice must also be addressed. The individual person has value.”

Hence, *In Darkest England* has remained an influential and important text not only for Salvationists but also for Christians concerned with the biblical mandate for justice and the treatment of the poor, outcast and alien in today’s society.

Today millions of people in societies

across the world struggle to survive or deal with the often harmful physical, social, environmental and spiritual effects of poverty, inequality, unemployment, crime and incarceration, disease and health issues, addiction, homelessness and more. It is timely to reflect on the impact, the insights, the past applications and potential future of Booth’s significant work for Salvationists, the wider church, society at large and, indeed, the entirety of God’s household here on Earth.

When we reflect on Booth’s challenge through *In Darkest England* after 125 years, many questions arise. One question is simply: How are we going? Is Booth’s manifesto still valid in the 21st century? How could The Salvation Army corporately – and Salvationists individually – be living more practically holy lives in response to the Gospel in our varied contexts?

The contributors to this new book, *Darkness and Deliverance*, explore various historical aspects of *In Darkest England*, including Booth’s theology; the book’s public reception and impact; how the scheme affected the work of the Army; and a fascinating look at life on a Salvation Army farming community in the USA. There is analysis of the question of whether William Booth actually wrote the book and an often forgotten *In Darkest England* supplement, *Darkest India*.

A number of chapters explore what Booth’s scheme might mean for us today in terms of social justice, assisting those who are especially troubled, and other contemporary expressions of *In Darkest England*. There are reflections on the missional purposes of buildings and other “apparatus” and imagining the future of a Salvation Army that understands and lives justice in creative, committed and Christ-like ways.

Two chapters consider questions such

as: In what ways can The Salvation Army speak into or adopt holistic missional approaches that take seriously the interrelatedness of spiritual, social and ecological aspects of life?

One chapter looks at some current environmental issues, noting that caring for people includes caring for the Earth on which we all live. A second chapter explores a number of different expressions of Salvation Army ministry and mission that links spiritual wellbeing, social issues and ecological health. These projects include community gardens and farming ventures that follow closely in the footsteps of William Booth’s *In Darkest England* scheme.

Even as there is so much more to be considered, unearthed and conversed about regarding the influential work that is *In Darkest England and the Way Out*, I am thrilled that this collection of impressive writings from a group of great people from around the world has become a reality.

Darkness and Deliverance does not attempt to provide all the answers, however, it hopes to encourage, challenge and spark further conversations and practical actions within the Army.

It is sincerely hoped that this gathering of minds around the theme of *In Darkest England* will be of use and benefit to Salvationists, The Salvation Army, our local communities, wider societies and indeed to all of God’s loved creation, for the glory of God!

An e-book (Salvos Publishing) is available from Amazon.com for \$10.60 or go to chaordiccreative.com/darkness-and-deliverance to order a softcover printed copy and to find extra online materials.

– Matthew Seaman

First published in *OnFire* magazine.

+ READ

Saved, Sanctified and Serving – perspectives on Salvation Army theology and practice

– Denis Mestrustery
(Paternoster, June 2016)

WORDS LIEUTENANT-COLONEL IAN BARR



Saved, Sanctified and Serving is not necessarily an “authorised” account of Salvationist theology, but given the distinguished cast of contributors, including a retired General and a number of well-known Salvationist scholars, it is certainly an authoritative work. The tone is unapologetically academic, but skilful editing has ensured that each essay is presented in language that is accessible and free of jargon. It is a treasury of contemporary Salvationist scholarship rather than a textbook on doctrine.

Mestrustery’s opening chapter seeks to contextualise the Army in the Church and the world. He has not only “read” the Army accurately, he has made its history and theology accessible to his intended Salvationist and non-salvationist readership.

As a series of essays rather than the systematic thinking of one author, there is inevitably some repetition. This centres mainly on accounts of the formulation of doctrine, a Salvationist understanding of sanctification, and the emergence of William Booth’s broader understanding of salvation in *Salvation for Both Worlds and Darkest England*. This is not necessarily a disadvantage; it provides a variety of perspectives, helping the reader to look at Christian truth through different windows.

General Paul Rader’s inspiring call to entire sanctification and James Pedlar’s account of Frederick Coultts’ understanding of the doctrine provide the reader with complementary perspectives on Salvationist experiential theology. Similarly, there is value in comparing Roger Green’s understanding of “William Booth’s ultimate eschatological goal – a goal that would embrace both spiritual and social redemption” with Mestrustery’s and Roberts’ account of Booth’s “postmillennial eschatology” engendering a sense of “optimism that the world could be conquered in Christ’s name”.

JoAnn Shade brings her own critical insights to the dissonance between the Army’s historic theological claims on issues of gender and the movement’s practice, both in her own North American context and in the wider Army world. Her anger is almost palpable. Readers might wonder if we have traded our heritage for a status quo that has little to do with our theology and everything to do with power, control and internal social conventions.

Aaron White shines a light on what is sometimes called “Primitive Salvationism”. White describes a revolutionary movement, mainly led by younger Salvationists and officers, to rediscover the Army’s early radicalism and reclaim it for the late 20th century. The apparent aim of Primitive Salvationism is to translate the rhetoric of our early history, including the use of the military metaphor, into current reality.

There is much to celebrate in Primitive Salvationism, but one might wonder if, given that every generation needs to experience its own revolution, perhaps we should now be looking for a new radicalism led by a new generation of prophets and pioneers.

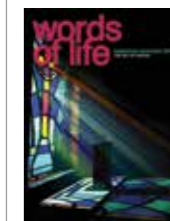
A word of warning to Salvationist readers! This book is not written exclusively by Salvationists for Salvationists. It is *about* the Army, not *for* the Army alone, and it is all the more valuable for that.

Served, Sanctified and Serving can be purchased for \$31.70 at amazon.com

+ READ

Words of Life The Art of Prayer (Sept-Dec 2016)

– Major Beverly Ivany



In the 2016 September to December edition of *Words of Life*, author Major Beverly Ivany says prayer does not require great skill or sophistication. Rather, prayer comes from the heart. *The Art of Prayer* is the theme for the latest edition of *Words of Life*, a day-by-day devotional e-book.

This e-book features prayers from Christian leaders in the Bible. “We begin by looking at a few prayers voiced by God’s people in his Word,” said Major Ivany in the devotional’s foreword. “May they not just inspire us but cause us to reflect upon our own lives and the unique situations in which we find ourselves.”

Starting in the Old Testament, the devotional looks at the book of Jeremiah, followed by Lamentations. Readers will then be inspired by the Bible’s minor prophets who heavily relied on prayer in their ministry, including Hosea, Obadiah, Nahum and Zechariah. In the New Testament, readers will find prayer at work in Paul’s writings to the Ephesians and the Thessalonians. In a letter to the Hebrews, readers are witnesses to the prayers of the author, who reached out to other believers.

This edition’s guest writers include retired Salvation Army officers, General Paul Radar and Commissioner Kay Radar, who lead readers through the Advent season. On Saturdays, the devotional draws upon a Psalm or verses from Proverbs, while Sundays offer inspiration from The Salvation Army’s song book.

The Kindle edition of *Words of Life* can be purchased for \$6 at amazon.com.au or as an e-book for \$5.70 from Kobo books. Go to store.kobobooks.com – Esther Pinn

Salvos to stride out for freedom at City2Surf marathon.



The Salvation Army's mascot, "Red" will once again participate in this year's City2Surf marathon as part of the Salvos Striders team.

For the third successive year, the Salvos Striders team will take part in the Sun Herald's annual City2Surf marathon in Sydney on 14 August to raise money for The Salvation Army's Freedom Partnership to End Modern Slavery. The Global Slavery Index (2016) estimates that there are 4300 people living in modern slavery in Australia and the funds raised through the City2Surf will go a long way towards The Salvation Army's fight to help people escape slave-like situations.

The Salvos Striders are hoping for a team of 50 people who can raise \$400 each to reach their overall fundraising goal of \$20,000. Each team member will have their own "everyday hero" page where family and friends can donate.

A team of Salvos and volunteers will begin their 14km trek with a breakfast at the Army's former territorial headquarters on Elizabeth Street. Each team member will receive a Salvos Striders T-shirt to wear during the marathon, and the Army's mascot, "Red", will also be

participating as part of the Salvos Striders team.

The Army's Development Manager (Special Projects), Peter Cleave, is heading up the Salvos Striders team and said there's a multitude of reasons why people should participate. "Raising funds for The Salvation Army is really important. It's a great health and fitness thing to do. It's an iconic race and if they haven't done it, they should put it on their bucket list. It will be a great social event."

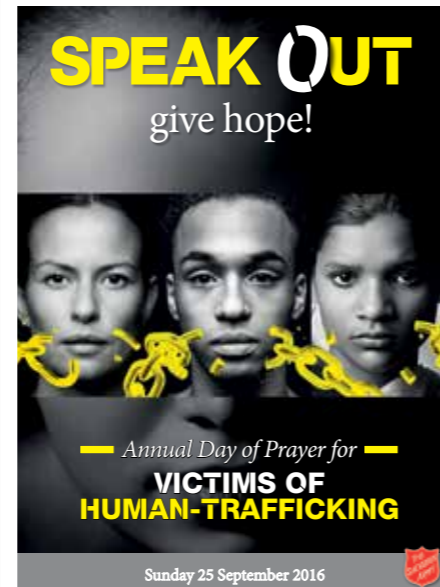
Individuals can register to be part of Salvos Striders team at salvos.org.au/adventure. For those who are unable to participate in the City2Surf, donations can be made to The Freedom Partnership by visiting the above website. For further information about The Freedom Partnership and modern slavery, go to endslavery.salvos.org.au

The Army's Stanmore House is available for accommodation bookings for City2Surf participants who need a place to stay. Go to boothcollege.edu.au – Esther Pinn

International day of prayer for victims of human trafficking.

The Salvation Army sets aside the last Sunday in September every year to bring an international focus to the plight of trafficked people. This year's chosen day is Sunday 25 September. Resources for the International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking 2016 – together with content from previous years – are now available at sar.my/aht

These resources include a variety of posters featuring this year's theme, "Speak Out – Give Hope!", which are available in English, French, German, Spanish and Portuguese. Also available are a Bible study, sermon outline, prayer, video resource and materials for children.



HISTORY SNAPSHOT

One of The Salvation Army's flying padres had his plane painted in three colours, and it became known as "The Little Canary". Find out who the flying padre was, what the colours were and more about the history of the flying padre service at salvos.org.au/flyingpadres

mySalvos relauches new and improved website.



The mysalvos.org.au website has relaunched as a portal to all Salvation Army news, resources and events happening within the Australia Eastern Territory.

"We wanted to have a digital place where people can get all the information they need to know in a click or two," said Benjamin Pinn, Communications Manager (Internal). "The Salvation Army has a lot of great information stored digitally, but it's stored in a number of different places. What we wanted to do was

make it easier to navigate between them all." Salvation Army employees, officers, volunteers and corps members are now able to access the latest Army news, apply for annual leave, find resources to run kids church on a Sunday, or listen to Salvos Radio from one website. "We don't want people to have 10 different sites saved in their favourites. We want to have a portal that can take you anywhere you need to go," Benjamin said.

The mySalvos website has also been redesigned to be more mobile and tablet user-friendly.

"We found that roughly 60 per cent of our users were coming to us from a mobile or tablet. The original site was never designed to work on both as it was designed some time ago when neither was a prominent communication platform, but times have changed. We've now got a site that will work dynamically across both as well as optimised for desktop," Benjamin said.

Creating a central Salvo digital place, regardless of how people connect to the Army, required a new focus. Instead of news articles being the prime focus, which is now powered by Pipeline Online (pipelineonline.org) and still accessible from the mySalvos website, important Salvation Army information, such as the latest Australia One updates, will take prime focus. The mySalvos toolkit resource website is also prominently featured on the homepage

and access to employee websites such as HR21, Finance 1 and iNotes are just some of the important links featured.

Video content will continue to be an important feature of the website and live streaming will exist when important Salvation Army events and announcements happen across the territory. The website's most popular tab, "Find the Salvos near you", is also more prominently highlighted.

The website will continue to have a strong missional focus which is featured through the "Freedom through Jesus" tab. "We wanted to make it obvious from the front page that anyone who wanted to know what salvation is, wanted to make the decision for Christ themselves or wanted to lead someone in that decision, can do that through mySalvos," Benjamin said.

Benjamin also said he hopes to see existing and new users explore the freshly designed website. "We would just really encourage anyone who works or serves with The Salvation Army and has a passion for it, to add this either as your homepage or as your key link through whatever web browser you use, so you can stay connected to us."

The mySalvos team welcomes any feedback from its website users by emailing mysalvos@ae.salvationarmy.org

Go to mysalvos.org.au to see the updated website. – Esther Pinn

Refresh day at Orange focuses on hope.

Keys to Hope was the theme for the Women's Ministries Refresh day at Orange Corps on 21 June. Women from both Orange and Cowra Corps attended the event.

The guest speaker was Major Shelley Soper, Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, assisted by Salvos Women Coordinators Major Karan Ross and Kym Briggs. The first session of the day included a time of worship led by Captain Tahlia Grounds, Orange Corps Officer.

The ladies enthusiastically participated in the interactive activities, the first of which focused on how knowing our own personalities is a key to knowing ourselves. The group looked at how understanding the different personality types was also a key to knowing each other.

The ladies then explored how God had made each person as unique individuals and focused on the spiritual gifts which were given to each

of us to benefit the Kingdom of God.

Major Soper also launched Major Cathryn Williamson's new recipe book, *2 Thumbs Up: a dozen dozen brilliant biscuits*. The proceeds from the sale of this book will go towards the Salvos Women Territorial Project 2016 – The Salvation Army's Safe House for Trafficked Persons in Sydney and assisting four young women from Papua New Guinea to attend the Salvos Discipleship School.

In the second session, Major Soper spoke on Six Keys to Hope – recharge your batteries, live positive, look to the future, remember your strengths, value each other, and remember you were created by God.

The ladies appreciated the effort of the Salvos Women team in coming to Orange, and for the opportunity to spend time together.

– Major Karen Masters



Major Shelley Soper (with microphone) and Major Cathryn Williamson lead a session during the Refresh day at Orange.

Aged Care Plus awards Fellows Program scholarships.



Chief Secretary-in-Charge, Colonel Mark Campbell, and Aged Care Plus CEO, Sharon Callister (middle) with the successful applicants of the 2016 Fellows Program. Photo: Ray O'Hanesian.

The Salvation Army Aged Care Plus awarded the successful applicants of the 2016 Fellows Program with scholarships at an official ceremony held at Territorial Headquarters in Redfern on 20 June.

For the sixth time, Aged Care Plus has awarded scholarships of up to \$5000 to talented individuals to enhance their skills and further develop their work for the Army. Since the scholarship program's inception, Aged Care

Plus has given \$300,000 to Fellows Program applicants. This year 17 scholarships were awarded to employees and one volunteer. Many recipients will be undertaking courses locally while others will be travelling overseas to attend conferences.

"This fulfils my dream and I really can't believe that I actually get to learn from Disney, a company that I've been following for a long time," said Internal Communications Manager,

Benjamin Pinn, who will be undertaking leadership and employee engagement courses in the United States. "The Fellows Program values my work and position with The Salvation Army. If they didn't, I wouldn't have this opportunity."

Two 2015 Fellows Program recipients spoke at the ceremony and shared how they had benefited from their scholarships. Currently employed at Elizabeth Jenkins Place Aged Care Plus, Elizabeth Green completed a Certificate IV in Leadership and Management. Since finishing the course, Elizabeth said she had been able to put her learnings into practice.

Territorial Moneycare Coordinator, Tony Devlin, was able to fulfil his life-long dream of travelling to Boston in the United States to attend a six-day financial inclusion conference at Harvard University. "I'm very grateful to The Salvation Army and Aged Care Plus to have the opportunity to experience all that. It was a lifetime achievement."

Chief Secretary-in-Charge, Colonel Mark Campbell, congratulated the successful applicants and presented them with their certificates. "I want to encourage you to really continue to apply continuous improvement. Taking all you can ... grab hold of that with two hands and God will do the rest."

Aged Care Plus to introduce new dementia care model.



A new care model will help Aged Care Plus improve the way it looks after older Australians.

The Salvation Army Aged Care Plus has selected as one of only two aged care providers in Australia to launch a ground-breaking, internationally recognised model of dementia care – the "Butterfly Household Care Model".

Pioneered in the United Kingdom by Dementia Care Matters, The Cairns Aged Care Plus Centre at Chapel Hill, Brisbane, and Mountain View Aged Care Plus Centre in Narabundah, Canberra, will implement the new

model next month. The model will transform the way Aged Care Plus cares for older Australians living with dementia through physical, emotional and spiritual care complemented by resident activities, staff training and changes in the physical environment to truly create meaningful engagement with residents.

Sharon Callister, Chief Executive Officer of Aged Care Plus, says the organisation has been focusing its efforts on clinical excellence in dementia care. "This commitment to excellence is enhanced as we partner with Dementia Care Matters to build on our existing work and truly bring hope, fulfilment and meaning to residents' lives and ultimately a better quality of life," Sharon said. "This model focuses on what is important for our residents, with respect to the rich lives they have led, as well as their current and future needs."

The model has shown significant international success in improving the quality of life, health and wellbeing for residents with dementia, shown through increases in resident and staff satisfaction, decreased expressive behaviours, improved social interactions and meaningful engagement with residents.

Tania da Fonseca, centre manager of The Cairns Aged Care Plus Centre at Chapel Hill, is looking forward to the culture change needed to transform care for residents. "Our residents in the memory support units will begin to see a transformation in our culture through improved relationships and interactions on an emotional level. Our employees will be trained by the experts from the UK in how to foster stronger emotional connections with our residents by drawing out and understanding their thoughts and feelings," Tania said.

The care provided will now be guided by residents' interests rather than the traditional task focus. The daily routines will give way to a relaxed, free-flowing, unscheduled day allowing residents the chance to have fun and express their feelings and emotions.

Following implementation in Brisbane and Canberra, the model will be rolled out to all 14 of the remaining Aged Care Plus centres in NSW, ACT and Queensland. Aged Care Plus will also be the first provider to implement the model in the Community Care setting.

– Amiee Whitehead

Collaroy camp changes single mums' lives.

Giving single mums a break, teaching life skills and planting the seed of faith in Christ was the focus of the Collaroy Mums' Camp, held at The Collaroy Centre from 20-24 June. The theme of the camp was "Keep calm because you are loved, valued and worth it".

Nine mums and 11 preschool-aged children from around the Australia Eastern Territory attended the camp, led by Major Di Gluyas, Calamvale Corps Officer, and Aleasha Yaxley. Aleasha attended the camp four years ago as a single mum. She is now a senior soldier at Tweed Heads Corps and works for The Salvation Army's Doorways program there.

"We really want to give the ladies a break from their normal routine, show them where they can find support, and help them have some fun with their kids in a safe environment," said Sherrie Cocking, The Collaroy Centre Mission Executive, who organises the camp. "The leaders share their faith journeys, we speak into the ladies' lives, and we plant a seed. We encourage the local corps and centres who recommend the ladies for camp, to follow up and continue to mentor them after camp as well."

As part of the life skills sessions, Maggie Ingham, Greater West, Doorways Regional Coordinator, spoke to the ladies about money management, budgeting, and saving. Major Robbin Moulds, Auburn Corps Officer, spoke about personal boundaries and boundaries with children. During the presentations, volunteers ran a playgroup for the children attending the camp.

The mums, children and leaders also enjoyed a day at Taronga Park Zoo during the camp. There was a craft night and movie night for the mums, while their children were looked after and entertained onsite. On the final afternoon, students from The Australasian College MHM Education and Training Broadway did the ladies' hair and makeup in a pamper session. Each family had portraits taken, followed by a formal dinner.

The ladies loved the camp. "Thank you for this amazing experience and taking care of myself and my child," said one mum. "I am certainly a believer after this experience."

The next single mums' camp will be held at The Collaroy Centre on 7-11 November.

First Step program launched in Rockhampton.



Jenny Wayman has launched a holistic new program in Rockhampton to help those affected by drugs and alcohol, and their families.

The Salvation Army in Rockhampton launched its First Step program on Tuesday 14 June. The program is a step-by-step journey of education, intervention and recovery for people with addiction, their family and friends.

The Salvation Army's Jenny Wayman, Alcohol and Other Drug Facilitator, leads the program and runs the groups, which will now run weekly, breaking only for a few weeks over Christmas. Jenny is a former nurse with a background in community welfare, prison ministry, and drug and alcohol prevention. Her vision is to see the problems of addiction and youth suicide in Rockhampton drastically reduced.

"First Step is a combination of the Army's Bridge and First Floor programs," Jenny explains. "My dream is to help cut down Rockhampton's drug and alcohol addiction problem with a long-term, holistic program that includes help for families. We do have other centres and programs here, but they are short-term only and often those completing them don't know where to go next. This is particularly true for those leaving prison. I have felt for a long time that an ongoing program like this, that also offers referrals as appropriate, was very much needed here."

The First Step recovery program will offer education and intervention, using parts of the Bridge Program, Positive Lifestyle, and other Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) programs.

"We had a good first response, with 14 in the group and others coming in looking for assistance," says Jenny. See Change and VIFs (Very Important Families) are the two programs that will be offered for family and supporters through First Step.

"Our goal, eventually, is to not just work with people in addiction and their supporters, but also include children of those in addiction, as they are affected too," Jenny explains. "We want to develop what we offer into a holistic program for the whole family. It's definitely a work in progress."

In developing the program, Jenny has worked with the First Floor program (a holistic drug and alcohol service based at the Wollongong Corps); Gerard Byrne, Operations Manager Recovery Services for The Salvation Army; Major David Twivey, Manager, Townsville Recovery Services Centre; and Major Colin Maxwell, Corps Officer, Capricorn Region.

Jenny has also networked with community centres in Rockhampton.

Sargents hand Salvos \$1 million slice of the pie.



Brian Andrews (right) of Sargents Pies Charitable Foundation presents a \$1,025,000 cheque to Salvation Army Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas and Youthlink Blacktown general manager James Selby. Photo by Isabella Lettini, courtesy of Fairfax Community Newspapers, Blacktown Sun.

Sargents Pies Charity Foundation has donated \$1.025 million to The Salvation Army which will go towards missional youth work in Sydney's Greater West. Half of the donation will fund the development of Salvos Communities of Hope and the rest will resource the Army's work across a range of needs in the local community.

The generous donation was made during a special cheque handover event held at The Salvation Army's Youthlink Service in Blacktown on 7 July. Since 2001, Sargents Pies has contributed \$4.3 million directly to the work of The Salvation Army, with this latest donation being the largest.

Logistics Manager for Sargents Pies, Brian Andrews, said it was The Salvation Army's work with youth which prompted their ongoing support. "The Foundation continues the work started by the original owners, George and Charlotte Sargent, renowned for their charitable works. It is the programs run by The Salvation Army that help troubled youth in the western suburbs, where we are located, that we want to support. In particular, the Cafe Horizons and the Youthlink programs targeted to assist them to identify and achieve goals and skills to assist them in the life challenges ahead."

Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, Divisional Commander of The Salvation Army in NSW/ACT, thanked Mr Andrews and Sargents for their generosity, sharing stories of young people who had been helped by the Salvos during hard times and were now "really flying in their lives". "Thank you for partnering with us to bring about this kind of transformation in people's lives and in our community," she said.

Salvation Army spokesperson Major Peter McGuigan said the donation was a significant boost for the community. "The foundational concept of Communities of Hope," he said, "is that long-term restoration from the damage done in people's lives can be experienced in only one place – community. The Salvation Army is well-known for its crisis intervention across so many areas including homelessness, domestic violence, addiction and disaster. But this can be an endless circle in people's lives – crisis to crisis – unless we empower them with new hope, restore their personal sense of worth and see them through to becoming contributing members of a community."

Youthlink Manager, James Selby, thanked Sargents "on behalf of the thousands of young people you have enabled Youthlink to help over the past 16 years and into the future".

June on mission to share God's love at Olympics.

When June Dangar saw a brochure at Armidale Corps for a sports ministry opportunity in Brazil, she knew God was calling her to take part in this mission. Several months later she has found herself in Rio de Janeiro, the host city for the 2016 Olympics Games, where she will be part of a mission team spreading the love of God throughout the city.

Also participating from Australia will be Southern Territory officer, Captain Karyn Wishart, who will join June and other Salvos from as far afield as Great Britain, USA, Finland and New Zealand. "It will just be a blessing to be able to share with our Salvation Army members from around the world in working together for Christ," June said. "I believe that the Lord puts us in places where he wants us to be."

June will partner with a local corps in Rio and help out with various ministries in the local area throughout the Olympics, which run from 5-21 August. Many of the activities will revolve around sport. June says she feels comfortable with this, as she is a firm believer in sport as an effective ministry tool. "Throughout my whole life I have had involvement in playing, coaching and umpiring in more than one sport and I know the Lord uses us in many different ways to bring Christianity to this world," she said. "I know it will be a life-changing experience for all those involved."



June Dangar is heading to Rio as part of an international sports ministry team.

Ipswich forges Indigenous links with ceremonial blessing.



(From left): Shayne Neumann MP, Federal Member for Blair; Captain Greg Pack, Ipswich Corps Officer; Jennifer Howard, Queensland State member for Ipswich; Jacqui Stringer, Ipswich Corps Indigenous Caseworker; Major Earle Ivers, Queensland Divisional Secretary; and Councillor Wayne Wendi, Ipswich City Council.

Major Earle Ivers, Queensland Divisional Secretary, led a significant occasion in Ipswich during NAIDOC Week last month which honoured The Salvation Army's commitment to Indigenous Ministries. Major Ivers led the blessing of "Birramyani Gharee" at the Indigenous Gathering House on 4 July, recommitting to God the facility for Kingdom purposes.

Attending were people from the local In-

igenous community, Ipswich Corps and civic representatives. Aunty Lee Thompson, from Ipswich Corps Indigenous Ministries, gave the Welcome to Country acknowledgement. Artwork from five Aboriginal artists – Charmaine Davis, Vincent Watson, Scott McMillan, Jared Coolwell and Colin Walker – was also displayed as a tribute to the theme of NAIDOC 2016, "Songlines: The living narrative of our nation".

In the local Yagbera Indigenous language, "Birramyani" means meeting place, and "Gharee" means belonging. "This name highlights our renewed mission focus and a sense of excitement and expectation," said Major Ivers. "The mission of Birramyani Gharee is to always be a place where God is honoured, relationships can be developed and nurtured, culture is respected and taught, generations come together and reconciliation continues to grow.

Major Lenore Pack, Ipswich Corps Officer, echoed this theme. "At Ipswich we are committed to helping people find missing pieces, express and experience culture through arts and language and offering programs such as Deadly Dollars, Adult Numeracy and Literacy and the Positive Lifestyle Programs to assist people to re-build their lives," she said.

Shirli Congoo, Territorial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry Coordinator, spoke about the Australia Eastern Territory's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) before commenting: "Congratulations to the corps officers, Elders, employees and volunteers who have championed the transition of North Ipswich Indigenous Ministries to the Ipswich Corps over the past couple of years. It is a pleasure to see the joy of those present in the official opening of Birramyani Gharee House."

Snow Mission builds local and global community.



Volunteers: Julianne Norman from the Uniting Church Jindabyne (centre) with Major Sandra Lesar and Donald Knox from Tuggeranong Corps.

The Salvation Army's Snow Mission has just finished its fifth year of providing ski-field workers, travellers and locals with meals, groceries, and a warm, safe and caring place to make friends, spend time and experience the love and acceptance of God. The mission ran from 3-15 July, based in Jindabyne, approximately 45km from the Thredbo and Perisher Blue ski resorts. Relationships with local and interstate churches were deepened, friendships were formed with people from around

the world, and people met Jesus.

Every night, volunteers served more than 140 meals and also provided drinks, snacks, conversation and prayer to travellers who dropped in during the day. Staff held daily devotions and afternoon praise and worship sessions.

The first week of mission began on 3 July, with the team setting up in the local Memorial Hall. To supplement the Salvo and local volunteers, Captain Louise Nicholson, Cooma Corps Officer, who runs Snow Mission, was delighted to accept volunteers from Welcome Street Church in Wakeley, Sydney. Pastor Gabriel Rodriguez and his wife, Kim, with a team from their church, helped out for more than a week.

In week two, Snow Mission received a number of Salvo volunteers, including those who have part of Snow Mission since its beginning. "We have also linked up and made connections with the Uniting Church in Jindabyne, and a couple of their soup kitchen volunteers helped us, too," said Captain Nicholson. "We will continue to partner with the Uniting Church to link with

people after Snow Mission, especially those who want to know more about Jesus. This will include weekly visits to run our Bible studies and continue the relationships built here."

For the first time, Captain Nicholson has seen guests evangelising other interested guests, and people asking about Jesus from day one of the mission. Copies of the "Deadly Gospel" – Mark's gospel with testimonies from Indigenous Christians – are left on the tables in the hall, and people have been reading them. "It's very encouraging," said Captain Nicholson. "We have also had people drop in to use our prayer room, including two Muslim ladies.

The volunteers all love the work they do at Snow Mission. "Although each year is so different due to the team we have, the focus is always the same," said Elise Paull, who has been volunteering for five years. "It's about serving God and others. Heart to God, hand to man! That is probably the best thing about this mission that God stays at the focus and centre of it. We are filling a need, being there for people."

Prayer summit seeks restoration of God's Kingdom in people's lives.

Words *Amanda Merrett*

I attend Frankston North Salvos, which is a small missional outreach working specifically with at-risk kids and teenagers. As part of my ministry there, I run a Bible study. It's a "Girls Group" for five teenage girls. I've been walking alongside these girls for about three years and I've been so fortunate to see God change their lives, give them hope and equip them to handle some of the unfair circumstances they find themselves in. God consistently teaches me about the Kingdom through their lives.

We were recently going through a Corps Cadets session on mercy, and I showed them the Salvos Studios video where the famous "I'll Fight" speech, attributed to William Booth, is reinterpreted to discuss modern injustices. We watched the video and I threw the conversation to them for feedback. There was a bit of silence and one of the girls responded with, "It's nice to know that there are people who will fight with us". I had this, "Oh!" moment – I had seen such growth in the group that I had forgotten how rough the circumstances could be.

The beautiful thing is, a few weeks later when I approached them to use the story, this particular girl responded with, "Yes, you can use the story, because I want others to know that I believe they'll fight with us, but I will also fight with them, I guess". This is a microcosm of what happens around The Salvation Army week. It's tiny – it's six people meeting every two weeks to share in community, and trusting that God's going to do something in that space. But this happens all across the country through various expressions of mission, whether it be in our social programs, our corps, or our offices.

For me, this experience encapsulates much of what The Salvation Army does – we meet the immediate needs of people; we fight for their freedom in situations where oppression and discrimination threaten to take over; and we walk alongside people participating with them and God to seek the Kingdom restored in their lives – whatever that may look like.

At its core, 100 Days of Ceaseless Prayer is not just about The Salvation Army, it's about how God is using us to bring the Kingdom into the thousands of communities we are committed to. Commissioner Floyd Tidd says, "God does not have a mission for his Army; he has



an Army for his mission". What is the role of The Salvation Army, in its various expressions, in revealing the Kingdom of God in our nation? If you have not already, I encourage you to participate in 100 Days of Ceaseless Prayer and while doing so, fix your eyes on the Kingdom of God.

Prayer Summit

At the culmination of 100 Days is a National Prayer Summit. The Prayer Summit will be held on 10 September in Adelaide, the birthplace of The Salvation Army in Australia. A main focus of the Prayer Summit will be to humble ourselves and seek God's voice (2 Chronicles 7:14). The event will feature prayer workshops and a central prayer gathering at 7pm (AEST), and aims to provide people with discipleship and learning opportunities.

The event will also be live-streamed via Salvo Studios so that across the country, The Salvation Army will be united in prayer for our nation and our neighbourhoods. Imagine every expression of mission in The Salvation Army united in prayer for God's Kingdom in Australia! The Prayer Summit is an invitation

to gather your faith community for a night of seeking God's voice for his Kingdom in your neighbourhood and in Australia. Downloadable prayer resources designed specifically for the Prayer Summit will be available via the 100 Days website.

Additionally, an aim of the Prayer Summit is to have representation from across the country and to this end there are a limited number of sponsored delegate positions available. Visit the 100 Days website for more information, and to download an expression of interest form.

I firmly believe that in order for The Salvation Army to be the best possible version of itself, it has to look past itself – seeking God's Kingdom above all else. The Prayer Summit is an opportunity for us to hear what is God saying to The Salvation Army and consider how we can faithfully respond.

For more information go to my.salvos.org.au/australia-one/100-days-of-ceaseless-prayer/

Amanda Merrett is 100 Days Coordinator, Southern Territorial Mission Resources Department

Gold Coast Temple Corps.



Major Heather McKeown, Corps Officer, congratulates Cheryle on becoming an adherent. Photo: Rebecca Southall

Major Andrew McKeown, Corps Officer, accepted Cheryle Campbell as an adherent on Sunday 19 June.

Cheryle had become a junior soldier as a child, and later, a timbrelist. She stopped attending The Salvation Army but her mother, Doris Kocass, continued. When Doris passed away last year, members of The Salvation Army, Miranda Corps, attended her funeral and read from the Scriptures, as Doris had requested in her will.

After the funeral, Cheryle decided to attend a meeting at the Gold Coast Temple, and has been a regular ever since. "I felt right at home here, it was familiar, and all the early teachings have come back to me and make so much more sense now," she said.

Gympie Corps.



Majors Peter (left) and Miriam Sutcliffe (far right) celebrate with Gympie's newest soldiers and adherents.

Townsville Riverway Recovery Mission.



Celebrating the new soldiers. (From left) Captain Andrew Hambleton; Captain Paula Hambleton; Brendan Exelby; Bec Exelby; Stuart McGregor; Kylie Holland; Cheryl Leckstrom; Barbara Potts; Major Beth Twivey; Major David Twivey.

Major Beth Twivey, Area Officer, North Queensland, enrolled five new senior soldiers on Sunday, 26 June – Barbara Potts, Brendan Exelby, Bec Exelby, Stuart McGregor and Cheryl Leckstrom.

Kylie Holland also recommitted to soldiery during the service. Each of the new soldiers shared their story of faith during the meeting. "Each story is a wonderful one!" said Major Twivey.

"It has been a very exciting 12 months at Gympie Corps, with a number of new soldiers and adherents making a commitment after completing the new soldiery material, 'On my Watch'," said Major Claire Smith, Gympie Corps Officer. "Dr Gail Davidson, a senior soldier in our corps, leads the course and follows up with all who attend."

Major Peter Sutcliffe, Area Officer – Central Queensland, recently enrolled Lisa Jocusen and Pamela Bland as senior soldiers, and accepted Hayden Marsh, Liz Kuhl and Debbie Jackson as adherents.

"All of these lovely people have taken on some ministry in the corps, which is part of the focus in their course," said Major Smith. "Hayden is a barista and serves coffee on a Sunday morning, Liz works in the office and helps with kids club, Lisa is the children's worker, Debbie volunteers in the shop and with emergency services, and Pamela is a barista and also helps in our free lunches during the week. They all love what they are doing and have found a ministry suitable and rewarding for them."

THE TRADE

Now Open

Level One inside the new Territorial Headquarters at 261-265 Chalmers St, Redfern.

Open 9am-4pm Monday to Friday

French President reopens refurbished Salvation Army centre in Paris.

The President of France, François Hollande, spoke appreciatively about The Salvation Army's commitment to the poor when he officially reopened the refurbished La Cité de Refuge centre in Paris on 27 June. The President was accompanied by three ministers and two secretaries of state.

Colonel Daniel Naud, Territorial Commander, France and Belgium Territory, welcomed the President and other guests, concluding his introduction and welcome with words from the famous "I'll Fight!" speech given by General William Booth more than 100 years ago.

President Hollande echoed General Booth's stirring call to social action, speaking of the "necessity to fight" for a united, generous nation which works with organisations such as The Salvation Army to "protect human dignity". The President then spent time looking at some of the centre's facilities and meeting its residents.

La Cité de Refuge [City of Refuge] was initially inaugurated in 1933, in the presence of the then President of France, Albert Lebrun. It is one of only two buildings in Paris designed by the famous architect Le Corbusier, often described as a father of modern architecture. Projects to house people living in slum conditions would become an important part of his life and work but La Cité de Refuge – designed



The President of France, François Hollande, shakes hands with Colonel Daniel Naud before officially opening La Cité de Refuge [City of Refuge].

in conjunction with his cousin, Pierre Jeanneret – was Le Corbusier's first scheme for the "urban poor".

The refurbished centre can now house up to 143 people, including families. It has its own kitchen, dining room, rooftop terrace/garden,

classrooms, workshops, laundry, library and gym. Residents are assisted in their search for long-term housing and are also offered training, employment and education opportunities, preparing them to take their places in the modern workplace. –IHQ Communications

General Cox encourages Salvationists to sign refugees petition.



General André Cox is encouraging Salvationists and friends around the world to add their names to a petition organised through the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). The #WithRefugees petition will be delivered to the UN's headquarters in New York in September ahead of the UN General Assembly high-level summit to address large movements of refugees and migrants. The petition calls on governments to:

- Ensure every refugee child gets an education.
- Ensure every refugee family has somewhere safe to live.
- Ensure every refugee can work or learn new skills to make a positive contribution to his or her community.

According to UNHCR figures, the worldwide

levels of displacement are higher than at any time in human history. More than 65 million people have been forced from their homes, including more than 21 million refugees, over half of whom are under the age of 18. The UNHCR website also asks people to: "Add your name to the #WithRefugees petition to send a clear message to governments that they must act with solidarity and shared responsibility. We stand together #WithRefugees".

The Salvation Army works with and alongside refugees around the world, with several programs currently taking place in a number of African countries and across Europe (see sar.my/europerefugees)

–IHQ Communications

New appointments to the National Office.



Captains Paul and Robyn Lorimer from the Australia Southern Territory have been appointed respectively as Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the National Commander, Commissioner Floyd Tidd; and Executive Assistant, National Leadership. Both appointments are to the Office of the National Commander and took effect on 1 August. Simone Worthing spoke to the Lorimers just before they took up their new appointments

Simone: What do your new roles entail and what will be your main areas of focus?

Captain Paul Lorimer: Today, the ADC role is like that of a confidential assistant. I'll travel with the National Commander, sit in on meetings and discussions to capture what's been decided, and then communicate what actions need to be taken. The main focus of the role is communication. Broadly speaking, the role is to support the National Commander as The

Salvation Army transforms into one territory.

Captain Robyn Lorimer: In the Australia One project environment, the Executive Assistant role will be diverse, and include aspects of being an event manager, office manager and personal assistant. The main goal is to assist the National Leadership team (Commissioners Tidd and, from January 2017, Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell) move through this transition period as smoothly as possible.

SW: Where will you be based in your new roles?

RL: We will initially work out of the Catherine Booth College in Melbourne, until it is decided where the new Australia One THQ will be based. Paul will travel more frequently and will often be in Canberra and Sydney as well, accompanying Commissioner Floyd Tidd.

SW: In your ministry, which areas are you particularly passionate about?

PL: The words of the Apostle Paul in Colossians 1: 28-29 resonate strongly with us. He

says, "We proclaim Christ" (v23), and then speaks about strenuously contending with all the energy Christ works in him to present everyone fully mature in Christ. We love to encourage people, to empower people in their leadership and kingdom influence. Each appointment contains so many experiences, but we've loved working in diverse cultural ministry and experiencing the freedom of new congregations like the Recovery Church in Hobart.

SW: What do you hope to achieve in your new roles?

PL: We want to be of service, to be an encouragement to people and a help to our leaders in these important days of transformation. It is our hope that God will continue to use us to bring his Kingdom to the here and now and the everyday, as he has done throughout our officership.

SW: What are you looking forward to in your new roles?

RL: We both look forward to seeing the formation of a new expression of the Salvation Army in Australia for the 21st century and to working with the National Leadership team and everyone who will be giving life and breath to the new Australia Territory. We look forward to what God will show us and teach us, and how he will change us over these next few years.

"We are grateful for the appointments of Captains Paul and Robyn Lorimer to serve with the National Leadership office," said Commissioner Floyd Tidd. "They bring to their roles experience from their careers prior to their officership as well as their years of officership service that will support Commissioner Tracey and myself as National Leaders. The focus of their responsibilities will be upon advancing the necessary administration and coordinating ongoing processes as we move together towards Australia One."

IHQ promotion for Australian officer.



Colonel Mark Watts, prior to his new appointment, outside IHQ in London.

Colonel Mark Watts, an officer of the Australia Eastern Territory serving at International Headquarters as Under Secretary for Administration (Administration) has been appointed as Chief Secretary, International Headquarters. Colonel Watts took up his appointment on 1 August with the rank of colonel.

This new appointment will be Colonel Watts' fourth at International Headquarters. After graduating from the School for Officer Training in Bexley North, south of Sydney in 1993, Colonel Watts completed a number of appointments in his home territory before God took

him on an unexpected journey, including four overseas appointments.

"I only ever imagined officership being in a corps, so the journey I've been on over the past decade has been a real eye-opener for me," said Colonel Watts. "God has revealed to me the importance of being willing to serve him in whatever capacity and wherever he sends me. If it had been up to me, I probably would have headed in a very different direction that wouldn't have been half as fulfilling as my officership has been. It's just being ready to go wherever, whenever."

Steadfast soldier.



Brigadier Mrs Ida Kathleen Johns was promoted to glory on 8 June, aged 95, from The Salvation Army Macquarie Lodge Aged Care Plus Centre where she had been a resident for the past 20 years. Following a private committal service for the extended family, a Thanksgiving Celebration of her life and ministry was held at the Macquarie Lodge Chapel on Wednesday 15 June. Both gatherings were led by Lieutenant-Colonel Graham Durston, supported by Lieutenant-Colonel Rhondra Durston who had been commanding officers of the Armidale Corps during the time when Brigadiers Ida and William (Bill) Johns were on appointment in that same city.

The thanksgiving service was attended by more than 60 people, including family members, friends and fellow-Salvationists. Three songs were chosen – *As the Varied Way of Life we Journey, When Peace Like a River* (a family favourite and also sung at the thanksgiving service for her husband, Brigadier William H. Johns, in March 1996) and *When the Roll is Called Up Yonder*. Excellent musical support was provided by Colonel Margaret Martin.

Envoy Bill Yi Li, Chaplain, who had given wonderful care to Ida, prayed and Major Bronwyn Pretty, Chaplain, gave a tribute on behalf of the Macquarie Lodge community. Colonel Julie Campbell (Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries) read a territorial tribute from the Chief Secretary-in-charge, Colonel Mark Campbell. Bob Patterson (nephew-in-law) read the first Scripture portion (Psalm 121, a favourite of Ida's) and Major Kim, Hwan-ki of the Belmore Corps, read the second, 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 prior to the message given by Lieutenant-Colonel Durston. Bill, the eldest son, gave the family tribute, speaking on behalf of himself and twin sisters, Joy and Beth. In tribute to Ida, comrades of the Belmore Korean Corps had provided a beautiful floral display for the Thanksgiving Celebration.

The third child of six born to Geordie (George) and Muriel Mansell on 28 November 1920, Ida Kathleen Mansell grew up in the Mullumbimby and Goonellabah areas of the NSW Northern Rivers district. Ida, with other family members, was greatly involved in the Lord's work at the Lismore Corps, from where she entered The Salvation Army Training College in Petersham. She was a member of the

Steadfast session of cadets and was commissioned as an officer on 19 October 1942. Her first few corps appointments were to Dee Why, Balmain, Waverley and Laidley and Mount Isa.

In January 1948, Ida was transferred to the Tenterfield Corps and during this time her path crossed with young Captain William Henry Johns, Commanding Officer of the Warwick Corps. Appointments to the Willoughby Corps and then the Cremorne Corps followed for Ida, before Bill and Ida married at The Salvation Army, Bexley, on 15 October 1949. Ida then joined Bill in command of the Warwick Corps prior to their appointment in charge of the Canowindra Corps. It was here that their first child, a daughter Muriel Mayvis, was born and promoted to glory a few days later.

Further changes of appointment saw them in corps appointments at Enfield (where their son, Bill, was born), Bathurst, Albury (where twin daughters Joy and Beth were born), Goulburn, Newcastle, Wagga Wagga, Rockhampton, Nambour, West End (in Brisbane) and a return to Ida's home corps of Lismore in 1967. Their next appointment was to the THQ Public Relations Department in 1970 where, based in Armidale, Bill was the Public Relations Director for the North and Far West regions of NSW. Ida assisted Bill in his task of travelling around the area, and at one stage took control of the Uralla Corps.

The couple served in further appointments at Cardiff Corps (1974) and the Finance Department at THQ (1975) before retiring from active service on 19 July 1979. Their first 16 years of retirement were spent at Tighes Hill, prior to a move to Macquarie Lodge in 1995 when Bill's health had deteriorated to needing full-time professional medical care.

Ida's life was dedicated to God through service in The Salvation Army. She loved to preach and to pray, to counsel and to help in a practical way the many with whom she came into contact. Music featured in the Johns family, with Ida an accomplished soloist as well as singing in harmony. She would often be called upon to sing, accompanying herself on her Hawaiian guitar. She continued to find avenues of ministry in retirement and, up until the last weeks of her life, was often called upon by staff members to minister to other residents. She loved her Bible and on a regular basis, late into the night, could be found reading the Word as well as learning various passages off by heart.

Ida had been an officer of The Salvation Army for more than 73 years and until her last day, she lived up to her sessional name, taken from 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." Well

done, good and faithful servant: enter into the joy of your Lord.

Godly servant.



Major Margaret Law was promoted to glory on 7 May, aged 74, from Belmont Hospital. The committal service was led by Major Colin Robinson at Eastlakes Corps on 12 May. The Celebration Service was later held at Stafford Corps on 4 June, led by Major Fred Shaw.

Two of Margaret's favourite songs were used for the services – *My Jesus I love Thee* and *When the Trumpet of the Lord Shall Sound*. Many letters were read during the services, including a tribute read by Major Ralph Johnson from Commissioners James and Jan Condon. Tributes were given by Ross Kellahan, Ruth Myors and Val Law, all giving testimony to Margaret as a godly lady.

Margaret Law was born in Warwick, Queensland, on 19 December 1941. Her family moved to Toowoomba, where she attended school, and the local Salvation Army. She became a soldier in 1959. Called to be a Salvation Army officer, she entered The Salvation Army Training College in the *Servants of Christ* session in 1962.

Margaret was commissioned in 1964 and appointments followed at Bethesda Hospital, Bethesda Nursing Home, Finance Department (THQ) and the training college. It was during this time that some time for recovery from hospitalisation was granted followed by an appointment with the Program for Growth Department, Rosedurnate Hostel, Carpenter Court, and Elizabeth Jenkins Place.

Margaret retired from active service in 1993. She and her friend Gwenda Salt purchased a home at Belmont North and for the next 24 years Margaret and Gwenda enjoyed many wonderful holidays together, not letting any physical challenges hold them back. Holidays included riding a camel on Cable Beach, trekking through the Bungle Bungles in Purnululu National Park, WA, and watching the sun set over the Gulf of Carpentaria. Her last big adventure was to Hawaii with the Channel 7 Sunrise Team in March 2015.

Margaret's love of God, determination and courage were her greatest assets. Well done good and faithful servant.

About people

Appointments

Effective 1 August: Major Mark **Watts**, Chief Secretary, International Headquarters, with the rank of Colonel; Captain Paul **Lorimer**, ADC to the National Commander; Captain Robyn **Lorimer**, Executive Assistant, National Leadership.

Effective 26 July: Lieutenant Belinda **Cassie**, Narrabri Corps Officer and Community Mission Development Officer. NSW/ACT Division.

Promoted to glory

Brigadier Ida **Johns**, 8 June; Major Helen **Dixon**, 18 June.

Bereaved

Envoy Joy **Johns** of her mother Brigadier Ida Johns, on 8 June; Major Arthur **Dixon**, of his wife, Major Helen **Dixon**, on 18 June; Major Pam **Nancarrow**, Major Lyall **Reese** and Major Lorraine **McLeod**, of their mother, Major Glenda **Towerton** of her sister, Captain Rebecca **Gott** of her grandmother, Merle **Reese**, on 26 June.

Time to pray

24-30 July

Dulwich Hill Corps, Earlwood Corps, Glebe Corps, Petersham Corps, all Inner West Sydney Hub; Menai Corps, South Sydney Hub.

31 July-6 August

Miranda Corps, Panania Corps, Rockdale Corps, all South Sydney Hub; First Floor Program Wollongong, Port Kembla Mission, Shellharbour Corps, all Illawarra Hub.

7-13 August

Tarrawanna Corps, Wollongong Corps, all Illawarra Hub; ACT/NSW South Coast Area, ACT/NSW; Belconnen Corps, Canberra City Corps, all ACT North, and Goulburn Hub.

14-20 August

Goulburn Corps, Gungahlin Corps, all ACT North, and Goulburn Hub; Canberra Recovery Services Centre, Cooma Corps Oasis Youth Service, Queanbeyan Corps, all ACT South, and Monaro Hub.

21-27 August

Tuggeranong Corps, Woden Valley Corps, all ACT South and Monaro Hub; Batemans Bay Corps, Bay and Basin Mission, Bega Corps, Shoalhaven Corps, Ulladulla Mission, all NSW South Coast Hub.

28 August-3 September

South West NSW Area, Albury Corps, Deniliquin Corps, Griffith Corps, Leeton Corps, Wagga Wagga Corps, all Murray/Riverina Hub.

4-10 September

Cootamundra Corps, Grenfell Corps, Temora Corps, Young Corps, all South West Slopes Hub.

Engagement calendar

Commissioners Floyd (National Commander) and Tracey Tidd
Brisbane: Sat 6-Sun 7 Aug – Welcome Meeting
Stanmore: Mon 8 Aug – Stage 3 Officer Training Residential Dinner with third-year lieutenants
*Melbourne: Fri 19 Aug – SPEACO
*Phillip Island: Fri 19-Sun 21 Aug – AUS Victorian Men's Retreat
*Melbourne: Thu 25 Aug – SPEACO

Commissioner Tracey Tidd only * Commissioner Floyd Tidd only

Colonels Mark (Chief Secretary-in-charge) and Julie Campbell
#Geelong: Mon 1-Fri 5 Aug – Brengle for Officers
Geelong: Tue 2 Aug – Inter-Territorial Consultation and opening meeting of Brengle for Officers
Hurstville: Wed 3 Aug – Midweek holiness meeting
Batemans Bay: Sat 6-Sun 7 Aug – 30th anniversary celebrations
Stanmore: Tue 9 Aug – Stage 3 Officer Training Residential Dinner with third-year lieutenants
Parramatta: Sat 13-Sun 14 Aug – AXIOS discipleship conference at Kings School
*Blacktown: Wed 17 Aug – Band spiritual meeting
*Singapore: Sun 21-Wed 24 Aug – General's Consultative Council (GCC)
#Sydney: Tues 23-Wed 24 Aug – Divisional Review (NSW/ACT Division)
Brisbane: Thu 25-Fri 26 Aug – Divisional Review (Qld Division)

Colonel Julie Campbell only * Colonel Mark Campbell only

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GOD FILLED THE HUGE VOID IN MY LIFE

Emily finds assurance she's on the right track

WORDS EMILY RUSH



←

For the first time, Emily has found the love and peace she has craved all her life.

I wanted to die, as I believed this was the only way out. So I prayed for my pain and suffering to end. Shortly after this heartfelt prayer, I was arrested and jailed for my drug-related crimes.

Looking back it was the best thing that could've happened and, in fact, probably saved my life. While I was on parole, three of my friends died – all drug-related. It was a serious wake-up call. A dear friend of mine suggested I call The Salvation Army Dooralong Transformation Centre. I had nothing left to lose and everything to gain, yet I was doubtful it would work. With so many recovery attempts, why should this one be any different? All I needed was a seed of hope. I needed God to break through my desperation and despair, and fill me with grace – which he did.

I believe I was guided to Dooralong Transformation Centre. Everything and everyone I've needed has been provided. In abundance I might add! God works through people. Management and staff are dedicated, passionate individuals, who go above and beyond in order to help the addicts who still suffer. God's angels I call them, because without their love and support I really don't know where I'd be today. I'm so grateful that my relationships with family and friends are being restored, and I can honestly say I know who I am today.

Opening up my life to God has given me the peace and love I have craved my whole life. I have direction and goals that I'm working toward, and I'm no longer looking to fill that void within myself because God has done that for me. When I align my will with God's will, then that's how I get the assurance I'm on the right track. I know peace, happiness and freedom and for that I am forever grateful. ¶

The minute I tried alcohol, I thought I'd found the answer to my problems. I felt immense warmth and relief and all my burdens and pain became a distant memory. I was only 12, attending a party in a local park, the first of many parties like this over the next few years. Little did I know it was the start of a downward spiral into the depths of despair, otherwise known as addiction.

It wasn't long before I was smoking pot (marijuana). I tried speed when I was 16 and had injected heroin by 19. My family had always been loving and supportive, although dealing with my father's alcoholism was difficult. I now understand what my mum went through in keeping the family together and afloat.

I struggled and worried a lot when I was younger. I was overweight and bullied at school. Somewhat overwhelmed with issues I didn't know how to deal with, I regularly turned to drugs and alcohol. Deep down, however, I knew the party couldn't last. I was 19, and after returning

from an overseas trip to China where I had been teaching English, I was confronted with a father who was very sick as a result of prolonged alcohol abuse, and a sister in the depths of heroin addiction. I no longer wanted this (drugs and alcohol) for my life, so I checked myself into rehab. I stayed in rehab for a year, addressed my issues as best I could and managed to stay clean and sober for two years. Shortly after I left rehab my father died. I was absolutely shattered. I once again turned to alcohol but it no longer had the same calming effect. When a friend suggested we try injecting ice it seemed like a good idea. Little did I know that this one decision would create so much havoc and heartache.

Over the next nine years I lost my self-respect, integrity and dignity, along with my values and morals. I didn't care about anything except drugs. At the peak of my addiction I was injecting heroin and ice up to seven times a day, and committing crimes to support my habit. I desperately wanted to stop, but this time I couldn't.

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go it
ALONE



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