

pipeline

GOD'S PERFECT PLAN

AARON RESCUED FROM ALCOHOL, ATHEISM
AND ABUSE

- ▶ AN AIRBORNE ARMY
- ▶ STEPPING OUT FOR LIFE
- ▶ MEN'S MINISTRY ON THE MOVE
- ▶ RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN



AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY
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More information about how corps, centres and individuals can subscribe will be available in the October and November issues of *Pipeline*.

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The Salvation Army's Outback Flying Service is celebrating 50 years of ministry in the Australia Eastern Territory.

PHOTO • SHAIRON PATERSON

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Aaron Reid used alcohol as a means of temporary escape from the abuse he suffered. Then one morning, while drunk, he stumbled into a Salvation Army church service

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Seeking God's justice must be real

SCOTT SIMPSON • MANAGING EDITOR

Earlier this year in *Pipeline*, we featured an interview with Lieutenant-Colonel Dean Pallant, who at the time had just been appointed as the new director of The Salvation Army's International Social Justice Commission. During the interview, Dean was asked what his understanding of social justice is. He responded: "... social justice is grounded in God's justice. God desires boundless justice for every part of creation. Justice is for all people, in every part of life, in every society, without discrimination. Our commitment to seek God's justice must be a real and significant issue for every Salvationist because justice is at the heart of salvation and holiness."

Sadly, we live in a world that is plagued by injustice; from the global refugee crisis, to the plight of those

who live in desperate poverty, the tragic abuse of children ... the list seems endless. So why are so many of us guilty of complacency in our response? Is it, perhaps, because our experience of injustice stops short of being personal?

Recently, I had a front-row seat to what I believed was an act of injustice. Suddenly it was personal and I was challenged to consider my commitment to justice. More so, it placed under scrutiny my willingness to step into a situation and campaign to right what I considered a wrong. As I considered an appropriate response, I came to realise that the easy path would be to do nothing; to pretend that I wasn't witnessing this behaviour, to make excuses or to explain it away. But the more I considered the situation the more my conscience denied me the option of remaining silent. It reminded me that one day I will stand before God and

give an account for my actions. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who in World War Two spoke out bravely against the horrors of Nazi Germany and paid with his life, said: "God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." And God tells us, in Micah 6:8, that he requires us, "To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God".

Sadly, my own recent experience of injustice ended in an unsatisfactory outcome. But I have a peace in knowing that I took a stand, inspired by a God who is the author of justice. Equally, it reminded me that, despite the outcome, I must show mercy, my response grounded in humility. Unfortunately, I have to admit that has been a struggle.

Are you prepared to take a stand against injustice, no matter what the personal cost might be? What does the Lord require of you? ¶

Mirror image

IF WE ARE GOING TO BE ALL THAT GOD WANTS US TO BE, SAYS COMMISSIONER JAMES CONDON, THEN WE MUST HAVE A CLEAR VISION OF WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE IN OUR LIFE

COMMISSIONER JAMES CONDON IS TERRITORIAL COMMANDER OF THE AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY



What is the first thing you do when you get up in the morning? You probably do the same thing every day. People seem to have their own routine to get them started.

For some, it is a cup of tea or coffee. For others, they have to make the bed as soon as they get up. And there are those who head straight for the shower, while others have to brush their teeth before they can do anything else. For me, I get out of bed and fall to my knees, surrendering my life to God for that day. I then have a glass of water before I spend time in prayer.

I think that at some point in the morning everyone will come face-to-face with the mirror. For most of us, that first glance will be revealing. Our eyes look bleary and dazed, our hair is sticking out in strange places, and even those men who are normally clean-shaven have some overnight growth on their face to deal with.

Facing the mirror first thing in the morning is not that pleasant, but mirrors are honest. They do not compromise. They do not lie. They do not gloss over our defects and tell us we are better looking than we really are. Mirrors reveal every wrinkle, every grey hair, every mark on our face, and the better the quality of the mirror the more flaws we will see.

So why do we bother having a mirror in the bathroom? Well, the fact is that even though it is not a pleasant experience looking at ourselves first thing in the morning, it is necessary so we can make some changes to our appearance before we step out in the world. It is better to face the truth in private and make some changes so we are not embarrassed to face others.

The same applies to our spiritual life. If we are going to

be all that God wants us to be, then we must have a clear vision of the real me and what needs to change in our life. But we all look at life through different mirrors. What kind of mirror are you looking into? In 1 Corinthians 13:12, we read: "For now we see in a mirror, dimly; but then we will see face-to-face ... now I know only in part; but then will I know fully even as I have been fully known."

We cannot always see ourselves as clearly as we should – maybe because we are trying to look at ourselves through a small mirror and it's hard to see the full picture. We may fix up one small part of our life but then miss another because the mirror is too small to see the whole. But God sees all, and so do other people. We may think we are doing a good job covering up, but that is a mistake.

Maybe we have looked at ourselves through a warped mirror and have a distorted view of ourselves; too big, too small, too short. If we look through a warped mirror and have a distorted view of ourselves, then we need to change the mirror and begin to see ourselves as God sees us. The best view comes as we look into the mirror of God's word and see the real me.

King David prayed: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:22-23). The word of God tells us we are made in the image of God and we must only compare ourselves with him. He makes all things beautiful.

I encourage us all to look into the mirror of God's word and allow him to keep transforming us each day, so that those around us will see the beauty and likeness of God in our daily living and that we will see others through God's eyes. ¶

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Amazing love – whosoever will may be saved

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

WORDS • LIEUTENANT-COLONEL WENDY SWAN

This sixth statement of faith forms the centre point of Salvation Army doctrine. Placed where it is in our 11 Articles of Faith, it is as though all of the other doctrines move into it and then away from it. The Atonement of Jesus Christ must always be seen in relationship to his Incarnation. What Christ did is inseparable from who he is. The Atonement as an aspect of the Incarnation was initiated by God to reveal his love and grace towards humanity, separated from God by sin, in order to bring us into a relationship with him, individually and as a member of his community (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 8:32). But only by destroying the power of sin could this communion be regained and perfected.

Essential to the Early Church was the belief that Jesus, the Christ,

had died and risen to deliver humanity from sin by a sacrifice of himself in order to establish a new covenant relationship between man and God. While it is acknowledged that there is no one comprehensive way to interpret the Atonement, there are helpful images, when taken together, that provide insight into its meaning and help us understand this theological truth in a contemporary sense.

SACRIFICIAL

Christ's dying was a sacrificial death. Paul and the Gospel writers connect his death with the Old Testament sacrificial ritual. For them his death was a sacrificial act by which a covenant was ratified between God and a new Israel, just as the old covenant was ratified in the blood of the sacrificial animals on Mount Sinai. By the cross of Christ, God made a new covenant with the new Israel to replace the neglected and broken covenant of Sinai.

Frequent references to the blood of Christ (Romans 3:25; 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; 2:13; Colossians 1:20) and the emphasis of the Book of Hebrews that Jesus Christ is the mediator of a "better" covenant, establish the connection between the death of Christ and the sacrificial renewal of the covenant. John the Baptist calls Jesus "the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Paul refers to him as "the Passover Lamb" (1 Corinthians 5:7). In offering himself as the perfect sacrifice, Christ gave himself in perfect obedience to God. Only such perfect obedience is victorious over sin. What does this mean for us today? Christ's death changes the attitude of God toward humanity. God's right assessment of sin as deserving of his wrath is vindicated and fellowship with him is restored when we repent and identify with Christ's work in faith. "When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of Glory died" (SASB 136)

surely expresses this truth.

VICARIOUS

The New Testament evidence about the death of Christ expresses the conviction that Christ died "for us", "on our behalf" or "in our stead" (Mark 10:45; Romans 8:32; Galatians 3:13; Ephesians 5:2). To describe Christ's death as vicarious is to say that in some way he experienced or exemplified something that was due us in a way that brought the benefits of his suffering to those who were not able to gain those benefits themselves. It is important to remember that the subjective realm of Christian experience cannot be ignored. Salvation Army teaching rightly stresses that humanity has a part to play in salvation. It is true that the sacrifice of Christ accomplished what we could not do for ourselves. The integrity and justice of God could not allow him to establish a righteous relationship with

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has by his suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.

(The sixth doctrine of The Salvation Army)

a sinful humanity, although his love constrained him to forgive. The obedience of Christ took the place of our weakness and rebellion and effected a reconciliation for us (2 Corinthians 4:21). Christ demonstrated the appropriate attitude of obedience to the Father and rejection of sin. His offering of himself as a sacrifice of obedient worship to God prefigures the response that each of us must make to God in faith. Because of what God did through Christ and his obedience, we, too, are to follow Christ's example and by faith die to self and become living sacrifices who are transformed from sinful creatures to obedient servants (Romans 12:1, 2). Jesus was not a sinner, yet bore our sin in his body on the cross (1 Peter 2:24). By identifying interpersonally with sinners and in conformity with God's intentions concerning redemption, Jesus made it possible for us as sinful humanity

to identify interpersonally with God through him. His incarnation, suffering and obedient death avail to you and I on the basis of our obedience to him. We acknowledge this truth when we sing "Amazing love! how can it be, That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?" (SASB 283).

UNIVERSAL

The sacrificial offering of Jesus' death met the requirements of God's justice as to make salvation available to all humanity. The Atonement was sufficient to deal with the whole of sinful humanity and with the whole of sin in sinful humanity. God's heart desire is to draw all humanity to himself – men and women, boys and girls. We unhesitatingly affirm Scripture presenting salvation as provided for all on the condition of acceptance of the Atonement by faith. We believe in a boundless salvation, able to reach and redeem the last, the least, the lost. It is this

Soul Food

My favourite verse

EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS A FAVOURITE BIBLE VERSE THAT HAS EITHER IMPACTED THEM AT ONE STAGE IN THEIR WALK WITH CHRIST, OR CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE AND NOURISH THEM ON THEIR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY. CAPTAIN MAL DAVIES, THE SALVATION ARMY'S FORMER NATIONAL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF IN AUSTRALIA, SHARES HIS FAVOURITE PIECE OF SCRIPTURE

***If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.* – Romans 10:9**

I have long been a huge fan of simple. I'm annoyed by things that are more complex than they need to be, and I get frustrated when someone takes too long to explain a simple notion. I think I'm a fairly tolerant and patient person, but I confess to getting short with people who think that their sesquipedalian loquaciousness (using big words just to appear smart) is admirable.

I'll never forget one of my high school English teachers reciting a poem called "A triune entity of myopic rodentia", before explaining it was *Three Blind Mice* and then lecturing

us on the unnecessary use of convoluted language.

So I like it when the Bible says things that are really straightforward. It's hard to read Romans 10:9 and not understand it: "If you do this and you do this, you will be saved." Simple. I know that far more credentialed theologians than me could probably lecture on the complexities of this verse and what Paul really meant when he said this, but I would say to these academics: "Why? Why bother? Why not just accept it as the simple instruction it is – 'if you do this and you do this, you will be saved'."

For many years now I've worried about Christians who make the message of the Gospel more complicated and confusing than it needs to be. Their agenda seems to be more about making salvation a reward for intellectual striving than making Christ

accessible to the masses. I love the story of theologian Karl Barth speaking at the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel during his 1962 United States lecture tour. Asked by a student if he could tell the most important Christian truth he'd learnt in just one sentence, Barth, famously, replied: "Yes, I can. In the words of a song I learned at my mother's knee: 'Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so'."

Romans 10:9 reminds me to keep things simple when I speak to others about faith and when I introduce them to the path towards salvation. No one can deny that Paul was a master writer and could explore some highly complex faith doctrines when he chose to and when clarification was necessary for believers, but – importantly – he was also the master of keeping it simple. We'd do well to learn from him. ¶

► *continued from page 7...*

belief that propels us into the world and every hell in it to share the good news of reconciliation asking: "Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?" (SASB 417).

TRIUMPHAL

Not only does the Atonement of Christ release humanity from the guilt and power of sin, and

establish a new relationship with God, it also proclaims Christ's victory over the evil powers in the world (1 Corinthians 15:2-25; Colossians 2:15). Through God's own power living in us by his Spirit (which we call holiness), we are able to say: "In all this we are more than conquerors", and "no power can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:37ff). What an encouragement to know and experience here and now the One who reigns in his lordship over all creation!

Such a reality of "At-one"(ment)

with the living God surely must continue to challenge and shape our values and behaviour as we engage with each other and a suffering world. ¶

Further helpful reading: *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine* (Chapter 6 "Atonement")

Convictions Matter – The Function of Salvation Army Doctrine (Major Ray Harris)

This article appears courtesy of *The Officer* magazine

Campbells committed to God's guidance

COLONELS INSTALLED IN NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

WORDS • ESTHER PINN / PHOTOS • CAROLYN HIDE



01



02

Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell publicly demonstrated their approach to leadership within The Salvation Army as they humbly kneeled before God at the mercy seat during their appointment installation ceremony on 9 August. Held at Sydney Congress Hall, Mark was officially installed in his role as Chief Secretary, and Julie as the Training Principal of the School For Officer Training.

"We didn't put our hands up for these appointments at all ... but we will be committed to it," said Mark. Julie then added: "I feel humbled but honoured and privileged to be investing in and to be part of the training [of cadets] and I look forward to what God is going to do in us together as a team."

At the installation, Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon said: "I believe both of these appointments have been made under the guidance of God," said Commissioner Condon.

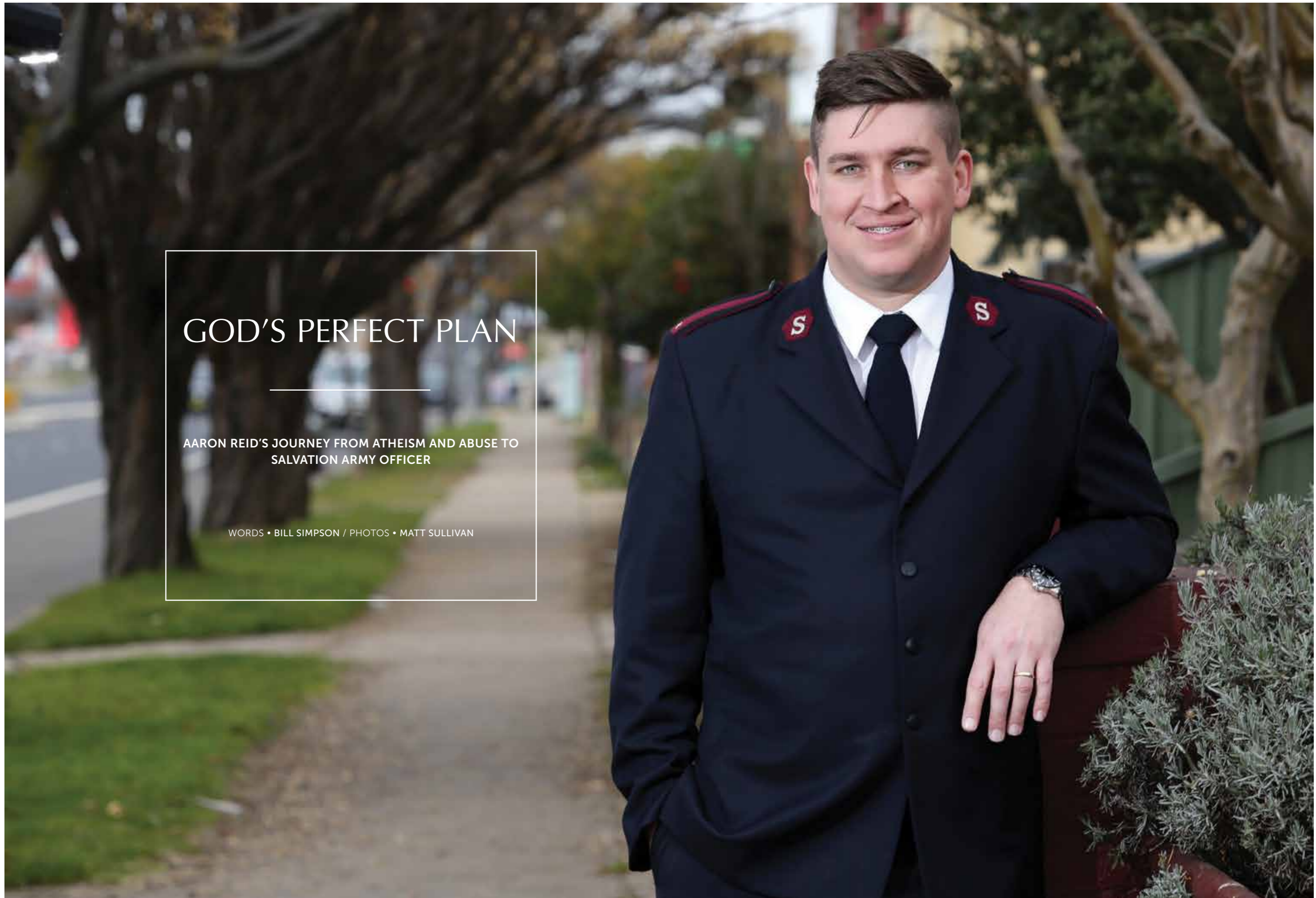
Commissioner Condon then completed the official installation of the Campbells at the service. Colonels Mark and Julie pledged before the Army and God their

commitment to fulfil the requirements of their appointments. Major Peter Farthing then invited members of the congregation to gather around the Campbells as he brought a prayer of dedication.

Members of the territorial cabinet were present at the service including Lieutenant-Colonel Chris Reid, Secretary for Personnel, who shared a prayer and Secretary for Program, Lieutenant-Colonel Laurie Robertson, who read a passage from the Bible, 1 Corinthians 3:1-15. Territorial President for Women's Ministries, Commissioner Jan Condon, also led the congregation in two worship songs. The Parramatta Corps band and Sydney Congress Hall songsters presented a number of items at the meeting.

Julie thanked Salvationists, family and friends who had invested in their discipleship and leadership journey and also honoured God for his calling and empowerment. "We're amazed at what God has been able to do in and through us ... We believe we are who we are today because of the people that have spoken into our lives."

Mark then reflected on the passage of scripture from Corinthians, speaking about the importance of partnering with God in ministry. "God understands that he can do it without us but the incredible part is that he chooses to do it with us," he said. "We partner with God first and foremost, don't we? The incredible part is when we actually start to partner together, we see God's kingdom advanced in an incredible way." ¶



GOD'S PERFECT PLAN

AARON REID'S JOURNEY FROM ATHEISM AND ABUSE TO
SALVATION ARMY OFFICER

WORDS • BILL SIMPSON / PHOTOS • MATT SULLIVAN



01. Aaron with his two-year-old son Zachariah.



02. Lieutenants Aaron and Alana Reid have been the corps officers at Bathurst for the past three years.

03. Arriving in Bathurst in 2012 as a couple, the Reids have become a family of four with the birth of Zachariah and Joel.

04. Aaron's enthusiasm for serving the Lord helps him engage with all ages at the corps.

It had been a big night of drinking. Aaron Reid, then 18, and his mates spent most of Saturday night and Sunday morning drinking in the pubs and clubs of Gladstone, an industrial town on the Queensland coast, 500km north of Brisbane. When the pubs and clubs closed, Aaron and his mates continued their drinking in a local park. By mid-morning Sunday, Aaron tried to make his way home. It was a struggle. He was highly intoxicated. Mostly, he had no idea where he was. He didn't recognise any landmarks. As he stumbled toward an unfamiliar building, he heard music. Another nightclub, he thought. He entered through the building's front door, looking forward to another drink. Alcohol helped to hide the past that he hated.

As he entered the building, Aaron was confused. This was no licensed club. There was no alcohol here. Aaron had walked into a Salvation Army Sunday morning meeting. The people inside smiled. They were friendly. They invited him to stay. He did. And he went back the following Sunday, and the Sunday after that. Except for two years in a non-Salvation Army town, he has rarely missed a Sunday morning meeting since his first, albeit accidental, visit 15 years ago. "God was looking after me that day," Aaron says. "It was all a part of his plan for Aaron Reid."

Childhood had its moments for Aaron. He was born in Brisbane, but the family moved to the small outback Queensland town of Dysart (population 3000) when he was three. The locals were lovely people. "Most people knew whose child you were and made sure you went home at a decent hour," he recalls. "In a town that size, most people knew each other and each other's business." But Aaron had a dark secret kept from the local people. He was suffering abuse. By the time he was 13 and then at high school in Gladstone, Aaron was drinking alcohol. Most of his drinking was done at "bush parties" with his school mates. At 16, he was also using drugs. "They [alcohol and drugs] helped me deal with the pain [of abuse] that I was feeling. I used them to help numb me from feeling anything. If I found myself thinking about what happened to me as a child, I would have a few drinks."

The drinking, especially, intensified over the following two years. He doesn't know if he was addicted, "but I knew that if I didn't have alcohol, I thought about the pain." He hadn't given God much thought. He had been raised in an atheistic home. His father had often spoken of how God was not real. Aaron was uninterested in religion, anyway.



But at 18, Aaron came face-to-face with the God his father said did not exist. The people at Gladstone Salvation Army Corps on that day, through their acceptance and non-judgment, shone a light on the Lord. Aaron saw the light – and the Lord – and his life began to change. He became part of the leadership of Gladstone's Kids Club, learning about Jesus alongside the children who attended the group's activities. It was at Gladstone where he committed his life to Christ. "You could say that although I was 18-19 then, I had a child-like faith, wanting to know more and more about God."

JOY AND SUFFERING

In February 2004, aged 22, Aaron moved to Rockhampton – 100km north of Gladstone. Friends of his late grandmother became aware of his Salvation Army interest and took him to the local corps (Capricorn Region). "Once again, I was taken in and loved by everyone." There, he met a young woman, Alana Wayman.

Aaron was enrolled as a Salvation Army soldier in November of that year. Less than three years later, he and Alana were married. A year later, 2008, they lost their first child, due to an ectopic pregnancy (complications). Aaron found the loss difficult to understand. Why had God "done this" to him and Alana. He was angry with God. "It brought back my past. Was God saying it was my fault because of my past? It was hard. It was confusing. I wasn't coping." He didn't attend Sunday services for a few weeks. He couldn't. He didn't trust God any more. "But the first Sunday I went back, people just came up to me and hugged me. I cried like a baby. I knew that I was home among people who cared."

In 2009, three significant events occurred that helped Aaron and Alana understand more about the direction in which they now know God was taking them. Aaron was invited to tell his conversion story at Rockhampton's Red Shield Appeal launch that year. "I received a confirmation



"They [alcohol and drugs] helped me deal with the pain [of abuse] that I was feeling. I used them to help numb me from feeling anything."

from God about my past. I felt that getting up and telling strangers about my past helped me to get peace and an understanding that God will never leave me. Telling my life story reminded me of the *Footprints in the Sand* poem; that he was there all along my journey, even carrying me at some stages."

A few weeks later, Aaron and Alana attended local Salvation Army youth councils. "Wow, what a weekend. God challenged me to grow more in him every day. He challenged me to be more honouring of him; more understanding and more like him. It was on the last night of youth councils that I felt the presence of God like never before. It was such a powerful moment. God told me to let go of what had happened to Alana and me; that it was his burden, now. I gave that burden to him and I cried and I cried for what felt like ages."

CALL TO OFFICERSHIP

Later that year, Aaron and Alana attended an Unlimited Conference at their local corps. Colin Stoodley was a guest speaker. I still remember his words. He said there was a couple at the meeting who were being called to full-time ministry and that God was calling them to step out into the field. "Well, I felt a push from the Holy Spirit. Both Alana and I went down the front and committed our lives together to full-time service for God and to The Salvation Army. On 10 December 2009, our corps officers, Majors Colin and Pam Robinson, told us that we had been accepted into the *Friends of Christ* session of officer training cadets for 2010-2011."

Lieutenants Aaron and Alana Reid took up their first appointments as corps officers at Bathurst, in the Central West of NSW, in January 2012. They are still serving there with their two sons, Zachariah, 2, and Joel, 1. And Aaron told his story again as part of this year's Red Shield Appeal promotional events in Bathurst. □

AN AIRBORNE ARMY

50 YEARS OF THE OUTBACK FLYING SERVICE



01

"These were the best years of my life," says Mert. "I'm a bushie and have eucalyptus in my veins, so it was just perfect. I loved being in the bush, the exhilaration of flying and being out there among such beautiful people, many of whom we still have contact with today. The planes and locations have changed, but the work is still the same. The people and stations are still there, there are still floods and droughts, people are still isolated and still need help, someone to visit them, work with them, someone to care. No amount of technology or man-made stuff is going to change that. The flying service and rural chaplains too, we will always be needed."

Mt Isa is the base for the service's Far North Queensland ministry, overseen by Lieutenants Simon and Natalie Steele. Colonel Mark Campbell, the territory's Chief Secretary, has been invited as the special guest for the anniversary celebrations.

Majors Mark and Jo Bulow, who oversee the Outback Flying Service from their base in the south-western Queensland town of Dalby, also plan to attend the celebration. It is hoped that four former flying padres will also be present: Lieutenant-Colonel Noela Dawkins, who served with her husband, Lieut-Colonel Alf (dec.), Majors Don and Eva Hill, and Major Darby.

To kick off the anniversary ceremony, a "Welcome to Country" will be given by Tony O'Grady, the mayor of Mt Isa. Major Don Hill (ret.) will then share some memories from his time in the ministry. Councillor Joyce McCulloch has also been invited to share her memories of visits

Majors Mert and Rosemary Darby played a significant role in the development of the Outback Flying Service, which this year is celebrating 50 years of operation in the Australia Eastern Territory. The Salvation Army officers served with the service for nearly 10 years, six based at Longreach and another three in Darwin through the late 1970s and early 1980s. Mert hopes to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations, to be held in the Mt Isa hangar on 5 September, along with many of the former officers and personnel who have worked for it.



02

01. Mert Darby (right) is welcomed as the flying padre in 1978.

02. Mark Bulow and his plane which covers southern inland regions of Queensland.

03. Alf Dawkins gives a special guest a tour of his aircraft in the 1960s.

04. Simon and Natalie Steele with the new helicopter which is based at Mt Isa.

05. The Steeles get ready for lift-off for another outback mission.



03



04



05

from Salvation Army padres as she grew up on an outback property in the region.

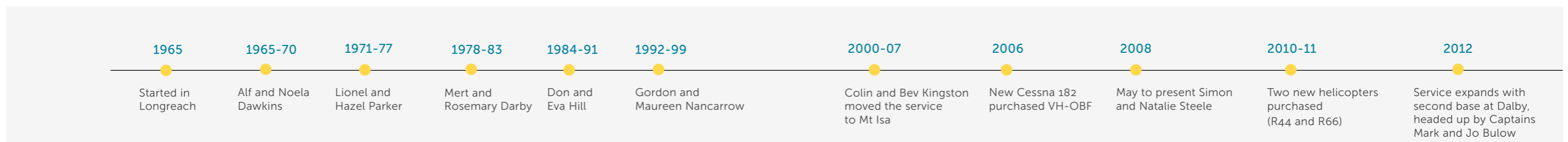
After the formalities, guests will have the opportunity to wander through the hangar and inspect the helicopter. The walls of the hangar hold photo and story displays showing highlights from the past 50 years. A table displaying Salvation Army memorabilia, and an information table on Serenity House, The Salvation Army's women's crisis accommodation service in Mt Isa, will also be on show.

The Australia Southern Territory began a flying padre service out of Darwin in 1945, with Captain Victor Pedersen in the pilot's seat. In 1949, the service was extended to include the remote Queensland outback, and by the early 1960s the demand had increased significantly, and the Australia Eastern Territory came on board to

operate its own service out of Longreach.

Lieutenant Alf Dawkins was appointed as the territory's first flying padre, with a four-seater Auster Autocar (VH-BTE) purchased for 2000 pounds. Lieut Dawkins' first flight as the flying padre was on 18 May 1965, and he continued in this role for the next six years. Over the next four decades, there has been seven couples appointed to run the service. In 2011, the service was expanded to cover the southern inland regions of Queensland, under the guidance of Captains Mark and Jo Bulow. Initially based in Toowoomba, it has since moved to Dalby.

There have been numerous changes of machines, locations and personnel over the past 50 years, but the heart of the service remains to bring a practical Christianity of physical and emotional support without geographical limitation. □



Salvos community stepping out for life

THE SALVATION ARMY IS A MAJOR SUPPORTER OF WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY WITH MANY OF ITS SERVICES AND PERSONNEL HEAVILY INVOLVED IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND SUPPORT FOR THOSE BEREAVED BY SUICIDE

WORDS • ESTHER PINN



01

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY



02

More than 200 people from the Sydney-west suburb of Auburn – one of Australia’s most multicultural communities – participated in an inaugural candlelight walk last year to create awareness about mental health issues. This same community, representing 160 nationalities, will participate in another candlelight walk on 10 September, which is World Suicide Prevention Day and R U OK? Day. The walk is being organised by The Salvation Army’s Auburn Corps in partnership with other community organisations.

Bill Sayers, National Program Manager for the Army’s Suicide Prevention and Bereavement Support program – Hope For Life – says the Army’s partnership with local community organisations is vital to combating mental health issues such as suicide. Auburn Corps’ awareness walkathon is part of Hope For Life’s CLASP (Community Local Action on Suicide Prevention) program – an initiative that is being run by Hope For Life in communities across Australia. “What we’re trying to do is challenge the notion that

it’s weak to speak out about suicide, because it’s not,” Bill says. “Because we know conversation and talking is essential to suicide prevention.” Along with awareness initiatives, Hope For Life also partners with many local community services across Australia to offer suicide prevention training for people such as social workers, welfare workers and even nurses. Individuals can also complete suicide prevention training on the Hope For Life website: suicideprevention.salvos.org.au

Two Salvation Army officers who have been heavily involved in this field are North NSW Division rural chaplains Majors Peter and Jean Ridley. The couple know too well the consequences of isolation and loneliness on Australian farmers, particularly in times of drought. The Ridelys spend their days driving long distances to visit farmers in outback NSW. Jean says there’s a direct link between isolation and loneliness which can often lead to the development of mental health issues. “Because when they [farmers] start getting depressed and down, they don’t want to go out and then they do isolate themselves,” says Jean.

Jean says she is a supporter of World Suicide Prevention Day and R U OK? Day, particularly as they visit many farmers who have depression. Along with referring them to services that can provide professional help, Jean says it’s important that they simply connect with farmers. “We mostly sit and listen and give them the opportunity to talk. That’s the thing; giving them the opportunity to talk. Also, just letting them know that there’s someone out there who cares – who cares enough to come to them on their property and to sit at their table and listen to what they have to say.”

Majors Peter and Jean Ridley are keen to recruit volunteers to assist them with their ministry. If you are interested, contact Jean on **0428 639437** or Peter on **0423 293305**.

For immediate crisis intervention when a life may be in danger, ring the police on 000 or go to your local hospital emergency department. 24-hour crisis telephone counselling services contacts include: **Lifeline: 13 11 14** and **Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467**.

“We mostly sit and listen and give them the opportunity to talk. That’s the thing; giving them the opportunity to talk. Also, just letting them know that there’s someone out there who cares – who cares enough to come to them on their property and to sit at their table and listen to what they have to say.”

01. Helping farmers in outback Australia deal with depression and its associated effects is a big part of the job for rural chaplains Majors Peter and Jean Ridley.

02. Wrist bands and coffee cups are some of the merchandise available to raise awareness for R U OK? Day on 10 September.

The choice that breaks God’s heart: Page 47



PHOTO: SHAIRON PATERSON

MEN'S MINISTRY ON THE MOVE

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THE KEY TO CONNECTING

WORDS • SIMONE WORTHING

The goal of men's ministry in The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory is simple – reaching men, getting them saved and discipled. According to Malcolm Beeson, the Territorial Men's Ministry Coordinator who oversees the Just Men concept, this has to start with Salvation Army men reaching out into their communities. "This could be through events or social activities which ultimately, over time, build healthy relationships that can lead to the spiritual," he explains. "We want to get people of faith, and no faith, talking, discussing their beliefs, experiences, faith and values. We pray that such discussions will lead to people wanting to explore Christianity further, and to salvation."

Malcolm says that, in a largely unchurched society, especially where men who attend church are in the minority, offering "normal" and non-threatening relationships is a key to showing Christ to the community. "This means specifically inviting a friend to the football, the speedway, Maccas, a coffee shop or service activity – we have to do the asking and offer something men in the community can relate to and enjoy," he says. "We are not building relationships to 'con' people to church. If the relationship is there, it can lead to church more naturally."

Traditional Sunday morning church may also not be the best place for men in the community to experience God and be discipled, says Malcolm, especially as many churches today are seen as "feminine" and can make men feel uncomfortable. "Many guys aren't used to a tradition of church on a Sunday morning, so church for them could be

a Tuesday night group, or a men's fellowship time or volunteering for a particular cause or ministry. For some, this could lead to traditional church, but for others, it never will. But it can still lead to faith."

However, to attract more men to traditional church, Malcolm believes, the church has to be more "blokey" with a focus, not on pretty decorations and "niceness", but on life and issues and experiences. "We have to get our men talking to other new guys, men on the fringe," he says. "If we don't put ourselves out of our comfort zone, we won't relate to them. We are too much of a club, and I am part of it. We have to break down the cliques and be inclusive. This is what we are reaching for through Just Men."

Older men mentoring younger guys is also critical, says Malcolm, to helping keep all age groups growing and connected, with each other and with God, and Just Men wants to develop this as a key element in its ministry. "Our young guys need that positive and open interaction with older guys. It doesn't have to be something formal, it can often just be a regular catch-up over coffee to see how someone is going and encourage them, or talking to them each week at church."

Malcolm says mentoring training is available if people are interested, through The Salvation Army online toolkit. Many corps offer training as well. There is also a free app to download with tips and strategies for Christian mentoring. Malcolm is also encouraging younger guys to come to the upcoming Just Men conferences in Sydney and Brisbane. For more information on this, or to download the app, go to toolkit.salvos.org.au/toolkit

MEN'S
MINISTRY
X

A SNAPSHOT

X

HURSTVILLE CORPS

Special guest speakers are the drawcard for the bi-monthly men's breakfast held at the corps. Over the past year, they've included a doctor discussing men's health issues; NSW Police Commissioner, Andrew Scipione; Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Glenn Stevens; and Salvationist and retired policeman Gary Raymond. "These speakers, all Christians and specialists in their fields, spoke to our men and answered any questions they had," said Major Trevor Nicol, Corps Officer. "We try to cater for a wide variety of interests and life areas in our speakers."

Bi-monthly social gatherings complement the breakfasts. "We are trying to make the get-togethers relevant for older and younger men, corps men and those from the community," said Major Nicol. "We are encouraging our men to invite their friends, neighbours and relatives to the relaxed and friendly atmosphere of our group."



X

BUNDABERG CORPS

"Men's Time" activities include a monthly breakfast with a guest speaker, DVD presentation or short devotion on a "life" topic from a Christian perspective, and a monthly golf day. "Corps men do attend, but most of the men come from Army networks such as the Tom Quinn Centre, our youth refuge, the courts and flood-relief work," said Wayne Chamberlin, who runs the group. "In just over three years, five people have become senior soldiers through this ministry, and others come to church."



X

GOULBURN CORPS

Men's League offers a weekly coffee and chat at a local cafe and a monthly social activity for the men of the corps and local community. The activities are relaxed and casual, such as games, movie and trivia nights. "This is a sanctuary for the guys and a way to spend time in fellowship," said Robin Dockary, who runs the group. "It's great to see the guys just enjoying themselves and having fun. We also have a solid group going to the Just Men conference this year."

X

PINE RIVERS CORPS

The men's ministry group, led by a committee of four, hosts quarterly breakfasts with a guest speaker. Every week they also offer a men's Bible study. "We run a men's shed too, complete with a model-train set-up, that we are trying to develop," said Major Ken Beer, who serves on the committee. "It's a great place for men to fellowship."



X

NORTH BRISBANE CORPS

The "Band of Brothers" men's group meets monthly, alternating dinner at a member's home with an activity such as a bushwalk, putt-putt golf, wake-boarding or going to the rugby league. "The dinners are just social, the guys hanging out, talking about what's happening in their lives and fostering friendships," said Captain Craig Todd, Corps Officer. "We also have a texting network to communicate with each other and see who is around when we hear about a need – such as helping someone move, assisting an elderly person, or babysitting for single mums when the ladies have a girls' night out." As a way of connection, the Band of Brothers each has a can cooler, complete with the group's logo and 2015 calendar of events!

X JUST MEN CONFERENCES

The Just Men conferences this year will be held in Sydney (30 October-1 November) and Brisbane (6-8 November). Phil Wall, a Salvationist from the United Kingdom, will be the guest speaker at both events (see story on next page). For more information about the conference, contact Malcolm Beeson on 02 9266 9742 or email: malcolm.beeson@ae.salvationarmy.org

MAN OF DEEP FAITH

UNITED KINGDOM SALVATIONIST PHIL WALL IS THE GUEST SPEAKER FOR THIS YEAR'S JUST MEN CONFERENCES IN SYDNEY AND BRISBANE. PIPELINE SPOKE TO PHIL ABOUT HIS PASSION FOR EVANGELISM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, WHICH STEMS FROM A DEEP-SEATED FAITH IN GOD

WORDS • ANNE HALLIDAY



Phil Wall has always been a man with a fire in his belly. For the past 32 years, since he became a follower of Christ as a 20-year-old, Phil (pictured) has been a passionate evangelist, innovative business leader, advocate for the marginalised and has an unabated desire for Christian faith that is as authentic in the workplace as it is in a village in Africa.

The son of Salvation Army officer parents, Phil's been around the Army all his life. More than 20 years ago, he was part of the team that planted his home corps, Raynes Park Community Church in London's south-west. After starting his career in the police force, Phil spent 12 years as an itinerant preacher and mission teams leader for The Salvation Army and was one of the key leaders behind the successful and innovative Roots Conference, which for 15 years fuelled spiritual renewal and mission throughout the UK.

In the late 1990s, after a life-changing visit to Africa, he established the charity HOPEHIV (which will become WeSeeHope from next month). The charity works in almost 180 communities throughout sub-Saharan Africa. In 2000, as a means to fund HOPEHIV, Phil set up a leadership consultancy called Signify Ltd, focused on coaching and developing leaders in the corporate world. His clients include senior executives in some of UK's most prosperous companies. Phil's conviction of Jesus' "all-or-nothing" call to discipleship is



► palpable, but there is something in his approach which is more measured and reflective. "I think the greatest need of the church these days is not greater activity but greater depth," he says, with a gentle but compelling urgency. "Activity without depth never sustains, but depth will always manifest in fruitful activity." It is a message that he plans to bring to The Salvation Army's Just Men Conferences in Sydney (30 October-1 November) and Brisbane (6-8 November). "I would hope that through those weekends the men would be inspired to live life more deeply, that it would create a safe place for men to grow in faith and be inspired that we can change the world."

When Phil talks about "depth" and "living deeply", he is referring to the energy followers of Jesus put into their inner journey, rather than their external activity. "We are to be an Army that marches on its knees," he says. "Depth comes from a place of surrender. It is the immersion of ourselves in the life of Christ and the life of Christ in us. It is the discovery that our life only makes sense in him. You know, I look back to those days, when I was working for The Salvation Army, amazing days for many of us, but I regret that we didn't pray more deeply. I suspect if we had, the work we did would have had a more sustained impact. We prayed, but it was more a prayer of activity, rather than prayer of intimacy. I have learnt, that as the Scriptures teach us, it is only when we have exhausted our own natural resource and acknowledge our inadequacy,

that we are able to enter that place of greatest 'power', entrusting our lives to he who gave us life – these lessons I have learnt from young leaders in African slums as well as corporate board rooms."

At the recent Boundless international congress in London, Phil launched Infitum, an invitation for followers of Jesus to invest more intentionally in their spiritual journey. Developed with long-time friends Ian Mayhew, Danielle Strickland and Stephen Court, Infitum is a platform for self-initiated small groups of individuals or communities (which are called hubs) to share "a way of life" focused around three key foundations: one Vision (Following Jesus), two Virtues (Love God, Love Others) and three Vows (Surrender, Generosity and Mission). "It is basically a very intentional shape to life that we hope enables people to live their lives to the full and make the maximum impact for the Kingdom," Phil says.

Infitum advocates a spiritual rhythm that includes a daily connection with God, a weekly conversation with "hub" members to enable support and accountability, and monthly "webinars" to hear how other hubs are developing on their journey. "Our early days of experimenting have been exciting and challenging," he says. "Personally, I have found it very helpful indeed. Our discipleship can only be lived together." The fire in Phil's belly is clearly unabated. □



"I think the greatest need of the church these days is not greater activity but greater depth"

01. Phil and his wife Wendy in Zambia in 2011. The Walls have a passion for the welfare of African children and much of their ministry has been focused on this continent.

02. Phil and Zodwa, the little girl who impacted his life in such a way that he credits her for who he is today.

×

BABY GIRL WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

Over the past 15 years, Australians alone have donated more than \$40 million to WeSeeHope (HOPEHIV), the charity Phil and his wife Wendy established to help AIDS orphans in Africa. As the organisation has grown, so has its focus – to raise up a generation of leaders to be the solution to the future challenges their countries face. It now directly impacts 50,000 children through emotional and social support, education, economic empowerment, and child rights.

But it began with a baby girl named Zodwa. "I think it's unlikely that I would ever be described by those who know me well as a 'vulnerable' man," says Phil, "but you have found my vulnerable spot. To be honest, I struggle to articulate in any rational sense what actually happened. I spent 20 minutes in 1997 with an HIV+ toddler and it changed my life and the direction of my family forever. I think about her every day. Blaise Pascal [French Christian philosopher] once said: 'The heart has reasons that reason cannot understand'.

"When our adoption attempt [of Zodwa] failed we were advised not to have any contact with her, as this could be destabilising and unhelpful. This made sense to me at the time, but I confess in some senses I regret it a great deal. I have this regular daydream of one day looking this young woman in the eyes and telling her that because I spent 20 minutes with her in 1997, the lives of hundreds of thousands of her peers will be better and different forever. I would love to tell her that. She has been a permanent and powerful gift to us as a family."

While WeSeeHope is supported by people from every walk of life, for Phil and Wendy it remains unashamedly related to their relationship with Jesus. "Our faith is the engine room behind why we do what we do. Our lives or the history of HOPEHIV don't really make sense without acknowledging that. Numbers of the staff and partners we work with in Africa share our faith, others don't, some of our donors do, many don't. But in terms of what we actually do on the ground the label is not relevant. Our focus has always been to serve young people unconditionally, no caveats, no theological 'means testing' – all you need to do to qualify to be served by us is to be a vulnerable young person in Africa."

Phil concludes: "Like Jesus, we seek to serve the poorest of the poor, those most vulnerable who find themselves at the bottom of the pile. So we work with all-comers, people of deep faith and people of no faith, anyone in fact who will share our passion for serving these amazing kids and want to commit something of who they are to making a difference."

By George, he's a winner!

WORDS • ESTHER PINN



01

"I think anywhere the Australian population comes out in big numbers, we've got to have a presence there. And it's not just to maximise fundraising opportunities but to show that we're relevant and community-minded."

- Andrew Hill, Salvation Army Community Fundraising Director.

Seventy-five-year-old George may have finished well back in the field in last month's City 2 Surf race in Sydney, but The Salvation Army has labelled him a winner. An adherent from Cooma Corps in southern NSW, George was the highest fundraiser of the 43 runners who competed for The Salvation Army. He raised \$1031.

It was the 15th time George has run the iconic 14km race, which starts in the city centre and follows a course out to Bondi Beach. His time was 142 minutes, well behind the winning time of 42 minutes, but there was no doubting his motivation. "I owe God a lot," George says. "That was the only way when I gave up smoking in 1995. It's prayer that got me through that. That's kept me closer to the church and God."

In preparation for the City 2 Surf, George wrote a prayer based on the Bible passage from Isaiah 40:31 which gave him inspiration to complete the run. And when he heard that The Salvation Army was entering a team, he jumped on board and the donations flooded in. More than \$11,600 has been raised through the efforts of the Army's City 2 Surf runners. Along with George, the team also included the Army's mascot, "Red", and its youngest runner, 13-year-old Caleb Hill.

THE BIG 50

Meantime, Miranda Corps has staged its fifth annual walkathon – "The Big 50" – which raises awareness and funds for The Salvation Army's school for disabled children in Joytown, Kenya. Held on Saturday 15 August, nearly 100 walkers from the corps and community completed either 50km, 25km or 5km. More than half of the participants completed the longer walks, which followed a route through Sydney's picturesque Sutherland Shire.

About \$5000 was raised on the day, but organisers said they were confident of reaching their goal of \$10,000, especially with online donations still coming in. A mission team from Miranda Corps will travel to the Joytown school next year. Another walkathon fundraiser, run by Aged Care Plus, will be held from 7-11 September to raise money for the Army's Freedom Partnership initiative. Go to agedcareplus.salvos.org.au for further information.¶



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- 01. The Salvation Army mascot, "Red" crosses the City 2 Surf finish line.
- 02. The Salvo Striders team gathers before the race in the city centre.
- 03. George, the Salvation Army's top fundraiser, in full flight near the end of the race.
- 04. Some of the walkers who took part in the Miranda Big 50 walkathon.

Territory commits to bridging the gap

WORDS • SIMONE WORTHING
PHOTOS • KATHY HUGHES

Today we are making history, as we launch the Reconciliation Action Plan of The Salvation Army's Eastern Territory," said Commissioner James Condon, Territorial Commander, on 3 August. Speaking at the launch of the Reconciliation Plan (RAP) at North Brisbane Corps, Commissioner Condon emphasised that reconciliation is about developing a unified and positive relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and, as a faith movement, being committed to social justice, equity and freedom. "There is absolutely no place for racism or discrimination in Australia," he said.

Uncle Joe Kirk began the launch with a traditional smoking ceremony as guests arrived and entered the building. Danny Doyle gave an Acknowledgement of Country, inviting everyone, in both his native Aboriginal language and in English, to "see and hear the voices of yesterday and celebrate the children of tomorrow". After the reconciliation prayer and rich cultural displays from both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancers, Uncle Vince Ross, Salvation Army National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group chairperson, thanked the reference group for its hard work in contributing so much to the RAP, and Salvation Army leaders for their support of the process.

More than 20 RAP focus groups, and about 200 people from The Salvation Army, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, service groups, and community stakeholders contributed to the development of the RAP. "The RAP is a pathway to putting our good intentions into practice," said Shirli Congoo, Territorial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry Coordinator. "We are on a journey to a reconciled Australia. We have a love for God and for our people, to live their lives to the



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- 01. Uncle Joe Kirk began the RAP launch with a traditional smoking ceremony.
- 02. Commissioner James Condon's address focused on reconciliation.
- 03. Torres Strait Islander dancers enriched the RAP launch with their traditional performance.
- 04. Commissioners James and Jan Condon with various Salvation Army representatives and members of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group.
- 05. Uncle Vince Ross, Salvation Army National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group chairperson, spoke at the launch.

"The river is the river and the sea is the sea. Saltwater and fresh, two separate domains. Each has its own complex patterns, origins, stories. Even though they come together they will always exist in their own right. Our hope for reconciliation is like that."

Patrick Dodson, indigenous leader (quoted by Commissioner James Condon)



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fullest and for truth and reconciliation to be the cornerstone of that journey. Reconciliation is not complicated. It's about relationships and respect, which can sometimes be challenging but nevertheless rewarding. I believe our RAP is a good starting point and can grow into something far greater over time."

Uncle Bill Buchanan, State Coordinator of Reconciliation Queensland, complimented The Salvation Army on the RAP, and shared his vision of working together in the future to help make the plan a reality. Kylie Waldren shared her powerful testimony of recovery from addictions that had brought her, broken and without hope, to Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah). "Moonyah was my first experience of God and I know now that I am a miracle, driven by hope and returned to God as my mother prayed," she shared. "I am an adherent at God's Sports Arena, am studying for a diploma in Justice and Community Services, and have rebuilt relationships with my family and Aboriginal community."

Adrian Kistan, former Territorial Indigenous Ministries Coordinator, who led the development of the RAP, gave closing comments at the launch, explaining that through the plan The Salvation Army is making a statement – that we are committed to reconciliation. "We have the plan, the intention and the motivation, but it's in the action that the real change will take place," he said. "Together we can see a reconciled Australia that reflects the glory of God."

The RAP's purpose is to outline the Army's vision for practical reconciliation within the Australia Eastern Territory. It provides a framework for corps, programs and ministries throughout the territory to help build closer relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, focusing on three key areas: respect, relationships and opportunities. □

Sparks that lit a fire of salvation

AS THE SALVATION ARMY CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY, *PIPELINE* LOOKS AT THE LIVES OF ITS FOUNDERS, WILLIAM AND CATHERINE BOOTH. IN PART TWO OF A TWO-PART SERIES, WE FOLLOW THE EARLY LIFE OF CATHERINE BOOTH AND THE INFLUENCES THAT LED HER TO PLAYING A PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE FORMATION OF THE SALVATION ARMY

WORDS • MAJOR DAVID WOODBURY



01

The woman who was to become the mother of The Salvation Army and its principal theologian, Catherine Mumford, arrived in this world on 17 January 1829, the daughter of John and Sarah Mumford. Sarah's mother had died when she was young and she was reared by her father and an aunt in a rather cold environment. Finding little solace in the Anglican Church, she turned to Methodism where she experienced a meaningful conversion.

It was here she met and married a coach builder, John Mumford, then a Wesleyan lay preacher. Sarah's father strongly objected to the marriage and forced Sarah to leave the family home. Although the Mumfords became strict Methodists, it appears that John Mumford, who had been a committed member of a temperance movement, turned his back on his beliefs, becoming an alcoholic. This fact was no doubt primary in formulating Catherine's later stance on total abstinence.

The Mumford family initially lived in Ashbourne, Derbyshire, just some 30 miles from William Booth's birthplace of Nottingham. In 1834, John Mumford moved his family to Boston in Lincolnshire. It may well be that here John Mumford operated his own coach-building business as they were able to afford to hire a piano for the family, hardly the financial capacity of an employed coach builder.

Sarah Mumford and her daughter were close companions: "The austere but tender mother was all the world to her daughter: her companion, her confidante, her spiritual directress, her teacher" (W.T. Stead). Having already lost two children Sarah Mumford became very protective of her two remaining offspring, Catherine and her younger brother, John. Fearing the dangers of the outside world, Sarah chose to home-school the children which was to limit Catherine's education. When she was 12, her mother finally relented and allowed her to attend school, but this was short-lived as Catherine developed a serious spinal problem which confined her to bed for a long period. The first of a number of severe illnesses which would impact her life; leading to an unnatural preoccupation with health issues that would become part of Catherine's personality.

However, Catherine's natural intelligence and her avid passion for reading were to more than compensate for any shortcoming in her formal education. By her 12th birthday she had read through the Bible eight times as well as devouring the temperance literature discarded

01.

The "Mother of The Salvation Army", Catherine Booth, who had a "natural intelligence and an avid passion for reading."

02.

William and Catherine Booth were a dynamic team, as depicted in this illustration showing them leading people to the Lord on the streets of east London in the mid-1800s.

by her alcoholic father. Bouts of recurring illness were utilised for reading, not Jane Austen novels, as did many of her age group, but rather the works of John Wesley and other Christian writers.

Not allowed any playmates except her brother, Catherine developed a great affection for animals in particular Waterford, her pet retriever. While visiting her father at his place of work one day, Catherine injured her foot and cried out in pain, at which Waterford broke through the plate glass window to be at her side. Her father was so furious at the breakage he had Waterford shot. There is perhaps a sense of loneliness in young Catherine's life; later in life she was to write: "the fact that I had no childhood companions doubtless made me miss my speechless one." Her relationship with her father was never the same after the incident. She went on to become a passionate advocate against animal cruelty and, later in life, a vegetarian.

It was clear that from a young age Catherine had developed abhorrence to alcoholism but a compassion for those who suffered from it. On seeing a drunken man being dragged down the street by policemen, Catherine rushed to his side and accompanied him to the police station, disregarding the scornful crowd mocking the man.

In 1844, the family moved to Brixton in London where Sarah and Catherine attended the local Wesleyan chapel. Although she found the coldness of the chapel members depressing, it was her own spiritual condition that was to provide her the greatest anguish. Although she had read the Bible through a number of times, she was unsure of her standing before God. One morning in June 1845, seeking some relief for her spiritual anguish, she picked up her hymn book and opened it. Her eyes fell on the words of Charles Wesley:

*My God I am thine,
What a comfort divine,
What a blessing to know
That Jesus is mine.*



02

Although she had sung the words many times, they came to her with new light and assurance and she was to later write of that occasion: "The assurance of my salvation seemed to flood and fill my soul." It would seem that Catherine saw this as her conversion but this would have to be weighed against the deep spirituality she exhibited from an early age.

Sometime around 1853, disillusioned with the disputes racking the Methodist movement, Catherine felt led to join the Reformers. Her attendance at one of their meetings in the Exeter Hall in London resulted in her Methodist membership not being renewed. It was basically an expulsion. This was a painful experience for Catherine and she was to later write: "I drifted away from the Wesleyan Church, apparently at the sacrifice of all that was dear to me, and nearly every personal friend." A traumatic event for a teenager who had already experienced great loneliness.

Along with her mother Catherine joined the Reformers at Binfield Hall, where she took up teaching a Sunday School class of teenage girls. From 1852 to 1855 her life seemed somewhat settled as she enjoyed the fellowship of the Reformers and her role as a class teacher. It was here that she was to meet a fiery, young preacher that would change the course of her life. □



British actor Olivia Cooke plays the role of Rachel, a girl diagnosed with leukaemia.

Me, Earl and the Dying Girl

RATING: M
RELEASE DATE: 17 September



Death is one of Hollywood's most versatile characters. He's played the punch-line in comedies, the climax in action films and the full-stop in thrillers. In each case we understand the ultimate separation he brings. But cast death in a drama and it's amazing how sappy he becomes. *Me, Earl and the Dying Girl* steers a different course, recognising the rift death brings so we can search for a realistic response to grief.

Me, Earl and the Dying Girl is based on the book by Jesse Andrews and is gaining well-earned recognition at film festivals around the globe. It's a creative collision between animation and live drama told from the perspective of awkward teen Greg Gaines. Greg's made an art form out of fitting in at his high school by becoming part of every group.

The only place this chameleon's personality actually emerges is in the spoof films he makes with his childhood friend, Earl. However, his detachment is undermined when his mother insists he form a friendship with Rachel, a girl diagnosed with leukaemia. Despite Greg's reticence a deep connection develops, exposing him to baffling pain when Rachel decides not to fight her cancer. As his new friend drifts towards death, Greg responds with a mixture of rage, resentment and longing that leads him to create a special film to mark the end of her life.

Most of us soar through our younger years without ever feeling the aching absence death brings. But when it finally does intrude it's all the more painful for being the first time. Films like *Remember Me*, *If I Stay* and *The Fault In Our Stars* have tried to offer a way forward for teens, though their answers are often too sentimental to really soothe. "Keeping them alive in your heart" or "Imagine them looking down on you" are no help to those who suffer because they fail to come to grips with the real tragedy of death. We grieve precisely because we have lost them. Maturity arrives when we realise death separates.

Me, Earl and the Dying Girl concentrates its attention on the messy reality that precedes imminent death and the distance that follows after. We see Greg respond with a whole range of unflattering emotions that mirror the confusion of real grief.

We also see him make peace with Rachel's passing, though not in a way that pretends she is anything but gone: "Even after someone dies you can keep learning about them. Their life can keep unfolding itself to you if you only listen."

There's no sentimentality, but there's also precious little hope. *Me, Earl and the Dying Girl* communicates the helplessness we really should feel in the face of the death. But Greg's failure to come into contact with anything eternal leads to a bleak conclusion. His final film for Rachel hints at the randomness of life and can only suggest the beauty it might contain even as it fades away. Yet Greg's philosophy doesn't consider the one life so significant it reordered human history. The death and resurrection of Jesus are events that have strengthened billions of people precisely because they offer a connection that will outlast the grave: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

I love *Me, Earl and the Dying Girl* because it gets at the real heart of humanity's problem and avoids the syrupy solutions. But just because the saccharine doesn't dispel death's bitterness doesn't mean there isn't a cure to be found. – **Mark Hadley**



A-list actor Jake Gyllenhaal plays expedition leader Scott Fischer in the adventure thriller Everest. Below: Josh Brolin is Dr Beck Weathers in the drama.

Everest

RATING: M
RELEASE DATE: 17 September



George Herbert Mallory, the legendary British climber who died scaling the world's highest mountain, was asked: "Why do you want to climb Mount Everest?" He famously replied: "Because it's there." My mountain-climbing friends regularly use a variation of the same quote. Halfway up cliffs they often ask each other: "Why do we climb mountains?" And the answer comes back: "Because we're not all there." Together, these lines summarise the determination and lunacy required to pit yourself against peaks that reach to the top of the world. Both qualities are on display in a new film about the men who dare to challenge Mount Everest.

Everest deserves the cliché "star-studded" with a cast swelled by A-listers like Jake Gyllenhaal, Keira

Knightley, Robin Wright, Josh Brolin and Sam Worthington. Its story can be summarised in a sentence: 34 climbers who tackle the summit of Everest find their return journey through the heart of a freak storm will prove their greatest challenge of all. *Everest* is based on the true story of the "1996 Mount Everest Disaster" during which eight people from various expeditions succumbed to the elements due to a combination of crowded routes, poor planning and naked ambition.

The subsequent investigation into the 1996 disaster concluded that the commercialisation of Mount Everest played a significant part in the tragedy. The sheer number of inexperienced climbers on the peak that day led to a deadly slow-down and poor decisions. *Everest* the film acknowledges this tourism mentality in the bravado that accompanies guides' descriptions of the days ahead: "You, my friends, are following in the very footsteps of history – something beyond the power of words to describe. Human beings simply aren't built to function at the cruising altitude of a 747. Our bodies will literally be dying." However, a more humble tone emerges when the dying literally begins.

The philosophical focus of the film is the tension arising between those who celebrate the "triumph of the human spirit" and those who recognise we are merely flesh and blood. *Everest* records many heroic

moments, and many allowances are made for the men and women who balanced their lives against the danger. But it's worth remembering even as we celebrate their survival that we don't draw our meaning from our ability to endure or overcome. As inspiring as elements of *Everest* can be the Bible reminds us: "No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength" (Psalm 33:16).

God did not make mountains to provide human beings with the opportunity to display how great they are. Everest is a testament to his power, not ours.

– **Mark Hadley**





COMMISSIONING & CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER

10.00am - Commissioning & Ordination
2.30pm - Sending Out

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

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



GRADUATION OF MESSENGERS OF LIGHT
Thursday 19 November, 7.00pm
The Salvation Army Campsie
23 Anglo Road, Campsie NSW

COVENANT DAY *INVITATION ONLY
Thursday 26 November

PRINCIPALS RECEPTION & SILVER STAR LUNCH *INVITATION ONLY
Saturday 28 November, 12.30pm

New release

Blood on the flag

AUTHOR • NIGEL BOVEY



Gunfire. Mob rule. Skeleton Army. Riot Act. Military intervention. Bloodshed. Beatings. Abuse. Conspiracy. Imprisonment. If early-day Salvationists had given up in the face of such opposition, The Salvation Army would not have lasted 150 days, let alone 150 years.

In *Blood on the Flag*, Major Nigel

Bovey details the history of the Skeleton Army's opposition to William Booth's fledgling Salvation Army. With insights and coverage from first-hand reporters, the author – a former *War Cry* (UK) editor with more than 20 years' journalistic experience – traces the story as told by the Victorian-era press. How those battered and bloodied Salvationists refused to give in and continued to take the gospel to the streets will fascinate and challenge today's reader.

In his foreword to the book, General André Cox, world leader of The Salvation Army, writes: "This is a monumental piece of work and research that sheds a spotlight on a crucial time in our history, when our forebears

were literally fighting for survival. Though this was a troubled, sometimes frightening period in the history of The Salvation Army, it was in this crucible of persecution that The Salvation Army was forged. Out of the fire and torment grew an Army that would span the globe. In reading through the manuscript of this book, I recognise its timely publication. Christians around the world, including Salvationists, increasingly face persecution for their beliefs. What may seem to many to be a fascinating snapshot of history or a bygone era, is, in fact, a daily reality for some in the 21st century."

Blood on the Flag is available from The Trade (thetrade.salvos.org.au) for \$35.

Australian Christian book of the year



Captains of the Soul, by Michael Gladwin, has been selected from a shortlist of nine titles as 2015 Australian Christian Book of the Year. In *Captains of the Soul*, Gladwin assesses the contribution of Australian Army chaplains in conflicts and peacekeeping missions, in barracks and among service families.

The letters and journals of both chaplains and soldiers animate this account of the work of chaplains in every theatre of war involving Australian troops. It surveys their changing role and experience from the Great War of 1914–18 to the recent conflict in Afghanistan. Known affectionately as "padres", chaplains have been integral to

the Australian Army for a century. Notable army chaplains include the legendary Salvation Army officer William "Fighting Mac" McKenzie, whose friendships with Diggers in the trenches of Gallipoli and France made him a national figure in 1918, and Harold Wardale-Greenwood, who died caring for the sick while a POW on the brutal Sandakan "death march" in July 1945.

The judges found *Captains of the Soul* to be "a history of national importance and an insight into the Australian character. While increasingly unfashionable in some spheres of society, chaplains continue to be valued in proportion to the proximity of battle."

Gladwin is a lecturer in history for the School of Theology, Charles Sturt University at St Mark's National Theological Centre, Canberra. He studied and worked in the United States and England before returning to Canberra to

join the faculty at St Mark's. He writes extensively on the history of Christianity and its interaction with empires ranging from the Roman to the British, and the place of Christianity in Australian history, literature and popular culture.

In *Captains of the Soul*, Gladwin does not flinch from portraying chaplains who behaved disgracefully nor from facing up to the problem of fatalism among Australian troops. However, acts of heroism and selfless devotion by "the soldier without a gun" abound. When surrounded by conflict, chaos and suffering, chaplains represent an alternative reality.

The Australian Christian Book of the Year Award is administered by SparkLit (formerly the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge Australia and the Australian Christian Literature Society). *Captains of the Soul* is available from online stores.

INDIGENOUS LEADER CHAMPIONS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION ▼



Children enjoying the "walkabout mat game" at one of the homework clubs run by Uncle Barry Watson, Elder in Residence for The Salvation Army's Communities for Children program in Logan.

While 8 September is known as International Literacy Day, all year round The Salvation Army is committed to increasing educational skills of young Australians through the many literacy, numeracy and homework clubs that exist across the Australia Eastern Territory. One of the Army's successful literacy programs is run by Uncle Barry Watson, Elder in Residence for The Salvation Army's Communities for Children program in region of Logan, south of Brisbane.

In partnership with the Queensland Government's Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspective in Schools (EATSIPS) initiative, between two to three times a week, Uncle Barry visits more than 35 schools, TAFE and early childhood centres to educate Australians about indigenous culture and history. "For a long time in schools, history lessons started with Captain Cook and didn't include the indigenous story. For me, what I do, it's part of reconciliation and it's all about healing the past and working

together," said Uncle Barry. Depending on where he visits, Uncle Barry will partner with a local education centre to increase indigenous recourses and activities. He will also run lessons that include indigenous storytelling, craft, singing, dancing and traditional games.

Over the past six years Uncle Barry has worked for the Army, he has also developed literacy resources in the local indigenous language of Yugambah. Uncle Barry has translated the national anthem and a popular children's book, *Parts of My Body*, into Yugambah. He has also taken popular Australian board games such as Snakes and Ladders and Ludo and adapted them to include indigenous history and culture.

On 24 July, Uncle Barry was recognised for his work, being named Elder of the Year at the South East Region NAIDOC Awards for the Department of Education. ¶

BOWEN CORPS TAKES SALVOS STORE TO NURSING HOMES ▼



The Bowen Corps in North Queensland has recently begun taking a Salvos pop-up-shop to two of Bowen's nursing homes every three months. This ministry will soon add a third nursing home, in Proserpine, 70km away.

We select some clothes and accessories from our Family Stores and sell them at a low price to the residents," said Heidi Grice, Territorial Envoy and Bowen Corps Leader. "This is truly a unique opportunity to serve with the elderly people of our community and they just love it. One lady, who didn't know me, just put her arm around me and started chatting as she looked through the clothes. These are moments of blessing. They only give a small donation for the clothes; we are there to be there for them and to life with them. I have had good reports that the pop-up-shop is well received and that residents can't wait until the next visit." ¶

SALVOS BRING FESTIVAL SWING TO WARWICK ▼



Blindsight Quartet barbershop vocalists (from left) Trent Lewis, Gareth Clarke, Brisbane City Temple Salvationist, Tim Green and Michael Webber, performed at the Warwick Jumpers and Jazz Festival as part of the Army's "Sing and Swing at the Salvos" segment in July.

The Salvation Army once again played a big part in Warwick's annual Jumpers And Jazz Festival. Since its debut at the festival last year, the Army has built a growing ministry. Crowds of jazz music fans roamed the streets of the Darling Downs town on the Saturday of the festival (25 July) and stopped in their tracks to listen to the Army's musical repertoire in their "Stroll and Swing" program. Revelation Big Band, led by Sam Creamer and award-winning barbershop vocalists Blindsight Quartet, performed in this segment.

Following "Stroll and Swing", Revelation Big Band and Blindsight Quartet played a selection of secular and Christian jazz numbers at "Sing and Swing at the Salvos" at Warwick Corps. Lieutenant Steve Spencer, Warwick Corps Officer, said the gold-coin donation concert attracted 220 people, a significant increase from last year's crowd.

Many who attended the two Army segments at Jumpers and

Jazz then came to the corps' Sunday morning meeting (26 July) to hear Revelation Big Band perform again. For Lieut Spencer, this weekend was an opportunity to connect with the community. He hopes for ministry opportunities to arise from this event. "Traditionally it has been seen that the Army in this area is a church but it's more seen active in its welfare work, shops and such. It's able to show the community that there's more than just that aspect to our ministry," he said. The Army's presence is continually growing in the Warwick community as Revelation Big Band were invited, for the first time, to perform at the festival's markets on the last day of Jumpers and Jazz.

Both Revelation Big Band and Blindsight Quartet have also been invited to perform on the main stage during the street performance segment at next year's festival. "It [Jumpers and Jazz] is becoming a permanent fixture on the Warwick Corps calendar," said Lieut Spencer. ¶
– Esther Pinn

FREEDOM PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY ▼

Celebrating 1 year of a chain of good



Be part of the movement

ENDSLAVERY.SALVOS.ORG.AU/ACT/PLEDGE

The Freedom Partnership
End Modern Slavery



The Salvation Army's Freedom Partnership to end Human Trafficking celebrated the first anniversary of its launch on 30 July – World Day against Trafficking in Persons. "Together you have helped to build a chain of good and work toward ending slavery in Australia," said Jenny Stangar, National Manager, Freedom Partnership to End Modern Slavery. To help grow the community working towards ending human slavery, go to the Freedom Partnership's website endslavery.salvos.org.au, or "like" them on Facebook. ¶

FIRST GRADUATES TRANSITION TO SUCCESS ▼



01

A desire and determination to help youth disengaged from education and employment saw the establishment of a new program at The Salvation Army at Forest Lake – Transition to Success, earlier this year. On Friday 7 August, 21 young people graduated from the program with Certificates I and II in Agri-Food and Horticulture, with more now studying hospitality, or moving forward with employment.

Transition to Success is a community partnership with The Salvation Army, the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney General (Youth Justice) Centre, Education Queensland, and BoysTown Employment Service. “Many of the students came to Forest Lake Salvos to complete their community service hours or were recommended through Youth Justice or four local high schools,” said Karen Sagala, Cadet in Appointment and Senior Mission Leader, Forest Lake Salvos. “They were disengaged from education and employment and at risk of engaging with the Justice Department. We wanted to do more than just provide their hours of community service – we wanted to see them live lives of freedom and purpose, have access to opportunities and reach their goals. We wanted to mentor and speak hope into their lives.”

The community partnership, and generous support of local businesses, enabled the project to begin, and the first graduates to receive their certificates. “Today we celebrate the achievements of these wonderful young people and the partnership that at first made this project seem impossible,” Karen said during her graduation address. “We also have a class and a team that are there for each other, are invested into the work here at Forest Lake and we see how government and non-government organisations can work together for our youth.”

As part of their certificates, the students constructed, planted and maintained large vegetable gardens, with generous donations and mentoring help, from local businesses. The produce from the garden will be used in the Certificate III in Hospitality, using the corps café. Dig-It Landscaping offered landscaping apprenticeships to two students. More than 70 per cent of students have found employment or are continuing with further education.

Aman Meles graduated with the two certificates and is now completing a Certificate III in Hospitality. “This is a great opportunity for me to achieve my goal – to become a social worker,” he said. “I have had many bad experiences in life, including prison, and I know it’s not worth it and I want to help others who are going down that path. I am very thankful to all of the workers and teachers here.” The major sponsors of Transition to Success include Tankworks, Dig-It Landscapes, Centenary Landscaping and Bunnings Warehouse. ¶ –Simone Worthing



02



03

01. Ben Malley from Youth Justice (left) congratulates student Aman Meles, after the ceremony.

02. The joy was palpable as the 21 new graduates celebrated their achievements.

03. Many of the young graduates are continuing their education at Forest Lakes Salvos, undertaking a Certificate III in Hospitality.

COWBOYS OPEN FIELD OF DREAMS TO SALVO CLIENTS ▼



Thirty clients and staff from The Salvation Army’s Grace Cottage and Townsville Recovery Services Centre enjoyed a special night out at the Cowboys v Raiders NRL game at 1300SMILES Stadium on 1 August. The invitation was courtesy of the North Queensland Toyota Cowboys’ Field of Dreams initiative, sponsored by Stockland.

“We were able to give tickets out to both residents and women in the community that we do outreach work with,” said Lee Johnson, outreach support worker and women’s outclient service caseworker at Grace Cottage. “We all had such a great time and it was just a really good night of fun.” Each game day, one of our Field of Dreams sponsors

donates 30 home-game tickets to a charity in recognition of their valuable contributions to our local community,” said Fiona Pelling, Cowboys general manager community. “Stockland’s generous support for the program means that everyone attending the game will get to learn about the Salvation Army’s Grace Cottage, its services and its availability to help.”

The Salvation Army’s Grace Cottage provide a support network for women who either know people affected by addiction or are in recovery from addiction themselves.

Their holistic approach focuses on personal wholeness for every woman through mental, physical and spiritual well-being. “The Cowboys Field of Dreams is a fantastic program and the generosity of Stockland in providing game tickets meant that our clients and staff could relax, forget their cares for a while and spend some extra social time together while watching the amazing Cowboys in action,” said Lee.

For more information on Grace Cottage, contact Lee Johnson or Kelly Ball, women’s outclient service support worker on (07) 4721 0151 or 0438 366 848, or go to salvos.org.au/northqld/gracecottage/ ¶

THE SALVATION ARMY

FASSIFERN CORPS

CELEBRATES 125 YEARS OF THE SALVATION ARMY IN BOONAH

3-4 October
Guest Leaders:
Lieut-Colonels David & Sandra Godkin

Saturday 3 October
10am BYO Picnic
Haigh Park Lake Moogerah
(opposite the kiosk)

Sunday 4 October
9.30am Celebration Service
Followed by a basket lunch
(please bring food to share)
1.30pm “A Pleasant Sunday Afternoon”
The Salvation Army Hall, 6 Park Street Boonah

A special invitation is extended to anyone who has been associated with Boonah Corps over the years.

For further details please phone
Lieutenants Ian & Sue McIver: **07 5463 2932** or **0418 898 762**
Jeannette Grounds: **07 5463 1140**

Mission Priorities

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

One Army, One Mission, One Message

We're about people finding freedom.

BCT CELEBRATES 130 YEARS OF COMPASSION ▼



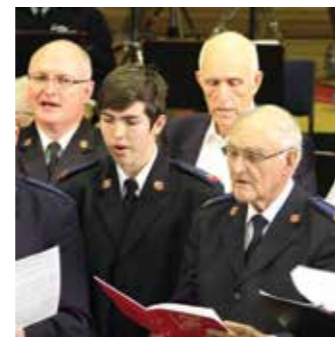
01. Members of the "Back to BCT" timbrel brigade get into the spirit of the anniversary weekend.

02. The BCT timbrel brigade performing.

03. Three generations of the Luhrs family – (front row from left) Russell, Lachlan and Bevon – are members of the songster brigade.



02



03

Brisbane City Temple (BCT) celebrated 130 years of mission in the inner-city of Queensland's capital, during its anniversary weekend on 1-2 August. "Compassion for our city flows strongly throughout our history and directs our future," said Corps Officer, Major Dean Clarke.

"When we look back over 130 years of BCT, the focus on social and care programs is strong, and much of the ministry currently happening in Brisbane has been developed from our street community and outreach programs. The Brisbane hub and the centres that are part of that, such as Moonyah, Pindari, the Youth Outreach Service, God's Sports Arena and courts and prisons ministries, are the "next step" developments from BCT establishing the Army in Brisbane. The corps recognised the needs in the heart of the city and we are still working in partnership with other Army services, and city authorities, to help meet those needs."

Ruth Hinds, who has attended the corps for 60 years and served in numerous capacities, including young people's leader and corps secretary, agrees. "We are a church with a heart in the heart of the city, and we have always had a big heart for outward-focused ministry," she said. Territorial leaders, Commissioners James and Jan Condon, were special guests for the celebration weekend, which also included greetings from previous corps officers.

The BCT reunion events on the Saturday focused on celebrating 130 years with God. These included a celebration lunch, and a bus tour of the city's sights and Salvation Army centres including the new divisional headquarters, Brisbane Streetlevel Mission and Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah). Families enjoyed entertainment and games in the city's Roma Street Parklands before the evening event, "The Journey So Far".

This event featured an historic gallery of photos and

memorabilia, buffet dinner and "A trip down memory lane" narration of the corps' history. Commissioner Jan Condon spoke, encouraging the corps to celebrate its history, but to keep focused on God, his faithfulness and our need for him as the journey continues.

On Sunday morning, under the meeting theme "The Journey Together", Commissioner Jan Condon encouraged the corps to look out for one another and emphasised the importance of being united. Commissioner James Condon built upon these thoughts with his message from John 15:4-5: Stay connected - To God, to each other, and to The Salvation Army. The commissioner called upon the congregation to be "an Army on our knees, seeking direction from the Holy Spirit". To celebrate the inclusion of every generation in the meeting, BCT's youngest junior soldier, Samantha York, presented flowers to the eldest senior soldier, Evelyn Warden who, aged 94, had made a special effort to be part of the weekend.

The afternoon meeting, "The Journey Ahead", was also a multi-generational celebration. "This meeting featured children and adults alike, not only in music but through sharing encouragement to the corps as we move forward together," said Major Clarke. "We are a corps committed to Christ and its community," he added as he cast a vision for the future of BCT.

Commissioner James Condon gave the final message, speaking from Philippians 3. "Move ahead with a focus fully on Jesus and not only expect great things but know that as a corps and as individuals, you can make a difference," he said. The anniversary weekend concluded with the congregation joining the songsters and band in singing *How Great Thou Art*. ¶

- Simone Worthing

BEGA CELEBRATES 125 YEARS ▼



01

The Bega Corps marked 125 years of ministry in the Bega Valley and Sapphire Coast region with a weekend of celebrations on 15-16 August.

Territorial leaders, Commissioners James and Jan Condon, were special guests for the weekend. The National Capital Band and the Tuggeranong Songsters and Timbrel Brigade provided musical support over the weekend, including the Saturday outdoor concert in Bega's Littleton Gardens; for the praise and thanksgiving service in the Bega High School auditorium on Sunday morning; and over the anniversary lunch at the Salvation Army hall. "God was present at every occasion," said Lieutenant Lesley Newton, Bega Corps Officer. "Praise his glorious name." ¶

FAIRHAVEN REACHES OUT DURING OTHERS WEEK ▼

The clients at Gold Coast Recovery Services Centre (Fairhaven) blessed their local community, and were blessed in return, during Others Week from 14-21 June. As a special project, the clients bought gifts for the children at a local primary school. These children, whose families were struggling financially, often came to school hungry.

"We asked for anything brand new; little things that could make these children not feel so different from other children," said Leanne Hardaker, Cadet in Appointment and Assistant to the Manager, Gold Coast Recovery Services Centre (Fairhaven). "We delivered four laundry baskets full to the school. There was blessing after blessing in this project. Firstly, it gave our clients a chance to look outward which is important in their recovery journey. Secondly, the thought put into the gifts were so applicable to young



02



03

01. Commissioner James Condon says a few words during the Saturday concert in Littleton Gardens.

02. The official party, including (from left) Commissioners James and Jan Condon, Bega Corps Officer Lieutenant Lesley Newton and ACT and South NSW divisional leaders Majors Robyn and Howard Smartt.

03. The National Capital Band performing in Littleton Gardens.

children – muesli bars, soap, toothbrushes, notebooks, pencils, crisps, breakfast cereal, some cash and even schoolbags."

Fairhaven staff also handed out "Others" cards to clients so they could make their own decisions about how to serve others. In sharing time during a recent "Spirit Lifter" session at Fairhaven, participants spoke about their Others' Week experience.

"We were blown away as person after person stood up to share some of the acts of kindness that they had received in our rehab community," said Leanne. "In a place where people are known for thinking primarily about their own needs, our 'addicts' as known and labelled in society, performed beautiful acts of kindness and care to OTHERS!"

TASTE

The WorshipArts (Un)convention

WHAT ARE YOU BRINGING TO THE TABLE?

Share experiences, cross-train, network and explore new possibilities for creative arts.

Fri 18 - Sat 19 Sept
Cost \$90pp
Fairfield Salvation Army Corps

For more information or to register, email tamasyn.brown@aue.salvationarmy.org.au
Registrations close Fri 4 Sept.



NO TOLERANCE OF SEXUAL ABUSE

The Salvation Army is committed to providing a safe place for all children and the vulnerable in our care. Let me state in the strongest terms our **no tolerance approach** to any form of child abuse or, indeed, the abuse of the vulnerable.

I also want to reaffirm our commitment to persons who suffered sexual abuse in a Salvation Army corps or children's home. If you were abused, please tell us. You will be received with compassion and a careful restorative process will be followed.

If you feel you need to make a complaint, please contact us at our Centre for Restoration.



Phone: 02 92669781

Email: centreforrestoration@aue.salvationarmy.org

Mail: **CENTRE FOR RESTORATION**
The Salvation Army
PO Box A435
Sydney South 1235

Commissioner James Condon
Territorial Commander
The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory



FROM THE COALFACE

ENROLMENTS

NAMBOUR CORPS



The new junior soldiers with their prayer pals (from left) Victor Flatt with Corbin Easton; Thelma Smith with Torrance Easton; Rosemary Campbell with Caleb Strong; Alan Whyte with Cayan Friend; and Cheryl Kronenert with Lateefah Friend.

The Nambour Corps celebrated the enrolment of five junior soldiers, and the renewal of one junior soldier, on Sunday 2 August. Corps Officer Major Karen Saunders enrolled Lateefah Friend, Cayan Friend, Corbin Easton, Torrance Easton and Caleb Strong as junior soldiers. Isaac Saunders renewed his junior soldier promise and received his gold badge. During the meeting, Isaac spoke about being a junior soldier, Lateefah gave the Bible reading, and Corbin prayed. "The new junior soldiers are very excited," said Major Saunders. "They meet every Sunday morning before church, with their leader, Kerryanne Bright. Kerryanne was the last junior soldier to be enrolled in Nambour, over 10 years ago, and now she feels very privileged to be teaching the youth in their discipleship with Jesus." ¶

GRENFELL CORPS



Heather Horneman accepts James Kay as an adherent as Roy Nash holds the flag.

Heather Horneman, corps leader, recently accepted James Kay (Jim) as an adherent. Following surgery nine months ago, Jim was unable to continue his regular work and, remembering both a prayer from his childhood – *Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep* – and a Salvation Army lady he had met through pub ministry – decided to volunteer for the Army. "I have found a group of friendly, kind people who include me in everything, including their Bible study," Jim said. "I was reminded again that I am part of God's family and have renewed my acquaintance with Jesus." ¶

TUGGERANONG CORPS



Captain Mark Everitt presents Yvonne Galbraith with her Soldier's Covenant.

Captains Mark and Fran Everitt, corps officers, enrolled Yvonne Galbraith as a senior soldier on Sunday 26 July. Major Sandra Lesar (ret.) read from Ephesians 6, and Lyne Murley prayed for Yvonne, during the service. Yvonne has been attending the corps for nine years and is involved in seniors ministries and Bible studies. "Yvonne has a beautiful caring heart and is active in assisting the corps in its mission," said Captain Fran Everitt. Yvonne thanked the Everitts, Lyne and the corps for their love and care over the past few years, particularly after losing her husband. "I have been challenged to go deeper in my relationship with the Lord, and in membership in The Salvation Army," she said. "This feels so right!" ¶

TWEED HEADS CORPS



Celebrating the newest senior soldiers (from left) Major Leanne Elsley, Lillian McMahon, Christine Lamph, Grant Lamph and Major Darren Elsley. Colin Cotterill is holding the flag.

Majors Darren and Leanne Elsley, corps officers, recently enrolled three new senior soldiers – Christine Lamph, Grant Lamph and Lillian McMahon. This followed the enrolment of six junior soldiers two weeks earlier, including Kirra, the Lamphs' daughter. Kirra was instrumental in influencing her parents to attend the corps. ¶

EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAMS BUILD SHELTERS FOR VANUATU CYCLONE VICTIMS ▼



Captain Dale Murray with David and his family who are the first recipients of shelters being built by The Salvation Army in Vanuatu.

Salvation Army International Emergency Services team member Captain Dale Murray, from the Australia Eastern Territory, visited Tanna Island to monitor the progress of the project. While there, he had the privilege to see the first shelter completed and meet its new occupants – David, his wife and three children. “It was great to see the first shelter built,” said Captain Murray. “This project has been a team effort with a number of logistical challenges due to the remoteness of Tanna Island and the three villages. The joy on the faces of David and his family was priceless – something I will remember for many years.”

Speaking to Captain Murray through a translator, David said: “Our home was completely blown away by Cyclone Pam [in March 2015]. We did not know what we were going to do and we lost hope. Now we have hope thanks to The Salvation Army and Liberty for the Nations. We give all glory to God.” ¶

A significant milestone has been reached in The Salvation Army’s ongoing response to Cyclone Pam on Vanuatu, with the completion of the first shelter. Three remote villages on Tanna Island are each being provided with multiple shelters, with more to be constructed elsewhere. The project is one of a number implemented by the Army in partnership with Liberty for the Nations, a Christian relief agency that has been working on Tanna Island since the early 1990s.

SALVATION ARMY EXPANDS INTO SLOVAKIA ▼

General André Cox, the world leader of The Salvation Army, has given approval for the work of the Army to be officially commenced in Slovakia, with effect from 1 September. The European nation becomes the 127th country in which The Salvation Army now has a recognised legal presence.

Interest was first shown in having The Salvation Army work in Slovakia in the summer of 2013, when it became evident that there was a great need for a ministry among the Roma communities – very much the marginalised people of Slovakia. Some existing Christian congregations were already undertaking extensive community program and expressed an interest in being aligned with The Salvation Army, as their forms of worship and doctrines are akin to the Army’s.

The Salvation Army was registered as a Civic Association in Slovakia in August 2014, and its work began to develop

under the supervision of the Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory, with emphasis on ministry within the Roma community and a learning program to integrate three existing church congregations into a Salvation Army structure. Eleven soldiers have been enrolled already, and all three outposts have recruits undergoing preparation to be enrolled during the official opening weekend on 5-6 September. Four candidates have been accepted for officer training.

Captains Vitaly and Inna Chiriac, officers from the Eastern Europe Territory, have been identified to give leadership to the fledgling work. They have taken up residence in the Slovakian capital, Bratislava. The work in Slovakia will be given oversight from the Netherlands, and the name of the Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory will therefore be changed, with effect from 1 September, to the Netherlands, Czech Republic and Slovakia Territory. ¶

SALVOS BRAVE STORMS TO CELEBRATE TAIWAN ANNIVERSARY ▼

Not even a typhoon could stop Salvationists and friends celebrating the 50th anniversary of the recommencement of The Salvation Army in Taiwan, under the leadership of General André Cox and Commissioner Silvia Cox (World President of Women’s Ministries). Events on the Saturday of the celebration had to be cancelled because of Typhoon Soudelor, but the weather cleared for Sunday meetings at Sun Moon Lake, in the centre of the island nation.

Among those present was Leslie Lovestead who, while serving with United States forces after the Second World War, had been responsible for the recommencement of Salvation Army ministry in Taiwan. In the holiness meeting, five senior soldiers were enrolled by the General. In his Bible message, the Army’s world leader focused on “One Army serving in self-denial”, bringing his message to a conclusion by referring to John the Baptist, who said of himself concerning Jesus: “I must decrease, he must increase!” A number of people responded to the challenge given by the General to lead Christ-like lives. ¶

ARMY IN GREECE HELPING REFUGEES ▼



01



02

01. Refugees who have fled north Africa and the Middle East have been setting up camp and sleeping in the streets of Athens.

02. The Salvation Army has been busy caring for the refugees with food and clothing.

The Salvation Army is providing a compassionate ministry to some of the thousands of refugees who have fled to Greece from north Africa and the Middle East. Up to 1500 people are arriving every week at the Port of Pireas, with many setting up unofficial camps in the centre of Athens.

Major Polis Pantelidis, from Athens Corps, has been supplying food parcels to people living rough in the city’s parks, although this has proved difficult because the need is so great and he cannot take enough food for everyone. Plans are in place to put together food parcels for people arriving at Pireas, to help them cope with the system of processing and registration that can take many hours. The provision of bread, food and drink will also offer opportunities for conversations and, The Salvation Army team members hope, will take away some of the fear for people who have fled atrocities and now find themselves in a foreign country with little or no support.

At Athens Corps, children’s activities are being run, attended mainly by young people who have recently come to Greece by boat. In a safe environment, they are given the opportunity to express their feelings and talk about their experiences through games and drawing. The activities are run by a group of up to 15 volunteers, with links being formed with other groups should more help be needed. ¶

THE SALVATION ARMY PAPUA NEW GUINEA



MISSION OPPORTUNITY

The Salvation Army Health Services is seeking to recruit a suitably qualified and experienced person for this mission opportunity.

This person will report to the Territorial Secretary for Program and will be responsible for:

- The day-to-day management, support and supervision of The Salvation Army’s Health Services including:-
- Health Managers North and South (5 Health Centres and 17 Community Health Aid Posts),
- Community Health Workers Training School (CHWTS) 60 students and seven staff,
- HIV/AIDS Program (Four specialised centres),
- Development of new opportunities.

The role includes overseeing The Salvation Army’s Health Infrastructure, representing The Salvation Army on national Health Boards, preparing applications and annual budgets for government and non-government funding and monitoring of these funds.

Will liaise with the National Department of Health (DoH), the National AIDS Council (NAC) offices and personnel, being The Salvation Army’s representative on these bodies.

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of 3-5 years in similar role.
- Must possess Degree Health/Allied Health Area.
- Literate in MS Word/MS Excel/MS word Power Point.
- Must hold a current driver’s license.
- Must be a Christian with zero tolerance to betel nut, smoking and alcohol.

A compulsory recent medical certificate and police clearance will be required. (Under one month)

The position is a contract position for only two years which will be reviewed annually. This position is located in Port Moresby. Accommodation is provided.

The Salvation Army Papua New Guinea Territory is a Christian Church, it exists to provide and implement services, that cater for the holistic needs of men, women and children of Papua New Guinea without discrimination.

This position is a vital leadership role that requires the holder to uphold the mission priorities of The Salvation Army and foster relationships internally within The Salvation Army and Government and non-government departments.

If you think that you are the right candidate for the above position; please forward your resume to;

Program Department
The Salvation Army Papua New Guinea
kevin.unicomb@png.salvationarmy.org



Aged Care Plus



WALKATHON

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

agedcareplus.salvos.org.au/walkathon-2015

NEW SOUTH WALES

Canowindra

10 Sept

Collaroy

8 and 11 Sept

Dee Why

7 Sept

Dulwich Hill

11 Sept

Goulburn

10 Sept

Parkes

10 Sept

Sydney

10 Sept

ACT

Narrabundah

11 Sept



Supporting

The Freedom Partnership
End Modern Slavery

and other Salvation Army projects

QUIET STRENGTH ▼



Major Merv Palmer was promoted to glory on 9 July, aged 88, in Brisbane.

Merv was the much-loved father and father-in-law of David and Lea, Christine, Jenny and Alan, and Greg and Penny. He was grandfather to 14 and great-grandfather to 12.

The Celebration of Life and Thanksgiving to God service for Merv was conducted by his son and daughter-in-law, Majors David and Lea Palmer. Jenny Wayman gave a family tribute and Major Ed Henderson a corps tribute. His grandchildren sang the song *As the Deer Pants for the Water*. Merv was the grandfather of Lieutenant Alana Reid (Bathurst) and Daniel Wayman (Divisional Youth Secretary, Central and North Queensland).

In 1947, at the age of 20, Merv entered The Salvation Army Training College to train with the *Warrior* session. In 1948, he was appointed to the Field Unit at Roma and district, and it was there that he met his soulmate, Norma Knowles. Norma was also called to serve as an officer, and entered The Salvation Army training college in 1952. They were married in 1954, continuing in the appointment Merv had at Port Kembla.

Merv's passion was corps officership and for more than 40 years he served God in this area with great dedication. Any who thought that Merv could be manipulated soon found that this wise and quietly strong person had a definite mind of his own, and that his strength was dedicated to the best interest of the corps he served.

Among Merv's many appointments were: Harristown, Tingha, Gympie, Roma, Southport, Kalbar, Zillmere, Rockhampton, Petersham, Hamilton, Gold Coast, and Bundamba from where they retired in 1992. Norma was promoted to glory in July 1992. Although this devastated Merv, in retirement he continued to serve God at Gold Coast Temple, assisting the corps officer in

whatever way he could. Merv also took on the challenge of ministering to several corps when their officer was sick, had left the work or was on furlough. In 2008, Merv moved to Riverview Aged Care centre where he enjoyed helping the staff in the Jacaranda wing. ¶

FAITHFUL SOLDIER ▼



Eric James Wallis was promoted to glory on 3 January, aged 61.

A celebration of his life was held on 9 January at The Salvation Army's Tamworth Corps.

The service began with one of Eric's favourite songs, *I Stand Amazed in the Presence of Jesus the Nazarene*, setting an atmosphere of celebration of his life and faith. The service was conducted by Eric's son, Lieutenant Dominic Wallis. Dominic, Eric's daughter Marika and his sisters, Nellie Dent and Marlene Edmunds, paid tribute to him. His grand-daughter, Hannah, read Psalm 1, and *Amazing Grace* was sung by one of Eric's best mates, Ross Mulligan.

During the service, each grandchild received a last wish, a handwritten message in a card from their Poppy (Eric) for them each to keep. The service concluded with the family blowing out a candle to signify the end of Eric's life here, but a legacy that lives on within his family.

Eric was born in Grafton on 19 March 1953, to Fred and Maude Wallis. He was the eldest of five children. Eric suffered all his life with chronic ear troubles, consequently requiring long stays in hospital. As a result, his schooling suffered. On leaving school, Eric worked in retail and attended Grafton Corps where he became a senior soldier in 1970.

On 5 April 1975, Eric married Denise, a nurse working at the

local hospital. They moved to Brisbane and during this time they had two children, Marika (1976) followed by Dominic (1979). While living in Brisbane they were involved at Sandgate Corps. The family moved to Maclean, NSW, to manage a corner store, and then relocated to Broken Hill where Eric and Denise worked at The Salvation Army Algate Boys Home.

In 1982, they relocated to Deepwater in northern NSW. Eric got a job as the groundsman for Deepwater Public School, and they attended Glen Innes Corps where Eric served as Corps Sergeant Major (CSM). During this time, Eric began his involvement in managing Family Stores for The Salvation Army which included at Glen Innes, followed by Armidale and later for Wauchope, Denise serving by his side and assisting through welfare. Eric also served as CSM at Armidale Corps.

Due to illness, Eric was no longer able to manage the Family Stores so he retired in 2006 after approximately 18 years of involvement. Eric and Denise moved back to Deepwater where they again became involved at Glen Innes Corps. Eric was diagnosed with melanoma of the eye in 2011, but with determination and faith he faced this head-on. Sadly, this battle wasn't to be won.

Eric loved to make things and would do anything for anyone. He left an example to his family of selfless, practical faith and cared for anybody. He was an example of living within one's means and providing for his family. Eric loved a chat with anybody that crossed his path, making a coffee for anyone who visited. He cherished his grandchildren, and his many projects that gave him much delight. He loved helping people, involvement in his corps and living out his practical faith.

Eric was a much-loved husband of Denise, an adored father to Marika and Dominic and father-in-law to Samantha. He was a cherished Poppy to Hannah, Abigail, Tasman, Taylise, Elijah (Deceased) and Nathaniel. ¶

mySalvos



Get
connected
mySalvos.org.au

mySalvos is the place to go for news from local corps and centres around The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory. This month, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Outback Flying Service in the territory, national op-shop week, and get the scoop on the Miranda Salvos Big 50 Walkathon.

The Booth College Gala Day is almost here! Get all the latest news including how to register for the marketplace and touch footy tournament, at mySalvos. Don't miss out on this great day of family fun! Visit mySalvos.org.au/gala-day

The Aged Care Plus Walkathon is on this month, so lace up your runners and support this great event! For more info, visit mySalvos.org.au/acp-walkathon

The Secret Place is a new resource being produced by the Australia Eastern Territory, and focuses on the importance of the Christian's devotional life. A four-week daily reading plan, supplemented by four video presentations, will help to establish regular time alone with God. "For relationships to grow and deepen in significance and intimacy," says the territory's Spiritual Life Development Director, Major Sharon Clanfield, "they need personal and intentional investment." **The Secret Place** is available to download in full, at mySalvos.org.au/the-secret-place

To get Salvation Army updates in your social media feed, "like" mySalvos on Facebook and follow @mySalvos on Twitter.

The choice that breaks God's heart

SUICIDE – WE ARE ALL ON THE FRONT LINES



CASEY O'BRIEN

Suicide is the leading cause of death for Australians between the ages of 15 and 44. More than double the number of people die by suicide than in car accidents per year. The difference is that we have safety measures in place in cars to reduce the number of fatalities – seatbelts, carseats, license restrictions and rules against children under certain ages sitting in the front seat. Yet for suicide, the safety measures are minimal and the stigma attached to it still looms.

Scripture tells us that "nothing can separate us from the love of God" (Romans 8:38-39). Nothing – not death, not sin, not our choices – can separate us from the love of God. I believe that God mourns with us over those whose lives have been cut short, and is with us in our sorrow and suffering. Our God is a God of great love, and his heart breaks, as ours do, when someone chooses to take their life.

As Christians, we believe that every single person on this earth was created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) and, as a result, we believe that God places value on every single life, regardless of race, age, gender, socio-economic status, sexuality or religion. Are we loving God's creations in the same way – placing value on every single life without discrimination? God loves each of his creations

unconditionally and has plans and a purpose for every life (Jeremiah 29:11).

Those who attempt or commit suicide often do not want to die – they simply want their pain to stop. We as Christ's followers are called to do all we can to bring hope and life to the brokenhearted. Through our relationships with Christ, we have the hope that the world is looking for – are we living as though we have that hope?

We are called to be present and active in the world, aware of what is going on around us and interacting with people with intentionality. God often places Christians in the path of those who are hurting so that those people can directly encounter him, yet sometimes we as Christians are so busy living our own lives that we don't even recognise the opportunity. When we go about our lives without really paying attention to the feelings and hurts of others, we miss opportunities for that person to experience God and his hope in their midst of their brokenness.

More than 2500 Australians die by suicide each year. For every one of those people, there are at least eight people who are directly affected – mothers, fathers, partners, children, friends and colleagues. In total, suicide directly affects the lives of about 20,000 Australians each year, with a person attempting to take their life by suicide every eight

minutes. It is likely that each one of us would have come into contact with one of these people, or with someone who is considering suicide themselves. Would you recognise it? Would you have the words to say or the referrals to make?

The Salvation Army in Australia works to prevent suicides through all of its programs – from rehabilitation centres, emergency relief, counselling services, corps, chaplaincy and many others. Our holistic care for the person minimises the risk of suicide. The Army's Hope for Life program specifically supports those bereaved by suicide by building more connected communities. Hope for Life provides practical support and training to those working on the front-lines – those who come into contact with people who have been bereaved by suicide.

The reality is, we are all on the front lines. We must all be equipped and ready to assist those affected by suicide at any given moment. World Suicide Prevention Day is on 10 September. Please take the opportunity to check on someone you are concerned about. If you are concerned that they may be at risk of suicide, contact the Hope for Life team who can talk you through some practical steps to assist. Visit Hope for Life's website and do their free online training, because you never know whose path God is going to place you in tomorrow. ¶

ABOUT PEOPLE ▼**ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

Captain Cheryl **Kistan**, Employment Plus Chaplain, Ryde Employment Plus, effective 3 August; Major David **Hawke**, Employment Plus Chaplain, Hornsby Employment Plus, effective 3 August; Major Clayton **Spence**, Employment Plus Chaplain, Chatswood Site, effective 3 August; Captain Vanessa **Garven**, Employment Plus Chaplain, Young Site, effective 3 August.

APPOINTMENTS

Effective 10 August: Major Lindon **Kinder**, Inner City Network Chaplaincy Coordinator, Program Administration.

Effective 31 August: Major Margaret **O'Neill**, Chaplain, Sydney Airport Chaplaincy, Sydney East and Illawarra Division.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Major Florence **Wilson** on 23 July; Lieut-Colonel Yvonne **Lingard** on 25 July; Major Pamela **Alley** on 26 July; Major Arthur **Gilham** on 3 August.

BEREAVED

Captain Ray **Lotty** of his sister, Mary **Foster** on 2 August; Major Marilyn **Edwards** (ret.) of her brother, David **Edwards**; Captains Peter and Wendy **Spindler** of their brother and brother-in-law, Greg; Major Arthur **Gilham** on 3 August. Captain Paul **Arthur** of his brother, David **Arthur** on 17 August.

BIRTH

Lieutenants Philip and Donna **Sutcliffe**, a boy, Malachi Alan, on 6 August.

TIME TO PRAY ▼**30 AUGUST – 5 SEPTEMBER**

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

6-12 SEPTEMBER

SAILSS, Salvos, Southport Community Welfare Centre, South Queensland Homelessness Services, Still Waters, Toowong Student Residence, Toowoomba Crisis Accommodation, all Qld.

13-19 SEPTEMBER

Wynnum/Capabala Community Welfare Centre, Youth Outreach Service, both Qld; Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Headquarters, Sydney East and Illawarra Division Chaplains, Belmore Corps, Burwood Corps, all NSW; National Wider Cabinet (13-18); Territorial Counselling Service Conference (16-18).

20-26 SEPTEMBER

Campsie Corps, Campsie Community Welfare Centre, Chatswood Corps, Dee Why Corps, Dulwich Hill Corps, Earlwood Corps, all NSW; FRONTIER (21-23).

27 SEPTEMBER – 2 OCTOBER

Glebe Corps, Hurstville Corps, Manly Corps, Maroubra Corps, Menai Corps, Miranda Corps, all NSW; International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking (27); EQUIP, NSW (27 Sep-3 Oct).

4-10 OCTOBER

Narwee Corps, Petersham Corps, Port Kembla Mission, Rockdale Corps, Shellharbour Corps, Sydney Congress Hall, all NSW; Seniors Assembly (6-9); Candidates Weekend (9-11).

ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR ▼**COMMISSIONERS JAMES (TERRITORIAL COMMANDER) AND JAN CONDON**

*Sydney: Thu 3 Sep – National Professional Standards Council.

*Melbourne: Thu 3 Sep – Arrow Leadership Graduation.

*Bexley North: Fri 4 Sep – Executive lecture for 1st and 2nd year cadets.

Sydney: Sat 5 Sep – 150th anniversary celebration and tribute to Lieut-Colonel Ray Steadman-Allen.

Stanmore: Sun 6 Sep – Thought Matters Conference.

Terrigal: Thu 10 Sep – Salvos Stores Area Managers Conference.

#Collaroy: Thu 10 Sep – Australian Church Women's Conference.

Stanmore: Fri 11 Sep – Booth College Annual Review.

Geelong: Fri 11-Sat 12 Sep – Inter-territorial Leaders Consultation.

Geelong: Sun 13-Thu 17 Sep – National Wider Cabinet.

#London: Mon 21-Wed 23 Sep – General's Consultative Council.

*Newcastle: Tues 22 Sep – Newcastle and Central NSW Divisional luncheon.

*Bexley North: Thu 24 Sep – Retreat Day, School For Officer Training.

*Arncliffe: Thu 24 Sep – "Turning of the Sod", Macquarie Lodge.

* Sydney: Thu 24 Sep – Young Leaders Forum.

* *Commissioner James Condon only*

Commissioner Jan Condon only

COLONEL MARK CAMPBELL (CHIEF SECRETARY)

Townsville: Thu 3-Fri 4 Sep – Meetings with CPR and community leaders

Mt Isa: Sat 5 Sep – 50th anniversary of Outback Flying Service celebration

Mt Isa: Sun 6 Sep – Morning worship at Mt Isa Corps

Sydney: Tues 8-Thu 10 Sep – Safe as Churches Conference

Geelong: Fri 11-Sat 12 Sep – Dinner and Inter-Territorial Leaders Consultation

Geelong: Sun 13-Thu 17 Sep – National Wider

Cabinet meeting