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THE SALVATION ARMY
AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY
OCTOBER 2013
VOLUME 17 ISSUE 10

ROAD WARRIORS

RURAL CHAPLAINS HAVE
THE OUTBACK COVERED



ALSO INSIDE:
FREEDOM CELEBRATION
REPORT AND PHOTOS

ARTICLES BY

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COVER STORY

10-16 RURAL REVIVAL

Majors Trevor and Maree Strong cover vast distances in their central NSW rural chaplaincy and, in this edition, *Pipeline* reports on one of their ministries in little Quambone



FEATURES

8-19 CHAPLAINCY MONTH

In honouring the 200 chaplains who serve throughout the territory, we focus on three services – hospital, rural and airport chaplaincy services.

20-21 LIVING WATER

To celebrate National Water Week this month, Salvationist Matt Seaman explores the relationship between water and The Salvation Army.

26-28 HIDDEN TURMOIL

Historian Garth Hentzschel has found evidence that suggests The Salvation Army was beset by internal strife from the start in Adelaide.



REGULARS

5 TC@PIPELINE

6-7 INTEGRITY

30-31 ARMY ARCHIVES

35 SOUL FOOD

36-37 WHAT WOULD JESUS VIEW

40-47 COALFACE NEWS

50-51 PROMOTED TO GLORY

IN THIS MONTH'S
Creative Ministry
Stay Tuned



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Comfort in times of trouble

When I hear the word “chaplain”, I still can’t help but picture the kind-hearted face of Father Mulcahy from the 1970s television sitcom *M.A.S.H.*

Father Mulcahy, with his meek, high-pitched voice and godly demeanour, played the role of a US Army chaplain who was assigned to the 4077th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital during the Korean War. He was, in effect, a square peg in a round hole, mixing with a ragtag bunch of medics who, while not religious, treated him with respect and dignity.

Father Mulcahy often appeared troubled over whether his role as chaplain had any importance compared to the doctors’ obvious talent for saving lives. Yet, in an environment where death and suffering was a common theme, it was Father Mulcahy whom the doctors would turn to when the emotion of any given situation became too overwhelming to handle on their own.

When the chips were down the chaplain turned up.

Chaplaincy is, of course, not just restricted to fictional characters on the TV screen. It is an ever-present and ever-expanding role in a mission field around the world that takes in prisons, hospitals, schools, sporting teams, courts, emergency services and the military, to name just a few areas in which it operates.

Chaplaincy Australia is the official national body which encompasses all denominations, and its mission statement sums up its intent: “To provide resources to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of all people, without discrimination, and in every field of life, throughout the states of Australia. To work in conjunction with the Local Church, using the Chaplaincy Ministry as a tool to minister to local communities.”

Chaplaincy Month

The Salvation Army abides by this statement and is one of the strongest advocates of chaplaincy in Australia and, indeed, the world. Its commitment to chaplaincy is underpinned by the fact that the Army’s Australia Eastern Territory designates each October as Chaplaincy Month.

Major Robin Pullen is the territorial chaplaincy coordinator and oversees about 200 faithful chaplains who serve in a variety of roles throughout Queensland, NSW and the ACT. Some chaplains are full-time Salvation Army officers, some are part-time workers and there’s an army of tireless volunteers who also commit their lives to a particular arm of chaplaincy.

In this issue, *Pipeline* profiles four Salvation Army chaplains – Betty Langham (hospital chaplain), Major Joanne Slater (Sydney Airport chaplain) and Majors Trevor and Maree Strong (NSW rural chaplains).

While each chaplain oversees a specialist field, they all share a common bond – to represent Jesus wherever they are, offering support, encouragement and compassion during difficult times.

We also take time in this issue to reflect on last month’s Freedom Celebration in Sydney and the visit of The Salvation Army’s new world leader, General André Cox, and his wife, Commissioner Silvia Cox.

Dean Simpson
Managing Editor



Women in Leadership

It's time we completely unlock the leadership potential of employees and officers within the Army.

Join us on **Monday 28 October** for an afternoon and evening of inspiration, learning and discussion with other women who want to lead or are currently in a leadership role.



The program features internationally acclaimed guest speaker, **Major Danielle Strickland**, author of *'The Liberating Truth: How Jesus empowers women.'*

Colonels Janet and Richard Munn will be your hosts and they look forward to seeing you there!



WHEN & WHERE

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COST

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CORRECTION

In the previous issue of *Pipeline*, there was an error in a paragraph of the story entitled "Opportunity knocks for General Cox" (Sept. issue, 2013, Page 6).

The second paragraph refers to the General's term being "... unlimited, with the exception of a maximum retirement age of 70 ..."

International Headquarters makes this clarification: "By regulation a General enters retirement on either the eve of the fifth anniversary of taking office, or on the eve of his/her 68th birthday, whichever comes first.

There are strict guidelines for the procedure of extending a General's term in office – more than two-thirds of the active commissioners need to approve a proposed extension in order for it to be validated."

HONOURING AND INVESTING IN EACH OTHER

Intergenerational unity, says **Commissioner JAMES CONDON**, is essential if The Salvation Army is to continue to advance in its mission



Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory

“We don’t consider young people to be the Army of tomorrow. You are very much the Army of today.” – **General André Cox.**

One of the highlights for me on the weekend of the Freedom Celebration was the young leaders’ breakfast. More than 200 young leaders from across the Australia Eastern Territory, committed to Christ, his Kingdom purposes and the mission of The Salvation Army. There was so much potential in the room; it was awesome.

Matt Gluyas and Bee Orsini piloted us through the program which included vocal solos by Claire Twivey, a brief report on Hubs by Greig Whittaker, a word of encouragement from General André Cox, and a Bible message from Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas. Miriam challenged us about the legacy we are leaving for future generations.

General Cox’s quote above is so true for our territory. I could not help but give thanks to God as I listened to the young leaders sharing their God-given purpose, vision and passion for the Army and its mission.

Our Mission Priority 6 says, “Youth trained and sent out to frontline mission”. I thank God that the youth of our territory are making a difference and are at the front line of new initiatives, leading the way.

I read the following on Facebook from someone who is of the older generation: “No wonder so many people, including myself, left [the Army]. The Salvation Army was bereft of any understanding or empathy towards kids. Do it our way or you are wrong ... I don’t think I will ever forgive nor forget certain people!”

Sadly, this happened too often in the past and we need to repent of this as an Army. I am reminded of the verse in 1 Timothy 4:12: “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young.”

In the officers’ councils, Matt Godkin and Lieut Narelle Unicomb, representing young leaders of our territory, made an intergenerational plea for the generations to honour each other, asking for help and mentoring from the older generation. They also



General André Cox and his wife Commissioner Silvia Cox being served at the young leaders breakfast.

made an apology on behalf of the youth, seeking forgiveness for un-Christlike behaviour, attitudes and speech.

At the conclusion of the councils, many officers spoke to these two young people, asking forgiveness for the times when the older generation has looked down on the younger generation and despised their passion, free spirit and individuality.

May we be challenged by the words of Psalm 145:4, which says, “One generation will commend your works to another, they will tell of your mighty acts”.

When the Freedom Celebration was in the planning stages, the young people decided not to have a youth event but instead make themselves available to serve. They led the way by serving us all. They were very visible in their purple T-shirts, “Here to Help”, happily doing whatever it took to serve every generation and every event. So many of the older generation commented positively on this.

We need our young people and we need to invest in them and encourage them. May God the Holy Spirit unite us intergenerationally as we repent, honour and invest in each other.

HOLINESS IS THE OUTWARD SIGN OF INNER GRACE

In the second instalment of a nine-part *Pipeline* series written by members of The Salvation Army's International Doctrine Council and entitled "Holiness and ...", **Lieutenant-Colonel PHILIP CAIRNS** says The Salvation Army is as sacramental as any church tradition, with Salvationists called to be the outward sign of the inner presence of Jesus

Linking holiness and sacraments would seem to be a contradiction in Salvation Army thinking and practice. The doctrine of holiness is for The Salvation Army a foundation stone of its theology. Sacramental worship, particularly the use of bread, wine and water, are rites carried out in other church traditions. Can the two be brought together in one idea?

As a young Salvationist I can remember being taught that The Salvation Army was a non-sacramental church. The emphasis was on an Army that was a practical and pragmatic holiness movement and the life that was totally and completely committed to God was the focus of its holiness teaching. The constant encouragement to be like Jesus was paralleled with the call to duty and service. The Salvation Army was a mission that was not going to be caught up with the "trappings" of church.

Although I still agree with this emphasis, what I couldn't see then and what I have now come to realise is that The Salvation Army has captured the essence

of sacramental worship within the heart of its holiness doctrine. The call to an intimate personal relationship with Jesus Christ is also the call to display outwardly the love and the nature of the one who now dwells within. This is the truth that brings holiness and the sacramental life together.

Real sacrament

The meaning behind the word sacrament as used in most church traditions is that of a rite in which the activity of God is evident and real. Participation in the Eucharist, for example, is meant to indicate the inner grace of God through the visible signs of the bread and wine.

When Jesus reclined with his disciples at the meal that is now called the Last Supper, he was meeting with friends. Throughout the three years of being together Jesus had dramatically affected the lives of the disciples. Now he prepares them for the future by asking them to remember him. Remember who I am and what I have done, was the challenge of Jesus during this final meal together.

And the disciples did, not by

instituting rites or rituals, but by the total commitment of the rest of their lives to Jesus. They proclaimed his gospel to the “ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8) and all of them were to suffer as a result. But they remembered Jesus in the most profound way possible – by their lives and actions.

This whole of life expectation was emphasised during Peter’s encounter with Jesus in the days following his passion and resurrection (John 21:15-19). In the first conversation that Jesus had with Peter after Peter’s denial of his Lord (John 18), Jesus asks, “Simon, son of John, do you truly love me more than these?” Peter’s answer to this question was immediate: “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

But Jesus was not yet finished with Peter. He asks him the same question, not just once more, but twice. “Do you love me more than these?” Was Jesus repeating the question because Peter had denied him three times, or was Jesus emphasising something very important? For the Jews, the repetition of something gave it increased importance. For example, in Isaiah (6:3) and in Revelation (4:8) we read that God was not just “holy”, or even “holy, holy”; God was “Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God Almighty”. Three times reveals the ultimate importance of the statement.

When Jesus asked Peter three times, he was not asking him to be an acquaintance, or even just a friend. He was asking Peter to love him with the absolute unconditional love that we see between a father and a son (John 1:12-13). And Peter’s response for the third time – “Lord, you know that I love you” – secures a relationship that was to see Peter become the leader of the early Church.

Power of relationship

We cannot underestimate the power of relationship, especially relationships founded on love. In a recent tragedy in my country a young father jumped from a wharf into treacherous water to save his two small boys from drowning. The father ignored the danger and the

impossibility of saving his children. He jumped into the water regardless and both he and his boys were drowned. Why did he do it? At the heart of this father’s instinct was the most powerful experience that the human being knows, the power of a relationship that is founded on love.

This love relationship was the power behind the events of the Last Supper; this love relationship

“... the heart of holiness and the sacramental life is a relationship with Jesus Christ that results in our wanting to be like him in every way.”

was the power that made Jesus’ encounter with Peter so significant. It is nothing less than this love relationship power that is at the heart of holiness and results in the sacramental life – the life lived as the outward evidence of God’s relationship with us.

All too often in The Salvation Army we have talked about holiness as things we should or shouldn’t do, or about how we get holiness and what we need to do to stay holy. The same sort of thinking has occurred in other church traditions when rites and rituals have been used to remember Jesus. But the heart of holiness and the sacramental life is a relationship with Jesus Christ that results in our wanting to be like him in every way – in our actions, in our

thinking, in our living. Holiness is our relationship with Jesus which is sealed through the indwelling of the Spirit of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and is then evident to all around us. Can there be a more powerful sacrament?

A sacramental church

Rather than being a non-sacramental church, I believe The Salvation Army is a fully sacramental church because it takes Jesus’ call to remember him in a literal and pragmatic way. The whole of the Salvationist’s life is sacramental because we ourselves have become the outward sign of the inner grace. Instead of a symbolic ritual, Salvationists are called to be the outward sign of the inner presence of Jesus. “My life must be Christ’s broken bread, my love his outpoured wine” (Albert Orsborn).

This desire, even expectation, for the Salvationist is not an arrogant one, nor does it hint at idealism. It is real because it is the outcome of our personal relationship with Jesus himself and makes holiness a reality in the Christian life.

Although I believe that The Salvation Army has rightly put aside the physical elements of sacramental worship (bread, wine and water), we have embraced within our lives of holiness the meaning of sacrament so that we ourselves become the visible sign of the inner grace of God’s presence in our lives.

I now believe The Salvation Army to be as sacramental as any church tradition. The transformation that Christ brings about in our lives through his indwelling Spirit shows itself in the actions and attitudes of our holy living. We are the outward sign of his wonderful and miraculous indwelling grace within our lives.



Lieut-Colonel Philip Cairns is Divisional Commander, ACT and South NSW Division, Australia Eastern Territory

THANK GOD FOR OUR CHAPLAINS

VITAL SUPPORT SERVICE SPREAD FAR AND WIDE

October is chaplaincy month for The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territory. **Major ROBIN PULLEN** shares with *Pipeline* an insight into her role as Territorial Chaplaincy Coordinator

My role as The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territorial Chaplaincy Coordinator provides opportunities to work with our seven divisions in the territory and our chaplains across a wide area of ministries.

We have chaplains who work in prisons, courts, hospitals, aged care, at the airport, school chaplains, and rural chaplains who travel large distances each day.

Then there are our flying padres, fire, ambulance and police chaplains, and a diversity of other chaplains who work in our centres for the homeless, club chaplaincy and recovery centres.

Each of these ministries is valued within The Salvation Army. Our chaplains are often the first person that someone in the community may meet.

The chaplain is often the support person at the time of crisis.

The chaplain provides a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on and is the person who gives support when times are tough.

In my role I have the opportunity to develop the future strategy for chaplaincy, and to advocate for our chaplains to ensure they are heard.

Serving and honouring

One of the things that I really enjoy is listening to the stories of the chaplains, to hear about the person whom the chaplain has assisted and how their life has been transformed in some way.

I love to visit the chaplains as much as I can, to spend time with them in their role and to see exactly what they do each day. It helps me have a greater understanding of their ministry.

Chaplaincy month is a great opportunity to highlight some

of the ministries that chaplains are involved in across corps and centres. It turns the focus on chaplaincy and educates people within our corps and centres about the ministry opportunities that exist in their community - opportunities they may wish to think about taking up as a volunteer.

Chaplaincy month also provides an opportunity to honour our chaplains and the ministry they are involved in. Our chaplains work hard and are very dedicated to their area of ministry. It is important that we are aware of what they do for the Kingdom.

Thank you to all our chaplains whether they are Salvation Army officers or employees, and a special thanks to our volunteer chaplains who faithfully serve in their area of ministry.

God bless you each.



Major Robin Pullen is the Australia Eastern Territory Chaplaincy Coordinator

HOSPITAL MINISTRY THE GLUE THAT KEEPS BETTY CONNECTED

By ESTHER PINN

While some people might find it hard to strike up a conversation with a stranger, for volunteer Salvation Army chaplain Betty Lanham it comes quite naturally.

"I love meeting people," says Betty. "Someone said to me, 'How can you go into a [hospital] ward and talk to someone you've never met?' I find that very easy actually. I'm a people person. It never bothers me."

For the past 27 years, Betty has been volunteering as a chaplain for The Salvation Army at various hospitals and nursing homes. She was recently honoured at the Army's Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Headquarters for 25 years service. Now in her 70s, Betty describes her work as a volunteer chaplain to be the glue that keeps her life together.

"When they presented me with that beautiful plaque [at divisional headquarters] they told me I had to go on until I was 99. I said I will keep going until I am mentally and physically able," she laughs.

Betty began as a chaplain at Sydney's Royal North Shore Hospital. She had been asked to visit a 16-year-old boy in the children's ward who couldn't communicate. She read to him, talked to him and even organised for a high-profile rugby league player to visit him.

"That was a really good starting point for me ... for six months we had a really good time together," explains Betty.

Inspired by this experience, Betty was appointed assistant chaplain and began completing chaplaincy courses at the Royal North Shore Hospital. When the main hospital chaplain retired, Betty became Royal North Shore's official Salvation Army chaplain.

Special honour

Betty now spends two days a week volunteering as a chaplain



Betty Lanham has been honoured by The Salvation Army for 25 years of service to hospital and nursing home chaplaincy. Photo: Shairon Paterson

at a number of hospitals including North Shore Private, Mater Hospital and Sydney Adventist Hospital (also known as The San), and at various nursing homes. She is also on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week at Royal North Shore Hospital.

Betty visits a number of wards including intensive care and aged care. She also makes a point of trying to visit patients connected to The Salvation Army wherever they are located in the hospitals.

About a decade ago, Betty was honoured for her outstanding work with mothers and babies at Royal North Shore's neonatal intensive care unit, receiving a special Grandma's Award from the hospital.

Betty says chaplaincy is a rewarding role, particularly when

she shares about the love of Christ with her patients.

"I enjoy meeting people and talking to them about God, but I am always very careful to ask if they want me to pray with them," she explains.

Along with ministering to people in the hospitals, Betty runs church services at two nursing homes, Willow Wood and Ashley House Lodge, in the Chatswood area.

A few times a year, Betty also distributes knitted items created by The Dougherty Centre Ladies Knitting Group to the residents living at the nursing homes and hospitals she visits, as well as a children's respite care centre and a women's centre in Dee Why.

Betty also carries out chaplaincy home visits.

RURAL REVIVAL

RURAL CHAPLAINS MAJORS TREVOR AND MAREE STRONG ARE BRINGING THE LITTLE CENTRAL NSW TOWN OF QUAMBONE BACK TO LIFE WITH THE HELP OF AN ARMY OF COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS. PIPELINE REPORTER **SIMONE WORTHING** AND PHOTOGRAPHER **SHAIRON PATERSON** SPENT A WEEKEND IN THE TOWN AND SAW FIRST HAND HOW THE SALVATION ARMY IS MAKING ITS PRESENCE FELT IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, FROM THE RENOVATION OF THE GENERAL STORE AND POST OFFICE, INVOLVEMENT IN THE LOCAL SCHOOL AND THE ONGOING MINISTRY TO FARMERS





The Quambone General Store, which was renovated by volunteers of The Salvation Army under the guidance of the rural chaplains, Majors Trevor and Maree Strong. Photo: Shairon Paterson



CHAPLAINCY WORK PUTS QUAMBONE BACK ON MAP

The road map comes out a lot for Majors Trevor and Marie Strong (above), whose rural chaplaincy covers almost one-third of NSW.

“We are Kingdom building out here,” says Major Maree Strong, Salvation Army Rural Chaplain with her husband, Major Trevor Strong, who are based in the Central NSW town of Dubbo.

“We’re not building an army; we’re building a community and re-connecting people in an area which has suffered over a decade of devastating drought and floods.”

For over a year now Majors Strong, with their team of local supporters, and volunteers from The Salvation Army and Rotary Club of Canberra East, have focused on community development projects in the tiny town of Quambone, 210km north-west of Dubbo, as well as surrounding farms.

From 9-11 August, the Quambone General Store and Post Office again became a hub of activity, as the Strongs, local supporters, Salvation Army volunteers from Dubbo, Orange,

Newcastle and Sydney, and a cadet team on rural mission, gathered to continue the renovating work already done on the store, host a community worship event and free barbecue and, most importantly, bring some much-needed hope to the area’s struggling residents.

The team worked mainly on the inside of the store – sanding, putting down a new floor, updating the electrical wiring and giving the place a fresh, inviting look.

“The Salvos have done the ‘rubber hits the road’ work in helping us get this store really going for the community and surrounds,” says store owners, Kathy and Darius Smith, who moved from Western Australia to Quambone last year.

“It’s an amazing journey and challenge, but all our service is for the Lord.”

The Christian couple, who use the store as a mission house to listen to people, care for and serve them, are delighted with the

STRONG’S DOMAIN:

- Their chaplaincy covers approximately 374,000 sq/km or one-third of NSW.
- Chaplaincy boundaries: The northern boundary is from Port Macquarie to Gilgandra/Quambone to Nyngan, to Broken Hill and due west to the South Australian border. The southern boundary is from Sydney to Bathurst, Orange, Forbes and due west to the South Australian border.
- Weeks on the road each year: approximately 35.
- Kilometres covered per year: 45,000-50,000.
- The Strongs have 240 families on their client database.

impact it's already having on the community.

"What is happening here is the model I will use to regenerate any rural or urban community we are ever involved with," says Darius.

The community development project also includes repairs on local farms and farmhouses, activities at the Quambone and Marra primary schools, building community groups, and providing emotional support, a listening ear, and friendship, especially to farmers experiencing tough times.

"It's all about building deep, lasting community and bringing life back into an area that has been, and still is, struggling," says Major Maree.

Children of Quambone

As part of its rural mission during these three days, the cadet team ran a Pirate theme program and free lunch for the 24 children at the local Quambone Primary School, which the children loved.

"I really like what The Salvation Army do in our school," says Harriett, one of the school's two captains.

The school principal, Kim Watt, agrees.

"Trevor and Maree love coming here and we are very lucky to have access to them," she says. "They bring things for the children and are very inclusive. They make every child think they're special."

Majors Strong always call in at the school when they pass through Quambone, timing their visits to fit in with lunch or break times.

"It's not just about the programs we run, it's about relationships," says Major Maree. "We know the kids by name and they know us. We also visit the families in their homes; try to connect with their community and work to get the people re-connected with each other after all the disasters they've gone through.

"Other communities have asked us to do the same thing in their areas. This is a trial project for us, but we can see the difference it's making."

Community worship

Despite the chilly morning, the community worship service, held outside in the grounds of the Quambone Community Hall, attracted locals from the town and surrounding properties who joined the cadets, volunteers and supporters from the Orange >>>



"It's just fun, really fun. It's really nice of The Salvation Army to help with the shop. It's so much better than the old shop."

Benjamin Perry, 10, local Quambone resident



(Top) Dubbo Corps volunteer Kylie Walters and local resident Benjamin Perry sand an exterior wall of the Quambone store in preparation for painting.

(Middle) Quambone store owner Kathy Smith serves from the store's ever-popular lolly bar.

(Above) Major Gavin Watts (left), Captain Kathy Crombie and Major Trevor Strong level the store's floor before new tiles are laid.

WHAT THE LOCALS SAY ABOUT CHAPLAINCY ...

JIM O'BRIEN



“It’s just simple what the chaplains do. It’s nothing elaborate and doesn’t alienate anyone, that’s what is so nice,” said Jim O’Brien, a local farmer who, with his wife Jo, has been actively supporting the work of The Salvation Army’s rural chaplains for many years.

“Majors Bob and Estelle Strong (now retired) visited us on the farm regardless of the weather, and they were very good.

“Maree and Trevor pop in and visit us. I enjoy having them. They are quite inspirational and I wish everyone was like that. They are just nice people to have around.

“Trevor helps me with cattle and

cropping and Maree will do whatever needs doing!”

Jim and Jo volunteered when the Quambone general store and post office was being renovated, and also hosted a team of volunteers in the cottage on their property – free of charge.

“I like seeing what the chaplains and their teams are doing in the community, like with the shop,” Jim said.

“At Christmas time last year they cleaned up our house for a day and had a bit of fun; they are such nice people.

They attract people in the right way and Maree is such a good communicator and with the Bible. It’s excellent.”



MARIE TURNBULL

Marie Turnbull, a retired farmer from “Mayfield” just outside Quambone, has lived through many tough times over the years, including droughts, floods and terrible loss.

The Salvation Army rural chaplains have been a constant in her life, and that of her family, and tears came to her eyes when she spoke about them.

“We have been in a very low place and the lovely Salvation Army chaplains were the ones that always supported us, always got us up, when nobody else did,” she said.

“Maree and Trevor have brought us together as a community and have given

us so much love and hope. I can’t thank The Salvation Army enough.”

Majors Trevor and Maree first visited Marie after the 2010 flood, and have been calling in ever since.

“Trevor and Maree have been towers of strength and have given us the strength to get through this and keep going.”

Marie is also enthusiastic about the refurbishment of the Quambone general store and post office, and the local activities and events that the Strongs and their volunteers are making possible.

“The shop is the start of us coming back together as a community,” said Marie.

and Dubbo Corps. Major Trevor organised a small but dynamic brass band which included Major Gavin Watts, Newcastle & Central NSW Divisional Commander who had joined the rural mission for a week; George Godkin and Kathy Gott from the Orange Corps; and several members of the Dubbo Corps band.

Major Maree led the service, focusing on the “lost sheep”, a personal relationship with Jesus, and the celebration and contentment found in Psalm 23.

The relaxed and interactive service included activities for the children, audience participation, and worship.

“This is an example of a truly organic hub,” says Major Gavin. “They are the ones that work the best.”

A free barbecue after the service, prepared by the Dubbo Salvation Army Emergency Services and cadets, provided a place for the community to gather, reconnect with others, meet new people and just be together.

Bringing hope

The work of rural chaplains, although challenging, is also extremely rewarding. “This appointment would have to be one of the most exciting we’ve had, even though one of the most emotionally challenging,” says Major Trevor.

“We deal all the time with people’s emotions when they are at their most vulnerable and often out here, they have nobody else to talk to.

“It’s wonderful though, to share with

people, have church around the table, and pray for people, even if they’re not believers.

“We’ve never had someone say no to prayer, and they ask us to pray for specific things. They are blown away that we pray for them. It’s so important; everyone is searching.”

As well as spending time talking to people, Major Trevor helps practically on the farms they visit, rounding up sheep, fixing fences and digging post holes. Major Maree helps the ladies in the homes, the gardens, and on the farms as well.

“We see great, overwhelming need but have few resources,” said Major Maree. “We can’t fix their problems; only alleviate their pain through visits, encouragement and support.”

DOUGAL AND SUSAN MCLEISH

“Turn” is a stunning sheep and cattle property spanning 3,237 hectares (8000 acres) between the village of Quambone and town of Coonamble. It is home to owners Dougal and Susan McLeish and was passed down by Dougal’s parents. Dougal has lived here all his life.

Beneath the beauty and tranquillity of the property though, as with so many others like it in the area, lie heartache, sadness, and fear for the future as more and more farms fall victim to ongoing natural disasters and financial ruin.

It is in this context that rural chaplains, Majors Trevor and Maree Strong, serve.

“Maree and Trevor are just like friends,” said Susan.

“They can just come and let themselves in whenever they’re in the area. They often ring up, or call in, and we do the same when we’re in Dubbo.

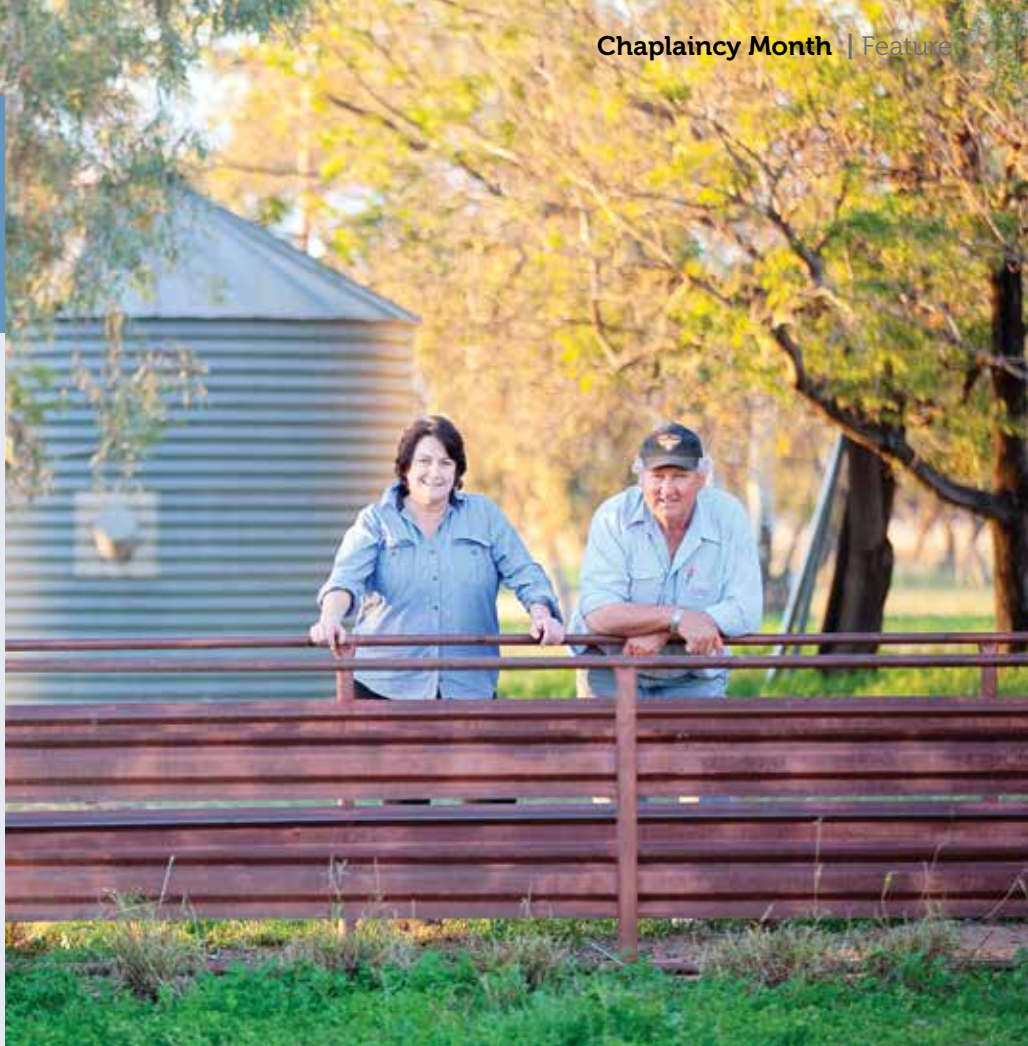
“The former chaplains, Majors Bob and Estelle Strong, used to do the same.”

“Trevor is wonderful; he always wants to find Dougal and do whatever he’s doing and Maree always helps out with what I have going on.

“We are isolated and I appreciate knowing that we are supported emotionally.

“I don’t have to go to church; their chaplaincy is immediate. Our souls are being fed without measure, which is so important now that the church can’t sustain itself out here anymore.”

The McLeishes generously hosted the cadets and the Divisional Commander, Major Gavin Watts, during their rural mission trip,



and also opened their doors to teams of volunteers during last year’s Farm Hub Project and Christmas Bush Mission and also the Community Development Project in May.

“The Strongs have helped so many people in this area,” says Susan.

“Apart from personal visits, they made sure there were rural financial counsellors available to help farmers with budgeting, applying for funding, and making sure the farm was sustainable. They understand how a farmer’s income works.”

Many farmers, including one of Dougal’s

brothers, have lost their properties, equipment, and even their families.

Others, like the McLeishes, are struggling under the burden of debt – from drought, floods, enormous electricity bills and from their farms being unable to produce an income.

Despite the heartache, the endless challenges and hardships, the McLeishes, together with Majors Strong and members of the local community, are working hard to restore hope to this battered region in an atmosphere of determination, dignity and care.

Majors Trevor and Maree definitely see their work as spiritual.

“This is all about experiencing God with people in the bush,” said Major Maree. “It’s not about being roving welfare workers; it’s responding to people’s spiritual needs while building deep, lasting community.”

The Strongs are concerned that, with fewer ministers, officers and lay workers serving in the bush, a silent disaster is deepening its grip.

“We respond to natural disasters, connect with the government and give out funding, but what is The Salvation Army and other churches’ response to the need for the Gospel to be preached, for spirituality, in the bush?” Major Maree asks.

“We need to give people resources and long-term care, but why should they have to go through flood or disaster to have the church respond?”

The Strongs are wrestling with these questions, and others, including the role of community development work in spirituality; what spirituality in rural areas could look like; how to train people to work in rural areas, and the best way to overcome the barriers of distance and lack of resources.

“We need to ask ourselves what the best thing is that rural chaplains could do if we never had another natural disaster, or the lack of spiritual nourishment for our people will kill them through suicide, depression and isolation,” says Major Maree.

Majors Trevor and Maree believe that connecting suffering people to strong local Christians wanting to minister, such as Darius and Kathy Smith in Quambone, and then supporting them in their ministry, could be a big part of the solution.

The work of these rural chaplains continues. In November the Farm Hub Project will again take place, followed by the Christmas Bush Mission. □



Simone Worthing is a writer for *Pipeline* and supplements

“We love country towns and the spirit behind it. This kind of work (rural mission) is something we can do to help.”

Kylie and Allen Walters, volunteers from Dubbo Corps



(Top) Local farmer/grazier, Dougal McLeish, rounds up the sheep on his property, “Thurn”. (Middle, left to right) A team of volunteers cleaned up the Quambone Community Hall in case of rain for the Sunday worship event; The children loved being involved in Sunday worship. (Above, left to right: The Dubbo SAES and cadets cooked a barbecue lunch for the community; The cadets ran a Pirate themed program for children at the local primary school. All photos: Shairon Paterson

Major Joanne Slater coordinates a busy chaplaincy service at Sydney Airport. Photo: Shairon Paterson



AIRPORT ANGEL

Major Joanne Slater is the only full-time chaplain at Sydney Airport and, as she tells **BILL SIMPSON**, there's no place she'd rather be

Almost 40 million passengers pass through Sydney's international and domestic airport complex each year. That's more than 100,000 every day, according to the airport's own calculations.

Millions more meet or farewell the incoming and outgoing travellers. Some suggest the number of greeters and farewellers actually adds another 40 million people to human traffic movement at the terminals over a 12-month period.

In addition, more than 17,000 people are on the payroll of the airport management and businesses associated with its operations. Most are working in or around the airport every day.

Add the three groups together and the number of people going about their business in the terminals every day of the week equates to a city the size of Canberra or Hobart.

Sydney is Australia's busiest airport; a hub for 46 international, 23 interstate and 28 regional destinations. It's among the busiest airports in the world.

Mixing daily with the mass of movement is Salvation Army chaplain Major Joanne Slater. The airport is her office. She has, arguably, The Salvation Army's largest work site - in terms of numbers of people - in Australia.

Major Slater is a full-time airport chaplain. She is the only full-time chaplain - of any denomination or religion - at the airport. She works five days a week and is on 24-hour-a-day call. Extra hours are not unusual.

She is supported by an experienced team of five chaplains - all retired Salvation Army officers. They, too, are available in emergencies outside their regular hours. Between them, they cover every day of the week.

Mission opportunities are enormous.

But it's not about religion, she says. It's about being an example of what she and her team do as Christians - that is to support >>>



A chaplaincy shift at Sydney Airport for Major Joanne Slater can involve anything from a quick chat in the food hall (top) to assisting passengers with a variety of needs from general enquiries to deep personal issues. (Top right) One of Major Slater's volunteer chaplaincy helpers at Sydney Airport, Major George Lingard
 Photos: Shairon Paterson

▶ FOR MORE CHAPLAINCY STORIES, GO TO: video.salvos.org.au

people with a need; to be Christ in the crowd.

Seeking opportunities

Major Slater is nearing the end of her second year in chaplaincy at Sydney Airport and 27 years as a Salvation Army officer. Right now, there is nowhere else she would rather be.

Mostly, she turns up for work each morning not knowing precisely what the day will bring – except for opportunities to be of value to someone.

She walks the terminal floors looking for opportunities. There is no intrusion into people's lives. She looks for the invitations.

They come from passengers in despair, family struggling to cope with the departure of a loved one, and airline, store or airport staff with personal issues.

“With staff, it’s about building relationships; establishing trust,” she says. That is achieved by passing their workplaces each day and saying hello; maybe just smiling.

“There are staff who now know me well enough to stop me and discuss a concern. It could be the staff member who engaged me in conversation and then told me that her mother had cancer. She was looking for strength. We can help with that.”

With passengers, it’s more likely that Major Slater and her team will be called in by airport management to assist.

“I was called by immigration officers to help with a highly distressed female passenger who had just arrived from overseas. The person who had organised the trip wasn’t at the airport to meet her.

“I was asked to sit in on the official interview with her. I listened to her story. It kept changing and provoked me to dig a bit deeper.

“My alarm bells went off and it became clear to me that she was part of a people trafficking program. It’s a big issue in Australia.

“I became more involved, providing support to the young



woman, organising accommodation in a safe house and putting her in contact with the Stop the Traffik program.

"It was then that she realised that she had come very close to getting into a lifestyle that she would not have wanted. I felt very much that day that God had placed me [at the airport] to help these people."

There have been many such God-inspired days for Major Slater and her team – days when they have supported passengers bringing a deceased family member home; supporting family of passengers who died on an incoming flight and family struggling to cope with loved ones leaving for overseas.

Vulnerable spaces

The 2002 bombings in Bali, which killed 88 Australians and injured many more, was a significant catalyst for The Salvation Army to start regular chaplaincy at Sydney Airport.

Airport management called in The Salvation Army to support families as bodies were brought back from Bali, as well as the injured returning and their families waiting at the airport. Volunteer chaplains have been based at the airport ever since, with Major Slater's appointment two years ago the first on a full-time basis.

She was recently featured in a two-page colour spread in the airport's glossy *Companion* magazine. Under the heading

"Helping Hand", the article's introduction explained: "Major Joanne Slater is the woman many Sydney Airport visitors turn to in times of need; for help through the ups and downs of travel."

"The departure area is a particularly vulnerable space, especially for families saying goodbye to a loved one," she tells *Pipeline*.

"A young mother with her newborn baby was quite distressed when saying goodbye to her husband. I sat with her, offered her support and reassured her that as a mother she was going to do well.

"It's lovely when you see some of these people at the airport months later and they remember you. It's quite special and confirms for me the importance of The Salvation Army having chaplains at the airport.

"We are not here to preach to people. Rather, we are here to be Christ in the crowd; to show his love for all people. Religion isn't important in this place. It's about caring.

"It's a wonderful privilege being here because our congregation is so huge. When people approach me or allow me to get involved, I am reminded of how privileged we are to be in a place where people are so vulnerable.

"I know that I am a Salvationist – and there are some expectations with that. But I also know that I am God's woman in this role. That means that I want to reflect Christ in all that I say and do here."

As we talk among the heavy human traffic at the international airport, Major Slater recalls verses of Scripture she shared at her team devotional meeting earlier in the day.

"These verses [from 2 Peter 1:5-8] explain exactly how I approach this role," she says.

"Make every effort to add to your faith, goodness; to goodness, knowledge; to knowledge, self control; to self control, perseverance; to perseverance, godliness; to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

As we complete our discussion, Major Slater heads upstairs to a higher (terminal) level. Up there is her office, but, more importantly, the airport chapel, where passengers go to pray.

It's a regular visit on her round.

"I like to be there to support," she says. □



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



Living water

Liveable communities

Raising awareness and understanding around water issues are key themes for 2013, which is the International Year of Water Cooperation incorporating National Water Week from 20-26 October. Salvationist **MATT SEAMAN** looks at the relationships between water and The Salvation Army

With the heightened national and international focus on water this year, why should we as Salvationists be interested or concerned about issues relating to water? There are some strong biblical, ethical, practical and personal reasons for us – as followers of Jesus, as Salvationists – to be sensitive and attentive to the state of this precious, God-given resource.

Of all that can be classed as important to our everyday lives, water is among the most essential. The human body, on average, is composed of 55-75 per cent water. More than 70 per cent of the Earth is covered in water, of

which only three per cent is fresh water. Transport, farming and food, energy, commodities, our own cleanliness, health and well-being are intimately tied to the physical properties and availability of water. Try to think of something that is not related to the use of water!

Personal experience

As Australians, we have experienced the extremes of water availability. Enduring severe water shortages through drought or excessive amounts of water through flooding both have devastating effects on many aspects of life for impacted individuals, families, communities, animals, plants, economies and ecosystems.

Many Salvationists have personally experienced droughts and/or floods, and individual and communal physical burdens and emotional distress in the aftermath of these water-related events.

We, as The Salvation Army, are known worldwide as reliable first-responders and a dependable source of service and support in these tough situations, as we aim to bring honour to God via the sacrament of service.

Globally, there are also other significant issues that can arise when water is not shared carefully, wider community and environmental impacts are not

considered, or where there is the potential for pollutants to contaminate water supplies.

Some home-grown examples include: concerns over water rights along the Murray-Darling River Basin; controversial river usage proposals, such as the Traveston Dam in south-east Queensland; and the rapid growth of potentially water-contaminating coal seam gas extraction across Queensland and NSW.

The negative social and physical effects that human practices have on water are commonly most acutely felt by the poorest and most vulnerable in society. Globally, impoverished communities and individuals are, for the most part, faced with the greatest and most concerning competition for food and water, increases in water pollution and waste, and other resource scarcity issues. Simply put, caring about water and the environment more broadly is part of caring for people.

Biblical perspective

In his paper *Water: More than a Symbol*, Reverend Dr Clive Ayre gathers water-related biblical symbols in four ways.

First, as many Australians know, water can be strongly connected with destruction. Consider the scriptural descriptions



of the flood (Genesis 6-8), and the power of water in the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 15).

Second, water also relates to “cleansing and renewal” in practical, symbolic and ritual ways.

The third symbol connects water to “refreshment”. When considering water in the Scriptures, there is also a significant link between physical water and “living water” – the Water of Life. This draws our thoughts towards the refreshment found through the Holy Spirit (Rev 21:6; John 7:37; John 4:14).

The fourth scriptural water image is seen in Matthew 10:42, where “Jesus highlights the simple act of giving a cup of cold water to someone in need as a prime example of the values of the kingdom of God”.

Our response

This year, National Water Week focuses on the importance of “liveable communities”. To contemplate the theme “liveable communities” through the lens of “the household of God” adds a wonderful dimension for Salvationists. As theologian Ernst Conradie maintains, the household of God includes animals, plants, energy, food, water supplies, soil and “all the building materials of the house itself”.

Aware of Jesus’ descriptions of kingdom values which include the gift of clean water, how then do we, as followers of Jesus, as The Salvation Army within God’s household, respond? Some responses include:

- Being aware of where our water resources come from, how much is available and being used or abused;
- Exploring additional ways we can responsibly steward the resources God has provided and;
- Being mindful and thankful for God’s provision.

As Rev Dr Ayre states: “Water means the possibility of life. It is quite literally a matter of life and death, both for human and all other life on planet Earth.”

Let us continue to care for water – a precious resource we have been entrusted with – in order to encourage the flourishing of all of God’s loved creation for the glory of God.



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

POSITION STATEMENT

The Salvation Army Ethics Centre, within the Canada and Bermuda Territory, has produced an excellent statement on humanity’s relationship to the rest of God’s loved creation, which is also relevant to Salvationist relationships with water.

The statement points to the interconnectedness of God’s creation, caring for creation is an act of worship, and that human sinfulness contributes to the degradation of creation.

Here is a selection from the statement:

“We believe that human beings, created in the image of God ... are called to careful stewardship of the earth and its resources. The call to stewardship must be seen as an invitation to inhabit God’s garden, to tend to this bountiful planet, care for it and help it to flourish, joining with all creation in witnessing to God’s glory. Proper stewardship ought to follow Christ’s pattern of humility, service and sacrifice in the world.”

The Salvation Army Ethics Centre statement is available online at salvationarmyethics.org/position-statements

SOUNDS OF **FREEDOM** FILL THE AIR

Crowds of people from all over The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territory gathered for the recent Freedom Celebration at Sydney Olympic Park. *Pipeline* reporter **SIMONE WORTHING** and photographers **SHAIRON PATERSON** and **CAROLYN HIDE** were there to capture all the joy of the festival under the leadership of General André Cox

Hope, change and transformation was the overriding message from General André Cox, world leader of The Salvation Army, and Commissioner Silvia Cox, World President of Women's Ministries, during last month's Freedom Celebration at Sydney Olympic Park.

"Jesus came to break the power of sin and he has shown unbelievable grace to each one of us," said General Cox.

"And, in this world of suffering, pain and injustice, we are called to respond, to be his witnesses and to be a positive agent of change and transformation in the world today.

"Our lives must reflect the grace that we have been given. God has blessed us so we in turn can bless others. Even this wonderful celebration only makes sense if we use it to bless others."

The General and Commissioner Cox enjoyed the colour, energy and creativity of the Freedom Celebration, held on the weekend of 7-8 September.

The celebrating began with a senior's morning tea. Salvation Army youth waited on

the seniors, and staff from The Collaroy Centre catered for the event.

The world leaders then saluted the March of Witness as bands, timbrellists, flagbearers, soldiers and adherents marched, walked or were pushed in wheelchairs and strollers around the venue in celebration to launch the weekend.

The Cox's also toured the displays of Salvo services at the venue which included Sydney Streetlevel and Humanitarian missions, Oasis, Salvos Legal, Hope for Life and the Red Shield Defence Services.

They also spent time at the main stage where multicultural artists, bands and a wide range of performers entertained the crowd throughout the day.

EMPHASISING MISSION

General and Commissioner Cox delighted the audience gathered for the SAGALA event after lunch, presenting the General's and Commissioner's awards, as well as certificates for those completing 35 or more years of service.

"Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and one day it will be God, not the General, saying 'Well done good and faithful

servant', " said Commissioner Cox, who spoke at the presentation.

In the afternoon, General Cox launched the Australia Eastern Territory's International Development Salvos gift catalogue, featuring gifts designed to assist those in developing nations such as goats, mosquito nets and school supplies.

The General demonstrated his passion for reaching out to the poor, picking up and hugging a goat and encouraging the crowd to buy one!

"One way we can make a difference in the lives of the poor is to purchase gifts through this catalogue," he said. "So take it home, choose your gifts and change the lives of people."

Salvation Army officers serving overseas who were guests at the weekend celebrations, many dressed in the national costume of their host nation, read out stories of freedom – physical, emotional and spiritual – experienced by people through their contact with God and The Salvation Army, all around the world.

The Freedom Concert in the Dome Theatre that evening



Commissioner Silvia Cox (top) and General André Cox (right) gave challenging messages at the Freedom Celebration. (Above) a roving microphone captured some inspiring testimonies from the audience. Photos: Carolyn Hide.



continued the theme of hope, purpose and transformation.

Prayers in Russian, Creole, Korean and English opened the event to highlight the international flavour of The Salvation Army.

Special guests included Tracey Faith, The Glebe Community Gospel Choir, Mark Vincent, Colonel Janet Munn and Brittany Cairns.

Stories and personal testimonies of freedom from around the world were shown on two huge screens throughout the evening, each one being met with cheers and applause.

GOD'S WITNESSES

The General gave the message at the "Freedom Through Christ" meeting on Sunday morning, challenging the congregation to respond to God's calling in our lives.

"Our sins are wiped away when we come to Christ and accept the gift of his salvation," he said. "We see reality in a different light and that should make us the happiest people in the world.

"We have to live that grace

and not become judgmental or self-satisfied because of the Army's reputation or our programs around the world serving thousands every day.

"Remember, our own personal salvation came at great cost and we are called on to share that experience with others. God is calling us to witness for him, not just to sit here and worship but to go out and show his care for a dying world."

Commissioner Silvia Cox spoke at the "Freedom Through Salvation" afternoon meeting, emphasising that forgiveness, reconciliation and acceptance through Jesus is what freedom is all about.

"Jesus has made it possible for us to have a new relationship with God, to heal the broken relationship with him and with others, and this was re-established at the cross," she said.

"God wants to forgive you, transform you and set you free. Don't let the devil keep you in bondage."

Australia Eastern Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon, led the call to

the mercy seat as the meeting drew to a close. Many people responded with prayers at the mercy seat or while in their own chairs, and through prayerful worship.

Commissioner Condon then thanked the General and Commissioner Cox for coming to Australia.

"You are our international leaders for such a time as this and have been the instruments of grace to us this weekend," he said.

Commissioner Condon also praised the volunteers for their hard work and helpfulness throughout the weekend.

The Freedom Celebration concluded with a surprise downpour of streamers, and the words of General Cox: "God has promised to be with us wherever we go, whatever our circumstances, and that he will finish all that he has begun in us. Let that fill us with great joy."



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FESTIVAL OF COLOUR, ENERGY AND CREATIVITY

The Freedom Celebration showcased the variety of talent, entertainment and services the Salvation Army offers and *Pipeline* photographer **SHAIRON PATERSON** was on hand to capture the heart of the festival throughout the Saturday program





Photo: Carolyn Hide



Hidden turmoil of Army's early days

The story of The Salvation Army flourishing in Australia after commencing under a gum tree in Adelaide is romantic and easy to tell. Historian **GARTH HENTZSCHEL**, however, has found evidence that suggests an Army beset by internal strife

Some organisations like to portray history in a way that suggests a smooth transition of events and relationships. The adage, "the truth should not get in the way of a good story", often appears to be the case.

The Salvation Army has not escaped this approach. James Murray, in his book *Larrikins - 19th Century Outrage*, accused the Army of "whitewashing its history, like other religious groups of the same time".

Although legends are evident in all organisations, often the truth behind the legend can teach an organisation more about itself. Because The Salvation Army is a Christian movement, it should engage with the truth in all areas of faith, knowledge and service.

Among these legends is the accepted story of Adelaide as the "birthplace" of the Army in Australia. Recent research on the commencement of the Army in Brisbane, however, suggests that it has a strong claim to that honour.

Also, recently uncovered information on the Army's early days in Adelaide points very clearly to a far from unified group of soldiers.

Gum tree legend

The narrative of The Salvation Army being commenced in Australia has always focused on Adelaide. John Gore and Edward Saunders were members of The Christian Mission in England, who, at separate times, moved to Australia. After meeting in

Adelaide, they wrote to William Booth to ask for help in starting the Army there. They held a number of outdoor meetings, then, on 5 September 1880, Gore and Saunders led a meeting under a River Red Gum in Adelaide Botanic Park.

When Captains Tom and Adelaide Sutherland were appointed as officers to Adelaide, arriving on 11 February 1881, they found 68 Salvationists and a nearly completed hall. The legend states that from this beginning, the work of The Salvation Army in South Australia grew rapidly and spread throughout Australasia.

Although the legend of the Army's beginning and growth from Adelaide is romantic and easy to tell, research hints at a different story.

A crayon-coloured pen and ink drawing depicting the open-air meeting conducted by John Gore (leading the meeting) and Edward Saunders (playing harmonium) in the Botanic Park, Adelaide, 05/09/1880. Painted by a serving prisoner, R. Radanaiciak in 1979.



In 1883, Captain Tom Sutherland travelled to Brisbane to assist Captain Peter Cairns, who had arrived to take over the work of Hester and Daniel McNaught. Because Captain Cairns didn't carry any official documentation with him, Hester expelled him from the corps in Brisbane.

Captain Sutherland stated that he "cheered the captain up by telling him I had experienced the same thing in Adelaide, and that I could sympathise with him". Yet how could this be? All the history from Salvation Army sources shows that Tom Sutherland was welcomed and led the Army successfully in Adelaide until more officers arrived.

The untold story

It appears that little fanfare was made in Adelaide when the Sutherlands arrived. This could, as was the case in Brisbane, be due to no information about their arrival reaching the South Australian capital.

On 14 June 1881, Reverend John Dowie gave a lecture on General William Booth in Adelaide. From this lecture, and no doubt because of Rev Dowie's influence, the Army was subsequently mentioned frequently in newspapers.

In early July, the *Bulletin* promoted the movement as, "John Alexander Dowie and his Salvation Army". On 16 July 1881, an advertisement appeared promoting a Salvation Army event. What is interesting is that Rev Dowie was the only preacher listed in the advertisement, while John Gore was named as the "Temporary Captain" and Edward Saunders "Secretary". Furthermore, the names of Captains Tom and Adelaide Sutherland were missing from the ad, while other newspapers declared that John Gore and John Dowie were now leading The Salvation Army.

At first glance there is no indication as to why the Sutherlands did not appear in the advertisement, and the reason for the omission of their names may not have come to light if not for an incident during a march of witness in Adelaide.

On 24 July 1881, Gore, Saunders, Rev Dowie and their Salvation Army were marching to the barracks, when police on King William St stopped them. The Army group was surprised, as there had been no warning given that police would take this measure.

The police argued that the group had been warned, but Rev Dowie emphatically denied this to be the case.

During the subsequent court case it emerged that police had indeed warned the Army to stop marching. Yet it was Captain Tom Sutherland who had been given the warning and as he and Gore's group were not communicating, the message had not been passed on. It was then that Rev Dowie informed police that there were two corps of The Salvation Army in Adelaide.

Captain Sutherland was then summonsed and Rev Dowie took the acting commissioner of police to court for wrongful arrest. Both cases did not go well for either; Captain Sutherland was fined and Rev Dowie's case was dismissed.

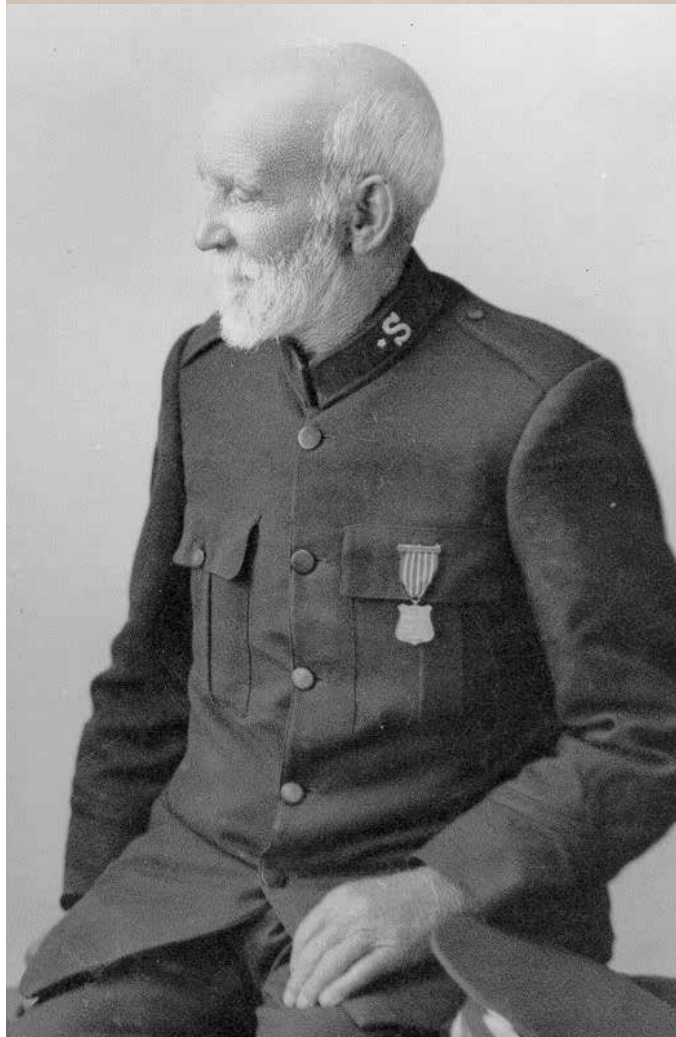
Through the court hearings it became clear that Captains Tom and Adelaide Sutherland led The Salvation Army in the barracks on the corner of Morphett St and Light Square, while "Temporary Captain" Gore, "Secretary" Saunders and "General-in-Command" Dowie led The Salvation Army in the Rechabite Hall on the corner of Victoria Square and Grote Street. This new evidence shows that there had been a split in the ranks of the Army in Adelaide, and while the two groups claimed to be working under the generalship of William Booth, each denied the other.

Historical bombshell

A letter written by Edward Ward, a supporter of the Sutherlands, stated the corps' were "two distinct movements ..." To this letter John Gore replied, "... the corps over which I preside claims to be — and according to our opinion is — 'the Salvation Army'. We founded it, and at our suggestion and request the Rev William Booth sent us a captain, with whom we worked cordially and harmoniously until we found that he took every opportunity to exceed the terms of his commission and violate the rules under which he was bound to work."

Then came the bombshell, revealing that the story behind the legend not only changes what Salvationists have held dear, but also rocks the character of those at the centre of the historical event. Gore continued: "We took the only action which, by the rules, was open to us and brought the captain to trial."

Rev Dowie would not be left >>>



(Top) Captain Thomas Sutherland – the first officer sent to Adelaide; (above) John Gore with Order of the Founder medal.



(Top) The Adelaide Salvation Army hall built by James Hooker; (above) Captain Adelaide Sutherland, who was married to Tom.

out of the conflict and wrote a long letter to a newspaper that gave more detail of the events. In his opinion, Captain Sutherland's command had been a failure that led to a crisis in July. The "crisis" forced Gore and Saunders to "court-martial" Sutherland in accordance with the Orders and Regulations of The Salvation Army. Although Rev Dowie does not specifically describe the events of the "crisis", he does cite the section of Orders and Regulations he believed Captain Sutherland transgressed.

He wrote that Gore and Saunders laid charges against the captain and the "charges were patiently investigated and fully proved". He argued that Sutherland was no longer a captain, as his behaviour made his commission void. He also stated that those who served under Sutherland "either do not understand or do not obey the orders and regulations issued from headquarters".

Further rebellion

The events between the founding heroes certainly dispel the legend of the smooth and continual growth of The Salvation Army from Adelaide. Yet the rebellion against Captain Sutherland's authority was not yet over.

Another Adelaide corps, under the leadership of Mr Madigan, also turned against him. The Hindmarsh Corps, which boasted 120 soldiers, built a hall in Eighth St, Bowden. Around January 1882, Captain Sutherland came to take charge of the hall, "but the

majority of the corps objected to his mode of procedure, severed their connection" and started their own mission.

Others reported that Captain Sutherland and Mr Madigan quarrelled and, "like Paul and Barnabas, they agreed to separate because they differed in opinion". The remainder of those loyal to the Sutherlands then established a hall in Chief St, Brompton, which was opened on 5 March 1882.

These experiences convinced Captain Tom Sutherland that people would use the success of The Salvation Army for their own power and praise. He'd had enough, so he sought to protect the finances, buildings and title of The Salvation Army.

In March 1882, it was announced that he had formed a trusteeship of The Salvation Army and applied for incorporation. The trustee committee included: James Hooker, Thomas Sutherland, Edward Saunders, and other men. While Saunders' name appears, John Gore's does not.

The Salvation Army was now one group under the leadership of Captain Sutherland, ready to spread its witness throughout South Australia.

Yet while there were Salvation Army groups to unite in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and the longest established group in Brisbane, a number of these would not readily submit themselves to young officers from England, they would only answer to William Booth!

God's blessing

The old story of The Salvation Army beginning under a gum tree in Adelaide is romantic and simple. The legend has remained strong and few have questioned its validity.

One reason that it may not have been questioned is that John Gore and Edward Saunders were eventually reconciled to Tom Sutherland, and their families remained loyal to The Salvation Army for generations. There are still direct descendants of all three men serving in The Salvation Army today.

If history is to teach us anything, it's that although little is clear we can still have heroes, still be glad that history turned out in one way rather than another, and that God can work despite the darkest turmoil, to richly bless the future! □

Don't be the last to know.

Direct from the TC is a free, high-priority communication channel for all the major announcements from territorial leadership of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory.

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An unsung hero

From the floor of a printing shop to guiding The Salvation Army through one of its most difficult periods, General George Carpenter may well be one of the Army's most unheralded world leaders. In part one of a two-part series, **Major DAVID WOODBURY** profiles the first Australian to become General of the Army

As the insanity of World War II plunged the planet into a great abyss, The Salvation Army needed a steady hand on the tiller. That hand was the hand of Australian-born George Lyndon Carpenter.

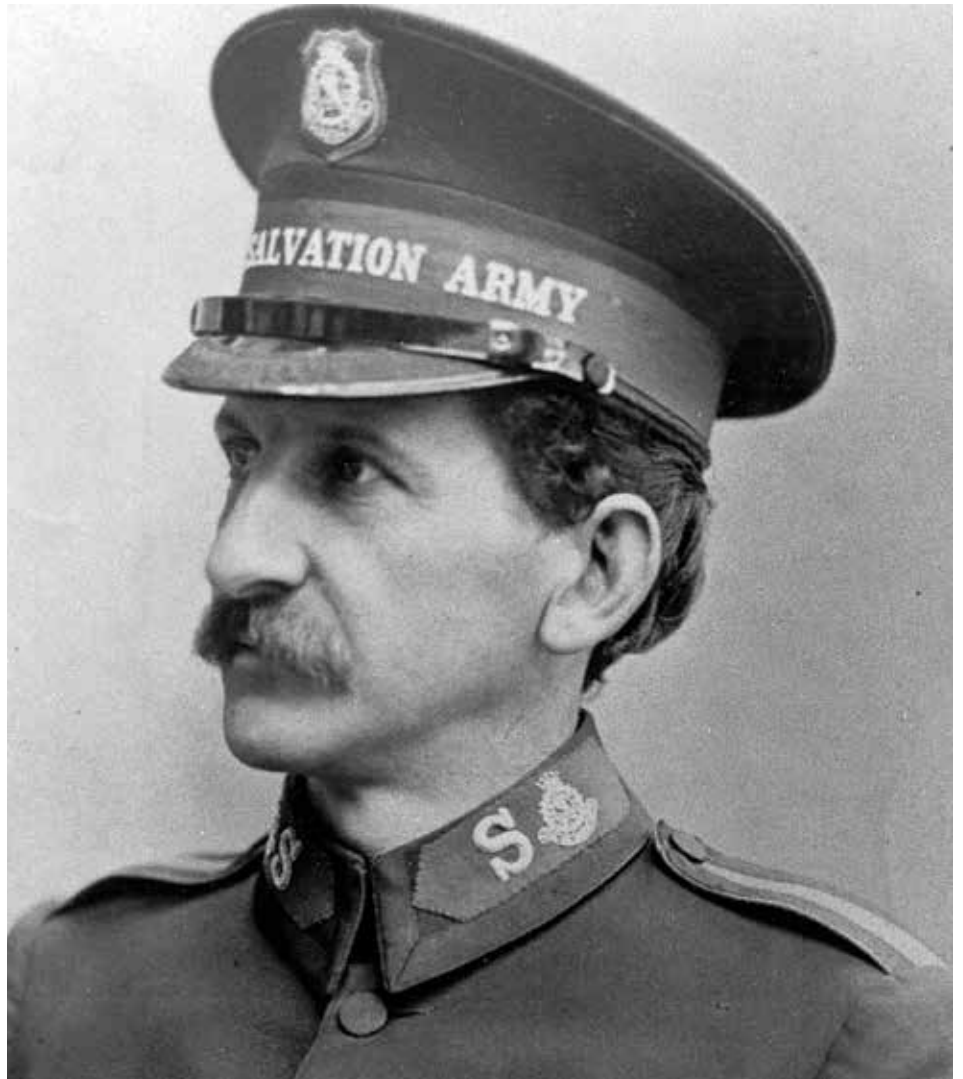
The history of The Salvation Army is littered with stories of people who, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, have carved out a ministry for God and the Army from humble and insignificant beginnings. Perhaps none has been more remarkable than George Carpenter, fifth General of The Salvation Army.

It may well be that George Carpenter is one of the unsung heroes of our movement. From the floor of a printing shop to lead The Salvation Army through one of its most difficult times; from a rebellious larrikin to a senior officer unfairly censured by General Bramwell Booth, George Carpenter's character was refined and tried by the fire of adversity and conflict, yet he emerged as gold.

Born in the Hunter Valley region of NSW on 20 June 1872, the grandson of English immigrants from Bristol and son of Tristan and Hannah Carpenter, George's initial urge was to become a teacher. However, as a young man he took up a position as an apprentice compositor with the *Gloucester Gazette* (later to become the *Raymond Terrace Examiner*). His early experience at the *Raymond Terrace Examiner* and then on the *Blue Mountains Express*, was to provide him with a good foundation for his life's work.

One autumn Sunday, George was persuaded by his mother to attend a service led by Joseph Walker at the local Methodist chapel. Following a personal word from the preacher, George knelt at the communion rail and said "Yes" to God.

Shortly after being elected as the fifth General of The Salvation Army, George Carpenter was to tell a newspaper reporter of that experience: "My whole life was changed, and from that evening I decided to devote my life to spiritual matters. I joined the local Salvation Army,



Portrait of George Carpenter as a young officer.

and immediately took an active part in its work."

By 1892, George had heard God's call to be an officer in The Salvation Army and filled in the necessary forms. A letter of acceptance soon arrived from Commissioner Henry Howard, and George informed Army headquarters in Melbourne that he would arrive at the end of May to commence his training.

Life with purpose

On 27 May 1892, George Lyndon

Carpenter arrived at The Salvation Army Training Home in Punt Rd, Richmond, Victoria, and with 35 other men cadets, commenced his training. Following six weeks of intensive training, Probationary Lieutenant Carpenter was appointed to special duties in the property department at Territorial Headquarters. Among his many duties was the management of the officers' hostel at Marchmont in Melbourne. The people skills learnt here were to stand him in good stead for the path God had chosen for him.



Despite an instruction that officers were not to attend the departure of the Carpenters from International Headquarters, a large crowd that included 14 commissioners gathered at St Pancras Station to bid them farewell.

In 1896, and with the rank of Ensign, George was appointed as assistant to the editor of *The War Cry*. Here he was to meet Captain Minnie Rowell, and although he did not recognise it at time, she would become his lifelong partner. On 21 June 1899, Commandant Herbert Booth conducted the wedding of Adjutant George Carpenter and Ensign Minnie Rowell in the City Temple in Bourke St, Melbourne. Various appointments followed, with a time as vice-principal at the new Federal Training Home in Melbourne. In 1911, following instructions from International Headquarters in London, Majors George and Minnie Carpenter sailed for London.

George Carpenter never forgot his humble beginnings and the transformation God had made in his life. Later in life, while territorial commander in Canada, he was to write to an old friend back in Australia: "We were none of us any better than we ought to have been in those days, and I am glad there came a time when I saw a higher and better way of life – a life with a purpose in it, and in which one can make a contribution to the moral and spiritual well-being of his day and generation."

Difficult days

At International Headquarters, George was appointed to the editorial department and became news editor of *The War Cry*. Various editorial appointments brought him into close contact with then-Commissioner Bramwell Booth and, following the death of the Army's

"MY WHOLE LIFE WAS CHANGED, AND FROM THAT EVENING I DECIDED TO DEVOTE MY LIFE TO SPIRITUAL MATTERS."

- GEORGE CARPENTER

founder and first General, William Booth, on 20 August 1912, George and Minnie Carpenter were valuable to him and even more so to the Army.

The Carpenter family now numbered five, with son George Raymond and daughters Renie and Stella. These were to become difficult days for George and Minnie Carpenter.

On 21 October 1921, they lost their daughter Renie. By the mid-1920s there was growing unrest with General Bramwell Booth's management of The Salvation Army and an anonymous pamphlet, *The Blast of the Trumpet*, criticising his leadership came to his attention. He demanded to know from George Carpenter who was the author of the document, to which George replied:

"General, it's not so much who wrote it, but is there any truth to it?"

Aspects of the pamphlet were discussed and the General asked for George Carpenter's views. It became clear that Carpenter's assessment was unacceptable to the General. A great deal of correspondence ensued between the General and George Carpenter with the result that, at the General's bidding, the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Edward J Higgins, despatched the Carpenters back to Australia, George to hold the position in the editorial department which he had held some 20 years previously.

Lesser men than George Carpenter may well have had their spirit broken by such unjust treatment. On his last day at International Headquarters, during the daily midday prayer meeting, George responded to some of the consternation over his new appointment by saying: "I have long felt that a man's opportunity is no bigger than the man." They were words that were to prove not only the man's character, but also be prophetic for the days ahead.

Part two of this article will appear in the November issue of Pipeline.



Major David Woodbury is *Pipeline's* founding editor

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK ■

Last year, The Salvation Army sent its first officers to Greenland. **Lieutenant PETURA HARALDSEN**, with her husband, Magnus, and sons, Daniel and Adrias, are pioneering the work of the Army in this remote land

For hundreds of years, Greenland had been colonised by Denmark, attaining home rule in 1979 and independence in 2007. The population is tired of foreign rule and being told what to do so there is, understandably, resistance and scepticism towards foreigners. Despite this, Greenlanders are a warm and friendly people with a rich culture, tradition and history. There is no doubt that we live among people proud of their heritage but who are also part of a constantly developing society.

Greenland is rich in natural resources but in order to maintain its financial independence, it needs outside expertise. Global warming has opened up and led to the development of new trading routes which will make the capital city, Nuuk, increasingly important in years to come. Greenland is caught between traditional whale hunting and modern development, so

consequently, faces huge challenges in maintaining and affirming national identity.

Ninety-five per cent of Greenlanders belong to the Lutheran Church, which has an important place in society when it comes to seasonal celebrations and ceremonies. Apart from that, most people do not give much thought to church life and they are suspicious of Christian expressions that are not part of the official church. Most do not know The Salvation Army although some, who have been to Denmark, may have received help from the social services, visited a community centre, received counselling or may remember Salvationists doing pub rounds.

As foreigners, Salvationists and pioneers in Greenland, the key to our success is understanding. We need to understand the people of Greenland, their history, culture and mindset. We must try to comprehend their feelings and

experience of being subjugated by a ruling power, as well as appreciating where they are at present – their thoughts, dreams and visions for their country.

The language is a big challenge. In the *Guinness Book of World Records*, Greenland is registered as having the most difficult language in the world! Yet we know how important it is to learn and understand the language (at least to some degree).

We have come here with a firm conviction that God has called us to this place and although these challenges may seem insurmountable, we believe that “God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us” (Ephesians 3:20). We do not fight with worldly weapons or human power but know there is One who is above all and able to “demolish strongholds ... arguments and every pretension



Lieutenants
Magnus
and Petura
Haraldsen with
their sons Daniel
and Adrias.

**“AS FOREIGNERS,
SALVATIONISTS
AND PIONEERS IN
GREENLAND, THE KEY
TO OUR SUCCESS IS
UNDERSTANDING. WE
NEED TO UNDERSTAND
THE PEOPLE OF
GREENLAND ...”**

that sets itself up against the knowledge of God” (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

We must remember how God has placed Christ “far above all rule and authority, power and dominion ... not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the Church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way” (Ephesians 1:21, 23). We remind ourselves who we are in Christ and that we have received a clear mandate from Jesus to go into the whole world in the power of the Holy Spirit (John 13:14-15; 20:21; Acts 1:8).

Learning curve

So how do we tackle these challenges? We do it with humility and respect for the population. As the new kids on the block, we are eager to see how life is lived

here. We are the novices – the Greenlanders are the experts. As humans we have nothing to teach them, but we have a desire to bring hope, encouragement and the love of God and to be instruments for God’s Holy Spirit.

Other hurdles coming from within Army culture include the temptation to want to perform well and show results and a desire to meet expectations as to what Salvation Army expressions should look like. We must be aware that when we give everything to God the Army has enormous potential in his hands – when we really give everything over to him. We must always be an Army that is alive.

Right from the outset we experienced love and care from the Christian community. We have been warmly welcomed by two of the free churches here in Nuuk and by a Bible group from the Seamen’s Mission. God has given us an indescribable love for >>>



these and other churches and spoken strongly to us through Ephesians 4. We are part of something greater, belonging to the church universal where we cannot operate in isolation but need to collaborate. Together we can build God's Kingdom, "speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ" (Ephesians 4:15-16).

It is our vision that Greenlanders will see Jesus and his love mirrored in us and in all God's people here in Nuuk. We are like a group of siblings – each sibling has his or her unique traits, character and personality. So it is with God's people. We are the body and Christ is the head, needing each other. God can use us and our diversity to reveal the nature of his love and glory.

The first activity we have started is Baby Song. Through this we will get to know new people and learn about the daily life of young families and the concerns they have. Many people are aware of great needs in society. Family ties are strong and it is commonly believed that problems are best managed within the family. However, there are many victims of incest, domestic violence and alcohol abuse. UNICEF is running a campaign on Greenland TV, targeting parents, to raise awareness.

We were interested to see who would turn up to the first Baby Song session. We had been to various institutions asking them to advertise the group, but nobody was willing to as it is considered to be mission. So we placed an advertisement in the local paper. To our delight eight mothers with their babies arrived and there was a lovely atmosphere in the group.

At the end of the session I prayed a blessing over them. The mums were sitting in a ring with their babies lying on their laps as I recited the blessing while blowing soap bubbles over each family. It was a serene and holy time.

Baby Song is held in public facilities offered free of charge by the authorities, for the use of any club or association. The room is situated in one of 10 dilapidated apartment blocks in the city centre. It seems right that we should be there and we believe that knowledge of Baby Song will be spread by word of mouth.

Everything to gain

Our vision for Greenland is that Jesus' presence will be here and that we will meet people right where they are no matter what their situation may be. "But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (2 Corinthians 3:16-17), and Jesus

said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). Good news indeed!

We have a longing and hope to see people restored and transformed, convinced that Jesus can heal even the deepest wounds. We have nothing to lose – everything to gain. People today need Christians who are available, willing to listen and share lives, and who are committed to being instruments of God's Spirit because, without a doubt, people need and long for Jesus to be a part of their lives.

Our vision is for a Greenlandic Salvation Army, whatever form it takes. It's not really about traditions or the lack of them, but about being a living Army – a light for the nation. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden ... In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:14, 16).

Lieutenants Magnus and Petura Haraldsen, in their first appointment as Salvation Army officers, are pioneering the work in Greenland.



Lieut Petura Haraldsen, pioneering in Greenland, Denmark Territory



Every Christian seems to have a favourite Bible verse that has either impacted them at one stage in their walk with Christ or continues to encourage and nourish them on their spiritual journey. In this *Pipeline* column, selected people share their favourite piece of Scripture

My Favourite Verse – **Debbie Hindle**

*“For I am the Lord your God,
who takes hold of your right
hand and says to you, Do not
fear; I will help you”*

Isaiah 41:13

It was June 2011 when my husband’s decision to resign his officership brought my world crashing down like a house of cards. After 29 and a half years, our ministry together was over.

I struggled to come to terms with all that this meant and the circumstances that brought it on. However, throughout this time of readjustment I knew that my Heavenly Father was there with me and for me.

He reassured me that my calling was still valid and that His will for me was to

continue my officership and to keep our marriage together through this tough time.

This was not easy. A deep sadness engulfed me. It was very difficult to continue ministering alone. During the week it wasn’t so bad as we both had had our different responsibilities in the corps, but leading worship on Sundays was very, very difficult emotionally for me. This was the one thing we had always done together.

This was so hard that I would cry myself to sleep, saying to God that this was not how it was supposed to be. I wanted my old life back. In my despair my Heavenly Father’s words in Isaiah 41:13 brought comfort – “For I am the Lord your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.”

Straight away I had a picture of a dad holding his little girl’s hand.

Then the next Sunday driving to church by myself, I felt so alone and sad. Tears rolled down my face. I noticed a leaf on the bonnet of the car. It seemed to be stuck there. No matter how I drove – slow, fast or aggressively – the leaf remained on the bonnet. Then I began to see the lesson God was teaching me. “I am stuck to you like this leaf is stuck to the bonnet. I am with you.”

The words of Isaiah 41 came back to me. God was holding my hand and He was not letting go. When I parked the car at church I leant across the bonnet to retrieve the leaf. Just as I did a tiny puff of wind blew it out of my reach! I have that leaf in my journal.

Without the help of my Heavenly Father, my life would have become a crumpled mess. I am proud to be the daughter of my Heavenly Father and I know I am in his hands.

The Salvation Army embraces people of all cultures, meeting spiritual and physical needs regardless of race, religion or agenda. *Pipeline* continues a new section which aims to connect with our growing Chinese community by translating the Soul Food column into a Mandarin dialect. The aim is to encourage our Chinese brothers and sisters in Christ. – **Commissioner James Condon, Territorial Commander**

每一個基督徒都會有一節最喜歡的聖經金句。在他們與基督同行的某一個階段，他們的屬靈生命都曾經被那金句所影響，或給予繼續的鼓勵和餵養。在這“管道”的專頁中，不同的人被邀請去分享他們最喜歡的經文。

我最喜爱的经文 – 黛比·信德

「因为我耶和华你的 神、必
搀扶你的右手、对你说、不要
害怕、我必帮助你。以賽亞書
41章13節

2011年6月，我丈夫决定终止作为一名救世军军官的事奉，这使我的世界如同纸牌屋一般坍塌掉。在度过了29年半之后，我们不再一起共同事奉。

我曾努力地想要弄清楚这意味着什么，以及到底是什么导致了这样的情形。然而通过这段时间的重新调整，我明白了我的天父依旧与我同在并看顾着我。祂依然肯定祂对我的呼召，而且祂的旨意是让我继续作为军官去事奉。同时保持我的婚姻度过这段艰难的时期。

然而这并不容易，过往一种深深的悲伤感将我吞噬。独自继续进行事工是一件极为困难的事。由于我们在军队里有各自不同的职责，所以工作日子里并不显得那么困难。然而礼拜日的领会事奉在感情上对我来说非常困难的事，因为那是唯一一件我们一直一起做的事情。

这样的艰难常常使我哭着入睡，向上帝诉说事情不应该是这样的。我想找回曾经的生活。在我绝望的时候，是以赛亚书41章13节中天父的话给与了我安慰：“因为我耶和华你的 神、必搀扶你的右手、对你说、不要害怕、我必帮助你。”

一瞬间我脑海里浮现出一位父亲牵着祂小女儿的手的画面。

之后的下个星期日我独自驾车去教堂，我感到如此孤单和悲伤，泪水顺着我的脸颊滚

落。这是我注意到车前盖上有一片叶子，似乎被夹住了。无论我怎么开车，慢，快，甚至放肆地驾驶，它都在车盖上一动不动。这时我开始明白上帝所教导我的那一课。“正如那夹在车盖上的树叶一般，我对你也不离不弃。我与你同在。”

以赛亚书41章中的经文再次浮现在我的脑海中。上帝正握着我的手，并且不会放手。当我到了教堂把车停好后，我俯身去拿车盖上的树叶。然而正当我伸手去拿的时候，一小股风轻而易举地把它吹走了。在我的路途中，我拥有那片树叶。

如果没有天父的帮助，我的生命将会变得一团糟。

作为天父的女儿，我很自豪，而且我知道我在祂手中。



TV tunes in to differences between you and me

Television is and isn't Australia's most powerful medium. The Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that watching television is still the most common recreation and leisure activity for people aged over 15. On average we spend just under three hours a day in front of the small screen absorbing TV's picture of the outside world. But not all images are equally powerful in this popular medium. The more we know about a topic, the less we're likely to be reshaped by TV's perspective. During the recent federal election a teacher would certainly have heard Labor and Coalition education promises differently to a family whose kids have long left school. But what happens when TV carries us to the margins of our knowledge, or to the margins of society in fact? The less we know, the more likely we are to accept its perspective as gospel. *Pipeline* culture writer **MARK HADLEY** says it's something that should be of particular concern this month as two new series wrap up and release on DVD

Derek

Ricky Gervais is a comedian familiar with controversy. Irony and mockery are his tools of choice, as his alter-egos David Brent and Andy Millman have discovered. Is he the best person to help us seriously evaluate our attitude towards the disadvantaged and disabled?

Gervais' new series *Derek* introduces us to the staff and residents of a British aged-care facility that is being threatened with closure.

It's a bitter-sweet comedy about awkward people who nonetheless demand our respect and sympathy.

The heart of the program is devoted to Derek, Gervais' take on an unattractive, awkward staff member with developmental disabilities ... maybe.

As the writer, director and star of the series, Gervais has shrugged off criticism that he has produced a cruel satire about



British comedian Ricky Gervais plays the role of Derek in a bitter-sweet comedy which centres on an aged-care facility.

the disintegration of a disabled man by denying Derek has any disabilities: "There is no argument. Derek is a fictional character and is defined by his creator. Me. If I say I don't mean him to be disabled then that's it. A fictional doctor can't come along and prove me wrong."

But it's a hard position to defend when Gervais-as-Derek enters a room with a shuffling gait, fixes characters with a wide-eyed stare, speaks in stilted, nonsensical sentences and displays an inability to comprehend the replies he receives.

On a bus ride into the city, Derek sits too close to the driver, prattling constantly in his ear: "Why does Hampstead sound like hamster? Why has hamster got ham in it? Why isn't a pig called a hamster?"

Derek can be considered in a sensible light, but what are people likely to take away from the series?

In particular, the audiences that Gervais has previously taught to look down on his heroes?

Can he spend more than a decade teaching us to laugh at people who don't realise how stupid they are and think that his Derek won't suffer collateral damage?

Or, in short, how long before brazen 16-year-old boys start using "Derek" as shorthand for people who are mentally deficient?

Derek suffers from a lack of what the Bible calls wisdom. As the book of Proverbs puts it: "If anyone loudly blesses their neighbor early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse," (Proverbs 27:14).

There's nothing wrong with blessing your neighbour, but the context can seriously change the intended effect. Gervais may say that comedy is about "... making people think," but there are ways and ways.

The Bible would say that we have to consider not just the intention of an action, but the direction it is taking us and the people affected by it: towards God's character or further away?

What would Jesus view?

With Pipeline culture writer Mark Hadley



The cast of *Upper Middle Bogan*, an Australian sit-com based around the character of Dr Bess Denyar (Annie Maynard, sitting in centre), whose search for her biological parents takes her on a confronting socio-economic journey.

Upper Middle Bogan

Upper Middle Bogan also challenges our take on an unfamiliar section of society, but it does so by pricking our pretensions.

Set in the suburbs of Melbourne, Dr Bess Denyar (Annie Maynard) is a mum raising twin teens while juggling the pressures of a medical career. She seems to have everything a modern Australian would aspire to.

However, when a collapse puts Bess' mum into hospital, a simple blood test reveals the snobbish old woman is not her biological parent. Bess sets off to find her natural parents and discovers Julie and Wayne Wheeler (Robyn Malcolm and Glenn Robbins), the mum and dad managers of a family drag-racing team

Bess is initially disturbed to find she comes from a house of bogans, but it's not long before their straightforward approach has her questioning the affectations of her own background.

The lion's share of the humour is at the expense of the upper and middle classes. In fact, the comedy helpfully diminishes the difference between ourselves and the stereotypes on the small screen. It's built on the premise that good parents, wherever they come from, all want the same thing for their children: the best chance at a happy life. And it follows we'll do whatever we can to make that happen. Bess' mum didn't tell her daughter she was adopted because she didn't want her to feel different; Julie and Wayne gave her away because they knew they couldn't offer her the best start:

Julie: I was 15 and I'd already left school ... your father was 14.

Wayne: We would have been living on the streets.

Julie: Yeah, we would have. We had no right to be raising a baby back then.

Whatever the decision, good parents will do whatever it takes, even if the action involves a certain amount of suffering for

their kids – as it should be. It takes more courage to inflict suffering for the right reasons, because it hurts us too.

But the Bible tells us the best parents will do just that because happiness isn't their first goal: "Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ... We have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live!" (Hebrews 12:7-9).

Beyond reshaping our opinion of revheads, *Upper Middle Bogan* can affect our attitude to God. I don't think there's any problem coming to our Creator with the pain we're suffering. But the next time we find ourselves asking "Why this pain?" we should begin by remembering that our heavenly Father is a "do whatever it takes" parent. We don't suffer randomly; our pain is always carefully measured, jointly endured and delivered solely for our good.

Oasis OF THE Outback

SALVATION ARMY MINISTRY FLOURISHING IN MT ISA

A recent visit to the city of Mt Isa, in Queensland's Gulf Country, brought back many memories for **Commissioner JAN CONDON**

Mt Isa is often referred to as the "Oasis of the Outback". However, when I visited in late August, red dust was in abundance due to lack of recent rain.

The population of Mt Isa is just over 21,000 - very different from 38 years ago when, as lieutenants, my husband James and I were appointed there as corps officers.

Our recent visit brought back many memories of our two years spent in Mt Isa, which in those days was a bustling city with a medium-sized corps and large young people's ministry. Two of the soldiers who were there in 1975, Kevin and Peggy Robinson, are still soldiering on, but many others have moved away.

It is sad that Mt Isa is now seen as a "fly in, fly out" city with a significant transient population working in the mines. But the ministry of The Salvation Army is alive and very much appreciated by the locals.

On the Saturday of our visit, Commissioner James Condon travelled with Lieutenants Simon and Natalie Steele in The Salvation Army helicopter, to visit some of their Outback congregations. Simon

and Natalie are the Flying Padres of the Outback Flying Service and are based in Mt Isa.

Their first stop was a school at Dajarra, where Simon presented a Bible story to the children. He left them with a small gift of a torch and a reminder that Jesus is the light of the world. One schoolteacher was present and expressed grateful thanks for the ministry of the Steeles.

The next stop was to an isolated property where the owners are struggling to make ends meet because of drought. They really look forward to the visit of the Steeles, to bring supplies and a word of hope and cheer.

Finally, it was on to Urandangie where the local publican, Pam, excitedly greeted the Salvos, revealing how she appreciates the regular visits of the Steeles. Pam is a wonderful woman and greatly assists the Indigenous people in this community. During the Army's visit, she arranged a birthday party for three-year-old twins and wanted us to share in the celebration.

On the Sunday morning, we worshipped at Mt Isa Corps, an experience that certainly evoked many memories of 38 years ago. It was wonderful to worship with the current congregation and the corps officers, Majors Dennis and Genne Bryant. Major Genne is also the manager of The Salvation Army's Serenity House, which provides accommodation for homeless women and children.

Official opening

After the morning meeting, the congregation then gathered a few kilometres out of the city at

the Army's new Mt Isa Recovery Services Centre for its official opening by Commissioner James Condon.

The centre, previously the Kalkadoon Aboriginal Sobriety House, was purchased by The Salvation Army in April and is a magnificent property for helping Indigenous people find freedom from their addictions. With the help of operational funding from the Department of Health and Ageing, the Army now provides 55 residential suites for men, women and families, targeting Indigenous health needs in particular.

At the official opening, led by Central and North Queensland Divisional Commander, Major Kelvin Pethybridge, a Welcome to Country was provided by Aunty Hazel Munro who also expressed appreciation to The Salvation Army for building a safe haven for families affected by alcohol and drugs.

The Mayor of Mt Isa, Tony McGrady, in bringing a greeting, said that many years ago he, along with others, had stood on this ground and dreamed of what may be achieved. The Salvation Army, he said, has resurrected that dream.

In acknowledging Mt Isa Recovery Services manager Chris Congoo and his team, Councillor McGrady said: "I know it's going to be a success because you understand what is required to provide this service helping those in need."

Rob Katter, the State Member for Mt Isa, also attended the official opening and expressed his appreciation to The Salvation Army for taking over the property



“LIVES WILL BE TRANSFORMED BY THE MINISTRY HERE AND THIS ONGOING POSITIVE EFFECT WILL BENEFICIALLY IMPACT THE MT ISA COMMUNITY”



(Top) Commissioner James Condon and Lieut. Simon Steele at Dajarra school; (Above left) Flying over the outback during their tour; (Above right) Officially opening the Mt Isa Recovery Services Centre – Rob Katter MP, Commissioner James Condon, Mt Isa Mayor Tony McGrady and Divisional Commander Major Kelvin Pethybridge.

and providing this service to the Indigenous community.

Lieutenant-Colonel Kerry Haggar, in presenting the property report in the absence of the Army’s territorial general manager property, Peter Alward, said: “The Salvation Army Territorial Property Department’s stated vision is to transform communities. Lives will be transformed by the ministry here and this ongoing positive effect will beneficially impact the Mt Isa community.”

Commissioner James Condon spoke about The Salvation Army being about people finding freedom from poverty, fear, addiction,

anxiety and loneliness. “Bad habits are like comfortable beds,” he said. “Easy to get into, but hard to get out of.”

In his message, he referred to Galatians 5:1, which says, “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm then and do not let yourselves be burdened again by the yoke of slavery.”

Commissioner Condon, who also presented graduation certificates to three participants in the Recovery Services program, then unveiled a plaque, and I offered a prayer of dedication, that this centre would be a place bringing freedom through recovery,

and freedom through Jesus.

There are some exciting ministries happening in Mt Isa which need our prayer support. Serving in such an isolated city brings its own challenges, but the Army needs to be in places like this and our officers and staff in Mt Isa are providing vital services in bringing freedom to people in the Outback.



Commissioner Jan Condon
Territorial President of Women’s Ministries

Yellow, red and blue ... and orange too!

By Captain SANDY MacDONALD

Can The Salvation Army add a bit of orange to its traditional colour palette of yellow, red and blue? At Rouse Hill Corps, in Sydney's north-west, the answer is a resounding yes!

Rouse Hill Corps recently celebrated its second annual "Orange Sunday". Its purpose is to remind the corps of the importance of church and family intentionally working together to pass on faith to the next generation.

From an orange food challenge to orange tenpin bowling and talking orange video clips, the corps shared a fun morning of worship together. People were encouraged to wear orange clothing and bring orange-coloured food for morning tea. Each family left with a showbag filled with orange-coloured trinkets as well as a game to get everybody talking, and a bit of music too.

Almost all of us are familiar with the caped crusaders, Batman (the hero) and Robin (the sidekick). On Orange Sunday, Rouse Hill Corps posed the question, "when it comes to church and home, who is Batman and who is Robin in the lives of children?" The answer came that parents are the Batman in their children's lives - they are rightly in the place of superhero and chief discipler for their own children - and the church takes on the trusty and important role of sidekick, being the Robin without whom Batman could not achieve such great results.

"Thinking Orange" is a strategy that Rouse Hill Corps has adopted over the past couple of years. Orange is what results when the yellow light of the church and the red heart of the home, work together to disciple the next generation. It's a strategy that has its origins in Moses' farewell address to the Israelites, as told in the Bible in Deuteronomy 6. Responsibility for passing on faith from one generation to another belongs not only to parents, but to the whole community.

The teaching that Rouse Hill's youngest children (mini ekids) receive centres on three simple ideas: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Ekids (school years 2-6) focus on three basic truths: I can trust God no matter what, I need to make the wise choice, and I should treat others the way I want to be treated. Each month, these truths are explored using Bible stories packaged in a fun way around a biblical virtue. Ekids also receive weekly devotional material to further develop their understanding of these virtues, and also have access to a special website.

Adults are offered a variety of ways to stay in touch with what the children are learning. They receive a "Parent Cue" with suggested discussion questions, games and activities that reinforce that week's teaching. This can be accessed in hard copy, via a smartphone app or through the corps website. Monthly parenting tips and encouragement are also included in the Parent Cue, from which a podcast can also be accessed.

Every Batman needs his Robin, and The Salvation Army can certainly add a dash or two of orange to its colour palette!



Orange army - members of Rouse Hill Corps in Sydney have adopted orange as their theme colour in outreach activities.

Daily bread run opens doors in Young

The Salvation Army in Young, south western NSW, has joined forces with other groups in the town to ensure students at the local high school have a nutritious breakfast.

The Young High School Parents & Citizens Association runs the breakfast, in conjunction with Youth Connections and donations from The Salvation Army and Kelloggs.

"We donate the bread that we pick up on our 'bread rescue' run from Woolworths each morning, five days a week," explained Laurie Anderson, Corps Leader.

"We store it for the school and deliver the sliced loaves from our freezers whenever the Breakfast Club needs it."

The bread has also given the Young Corps an opportunity to network with other agencies in the town, including the community welfare centre, youth club, women's crisis centre, and another local church that prepares hampers for those in need.

"Through the contacts we have made, we are able to make more of an impact in the community," said Laurie.

"For example, in Homelessness Week we combined with other agencies and ran a free barbecue at the corps.

"We are blessed to be able to use our resources to help others without these resources, as together we can serve those in need."



Young High School students Dennis Foster, Angus Feetam, Brandon Sanderson, Thomas Feetam, Zach Hull, Samantha Nott, Tiffany Mason and Tyson Cooke enjoy their breakfast at school, generously supplied by volunteers including those from Young Corps. Photo courtesy Young Witness

Penrith's new one-stop shop now open

By LAUREN MARTIN

The Salvation Army has officially opened its Nepean Penrith Freedom Centre – a holistic hub of services dedicated to helping those in need.

Operating from a building on Penrith's main street, the Freedom Centre has rapidly evolved in the past year, offering more and more services to become a place where people in need can access different help in the one location.

The Salvation Army's new Doorways crisis assistance program is being offered from the centre and has employed an extra case worker due to demand. Moneycare – a free financial counselling service – has increased its hours from two to five days a week. And new Pathways recovery services and Sports Impact Leadership programs have just begun. The centre also offers Drive For Life and Chaplaincy Services.

Nepean Hub Strategic Team Leader, Captain Di Gluyas, shared her vision for the way she hopes the Freedom Centre will impact individuals and the entire community.

"That the greater west of Sydney will no longer be known as the second-class city but a place where men, women and young people who are strong leaders of the future are coming from ... where brokenness will not rule lives anymore, and where restoration will come."

The centre's opening was attended by many representatives of other Salvation Army expressions within



Penrith Corps Officer Captain Phil Gluyas speaks at the launch of the Nepean Penrith Freedom Centre.

the Nepean hub who network with the Freedom Centre, such as Employment Plus, Salvos Stores and Youthlink.

Federal Member for Lindsay, David Bradbury congratulated The Salvation Army on its commitment to journeying with people in need. The Mayor of Penrith, Councillor Mark Davies, spoke and presented a long-serving volunteer, Major Elva Banks, with a certificate of appreciation.

In officially opening the Nepean Penrith Freedom Centre, Greater West Divisional Commander, Major Gary Baker, dedicated the building, its services and its people to God.

Artist parades Army influence on the march

Wesley Penberthy, one of Australia's most respected artists, has had many brushes with The Salvation Army over his 93 years.

Born in Broken Hill in 1920 and now living in Yamba on the NSW north coast, Wesley (pictured) has painted a scene called "Army On Parade", and high-quality replica prints of the work are for sale (see ad, right).



Proceeds from the sale will be directed to Just Brass Community Programs for Children and to Salvation Army Historical Societies.

Wesley has family links to The Salvation Army in Victoria, his elder brother being Brigadier Albert Penberthy who was once the Divisional Commander of Victoria.

Wesley says in his younger years he witnessed many Salvation Army marches of witness, and it was again in his later years that he attended such an occasion in Melbourne which inspired him to paint "Army On Parade".

Painted in oil and tempera, the original work is in the collection of Melbourne Salvationists Daryl and Elaine Brown.

Wesley, who won the prestigious Sulman Prize in 1955, has exhibited widely since 1940 and has executed several industrial and commercial murals, including works for Little Bourke St and Moreland Corps in Melbourne.

His work over a lifetime can be found in commercial and private collections throughout Australia and overseas.

Further information about the availability of Wesley Penberthy's Army on Parade is available online at www.armyonparade.com

A rare opportunity for Salvationists to acquire a unique and iconic expression of Salvation Army life.

ARMY ON PARADE

AN EXQUISITE SALVATION ARMY KEEPSAKE

A superbly crafted one meter wide reproduction of the painting by Wesley Penberthy giving expression to Salvation Army Congress marches past and the challenges of the present age and beyond.

- Unframed prints of *Army on Parade* \$195 including packaging and postage in Australia.
- For collectors a limited edition of the first 50 prints signed by the artist \$495 including packaging and postage in Australia.

Check out the *Army on Parade* website and place your order.
www.armyonparade.com

Profits from the sale of prints will be devoted to JUST BRASS Community Programs for Children and Salvation Army Historical Societies.

Greatness of God on display during Fraser Island fishing trip

“A majority of the guys have never experienced anything like this, especially in a drug and alcohol-free environment and in a healthy Christian culture,” said Major Bryce Davies, Brisbane Streetlevel Mission team leader, of their annual Fraser Island fishing trip.

“I didn’t grow up going camping and fishing either, so it’s unique for me too. It’s a great experience for all of us.”

Twelve people made up the Streetlevel group for the week-long trip in August, including eight men who are part of the Streetlevel Community and at various stages of recovery from addiction and homelessness.

The experiences on the trip included catching bait and fish, four-wheel driving, swimming in stunning Lake McKenzie, relishing God’s creation, as well as getting three vehicles bogged in sand which turned out to be a positive team-building exercise! The group also saw some breathtaking sunrises, spotted whales, turtles and dolphins and enjoyed magnificent food.

“We had a sharing time each day, talked about how we were going, and also had a devotion,” said Major Davies.

“We’d given each of the guys a copy of John Eldredge’s *Wild at Heart* for them to read and as the week went along we chatted about what we were reading and some of the challenges we, too, were facing as Christian men.

“There was a great sense of camaraderie, of brotherhood,



Major Bryce Davies displays the catch of the day on Fraser Island, with a little help from his Streetlevel mates.

and we deepened and strengthened our relationships. Our great shared experiences – spiritual experiences – helped us all to believe more deeply in a big and loving God.”

Vanuatu mission trip reveals country ripe for gospel

By KEVIN ELSLEY

Ask about prospects of a Salvation Army presence in Vanuatu and a team of five Salvationists recently back from a week in that country, will give a positive reply.

Ian and Marion Dooley and Lucy Powis from Tweed Heads Corps, accompanied by their Corps Officer Major Darren Elsley and Kevin Elsley from Lismore Corps, conducted a mission that took them into Tagabe Village, on the outskirts of Port Vila, a market place and a prison, with the objective of showing God’s love in message, meal sharing and making friends.



The Tweed Heads group (at back) with Tagabe village children.

Over the past four years the Dooleys, on their own initiative, have visited Vanuatu with basic essentials for needy villagers. This latest mission was the most ambitious, with six suitcases of donated items including Bibles, clothing, footwear and school supplies.

The team has returned convinced that in God’s time The Salvation Army will open in Vanuatu, and quite possibly in Tagabe Village. Here, church services and gospel rallies are held at the home of Lilly Rose and William, a building they share with several disadvantaged children, some of whom have been abandoned by their parents.

Lilly Rose, who gives Bible lessons and teaches gospel songs as well as provide basic school tuition to her young charges, wants to become a Salvation Army soldier. William does too.

During the visit, all five members of the group participated in rallies and worship services. In Tagabe Village there was standing room only when almost 200 people attended a hastily advertised Friday night rally. More than 100 were at the Sunday praise and worship service, preceded by Sunday school with 28 children.

The meeting place, outside Lilly Rose and William’s humble dwelling which is built out of sheets of iron, is a small space with an iron roof supported by posts and open on all sides. The seating is rows of wooden planks on top of besser blocks and the floor is dirt. The village would not even have had that but for the financial generosity of Tweed Heads Corps.

In a moving farewell, the children at Lilly Rose and William’s tied silk scarves around each team member in a gesture of all being linked together and all being one in the Holy Spirit.

“During our next visit we hope to enrol Lilly Rose and William as senior soldiers and also run a junior soldiers’ bootcamp,” said Major Elsley.

Healing balm for inner-west youth

The Salvation Army and the Anglican Church in Sydney's inner-west have joined forces to launch "Alive and Free", a new program to engage with young people in the area.

The Salvation Army's youth and community hall at Dulwich Hill was filled with excitement and expectation for the launch of Alive and Free on Sunday afternoon, 4 August. The new program offers young people a drop-in centre that operates Monday to Friday afternoons from 3pm to 6pm (3.30pm to 6pm on Tuesdays); boxing training on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6.30pm to 8.30pm; and a Sunday afternoon variety program from 4pm. Plans are also being developed for a regular Sunday night "hi-octane" youth worship event.

Well over 200 people from diverse backgrounds joined together for the launch. They enjoyed market stalls, multicultural food, a great Aussie barbecue, and a Fair Trade/Make Poverty History booth.

The hall has been outfitted with a high-quality, floor-level, demountable boxing ring, and an exhibition on the day featured Father David Smith and anyone who would go a round or two with him.

Major Peter McGuigan explained to the crowd how the relationship between the two churches had developed rapidly after Holy Trinity's parish hall burned to the ground in April.

"My wife Lieutenant Tara McGuigan rang our sister church on the day of the fire and offered our



After a few rounds in the boxing ring, Father Dave takes a break with Dulwich Hill Corps Officer Lieut Tara McGuigan (left) and Salvo team members Kyle Harrison and Frances Haywood.

help," he said. "It started with tables for their church fete the following weekend ... and now we are hosting the entire Dulwich Hill youth program while the parish hall is being rebuilt.

"But it's more than hosting," he added. "We are partnering with Holy Trinity to ensure that what has grown and blessed the youth of Sydney's inner-west over so many years will continue while the parish hall is rebuilt.

Some of our own younger people

will be part of the team, and we have called this partnership 'Alive and Free'."

Major McGuigan said the partnership was "healing balm" for the community, and then introduced Father Smith who expressed his gratitude for all that happened to bring about Alive and Free.

He then prayed for God's blessing and powerful presence in the lives of the young people and the Alive and Free team.

Remembering those affected by suicide

By NATHALIA RICKWOOD

World Suicide Prevention Day, on 10 September, was marked by events around the country held to raise awareness of a tragedy that claims the lives of more than 2000 Australians each year and impacts on thousands more. For every person who dies by suicide, there are another eight people directly affected.

The Salvation Army's Hope for Life program, a service for people at risk of suicide or who have been bereaved by suicide, was involved in a number of community events and walks Australia-wide on World Suicide Prevention Day. "It's OK to talk about suicide" was the theme for the events.

"Our lifekeeper memory quilts have also been displayed in Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney with our 'Out

of the Shadows' colleagues," said Carolyn Koch, Hope for Life project assistant.

The lifekeeper memory quilts are a Hope for Life initiative created as a memorial for those who have died by suicide. The quilts enable those bereaved by suicide to share their stories and tributes, and create a visual reminder of the many who have died.

The Salvation Army also designated 8 and 15 September as days for corps to specifically remember those who have been affected by suicide.

To find out about free suicide prevention and bereavement support training, becoming a Hope for Life Champion, or be involved in a lifekeeper memory quilt, call 02 9356 2120 or go to suicideprevention.salvos.org.au Need help now? Call Salvo Care Line on 1300 36 36 22 for 24-hour immediate support.

Salvos step up food 'security' in south-west Sydney

By LAUREN MARTIN

The Salvation Army has built on the success of its Food 4 Life Market by opening another service in the south-western Sydney suburb of Busby.

The 2168 Food 4 Life Market and People's Shed was officially opened on Saturday 31 August. Dozens of people attended the opening to celebrate and sign up for the service.

The market is modelled on the successful Warwick Farm Food 4 Life Market which has been operating for five years. Both are oversighted by the Army's Greater Liverpool Corps.

"We're looking to see this project make a significant impact, a positive impact and create a sense of community, inclusiveness and value as well as helping to break the problems of food insecurity, poverty and social isolation," said 2168 Food 4 Life and People's Shed manager, Joel Spicer, at the opening.

The World Health Organisation defines food security as existing "when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life".

"Unfortunately, food insecurity affects a wide range of people across our community," said Liverpool councillor, Mazhar Hadid, who was one of a number of dignitaries to speak at the opening.

The 2168 Food 4 Life Market aims to address this "insecurity" by providing affordable, nutritious food and educating the community on budgeting and food preparation. Those who become members of the market can attend once a week and, for \$15, fill a large bag with fresh food and pantry items worth an estimated supermarket value of \$60.

"Things are getting dearer every week so this will make things a lot easier," said Peter, a local pensioner who signed up



The 2168 Food 4 Life Market and People's Shed is officially opened. Pictured (from left) are Liverpool councillor Mazhar Hadid, Member for Fowler Chris Hayes, Member for Liverpool Paul Lynch and Commissioner James Condon.

for the market on opening day.

The facility will also house a men's and people's shed where The Salvation Army and partnering organisations will run programs, vocational education, and create a place of care and support for members of the surrounding community.

"Today, friends, I dedicate 2168 as a place for the community, a meeting place, a place of connection, a place of hope, a place of help," prayed The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, as he officially opened the facility.

Family Store commits to long-term care of Cassowary Coast

The Salvation Army has established a permanent presence in the cyclone-affected area of Queensland's Cassowary Coast, with the opening of a Family Store at Innisfail.

Cyclone Yasi ripped through the area in February 2011, just five years after Cyclone Larry tore a similar path of destruction along the same coastline. Many homes on the Cassowary Coast remain damaged and people are still struggling to recover from the devastating storms.



The Salvation Army now has a permanent presence in Innisfail with the opening of a Family Store. Pictured (left to right) are Major Anne Gumuna, Gwen Hammerton, and Linda and Victor Peterson.

Local Salvationist Gwen Hammerton led The Salvation Army Innisfail Emergency Services team at the time of Cyclone Yasi, and they were the first volunteers to reach nearby Tully after the storm had devastated the town.

Gwen coordinated initial relief efforts, feeding stranded residents, holidaymakers and emergency services personnel. Since the initial disaster relief, Gwen and others have continued to work on the Cassowary Coast, visiting people in their homes, distributing aid and offering emotional support.

"There's been a lot of sadness due to the two cyclones and we have come in and offered people various things," she said.

"Our presence, it just changes their situation – they feel better."

The establishment of a Family Store in the main street of Innisfail will now give The Salvation Army a permanent base from which to offer support, welfare and other services.

Team leader of the Cassowary Coast Outpost, Major Anne Gumuna, says funds raised through the Family Store will be spent on meeting the needs of the local community.

"We believe that this Family Store, this base for The Salvation Army in Innisfail, is just the start of something big for us here," she said.

For Gwen, the opening of the store is the realisation of a long-held dream, but the long-term vision is far greater.

"We're working on the pastoral care side of things and it would be really great if we continue to grow and we eventually have a church," she said.

"So there's a lot of room for growth!"

Major Wilson celebrates 100th with family and friends



At a special morning tea on 16 August, Major Florence Wilson (pictured), surrounded by family and friends, celebrated her 100th birthday at The Salvation Army's Bethany aged care centre at Port Macquarie. Major Wilson has been a much-loved resident of Bethany since 2000.

It was a special occasion with five generations of her family present, Major Wilson enjoying playing balloon tennis with her great-grandchildren.

The formalities commenced with a prayer by Major Frank Moxon (director of mission for Bethany), giving thanks to God for his faithfulness in keeping his promise of blessings to Major Wilson. Major Narelle Moxon (chaplain for Bethany) read selected verses of poetry as a dedication to the major's longevity.

Commissioner Raemor Pobjie (daughter) undertook the massive task of reading the many congratulatory letters received on the occasion including those from the Queen, Governor-General, Prime Minister, NSW Governor, NSW Premier, state and federal members of parliament, the recently retired General

Linda Bond, current General André Cox, Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon, and Divisional Commander Major Phil McLaren.

At the celebration was the Mayor of Port Macquarie, Peter Blesseling, to present a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the local council. The mayor also informed Major Wilson that, in keeping with the council's decision to acknowledge all centenarians in the city, a tree at Settlement Reserve had been named in her honour. He presented Major Wilson with a photo of the plaque which has been placed at the foot of the tree.

Both of Major Wilson's daughters, Commissioner Pobjie and Dawn Kenny, paid tribute. Commissioner Pobjie gave special thanks to Dawn for her care of their mum while the commissioner was on overseas service.

The celebration would not have been complete without the cutting of a special birthday cake which was made by Major Wilson's grand-daughter, and the singing of happy birthday accompanied by Maire Clarke from Port Macquarie Corps.

Emergency services teams provide support during bushfires

Salvation Army Emergency Services (SAES) crews were busy serving people impacted by bushfires in western Sydney and the Blue Mountains last month. A number of fires destroyed 1000 hectares of bushland at Hawkesbury, Marsden Park, Londonderry and Winnmalee.

Teams of SAES volunteers served around 1000 meals to emergency services personnel or people impacted by the fires.

Within an hour of the Penrith Whitewater Park evacuation centre being set up, SAES volunteers were on site offering

assistance. More than 1200 students from local schools were evacuated to the park during the bushfire emergency.

Volunteers from local Salvation Army corps including St Mary's, Penrith, Upper Blue Mountains and Springwood assisted at the evacuation centres and provided meals to Rural Fire Services volunteers.

"It's a preview of what may be ahead this summer season for The Salvation Army," said SAES director Norm Archer. "I was very impressed with the response from the SAES teams."

Celebrating 30 years of caring



Salvo Care Line NSW recently celebrated 30 years of caring for people around the clock, at a special celebration and thanksgiving afternoon at Sydney Congress Hall.

Congress Hall was the birthplace of Salvo Care Line, where 30 years ago, Salvo Care Line was envisioned and made into a reality through the work of Envoy Alan Staines, and his wife Lois.

The first phone call was taken in their lounge room on 1 October, 1983, and since then the service has grown to providing care and support to people all over Australia from two call centres.

During the celebrations, an informal afternoon tea was the meeting place for past and present counsellors, as well as other interested people, family and friends.

Manager Karen Lattouf provided a brief history, and introduced Volunteer Stephanie Romano, who shared her story of how The Salvation Army had been a significant support to her family through the years, through several different services, and how 20 years ago, Stephanie decided to give back to The Salvation Army, and to the community, by becoming a Salvo Care Line volunteer.

The celebratory cake was cut by Lois Staines, long-serving volunteer Daphne Hearn, a soldier of Maroubra Corps, and brand new volunteer Miranda Couch.

The afternoon tea was followed by a thanksgiving church service, during which Ben Ward (Glebe Corps) provided a moving vocal presentation of the Michael Bubl  song *Lost*.

Sam Shakespeare, a participant in the William Booth House Recovery Program, shared his testimony of how God, through The Salvation Army had helped him recover from a lifestyle of addiction.

Salvo Care Line supports and promotes the work of The Salvation Army by referring their clients as much as possible to Salvation Army services. Karen Lattouf shared some thoughts from God's Word about Elijah's experience of God being with him and ministering to him through his 'still small voice' – an analogy of the ministry provided every day by the counsellors at Salvo Care Line.



The Salvo Care Line 30th birthday cake is cut by Daphne Hearn, Lois Staines and Miranda Couch. Photo: Carolyn Hide

Salvos join breakfast club partnerships

By SIMONE WORTHING

Dubbo Corps has begun a partnership with Gilgandra Shire Council to help fund a weekday breakfast for young people in the Central NSW town who would otherwise go without.

"The corps has been actively looking at ways to turn the money we collect into action further afield and were behind my meeting with Gilgandra Mayor, Doug Batten, to see what the Army could do here," said Major Colin Young, Corps Officer.

The Gilgandra youth workers and their volunteers provide the breakfasts, setting up each morning at the Gilgandra Youth Centre. One of the workers, Susan Brisbane, drives a bus around the town to collect young people, mostly of primary school age, who don't usually have breakfast.

"Susan also told me some very sad stories of young people who are often so hungry that they will eat eight pieces of toast and have three drinks of Milo when they arrive for breakfast,"

said Major Young. "There have also been several successes in terms of improved behaviour in some of the young people, and the volunteers more deeply understanding just how difficult some of the young people's lives are."

Funding has been very tight for this program over the past six years and the youth workers have been doing what they can.

Now, with the assistance of Salvation Army funding as well as that of other agencies, Susan and her team of volunteers are hoping to create food programs that will help the children learn how to cook simple meals for themselves.

Susan also hopes to teach the children how to shop so they can avoid buying junk food and be educated about better nutrition.

"Gilgandra is one of the communities that we'd like to expand into, and we hope that this excellent opportunity with the breakfast will continue into the future allowing The Salvation Army to provide assistance to the poor and increase our presence in the town," said Major Young.

No interest loans scheme changing lives

By SIMONE WORTHING

In the three years of its operation across the Australia Eastern Territory, The Salvation Army's No Interest Loans Scheme (Salvos NILS) has provided 775 loans worth over \$890,000.

"These loans are specifically for low-income earners of all ages including people who are working, who are in need of essential items or services, and may otherwise be excluded from credit at reasonable rates," said Tony Devlin the manager of the program.

"We are providing a hand-up and not a hand-out in a trusting positive client-caseworker relationship."

Salvos NILS staff work with clients to ensure that the loan is for an essential purpose, that the client will be able to repay the loan, and how they can do this on their budget. They also provide referrals for underlying and related issues, and money management education.

"Two of my favourite stories involve a 50-year-old woman in country NSW who was keen to get off the Newstart



NILS staff celebrate Sharon's award. (from left): Tony Devlin (back row), Warwick Mears, Sharon Abiah, Melody Pascoe, Fiona West and Andrew Whittett (front).

allowance," explained Tony. "She wanted a loan for a chainsaw and box trailer so she could start a cleaning and woodcutting business!

"The other was a young fellow in Cairns who needed help buying musical instruments so he could busk and earn an income.

"I love these examples because they show the empowerment and capacity-building that NILS is all about. It's

empowering, not just for the clients, but for the Salvos NILS caseworker because they see lives changed as a result of these loans."

Meantime, Sharon Abiah, a volunteer with Salvos NILS, won the "Best News Story" category at the recent NILS national conference in Melbourne.

Sharon, originally from Ghana, first approached Salvos NILS in May 2011 and applied for a loan for a washing machine and landline telephone handset. The loan was approved and has since been repaid in full.

"The loan enabled Sharon and her family to get over a really tough patch," said Tony. "NILS has also connected her to other areas of assistance offered by the Salvos which have helped her and her family."

Sharon and her mother now volunteer at Streetlevel, and she has also assisted in the community detention team which helps former asylum seekers move into the community.

For more information on Salvos NILS go to: salvos.org.au/NILS or email tony.devlin@aue.salvationarmy.org

VISIT OF SALVOS CULTURAL ARTS AND GOSPEL SINGERS FROM THE SALVATION ARMY PAPUA NEW GUINEA COMING TO A CORPS NEAR YOU IN ACT AND NSW

Saturday 2nd November

7.00pm Concert at Hurstville corps

Sunday 3rd November

9.30am meeting at Dulwich Hill
6.00 pm meeting at Parramatta

Wednesday 6th November

evening concert at Port Macquarie corps

Thursday 7th November

evening concert at Eastlakes corps

Saturday 9th November

evening concert at Canberra City corps

Sunday 10th November

morning meeting at Tuggeranong corps

Tuesday 12th November

evening concert at Wollongong corps



Please check with the corps officer for further details and also November edition of *Pipeline*
PLEASE DIRECT ENQUIRIES TO **COMMISSIONER JAN CONDON** - PH. 9266 9606



Colin Christelow is accepted as an adherent by Warwick Corps Officers, Lieutenants Lydia and Steve Spencer.

Warwick Corps

The Warwick Corps held a special celebration on Sunday 25 August as three new people made commitments to God.

Lieutenant Steve Spencer accepted Colin Christelow as an adherent, and also enrolled Hannah and Lachlan Buckmaster as junior soldiers.

“Colin’s testimony is similar to that of the Prodigal Son,” said Lieut Spencer. “Colin left the fellowship of the church many years ago and had a multitude of events in his life that caused him to question God’s existence and his own self-worth.

“As Colin shared, he had come to the point in his life where he believed that he was worthless.

“Over the past six months though, Colin has been on a journey to “rediscover himself” and has discovered that God is very real in his life. It has been an absolute pleasure to walk alongside him in this process of rediscovery.”

Family and friends of the Buckmasters joined the congregation to witness the enrolment of Hannah and Lachlan.

“Although quite nervous, they were able to read their pledge with pride and were then joined in prayer as they signed their promises before the congregation and before God at the mercy seat,” said Lieut Spencer.

Hannah has chosen Lieutenant Lydia Spencer to be her prayer pal and Lachlan has chosen Lieutenant Steve.



Hannah and Lachlan display their certificates with corps officers, Lieutenants Steve and Lydia Spencer. Corps Sergeant Major, Auxiliary Captain Terry Cantrill (ret.), holds the flag.

Cessnock Corps

Lieutenant Darryn Lloyd accepted Bevan McGuinness as an adherent at the Cessnock Corps on 25 August. Bevan is the fourth adherent to be enrolled at Cessnock this year.

During the special ceremony, Bevan took the opportunity to explain how much he loved God and how the people at Cessnock Corps had become his family.

“I so look forward to helping the local mission of Cessnock Corps in this community, and my fellow corps members, because I have been helped and loved much,” he said.

“I want this love which had been given to me so extravagantly to flow on to others.”

“The corps members roared and clapped their approval at the enrolment of such a joyous Christian into the fellowship of the corps,” said Lieut Lloyd.



Lieutenant Darryn Lloyd presents Bevan McGuinness with his certificate of enrolment.

Brisbane Streetlevel Mission

Major Bryce Davies, Brisbane Streetlevel Mission team leader, accepted Dale Wallace, Nathan Hopkins and Athena Loutas as Salvation Army adherents at a celebratory Streetlevel chapel service on 29 August.

“Dale has been coming to Streetlevel for a year, and had always said he would never be an adherent, but God had other plans!” said Major Bryce.

“Nathan, who used to be angry all the time but now says he just loves people, is an amazing testimony to God’s work in his life.

“Athena, who has also been coming to Streetlevel for a year, has found a place to belong.

“All three new adherents see Streetlevel as their family, and their home.”



The new Brisbane Streetlevel adherents, (from left): Dale Wallace, Athena Loutas and Nathan Hopkins.

Caloundra Corps

Lieutenant Stuart Glover, Corps Officer, recently enrolled three new senior soldiers and accepted five new adherents into the corps family.

Zoe Bernhardt, Don Thomas and Jasper Glover were enrolled as senior soldiers. Jeff Taylor, Deborah Taylor, Frances Glover, Gypsy Accheni and Jan Ebers were accepted as adherents.

"Enrolments are one of the most exciting duties a corps officer does because it means that people are publicly acknowledging their commitment to the mission of God through the local corps," said Lieut Glover.

"It means that people are putting their hand up to say, 'I want to make a difference in my church and in my community and want everybody to know about it'."

This enrolment ceremony was even more special for Lieut Glover as he enrolled his father, Jasper, as a senior soldier and accepted his mother, Frances, as an adherent.

"I am blessed to be ministering in the same corps as my parents but enrolling them tops the cake!" Lieut Stuart said.

Jeff, Jasper and Don each shared their testimony and all spoke of how God had led them to make this special commitment.



Lieutenant Stuart Glover oversees the enrolment of three new senior soldiers and five new adherents at Caloundra Corps.

Springwood Corps

Corps Officer, Captain Phil Sharp, recently enrolled five new senior soldiers, on the same day as 10 junior soldiers renewed their pledges.

All five senior soldiers have different stories and come from different backgrounds.

"Ben came from Hawkesbury Corps; Stuart, who plays in the band, came through the local orchestra; Patrick, who manages a local Christian camp, made contact through the Blue Mountains Recovery Services (Hadleigh Lodge); Walter (Wally), was homeless when his uncle, a senior soldier, took him in and started bringing him to the Salvos and it all happened from there; and Mark also transferred from another corps and has been coming to Springwood for around one year," Captain Phil explained.

"They are a great bunch of blokes and God is doing a great work at the Springwood Salvation Army!" he said.



Springwood's new senior soldiers, (from left) Mark Braid, Ben Morris, Patrick Stephens, Walter Black and Stuart Mallen, alongside the corps officer, Captain Phil Sharp.

Batemans Bay Corps

Lieutenant Rebecca Gott, Corps Officer, enrolled Jack Hughes and Julia Roberts as junior soldiers during the "Great Banquet" themed children's celebration at the corps on 25 August.

The children led the service with singing and drama, and each child was recognised for their contributions and encouraged to continue in their journey with Jesus.

As well as the enrolments, all the junior soldiers from the corps renewed their promises during the service and prayed with their "Big Buds".

"At Batemans Bay Corps, our kids play a big role in our church family," said Perry Lithgow, Youth and Children's worker at the corps.

"They not only regularly participate in our kids programs such as God's Special Forces and Junior Soldiers, but they also help out with worship, running the projection equipment and serving at our special events throughout the year.

"We feel so blessed to have these children as part of our corps and pray that we might continue to grow them in Jesus."



Captain Rebecca Gott enrolls Jack Hughes (left) and Julia Roberts as junior soldiers, with Ian Lawrence holding the flag.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Faithful service

Commissioner Alistair Grant Cairns was promoted to glory on 3 July, having served as an officer for 71 and a half years. A Thanksgiving Service for the life of

Commissioner Cairns was held at Bundamba Corps on Tuesday 9 July, conducted by Lieut-Colonel David Rees.

A large crowd of family, friends and colleagues gathered to celebrate the life and influence of a well-loved and highly respected leader and friend.

During the service, a number of tributes were paid, each highlighting different aspects of Commissioner Cairns' life. Woven through each spoken tribute were consistent threads bearing testimony to his humility, sense of humour, genuine warmth, strong Bible preaching and teaching, holiness of life and purpose with joyous experience of the abundant life in Christ. Together these tributes brought a wonderful sense of unity to the remembrance of this fine man.

Major Mark Campbell, the Divisional Commander of the South Queensland Division, presented the Territorial Commander's tribute; Major Kingsley Alley (Ret.) spoke on behalf of fellow officers; Corps Sergeant Major Brad Strong spoke of the commissioner's influence in the Bundamba Corps; Gareth Rees represented the five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, much loved by their grandfather.

Speaking on behalf of the Cairns family, in her tribute, Lieut-Colonel Christine Rees, a daughter, recalled her father's early life and the influence of those experiences upon his developing faith and leadership attributes.

Alistair Cairns was a loving and generous father who, with his wife Margery, provided a happy, secure and godly home for Merrilyn, Christine and Howard.

Throughout his life, he was a prayerful mentor to his family, always supportive and interested in the lives of his loved ones. Howard Cairns, a son, presented a musical tribute, *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, and the Bundamba Corps Band gave musical support, also singing one of the commissioner's favourite songs, *He Giveth More Grace*.

Lt Colonel David Rees' Bible message centred on John 5:35, where Jesus affirmed the ministry and influence of John the Baptist with the description, "John was a lamp that burned and gave light".

He used this description in reference to the life, ministry and influence of Commissioner Cairns through the years of his active service and in retirement right up to the last day of his life.

The challenge to the congregation was to be as available to God and to people as the commissioner was, bringing the same Spirit-inspired warmth and light into the everyday context of life.

Major Mark Campbell conducted the Committal at the conclusion of the service.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, in December 1916, Alistair arrived in Australia as a two-year-old with his parents, who settled in Brisbane and became linked to the West End Corps.

He entered the *Crusader* session of cadets in 1941, and following his commissioning, served as the corps officer at Parkes and Bankstown, then at the Training College as a Training Officer before marrying Captain Margery Birkett on 3 February 1945.

With Margery, Alistair served 41 years and 11 months in a variety of corps, divisional and senior territorial appointments in the Australia Eastern Territory.

In 1966, he commenced a three-year period as Territorial Evangelist, travelling and preaching throughout Australia and other Pacific countries.

In 1971 he served at the International Training College in London before taking up his appointment as Chief Secretary of the South Korea Territory in 1974.

Following this term, he returned to his home territory as Chief Secretary until appointed, with the rank of Commissioner, as Territorial Commander of the Southern Africa Territory.

After four and a half years of fruitful leadership in South Africa, and at the conclusion of that territory's centenary year, Commissioner Alistair and Mrs Commissioner Margery Cairns retired from active service, and returned to Redcliffe, Queensland, where they served in the corps and the wider community for 23 years.

It was in recognition of the Commissioner's community involvement through The Salvation Army, that he received the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 1996.

In this territory, Commissioner Cairns is remembered by many soldiers and officers for his leadership and teaching through 10 years of Brengle Fellowships, conducted in his years of early retirement. Visits to other territories in the South Pacific and South Asia region were

undertaken for the same purpose.

Mrs Commissioner Margery Cairns was Promoted to Glory in August 2006. Commissioner Alistair has been a much-loved resident of the Riverview Gardens Aged Care community since that time, soldiering at the Bundamba Corps.

Commissioner Alistair Cairns will be remembered by many people around the world, and his family rejoices that he has been received into his heavenly home after a lifetime of faithful service.

Active soldier

Linda Toft, of Bundaberg Corps, was promoted to glory on 17 July, two days after her 95th birthday. The service to celebrate her life was conducted by her

grandson, Captain Mark Williamson, at Bundaberg Corps.

Linda had chosen her favourite songs for the service. The eulogy was presented by her son-in-law, Ken Jeeves, memories of "Nanna" were brought by her granddaughters, Lisa Paterson, Tina Hyland and Kate Fleming, a family tribute by her niece, Major Jean Evans, corps and Gideons International tribute by corps sergeant major Wayne Chamberlin, and a vocal tribute, *Because He Lives* by her niece, Desley Gear.

A message from Major Heather Unicomb, Bundaberg Corps Officer, was read at the service: "God has been good to me." These words were always on Linda's lips.

The cremation service was attended by family members and conducted by Major Stan Evans.

Aunty Linda, as she was affectionately known, was born in Glen Innes on 15 July, 1918. She was the seventh child of Edward and Alice Rusbourne, and was later joined by three younger siblings. Her mother died when she was six.

She could recall the actual day when she became a Christian, in Glen Innes when she was 13. It was during a Sunday evening Salvation Meeting, and her father had to come looking for her because she was late home from the service. Her life was changed - Jesus Christ was her Saviour.

In 1937, she moved to Bundaberg where her sister, May, and her husband, Tom Collyer, were the corps officers. She worked for a local doctor and then at the base hospital where she progressed to assistant cook.

On 12 July 1941, Linda married Allan Toft. Together they served God in ministry within the corps and community, with Linda providing invaluable support for Allan as he served as young people's sergeant major and corps sergeant major for many years. They were blessed with two daughters, Beryl Jeeves and Margaret Williamson.

They moved into their home at North Bundaberg in 1946. Linda lived there until she was evacuated during the floods in Bundaberg in January this year. She held the positions of songster, corps secretary prior to her marriage, taught Sunday school for 40 years until aged in her 80s; directory teacher for approximately 30 years; cradle roll sergeant; evening fellowship missionary sergeant; collected in the pubs; and Home League thrift club secretary for 53 years.

For the past 25 years she had been The Salvation Army representative on the Australian Church Women Committee and an active member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union for over 41 years. She had been active in Gideons International since it commenced in Bundaberg in 1965, hosting prayer meetings in her home, placing Bibles in homes and hospitals and distributing Bibles personally. During her recent hospitalisation she asked for New Testaments to hand out. The last two were given on her behalf to the nurses who tended her in her final hours.

She loved to travel, enjoyed fishing and took pleasure in gardening. She was a very hospitable person and always had

a supply of homemade cakes, biscuits and slices for unexpected visitors.

She was a very generous lady, giving freely of her time and resources to others.

Her life has been a testimony of kindness, wisdom, generosity and service to the limitless love and power of Jesus Christ ever since that day in Glen Innes when she gave her heart to the Lord.

Aunty Linda will be sadly missed by not only her family, but also her corps family in Bundaberg.

Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

Wonderful legacy



Dimitrios Moisisdis, or Jim, as he was affectionately known, was promoted to glory on 17 August, aged 80. Lieut Matthew Moore conducted a

Thanksgiving Service at the Tarrawanna Salvation Army, Wollongong, followed by a graveside committal on 22 August.

During the service there were tributes from Jim's wife, Maria, from his church family, as well as a letter from the Salvation Army in Greece.

Jim was part of the Tarrawanna Salvation Army church family, having been enrolled as a soldier in 1978.

Jim was a man who knew the meaning of the word "dedication".

He was dedicated in all that he did at the church, in his ministry and for the Kingdom of God. His motivation was

driven by his love for God.

He served for many years in Street Ministry, mainly at the local shopping centres. He loved to give out *Warcry* and *Kidzone*, but most of all he loved to give out stickers. With each sticker there was a Bible verse, and Jim knew that those verses would encourage and challenge all who read them.

Jim was never ashamed to talk about his love for God and God's love for others. It was this love that motivated Jim to do something about the poverty and suffering in his home country of Greece. He recognised that the presence of The Salvation Army in Greece could make a difference.

Over a period of 28 years (starting in 1989) he wrote letters to Salvation Army leaders about the desire that God had placed on his heart to see the Salvation Army established in Greece.

Year after year, letter after letter, Jim shared his passion for the people of Greece. He never gave up, even adding a visit to the International Headquarters in London, on one of his holidays, to share his vision and passion for the Salvation Army to be established in Greece.

Jim saw his dream realised on 1 October, 2007, when The Salvation Army opened fire in Greece.

Jim has been a great friend and brother to his church family and a loyal and faithful servant of God.

His wonderful legacy will be an inspiration for those who follow in his footsteps.

REPORTS

Please email Promoted To Glory reports and, if possible, a photograph to *Pipeline* at eastern.editorial@ae.salvationarmy.org. Please limit reports to about 400 words.

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about people

Appointments

Effective 23 September: Major Beatrice **Kay**, additional appointment as THQ Chaplain (Pro Tem); Captain Mavis **Salt**, additional appointment as Mission, Pastoral and Personnel Director (Pro Tem), Aged Care Plus; Captain Stephen **Smith**, appointed as Territorial Project Strategy Officer, Office of the Chief Secretary; Major Craig **Walker**, appointed as Productions Support - Territorial Communications and Public Relations Department, Business Administration.

Effective 9 January: Commissioner Barry **Pobjie** (Ret.), appointed as Divisional Silver Star Secretary, Newcastle and Central NSW Division; Major Narelle **Moxon**, appointed as Divisional Silver Star Secretary, North NSW Division.

Effective immediately: Major Lyn **Edge**, additional appointment as Hub Strategic Team Leader, Wider Sydney City Hub; Captains Mark and Fran **Everitt**, additional appointment as Hub Strategic Team Leaders, Canberra Hub; Captains Phillip and Tuesday **McCall**, additional appointment as Hub Strategic Team Leaders, Murray/Murrumbidgee Hub; Major Annette **West**, additional appointment as Hub Strategic Team Leader, Greater Ipswich Hub; Major Graham **Tamsett**, additional appointment as Hub Strategic Team Leader, Brisbane Hub; Major David **Terracini**, additional appointment as Hub Strategic Team Leader, Brisbane South Hub.

Bereaved

Major Allan **Kerr** of his mother, Berris **Kerr** on 17 August; Captain Jennifer **Stringer** of her father, Stan **Bowman** on 20 August; Lieutenant Jon **Cory** of his mother Naomi **Cory** on 21 August; Captain Alan **Keane** of his father Albert **Keane** on 28 August; Major Pamela **Alley** of her brother Trevor Faulkner, on 31 August.

Promoted to glory

Major Colin **Littlechild** on 14 August.

SPEACO Delegates

The following officers recently attended the South Pacific and East Asia College of Officers (SPEACO): Major Rowena **Smith**, Major Sue **Hopper** and Captain Greg **Saunders**.

School For Officer Training

The following candidates have been accepted into full-time training as part of the *Messengers of Light* Session 2014-2015: Vicki and Victor **Keenan**. The following candidate has been accepted into full-time training as part of the *Joyful Intercessors* Session 2015-2016: Shane **Burke**, Capricorn Region Corps (South Queensland Division).

time to pray

29 September – 5 October

Majors Norm and Isabel Beckett, Sweden and Latvia Territory; Queanbeyan Corps, Northern Beaches Aged Care Services, Oasis Youth Support Network, Bowral Corps, all NSW; Overseas Service Personnel Office, THQ; Int Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking (29); EQUIP-Gospel Arts Camp (29 Sep-5 Oct); Newcastle and Central NSW Division Review (4).

6-12 October

Majors Bruce and Cheryl Carpenter, Caribbean Territory;

Macquarie Fields Mission, Clulow Court, Miranda Corps, Engadine Corps, Menai Corps, all NSW; Family Tracing, NSW/ACT; Tuggeranong Corps, ACT; South Queensland Division Review (10-11); Gala Day (12).

13-19 October

Katharine Dale, Ghana Territory; Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), Pindari Men's Hostel, Noosa Shire Crisis Housing Program; all Qld; Narrabri Corps, William Booth Recovery Services Centre, both NSW; ACT and South NSW Division Women's Retreat (14-17); Appointment Announcement (17); Booth College Review (18); Candidates Weekend (18-20); Newcastle and Central NSW Division Kid's Camp (18-20).

20-26 October

Commissioners Kashinath and Kusum Lahase, India Northern Territory; Singleton Corps, Broken Hill Social Programs, Elizabeth Jenkins Place, Sydney Streetlevel Mission, all NSW; School for Christian Studies, THQ; Newcastle-Central NSW Div Women's Weekend (25-27), Thought Matters Conference (25-27).

27 October – 2 November

Colonel Geanette Seymour, International Social Justice Commission, New York; Wellington Corps, Cooma Corps, Deniliquin Corps, all NSW; Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Systems, THQ; SAILSS (Salvation Army Individual Lifestyle Support Services), Qld; Canberra Community Welfare Centre, ACT; ACT and South NSW Div Kids Camp (1-3); Sydney East and Illawarra and The Greater West Division SAGALA Camp (1-3).

engagement calendar

Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

THQ: Thu 3 Oct – Service Recognition Morning Tea.
 #Goulburn: Sat 5 Oct – Goulburn Boys Home Reunion and opening of Memorial Garden.
 *Collaroy: Sat 5 Oct – EQUIP Open Day.
 *Coffs Harbour: 11-13 Oct – NNSW Divisional Women's Refresh.
 #Bexley Nth: Sat 12 Oct – School for Officer Training Gala Day.
 Sydney: Mon 14 Oct – Gen Y Dinner with Roger Corbett.
 Bexley North: Fri 18 Oct – Booth College Review.
 Bexley North: Sat-Sun 19-20 Oct – Candidates Weekend.
 THQ: Mon 21 Oct – Inter Territorial Executive.

Commissioner James only

* Commissioner Jan only

Colonels Richard (Chief Secretary) and Janet Munn

Newcastle: Fri 4 Oct – Newcastle and Central NSW Div Review.
 Brisbane: Thur-Fri 10-11 Oct – South Qld Divisional Review.
 Taree: Sun 13 Oct – Corps Visit – combined meeting Taree and Forster/Tuncurry Corps.
 Taree: Mon 14 Oct – Divisional Retired Officers Meeting.
 #Central Coast: Tues 15 Oct – School for Youth Leadership.
 #Sydney: Fri 18 Oct – Booth College Review.
 *London: Fri 18-Mon 28 Oct – International Doctrine Council.
 Sydney: Thur 31 Oct – Spiritual Day – Booth College.

Colonel Janet only

* Colonel Richard only