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# pipeline

The Salvation Army  
Australia Eastern Territory  
January 2012  
Volume 16 Issue 1

## Salvos put into port

Kurths breathe new  
life into old steel town

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in a dark world

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#### ARTICLES BY

Commissioner James Condon | Major Alan Harley | Major Barbara Sampson | Lieut Cara Brackstone | Major Frank Duracher





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**The Salvation Army**  
**WILLIAM BOOTH**, Founder

International Headquarters  
101 Queen Victoria street  
London EC4P 4EP

**Linda Bond**, General

Australia Eastern Territory  
140 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

**James Condon**, Commissioner  
Territorial Commander

**Glenn Whittaker**, Major  
Communications and Public Relations  
Secretary

**Managing Editor**  
Scott Simpson

**Graphic design**  
Kern Pobjie

**Cover photo**  
Shairon Paterson

*Pipeline* is a publication of the  
Communications Team

Editorial and correspondence:  
Address: PO Box A435  
Sydney South NSW 1235  
**Phone:** (02) 9266 9690  
**www.salvos.org.au**  
**Email:** eastern.editorial  
@aue.salvationarmy.org

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## Willing to step out for God

**F**or many people a new year equates to the opportunity for a fresh start. Resolutions are made to ditch old habits in favour of a new, healthier lifestyle.

This issue of *Pipeline* is full of stories about people who are making a fresh start at the beginning of 2012.

Among them we feature the testimony of one of the recently commissioned Salvation Army lieutenants who is heading out to the front lines to take up her first appointment.

And then there's our cover story – Captains Paul and Christy Kurth who this year are embarking on a new and daunting ministry in an area known for its prostitutes, pimps, drug pushers, addicts and derelict shopfronts.

All of these people are taking giant steps of faith as they head into another year, and yet they can stride out confidently in the assurance that they are following God's will for their lives.

Ah yes, that big question that is so common among Christians – what is God's will for me?

So what is the answer? Well – and I've written about this before – the Bible doesn't seem to spend too much time in providing specifics on this subject, except to make this somewhat crucial summary in 1 Thessalonians 4:3: "It is God's will that you should be sanctified ..." (*New International Version*). Now that, to me, seems pretty clear – God wants your sanctification; his desire is that you are made holy. God's will is not so much about what you do, but who you are.

## God's will

As you delve into the pages of the Bible, what you're going to learn is that God is passionate about changing the inner you.

He knows that if he can change you into the person he wants you to be, then you're going to know the answers to those "will of God" questions. You'll know where you're supposed to go, who you're supposed to marry, and where you're supposed to work.

It is this inner character that Paul is referring to when in Ephesians 5:17, he writes, "Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is". North American author and preacher James MacDonald summarises it as, "we need to work on obeying the will of God as revealed in his Word before we can expect some kind of special guidance for our lives".

So as we enter a new year, let me encourage you to stride out confidently in the assurance of what has been revealed to you in the Bible. Because it is in those pages that you will begin to find guidance as you seek God's will for your life.

**Scott Simpson**  
Managing Editor





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## *Oasis of blessings in full flow for the faithful*

**Commissioner JAMES CONDON** calls on all believers to dive into God's powerful streams of spiritual refreshment which cut through barren wastelands in our lives

**A**s we come to the new year, it is timely to look back and give thanks for all that has happened in 2011.

It's quite helpful to take time to recall events and people who have touched our lives in the past year and to thank God for these. Of course, not all events are enjoyable and some have faced difficult days for various reasons. Some of the people we have met during the past year have caused pain and challenged us, but it is true to say that there are far more pleasant experiences than negative ones. I have always tried to be a positive person and believe in the power of positive thinking.

In Isaiah 43:19, it says, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland".

The desert in the past may have been ill health, broken relationships, family difficulties, financial hardships, loss of employment or a tragedy of some kind, but God says he will make a way through the desert. Deserts are not all bad, for in the desert we learn some valuable life lessons and our faith has opportunity to grow and strengthen.

God is making streams in the wasteland. He is waiting to refresh us with streams of living water and renew our energy to face the future. He wants to take away the dry and barren areas of our life and replace them with newness and freshness.

I believe this verse applies to us as individuals and also to The Salvation Army. The challenge is to take verse 18 of Isaiah 43 and make it reality in our lives. "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past."

Sometimes we want to stay in the past, to live in the desert and feel sorry for ourselves, but there's a new thing happening. Can you see it and believe for it? God wants us to move on from the desert and enjoy the oasis of his provision and blessings in the year that lies ahead.

### **God of the impossible**

On a recent Sunday morning at Sydney Congress Hall, I was greatly challenged by a message from our Corps Officer, Major Terry Grey, from Isaiah 40 which talks about God wanting to make a highway in the desert – seen as impossible. But he is the God of the impossible.

Watch for it in your own life and in the Army. Exciting days are ahead as we move into new areas of ministry, new relationships and new revelations of what God wants to do in us and through us. Don't miss out. Watch for the new thing.

As we look to 2012, I am reminded of the poem written by Minnie Louise Harkins:

*"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,  
 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown'.  
 And he replied,  
 'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God,  
 That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!'  
 So I went forth and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night,  
 He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone east."*

We can trust God for the future and for the new things he is wanting to do.



**Commissioner James Condon** is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory



# Growing and glowing in the Spirit

**Major ALAN HARLEY** reflects on the Spirit's transforming presence which he likens to the metamorphosis process in nature

**F**rom the crest of the Mount of Olives the sun rose over Jerusalem. Slowly it made its appearance, displacing the darkness.

At first its light was pale and timid. Then gradually the scene changed.

Light penetrated the crevices and cavities and flooded the valley below. Then ancient Jerusalem began to glow as the sun's rays struck the golden domes and ancient walls. The cold stones were warmed. The grey olive trees began to sparkle. The austere city was bathed in reflected glory.

Night had gone. Day had come.

Morning glory had transformed the city and made it beautiful.

As I reflected on this scene I thought of what happens when people encounter the Spirit. Life's drabness is displaced. Light replaces darkness. Gloom is exchanged for glory.

And, like the sunrise, the work of the Spirit is, at first, almost imperceptible.

Slowly his warmth and light begin to penetrate the soul's crevices. The darkness of the hidden places fades. The heart of stone is touched and changed. Those whom the Spirit touches begin to reflect the splendour of the Lord.

In Romans 12:1 the apostle Paul speaks of an initial transformation in the Christian's life. In 2 Corinthians 3:18 Paul talks of a continual transformation. In Romans 12:1 "transformed" is, in the Greek text, in the aorist tense, which can convey the idea of a specific action. In 2

Corinthians 3:18 it is in the present tense, suggesting an ongoing action.

Ancient Jerusalem was made beautiful by a reflected glory. So are we if the Spirit is working in our lives. And it's not "here today, gone tomorrow" beauty. It's not "skin deep". It's not like that seen on the face of Moses. He came back from meeting with God and his face shone. But it was temporary. By contrast, in Christ we receive "the glory which lasts." (2 Corinthians 3:7-18).

## Reflected radiance

That's because Moses met only briefly with God. But today, by the Spirit, we live in his presence. And in his presence something happens. We are not aware of it, but we are in process of becoming like the company we keep. We reflect the Lord's glory.

Older versions of the Bible had "behold", rather than "reflect". One of them says "beholding as in a glass". That makes sense too. But which is correct? Actually, both. The Greek word "katoptrēsthai", from "katoptrizō", means either to behold or to reflect. One ancient writer used it to describe priests who polished the temple vessels until they could see their faces reflected in them.

Christians who live in the presence of Christ reflect his character. Not that they are aware of it, mind you. As retired Salvation Army General John Gowan says, of such people, "... when I comment on their beauty as I spot it, they seem

surprised, they didn't know they'd got it."

So there's no taking a peek in the mirror to see if we look more spiritual today than yesterday. If it's God's work it will take our attention off ourselves and on to Christ.

Beholding and the reflecting occur in prayer. Alone with God and our Bible, we position ourselves for the Spirit to do the work. In worship there's a reflexive action. We direct our attention to God and he reveals himself to us and in us.

## "Christians who live in the presence of Christ reflect his character."

Collectively – together with God's people, and privately – alone with God, we behold God's glory. And we leave worship to engage in daily activities, unmindful of the fact that the splendour of God's reflected radiance is on our lives. People can look at our lives and say "and we beheld his glory." That's because we've taken time to behold the glory of the Lord.

## Inner transformation

Radiance is evident on the outside because the Spirit is at work on the inside.

Paul says "we are being transformed into his likeness." We experience "metamorphosis", the original Greek being "metamorphoō". That's the word he uses. It's one of those foreign terms that has become an English one. Scientists

adopted it to describe regular happenings within in nature.

Metamorphosis takes place each spring. The chrysalis becomes a butterfly. Tadpoles become frogs. Creatures become what previously they were not. In Canada at winter's end we see the crocuses appearing through the snow, a rich yellow in a blanket of white.

Against the odds they make their bid for life, and win. Because it is spring the snow melts and the flowers thrive. In

Life remains the same but is somehow different. It's like ancient Jerusalem. In one sense nothing changes at sunrise. It's the same old city. Yet at the same time everything changes when bathed in morning glory.

The transformed mind, the mind "in step with the Spirit", responds in a different way to life's events. Not only actions, but also reactions and attitudes are affected. We not only think differently, we behave differently.

A transformed mind is God's answer to irritability, bad moods, grumpiness and all those other unpleasant qualities which we know we shouldn't have. A changed mind makes us easier to live with.

In place of those ugly qualities, the Holy Spirit produces love, joy, peace, gentleness and patience.

## Glory to glory

The word metamorphosis is used sparingly in the Bible. The only other use of it is when the Gospel writers tell of Jesus being "transfigured" (same word).

In Matthew 17:2 and Mark 9:21 we read about three disciples – Peter, James and John – who had an experience they would never forget. Something happened to Jesus up there on the mountain which utterly changed his appearance. He shone with such glory that even his clothes were aglow. The glory did not shine down from heaven upon Jesus. It came from within him.

*Continued page 23*



# BREATHING NEW LIFE INTO OLD STEEL TOWN

**BILL SIMPSON** speaks to two young Salvation Army officers who can see the mission potential of a run-down main street in the heart of Wollongong's industrial precinct





“As we drove through Port Kembla, I sensed that God was doing something here.”

**P**rostitutes, pimps, pushers, addicts and derelict shopfronts. It’s an image the main street of Port Kembla, on the doorstep of Australia’s biggest steelworks on the NSW South Coast, has presented for the past quarter of a century.

Half a century ago, however, it was the Wollongong local government area shopping showpiece. With thousands of European workers recruited to swell the steel plant’s job force, the main street of Port Kembla in the 1950s was a colourful, cosmopolitan shopping precinct.

Boutiques, milkbars, outdoor eateries, art shops, cinemas ... it had everything. People came from kilometres to the north and south – often bypassing bigger shops in Wollongong city’s main street – just to enjoy Port Kembla’s atmosphere.

As a young boy, I gloried in the Greek milkbars with their gleaming stainless steel containers overflowing with luscious lime green milkshakes; their massive multi-coloured ice-cream sundaes topped with banana, chocolate and nuts – and the chocolate éclairs!

But with the arrival of the big suburban shopping complexes – one only a virtual walk away at Warrawong – Port Kembla began to deteriorate to the point of dereliction.

Thousands of the workers brought from overseas also moved out as the steel industry suffered a world-wide downturn. The Port Kembla workforce plummeted

from a peak of 24,000 to 8000 in the 1980s and is now down to around 3000.

Many main street buildings are boarded; some have disappeared, leaving unkempt vacant land. Some are for sale or lease. The biggest businesses appear to be three hotels, an RSL club, a leagues club and several licensed bars.

Visitors now are mostly men cruising the streets at night looking for personal pleasure. It is not a nice place to be anymore.

### Huge potential

Yet, it still has potential for return to past glories. The main street is wide and lined with palm trees. Port Kembla Chamber of Commerce and Wollongong City Council are working on solutions to regenerate the town.

The word regenerate has captured The Salvation Army’s attention. The Salvation Army is in the regeneration and transformation business.

And, so, The Salvation Army is moving into Port Kembla to play its part in the process. While business works on regenerating Port Kembla’s commercial heart, The Salvation Army will work on transforming the hearts of the community.

The project has The Salvation Army of 140 years ago written all over it. Port Kembla is the kind of place where it all started for The Salvation Army in East London in 1865.

Inspired young officers Captain



Salvation Army officers Lieutenant Paul and Captain Christy Kurth can see God’s light penetrating the often dark and gloomy landscape of Wollongong’s heavy industrial precinct. Photos: Shairon Paterson

Christy and Lieutenant Paul Kurth are leading the Army’s charge into Port Kembla.

Christy was Corps Officer at nearby Berkeley until it was closed two and a half years ago. She married fresh officer training college graduate Paul and the move to a Port Kembla-based ministry began to evolve.

“We started a community needs analysis,” explains Paul. “We just drove around the area looking at places to start a new ministry. As we drove through Port Kembla, I sensed that God was doing something here. But I didn’t know what.”

Paul and Christy were invited to business functions and to talk to business people about their plans. The response was positive.

What they were seeing and hearing was appealing to their sense of service.

For Christy, The Salvation Army founder William Booth’s concept of soup, soap and salvation was at the forefront of her mind for a transformed Port Kembla.

For Paul, it was more about Missio Dei – a Latin Christian theological term for “Mission of God”.

“For me,” says Paul, “it was a case of discovering where God was working and partnering with him in that place. That’s how I interpret Missio Dei.”

### Finding God

Among other things, Christy brings academic abilities to the role. A self-confessed “good girl” from Queensland’s Sunshine Coast, Christy had a private school education, private music lessons and a university arts degree.

“I suppose I studied life, like what we will see at Port Kembla from an intellectual perspective. I had looked at deviant lifestyles and why people and society are the way they are,” she tells *Pipeline*.

“I was curious about it. But I didn’t experience it, except for seeing a bit when my grandparents were officers and managed a homeless men’s hostel.”

Brisbane-raised Paul was the son of

officers, but he had experienced what Christy had only read about.

Paul had his first taste of alcohol at 14 and was smoking marijuana at 15. That’s the way life went for him for most of his teens, even though he attended church every Sunday.

“I was smoking marijuana every day. People told me drugs were bad for me, but they didn’t say why. I tried drugs and I didn’t see that they were bad for me. So, I kept smoking them.

“I really hated the hypocrisy in the church – and then I realised that I was the biggest hypocrite of all. So, I decided to leave the church in 1999. I was 20 at the time. I said that I didn’t believe in God any more.

“My officer listened to me and encouraged me to stay, and work this God thing out for myself. So, I stayed. But I was angry that I stayed. I told God that he needed to show up if he was real make me stop this lifestyle.

“I told God that he needed to get >>>



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Lieutenant Paul and Captain Christy Kurth have a vision for the main street of Port Kembla which involves projects that build community spirit.

my attention. I was charged for drink-driving on the way to church one Sunday. I told God that: 'Okay, you've got my attention, but you don't have me, yet.'

On New Year's Eve 2000, Paul celebrated by drinking at an all-night party, at which he injured a foot and required medical attention. He started off as a passenger in one vehicle and then switched to a second car.

While travelling in the second vehicle, he came across the first car which had careered off the road in a serious accident. "As I watched my friend being released from the wreck with the 'Jaws of Life', I sensed God say to me that if I had been in that vehicle I would be dead.

"I said: 'OK. Now you've got me'."

During a church service, a preacher got through to Paul with a warning that commitment to God came with a cost.

He went home, poured all of his alcohol down a drain and destroyed his marijuana. A few years later he took a mission trip to South Africa and returned to Australia ready to serve. In 2007, he

committed to officership in The Salvation Army, entering college the following year.

## Mixed emotions

And, now, Christy and Paul are on the threshold of their new ministry together. Their emotions, they confess, are all over the place.

They are super excited, nervous, scared; they don't know if what they have in mind will work. The way God is orchestrating it, Paul says, makes him nervous because he is way out of his comfort zone.

"When God does amazing things, it can be terrifying," Christy says. "Sometimes, I think: 'Heavens, what does this really mean!'"

The initial Port Kembla package includes completed purchase of a three-level former Italian restaurant in the main street and a three-part mission statement: Do life, Explore life and Experience life.

The plan is to firstly connect with people already in main-street Port Kembla - the shop owners and workers. They

will open a coffee shop/meeting place in the building and then offer courses that develop personal and community capacity. Courses would include helping people to become more employable through dressing for work, coping with interviews, writing resumes and developing a positive view. They are also considering play groups.

Paul and Christy say there are already many social/welfare groups in the area, so are aiming to give people the skills and support to rise above circumstances that made them welfare-dependent.

"It's a get to know people ministry," Paul says. "We want to give people stability, hope and the chance to dream again." □



Bill Simpson is a writer for Pipeline and its supplements



# Shining Christ's love into a dark world

*Pipeline* reporter **SIMONE WORTHING** spoke to three young Salvationists whose ministry involves visiting brothels in inner-city Sydney to build relationships with women working there



Krystle Walters (left), Robyn Evans and Sonya Orr head up a special Salvation Army ministry to women working in legal brothels in inner-city Sydney.  
Photo: Shairon Paterson

Three young women huddle together and pray before heading out to the streets of inner Sydney. Around the city, women from The Salvation Army's Sydney Congress Hall Home League, and others, are praying for them and their ministry to women working in legal brothels.

Robyn Evans, The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territorial Social Justice and Community Development Officer, and Edify interns Krystle Walters and Sonya Orr, visit between one and three brothels each week to spend time with the women there.

"Before we leave we pray and ask God to give us his energy and strength because we cannot do this ministry without him being in the centre of it," says Sonya.

"A constant prayer we pray is that the uncontrolled desire for sex and the act of purchasing sex will cease, that the women will see how valuable and worthy they are and will no longer feel the need to work in this type of industry," Krystle adds.

The goal of the outreach program is to give the women working in the brothels information about health and other services available to them in the area.

"Our main focus, though, is relationship building," explains Robyn. "We want to help reduce the women's isolation because, in many cases, their friends and families don't know what they do, the women don't want them to know, and so they are often alone."

The outreach team sits with the women in the staff rooms of the brothels and spends time talking with them.

"We aren't there to preach the gospel but to support the women in any way we can," says Robyn. "And they respond to this."

"Most of them are under 30 and are working there by choice, which can be hard for people to understand.

"Some of the women say they don't want to do what they are doing forever, others say that it's a good way for them to work part-time and earn good money.

"These brothels are 'up-market' and so the women are generally well looked after."

The women the team visit don't want to be rescued. They want someone to care for them and to be there for them.

"What I find most rewarding about visiting brothels is that we are really building good relationships with some of the women," Sonya says.

"It's not always us asking the questions but they ask us questions, too, about what we are doing and why.

"When we go there they may not always be really chatty, but when we say it is time for us to leave they seemed surprised, as if they don't want us to go."

The language barrier is one of the major challenges the team faces in the brothels. Most of the women have a limited knowledge of English, which can make communication difficult.

"We've had to do a lot of work learning about other cultures so we can engage the women, such as knowing

about the special days and traditions in their culture," explains Robyn.

"We do this because, as Christians, we see a need for women to be engaged in doing something else. There is definitely a gap between the Church and some of these places."

Krystle agrees. "Our role and purpose for this type of ministry is to bridge the gap and remove the stigma that both churches and brothels have for one another," she says.

"The women in this industry are daughters of our Lord just like you and me, and maybe by us visiting them where they are we can be Christ's light and love in such a dark area."

## Police support

The brothel outreach began in March last year, although much of the work involved to get the program established took place in 2010.

"This pre-work included talking to the local Surry Hills police and various

women's services that operate in the area, as well as brothel operators," says Robyn.

"We get a lot of support from the local police as they, too, want to build relationships with the brothels to help maintain the women's safety and security and prevent violence.

"The preparation work is vital to sustain this ministry in the long-term."

The Salvation Army's Auburn Corps, in western Sydney, is also carrying out community mapping to find out where the legal brothels are in their area, and how the corps might be able to reach out to the workers there.

Robyn and Major Robbin Moulds, Director at Oasis Youth Support Network, have run community training sessions for the ladies of the corps interested in this ministry, which include information on preparation work, boundaries and recognising signs of ill health or abuse.

"We haven't come across any evidence of violence or trafficking, but if we did suspect one of the women was being held

by force, or was a victim of trafficking, we would contact both the police and our trafficking service and work with them on resolving this issue," says Robyn.

Sonya sums up the reasons she and the team are engaged in brothel outreach: "I would love to see the women that work inside these places find their worth and value in God. I also pray that maybe one day, where these brothels are will become temples to serve God and his mission."

To find out more information about this ministry, email Robyn Evans at [robyn.evans@aue.salvationarmy.org](mailto:robyn.evans@aue.salvationarmy.org) or phone 02 9266 9882. □



Simone Worthing is a writer for *Pipeline* and supplements.





# God puts a smile back on Cara's face

## Lieutenant CARA BRACKSTONE

was among 20 new Salvation Army officers of the Australia Eastern Territory commissioned late last year. During the Commissioning service, she gave a moving testimony of God's transforming power, which she has allowed *Pipeline* to print



**I**n the early days of The Salvation Army, when somebody made a decision to become a Christian and join their ranks they would receive a ribbon to symbolise the change, so they could share this with other people. But more importantly, and of greater lasting impact, is the evidence of a transformed life.

I grew up in a typical Aussie household. Like most Australians, I thought Jesus was a swear word and church was irrelevant.

Yet I was someone who was always looking for answers to the philosophical questions of life. I was just convinced that Christianity was the last place I'd find them.

When I was a teenager my life took a downward turn. I was diagnosed with depression, which required medication and counselling to treat.

I would sometimes walk the streets aimlessly at night, with little regard for what could happen to me.

One night I walked to The Salvation Army. To my surprise, it was open and I went inside to investigate. They were having a songster practice, and when I listened to the words of the song, which spoke about God's strength being made perfect in weakness, I started to cry. But unlike the tears of depression I was so used to, I was crying tears of joy. I was completely taken aback by my reaction and asked what time the church service was.

That Sunday I went to church for the first time. I didn't know how church people dressed, or how they acted. I had no idea what they were talking about, or what I was expected to do.

But in that meeting the person gave out the invitation to come forward for prayer and my heart was beating a million miles an hour.

Everything within me was screaming "Go, go, GO!" and before I knew it I was at the front.

Someone came to pray with me and

a miraculous thing happened. When I got up after the prayer I knew that the depression had left me. I was able to get off the medication and I was a happier person.

I couldn't fully explain what had happened to me, but I realised: "I'm onto something good here, I'll keep going."

In The Salvation Army work and ministry, I have seen the evidence of transformed lives in churches, rehabs and hospitals.

I have seen God's presence change places of devastation, communities without hope and churches without fire.

I have seen his transformation overseas and in Australia and maybe there is transformation due here today.

In the course of theological training I have learnt that there are no easy answers to people's deep personal needs.

There are no black and white formulas to unravel the mysteries of the universe.

But I do know this: Jesus changes lives ... because he transformed mine. □



# SELF DENIAL STORIES



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# A heart for Zambia

Salvationist **PETER TRICK** has made it his mission to serve the people of an impoverished African nation



Peter visits a group of schoolchildren in Zambia.



New bicycles for four Salvation Army officers.

People involved in volunteer service tend to measure the success of their work by the degree to which they have affected the lives of others. I prefer to measure it by "what degree have the lives of others affected me?" I proved this with my most recent trip (my third visit) to The Salvation Army's Chikankata Mission Hospital in Zambia.

In previous visits I had spent much of my time away from the hospital, doing building work organising an accommodation centre with toilets, showers, an assembly hall and three thatched huts to stay in. This time, I spent most of my visit working in and around the hospital wards.

The tasks given to me by the hospital director were to paint wards, corridors, entrances and toilets, with add-on tasks chosen by the mission administrator and myself.

Friends and members of the Army's Tuggeranong Corps, in Canberra, helped me raise about \$8000. So I was able to purchase the paint and materials, but also assist many people financially. For instance, I realised on my first visit the importance of a bicycle to a Salvation Army officer, who so often walks many kilometres as there is no other means of transport. I contacted the Divisional Commander of Mazabuka Division and

he helped me select bikes for four needy officers. On presentation of the bicycles to the officers, I was rewarded with a dance and the singing of *Showers Of Blessing*. My heart was warmed by the appreciation expressed and the excitement of the officers.

I subsequently purchased another two bicycles. One was presented to a teaching student, who had to walk 8km just to buy groceries, the other to another officer.

I met many people who were studying and I learned of their needs. This included four teachers who needed funds to complete their degrees, and others who were seeking clothing and shoes for orphans whose parents had died from HIV-related diseases. I was so often reminded of the chorus, *I Have Not Much To Give Thee Lord, But All I Have Is Thine*.

## Agent of God

One day I was invited to attend a village for dinner. I walked 8km in the hot sun and, as part of the visit, went to the local corps. The mud-brick hall had been destroyed in a storm and the soldiers, about 100 without an officer, were worshipping in a partially completed grass shack. I was very moved by their enthusiasm and asked why the hall was not progressing, and was told they had no money to purchase cement. I felt I was an

agent of God that day and returned to the hall to announce that we would donate 10 bags of the much-needed cement.

An enthusiastic congregation then just thrilled me with their appreciation and again with dance and song.

A major highlight was travelling – over the dreadful road tracks – with rural nurses who took a clinic to administer to more than 100 mothers and children.

While there, I had the pleasure of giving donated clothing to the desperate children, as well as playing with tennis balls and frisbees and sharing biscuits and popcorn.

Again, I was overwhelmed by the poverty of these dear people, and have returned to Canberra more determined than ever to share my story with people, and to encourage them to support me in all that I do for my Zambian friends.

What makes a dear child come to my room with a gift of peanuts, pumpkins grown at their home and beautiful pottery made by their grandfather as a token of their love and thanks to me? Such a humbling experience.

I have such a desire to return to Chikankata to serve once again next year.

Peter Trick is a Salvationist from the Tuggeranong Corps in Canberra.



# In the footsteps of heroes

Harley Short has experienced more hardship in his 14 years than most people endure in a lifetime, but, as **NAOMI SINGLEHURST** found out, a recent opportunity to walk the Kokoda Track gave him a fresh perspective on doing it tough



Harley Short with his trek sponsor, Tim Thomson

As 14-year-old Harley Short stood to receive a special award at his school assembly, presented by businessman and Kokoda trek sponsor Tim Thomson, his grandmother and carer, Jean, was crying so hard that she could barely see the stage.

Jean was bursting with pride not only because Harley had just completed a gruelling walk along the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea, but she knew this was not her grandson's first extraordinary journey.

At the age of nine, and desperately worried about the welfare of his younger sisters, Harley left his highly unstable home to walk two hours to find Jean's house.

He risked a range of serious consequences to alert his grandmother of the escalating dangers that he and his sisters were facing at home – a home where the children were being used as drug couriers, and drug use and a range of abuse were growing daily and dangerously. Eventually, the children found a stable and loving home with Jean and her husband.

Five years later, Harley, who had not spent one night away from Jean since moving to live with her and had never flown before, undertook the second epic walk of his life. He was offered sponsorship as a potential young leader in his community to walk the Kokoda Track.

Captain Jacob Robinson, who runs The Salvation Army Investa Treks, organised full sponsorship for Harley, financed

by Investa Treks and fellow trekker and successful businessman Tim.

"Harley is an amazing young guy who'd had a great deal of pain in his young life. I cried when I first sat and heard his story. But from that background [of pain] he decided to make positive decisions about his life," says Jacob, who is also The Salvation Army's Divisional Youth Secretary for its Newcastle and Central NSW Division.

Investa Treks takes individuals and groups to Kokoda with the ultimate aim to help fund Salvation Army work in PNG and assist people who live along the track. In the past year, the organisation has also organised sponsorship for 11 potential young Australian leaders like Harley to walk the track, or be part of a building project team.

"Investa Treks is all about investing in the lives of others and investing in the future. We accomplish this through Kokoda treks, other treks and tours in PNG, employment, supporting the local economy, building projects, child sponsorship, training and leadership development," explains Jacob.

He says the leadership program encourages sponsorship donations to help young leaders develop in research and public speaking, challenge themselves to their physical and emotional limits, and also see first-hand some of the extreme poverty in Port Moresby.

"It is a [major] investment, but we want to continue investing in these young people [because] we've seen such

Harley with Captain Jacob Robinson and a "Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel", a PNG local who helped Australian soldiers during the Kokoda campaign in World War Two.



significant change," says Jacob. "It is life-changing! It's absolutely worthwhile."

## Emotional experience

Jacob saw great strength in Harley – a young man active in his school and church who lost a lot of weight before the trek. But, says Jacob, there were times on the trip when the teenager struggled.

Overcoming the physical and emotional obstacles of the walk can be a hugely challenging experience, even for much older and more mature trekkers, says Jacob.

"There is intense beauty around you ... but as you continually walk your body gets more exhausted, lethargic, you start to experience more pain," he says.

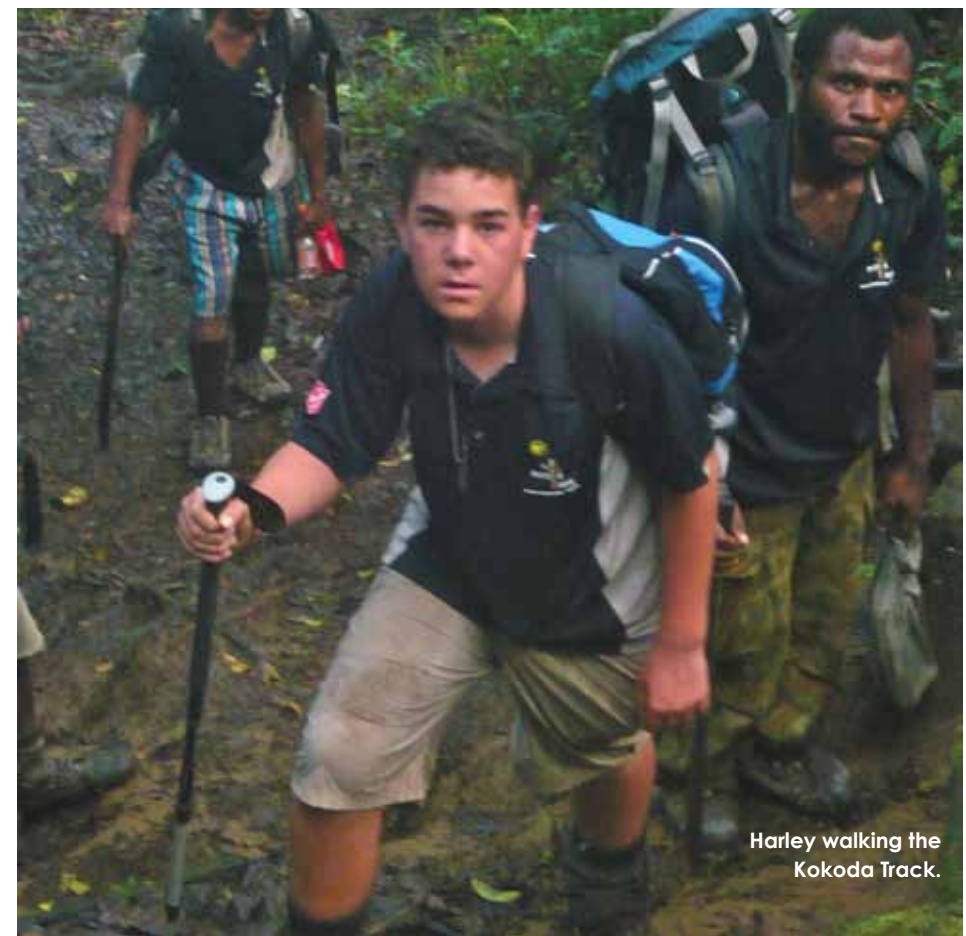
"You're more inclined to be emotional because of your physical condition ... especially when you get to the Isurava War Memorial and realise what soldiers must have suffered and sacrificed.

"For the first few days [of the trek], Harley was very emotional – this was his first time away from home, his first time overseas. I came alongside him and just kept encouraging him.

"Tim [his sponsor] is a 57-year-old man and he would say to Harley, 'I've done it, you can do it'. And Harley [halfway through] said, 'Yes I am going to do it'.

"It was beautiful ... [a] transition from a boy to a young man."

Harley, who has been attending The Salvation Army at Tuggerah Lakes on the Central Coast of NSW for the past few years, says of the Kokoda trek: "It



Harley walking the Kokoda Track.

was the most amazing experience of my life. It made me appreciate things [much] more – I saw poverty and [that] made me appreciate the things that I've got. [Life's] more about giving than receiving."

It's a change of perspective not lost on his Grandma, who says even the cost of organising a passport and clothing was a challenge for the family.

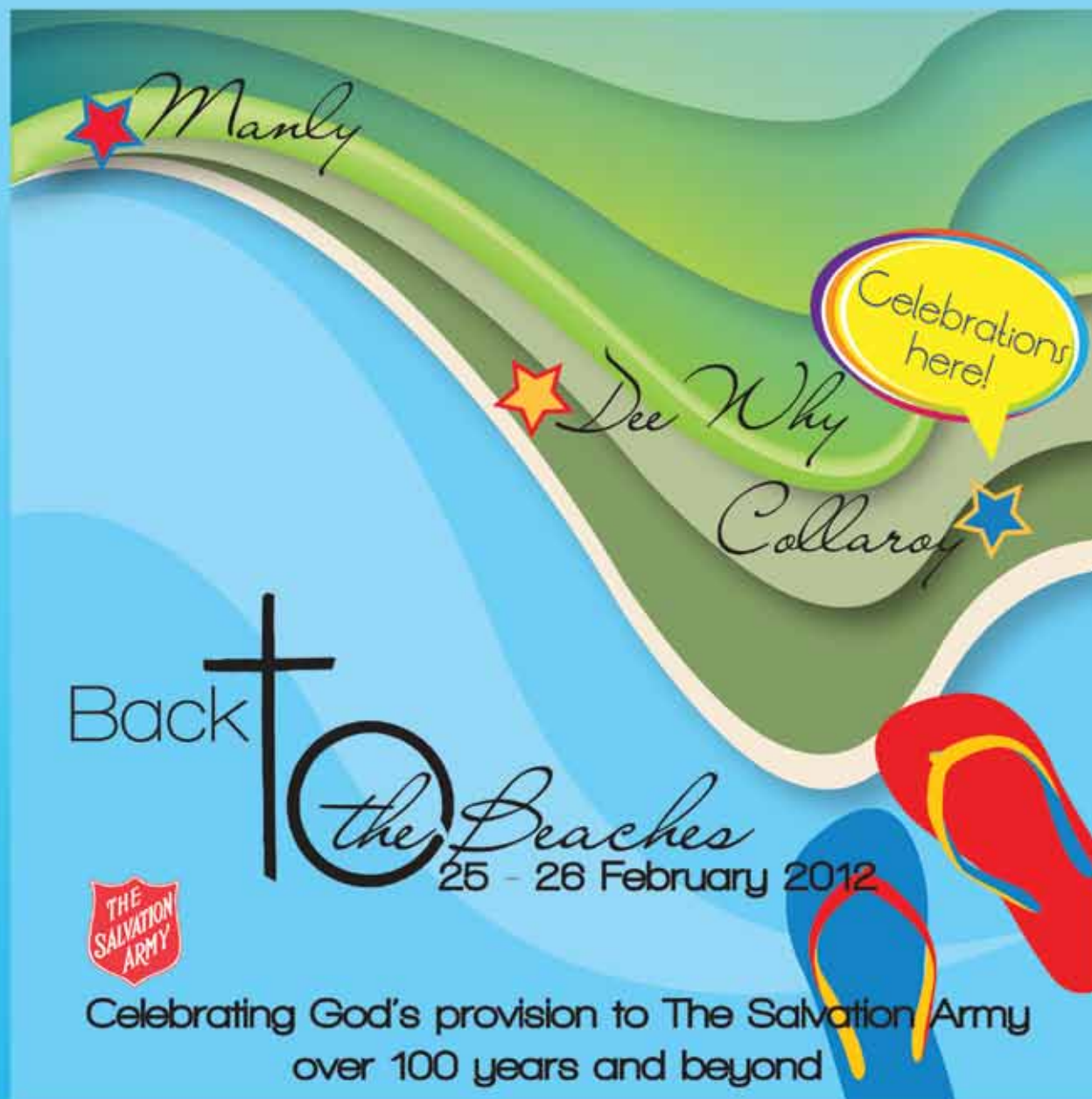
"I broke down and cried [when I found out] Harley gave his sandals to one of the gentlemen over in PNG because he had

no shoes," says Jean. "He gave away two pairs of his pants; water bottles, socks to the people there who had nothing.

"Harley thought that he had a hard life, but [now] you say to him, 'you've had a hard life' and he'll say, 'no I haven't'. Because he's been to where [people have it so much harder]. I'm very proud!" □

**Investa Treks is seeking Kokoda trekkers and volunteers for its 2012 building projects. For more information go to [www.kokodatrack.org.au](http://www.kokodatrack.org.au)**





Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 February 2012  
Save the dates!

Celebrations will be held at The Collaroy Centre

for more information please contact  
Dee Why Corps at  
deewhy.corps@aue.salvationarmy.org

## Habit 13

# The discipline of servanthood

**John 13:1-17**

"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you" (v. 15, NIV).

The air was heavy, everyone waiting. The meal was already being served but the usual customs of arrival and preparation for eating had not yet been attended to. Feet were still grimy, hands still unwashed. Where were the servants?

Without saying a word Jesus got up, wrapped a towel around his waist and filled a basin with water. Kneeling before each of his disciples in turn he washed and dried their feet. In that moment Jesus, their Lord and Teacher, redefined servanthood. The way to greatness, he said, is by serving. Look not for a title but for a towel.

Jesus had spent his whole life serving - healing, teaching, setting free. His

disciples had observed and applauded. They loved what they saw. But on this night just before the Passover Feast they understood something they had never grasped before - the way up is by going down, down to the ordinary, the mundane, the least and lowest task.

Jesus called his disciples then, just as he calls you and me today, to a life of servanthood. Such servanthood is content to be hidden, unnoticed, unacknowledged. It delights in the service itself. It serves faithfully because there is a need. It does not pick and choose what it will do or who it will focus on, but is glad to be "servant of all" (Mark 9:35).

Francis of Assisi wrote, "Being the servant of all, I am bound to serve all and to administer the balm-bearing words of my Lord."

Servanthood of the Jesus kind looks outwards and it draws, binds, heals, comforts, builds community. It makes itself available, surrendered and vulnerable but leaves the result, the response, the reputation in God's hands.

All kinds of service can be offered in this way - listening, offering hospitality, bearing the burdens and sorrows of others. Francis de Sales said, "The great virtues are a rare occurrence; the ministry of small things is a daily service."

This is the servanthood that Jesus calls us to, the life-giving service that flows from a heart of love.

### To reflect on ...

Jesus taught the ministry of the basin and the towel. How can you serve in this way in your church?

## Growing and glowing in the light

From page 7

So when Paul tells the Corinthians that "we are transformed into the same likeness" it's as if he's saying, "God has implanted his glory in your lives. And he wants to reveal it through your lives."

Scholars tell us that the basic meaning of "glory" in the Old Testament is "presence".

Spirit-filled Christians live in the presence of God. More than that, the presence of God is in them. And when this is the case, other people know about it. They can see the change in their lives.

And this change is continuous. It's a process.

It's "from glory to glory" says Paul. Or as some versions have it, "from one degree of glory to another", or "ever-increasing glory." Making people like Christ is a work in progress. The Christian's life is like a canvas on which the artist is continually putting his finishing touches.

### God's miracle

Early last century the movie producer Cecil B. DeMille was relaxing in his canoe.

The canoe was close to the shore and DeMille was reading a book. His reading was distracted by the appearance of a large black beetle which had crawled up on the gunwale. The ugly creature sat there, seemingly staring at the great man.

DeMille looked for a moment into the water below and saw the rest of the beetle family poking around in the murky gloom. He later recorded his sympathy for the submarine beetles who would never enjoy any other form of existence.

Then something quite unexpected happened. The beetle suddenly died. And almost immediately following its death, the ugly shell cracked open in response to the heat of the sun. From it emerged something described as "a shapeless mass whose hideousness was transformed into beautiful, brilliantly coloured life. Then out of the mass gradually unfolded four iridescent wings from which the sunlight flashed a thousand colours. The wings spread as if to worship."

The dead shell remained clinging to the boat. But the magnificent dragonfly skirted and danced over the water's surface. In

its old form such speed and such feats would have been impossible. DeMille had witnessed metamorphosis.

Reflecting on the scene it occurred to him that "if the Creator worked such wonders into the lowliest of creatures, what may be in store for the human spirit?"

For the Christian the answer is not in doubt.

One beetle left the crowd below and climbed to the sunlight. In so doing he experienced a miracle.

So with us. We can stay below with the crowd. Or we can climb toward the light. If we do, we experience a miracle. We are "transformed into his likeness by the Spirit." This is God's plan for every Christian.

Don't settle for less than God's best.



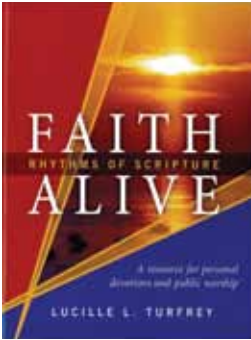
Major Alan Harley is a lecturer on the Territorial Spiritual Life Development Team and a member of the International Doctrine Council



Poet’s inspiration drawn from prayer room

Faith Alive – Rhythms of Scripture, by Lucille Turfrey

Almost a decade ago, my wife and I spent a couple of years living in Melbourne. Our lives were truly enriched by spending time in the company of some wonderfully creative people. One of those people was an intriguing lady called Lucille Turfrey, a retired lieutenant-colonel of The Salvation Army. Among other things, she had been principal of officer training colleges in Melbourne and Russia. Lucille is a lady of thoughtful words – the author of eight books. She is also a lady of spectacular creative design, although – and I am sorry to bring this up, Lucille – my most memorable recollection of Melbourne is seeing Lucille dressed as the long blonde-haired Agnetha from the



1970s pop group ABBA singing *Waterloo* at a corps officer’s 40th birthday party. Now, that’s creative! I mention this to introduce the latest book from the hand of Lucille Turfrey, which has come across the Pipeline desk. The book is called *Faith Alive – Rhythms of Scripture*. When I read the acknowledgements at the front and saw that Commissioner Wesley Harris – another gem of our time in Melbourne and respected Salvation Army author – had collaborated to some extent in this book, it further confirmed quality. *Faith Alive – Rhythms of Scripture* is a book of spiritual poems that can also be used as songs. Indeed, the author suggests the tunes for each offering. The poems can also be used as the basis of a daily devotional or as an aid to preaching. Each is based on identified Scripture verses and relate to The Salvation Army’s Articles of Faith. They come directly from the inspiration of the author’s private prayer room. In the words of the author: “Poetry set

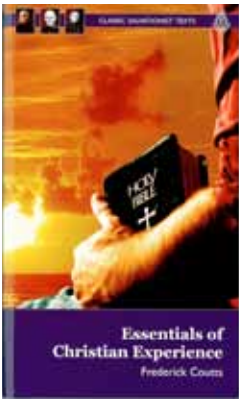
in Christian language is a treasure to be valued as a heart-felt guide to worship. Biblically based poetry is an excellent means of articulating our faith.” I will leave you with just two verses from one of the more than 200 poems/songs in the book. It’s based on the disciples sailing on Lake Galilee and coming across Jesus: *I’d love to sail my boat, Across Lake Galilee; To feel the wind play with the waves Where Jesus trod the sea.* *Now, as I sail through life, Right here, or Galilee. I’ll trust the Lord to steer my boat; A friend of Jesus ... ME!”* - Bill Simpson *Faith Alive – Rhythms of Scripture* is available from Salvationist Supplies in Sydney ([www.salvosuppliessydney.com](http://www.salvosuppliessydney.com)) for \$12.

Pocket-sized book deep in wisdom

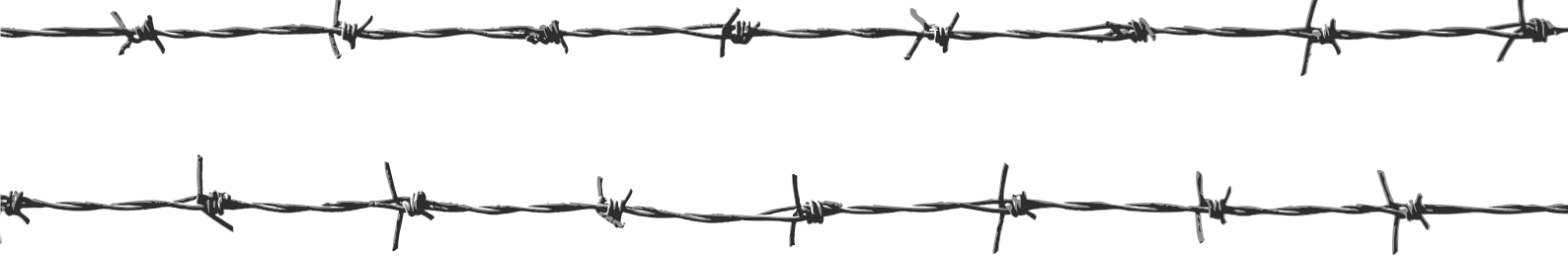
Essentials of Christian Experience, by Frederick Coutts

In writing, as elsewhere, it’s often true that less is more. Frederick Coutts understood that principle. Long before the era of sound-bites and text messages he wrote with clarity, brevity and wisdom. This little book is an example. With an economy of words he discusses everything from conversion to the ecumenical movement to the dark night of the soul. For those of us who preach, here’s a goldmine of wise, quotable words. On the first page we read that “next to the foolishness of denying the existence of God is that of trying to prove his existence”. For those trying to make sense of life, the author says that “at the heart of things is not a dark, empty hole, but a Father to whose love we may at all times commit ourselves”. To a movement committed to mission and public relations, he says, “One godly life counts for more than a string of poster hoardings ... Take care of the reality and the image will take care of itself”. On the life of holiness, he writes, “The work of the Spirit was perfectly exemplified in Jesus and he can make us like him, not through any outward conformity but by the workings of inward grace ... If it be asked whether this experience is the work of a moment or a matter of years, the answer is – both”. And again, “The work of the Holy Spirit in my life will never be ended for it is the greatest of the saints who have been most conscious of their imperfections. Those who live closest to Jesus are most aware of how far they fall short of his glory.” It’s hard to argue with these insights. The author has some surprising turns of phrase. He speaks, for example, of “the sacrament of marriage”. In discussing God’s will for our lives, he says “The divine appeal is not a sledgehammer planned to stun our bemused intellect into a numbed assent”. Rather, God seeks the response of the person “who acknowledges the compulsive power of the divine mercies [and] answers with a clear head and a willing heart”. Of lukewarm religion, he writes, “A nominal Christianity is a contradiction in

terms. The man who is Christian in name only is more of a hindrance than a help”. The author discusses such things as spiritual dryness, doubt, and Christian assurance, and sees all as part of the believer’s experience. Of our past sins, he says, “don’t let anyone keep on reminding God of what he has promised to remember no more”. *Essentials of Christian Experience* is a little book – pocket-sized, in fact. But it’s a big book, large in wisdom and Christian counselling. Highly recommended. - Alan Harley *Essentials of Christian Experience* is available from Salvationist Supplies in Sydney ([www.salvosuppliessydney.com](http://www.salvosuppliessydney.com)).



Prison bars no barrier for God



Brigadier Josef Korbel spent 10 dark years in a communist prison. His only crime was to preach the gospel as a Salvation Army officer. The brigadier’s testimony of God’s constant providence is chronicled in his two books, *In My Enemy’s Camp* and *When The Gates Were Opened*. The Salvation Army had been dissolved in Czechoslovakia in the years following World War II. Brigadier Korbel’s heart-gripping story proves that God is not bound by prison walls. Korbel testifies of God’s wondrous and miraculous power, in spite of the forced labour, beatings, tortures and squalid conditions thrust upon him. Worst of all was the complete absence of communication with his beloved wife, Erna, and their three children. During his imprisonment he knew none of his family’s condition, welfare, nor even their whereabouts. That is, except for one day when God threw a blast of light into the dark, dank cell with the arrival of a very special cell-mate. The news this cellmate brought to Korbel is something to be unlocked from the Army’s archives. Korbel was already a learned man in Prague, where he studied art and became a textile designer. Then The Salvation Army opened the work in that city in 1920. His first contact with Salvationists came when he saw them preaching and singing in the streets. His family had been indifferent to religion, but the Army’s unique and forthright message gripped his heart. He accepted Christ as his Saviour, and a year later entered the Army’s officer training college.

He married Erna in 1933 and they served in various corps appointments throughout Czechoslovakia. Then came the arrest and imprisonment. The treatment he received at the hands of the cruel guards was nothing compared to the agony of not communicating with his family. Several years into the imprisonment, God sent a revelation to Korbel in the form of this new cell-mate. In the middle of the night, the rattling of keys startled Korbel from his sleep and four guards pushed a man into his small cell. “You are responsible for him, that he doesn’t hang himself!” the guards yelled at Korbel as they locked the cell and left. Brigadier Korbel describes the man, whose name was Krejci, as a handsome, well-dressed young man. He was wearing an expensive fur coat, jacket and white shirt. But all his clothing was badly stained with blood flowing from his swollen face. The man was so beaten he could not speak. The brigadier tenderly helped him onto the cell’s only bed, laid him down and used a piece of rag for a towel to carefully sponge his face with water. Krejci was breathing quickly and moaning occasionally. As dawn lit the cell, the extent of his injuries could be seen. His nose and eyes were black. He suffered in silence, not speaking until well that evening when Korbel began to gain his confidence. Krejci began to tell his story of his anti-communist activity, followed by his arrest at the border as he was attempting to cross illegally. Korbel answered that his only crime was preaching the Word of God as a Salvation Army officer in Brno. “In Brno? In The Salvation Army?” Krejci exclaimed. “I am from Brno and

I know a nurse there who almost daily attended my sick mother. This nurse also used to be in The Salvation Army before the organisation was liquidated. She was such a lovely and tender woman and my mother just loved her!” Korbel’s interest was piqued – he knew all the members of the former Brno Corps, but had no idea that a nurse was among them. “Do you remember her name?” “Oh yes, I do. Her name was Mrs Korbel,” Krejci answered excitedly. The Brigadier jumped up. “Korbel? Erna Korbel? Then it was my wife!” Korbel listened intently to all the news of his wife and family. They were all safe and not in prison as he had feared. In the days that followed, Korbel led Krejci to the Lord. Meanwhile, Mrs Korbel was still nursing the elderly lady and led her to Christ as well. It was not until years later, after Krejci was released and reunited with his mother, and the brigadier had been freed, that the Korbels received a postcard thanking them for their simultaneous ministry. “We realised how wonderfully God had answered prayer and using us in the same case without our being aware of it,” Brigadier Korbel would later write. The will of God transcends even prison walls.



Major Frank Duracher is the editor of *Warcry* in Australia.





# What would Jesus view?

With Pipeline culture writer Mark Hadley



## The Muppets

RATING: G

RELEASE DATE: 12 January

There's no arguing, Muppet productions have been a mixed bag of felt. For every Jim Henson-inspired production that fans applauded, there was another that made audiences wince. So you can understand why I entered the preview for Kermit's latest cinematic release with extreme caution.

Kermit the frog, Miss Piggy, Fozzie Bear and Gonzo the Great are names firmly fixed in the popular consciousness. Since 1976 they've been doing the rounds on a wide variety of children's television programs including *Sesame Street* and the classic *The Muppet Show*.

*The Muppet Movie* was an incredible success with two Academy Award nominations. However, it has been followed by some very ordinary productions. So after a six-year silence, is *The Muppets* a step in the right direction?

Absolutely! The plot begins with an acknowledgement of the very different world the Muppets find themselves in today. The Muppets' greatest and apparently last fan in all of the United States resides in Smalltown, a country town where everything is just lovely all day long. Two brothers, Gary and Walter, share everything growing up and look forward to an idyllic life participating in Smalltown's spontaneous, street-wide dance numbers.

However, Walter feels strangely out of place, which makes sense considering he is a puppet and his brother is played by funny guy Jason Segel. A trip to Hollywood gives them the chance to visit the original Muppet Theatre and connect with a longing for happier days.

Walter, though, discovers an evil business baron plans to tear down the landmark and drill for oil.

The only way to save the building is to get the Muppets back together for one last big show. But has the world changed too much? Kermit is a disillusioned frog, Fozzie works a dive in Reno, Gonzo has



The whole gang is reunited for the Disney movie production, *The Muppets*.

gone into plumbing sales and Miss Piggy is now the plus-size fashion editor at Vogue Paris. What do they possibly have in common any more?

*The Muppets* is a very clever film, drawing on not only the childhood memories of a vast swathe of the cinema-going population, but their nostalgic desire for a simpler past. There's the very hammy humour you've come to expect, and the celebrity appearances – Jack Black, Mickey Rooney, Whoopi Goldberg etc, etc.

But there's also a humility that prevents the film sliding into sentimentality. In attempting to get their show back on the air, the Muppets realise a very different sort of programming has captured the attention of children today. A programming executive callously informs them: "I'm afraid that in this market you're no longer relevant."

Relevance is not only a Muppet concern. The church continues to struggle with what it has to say to a fast-paced world that it hasn't already said for millennia. How can we be more down-to-earth, more appropriate, more attractive?

And like Christianity, the Muppets are threatened by knock-offs that are new, but not quite what they stand for. Their arch enemy, Tex Richman, tells them: "The Moopets are a hard cynical act for a hard cynical world. No-one cares about your goody-goody show. The world's moved on."

That may be, but it's the looking back that reminds us what we've lost along the way. Remembering is *The Muppets'* strongest theme – the experiences we shared, the lessons we learned. The film doesn't preach revisionism, but it does argue that life is more than satisfying our present desires. And there's a clear call not to forget the people who've transformed us. Relationships are far more important than any success.

In fact, the Muppets end the film happy to fail so long as they're together. That's similar to our situation too. The Bible says all things can be safely lost if we can gain a relationship with Jesus. And "winning even when you lose" is a message that's as relevant today as it was in the '70s.

## Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy

RATING: M

RELEASE DATE: 19 January

James Bond and Jason Bourne have a lot to answer for when it comes to spy films. As the epitomes of their genre, they've managed to define it in terms of miniaturised technology, breath-taking chases and deadly confrontations. But there is another style of espionage film that is as calculated as a chess game and as cold as a bear trap. This January, *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* heralds the return of the thinking man's thriller.

It's the early 1970s and the Cold War boils along under the surface of a peaceful Europe. Gary Oldman plays George Smiley, a former spy forced out of Britain's MI6 by a changing of the guard. His former boss, "Control" (John Hurt) has had to resign when an operation in Hungary goes horribly wrong. However, Smiley returns to the fray at the request of a senior government official when it becomes clear Control was investigating

reports of a double-agent at the heart of their espionage empire.

Smiley narrows his circle of interest to four senior operators who each have access to a suspicious Soviet source. Can he put the pieces of the double-agent's identity together before Britain's secrets are irrevocably exposed?

Based on the best-selling novel by John le Carré and built on the foundations of the BBC's benchmark television series, *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* is a slow-burning fuse leading to an explosive conclusion.

Director Tomas Alfredson has scoured England for its bleakest '70s settings to provide the dark palette he developed for the film.

Much of the film is also shot over a long lens, providing the "peeping Tom" feeling that suggests the viewpoint of the patient spy. The actors also immersed

themselves in the period. To prepare for his role as Peter Guillam, Benedict Cumberbatch went to the Moroccan town of Essaouira, where his character had been stationed. And Oldman built his Smiley on the basis of a single line in the original book: "He lowers his temperature until it's the same as the room around it. Then he doesn't lose heat by adjusting." Everything is tailored to evoke a world where the inhabitants eat, sleep and breathe deception.

The conflict in which Smiley and his fellow spies are engaged is not one that they can celebrate. Lies and betrayal are the stock in trade, and it's easy to lose one's moral compass. In attempting to turn a Russian agent, Smiley admits more than he intends about his view of a world that requires such treachery to maintain: "We're not so different, you and I. Both of us have spent a lifetime looking for the weaknesses in each other's systems. Don't you think it's time that we admit there's as little worth on your side as there is on mine?"

*Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* reminds the viewer just how dangerous a thing deceit is, particularly self-deceit. Even the spies on the "right" side of the war have become so enmeshed in its web that they become casual about the most awful behaviour because it furthers the cause. But the noblest characters draw the line at self-preservation. Smiley and his cohorts don't accept that a person "had to" betray their country any more than God accepts circumstances as an excuse for personal unfaithfulness.

*Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* is a cold reminder that regardless of what we tell ourselves, actions speak louder than words. Hamlet was right, "One may smile and smile and [yet] be a villain." Similarly a Christian may pray and praise, and yet prove false. Like Smiley says, in the end, "It's about which master you've been serving."



Gary Oldman stars as British spy George Smiley in *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*.



# Salvos DVD makes a stand for

By SIMONE WORTHING

Queensland Premier Anna Bligh was among the special guests at the launch of The Salvation Army's post-disaster recovery DVD, *Still Standing*, and its complementary website, [www.stillstanding.com.au](http://www.stillstanding.com.au), in Brisbane last month.

*Still Standing* tells the stories of three Australians, each of whom were caught up in natural disasters and experienced heart-breaking loss as a result, but found a way to be "still standing". None of them has had an easy journey, yet each inspires hope that recovery is possible.

"This DVD understands and talks about the often very slow and very painful journey to recovery which for some can take years and years," said Premier Bligh at the launch, which was held at the Army's Brisbane Streetlevel Mission on 5 December.

"The DVD draws The Salvation Army experience together and I know what a difference this will make to those still struggling and those who will live with this for the rest of their lives."

Approaching the first anniversaries of the devastating Queensland and north NSW floods and Cyclone Yasi which cut a path of destruction through north Queensland, The Salvation Army will distribute more than 30,000 free DVDs to remind those affected that they are not forgotten.

"Many in Queensland are still struggling," Major Paul Moulds, head of The Salvation Army's flood recovery response, told those gathered at the launch.

"Please use this resource and share it with someone else. Get in touch with the help that is out there and remember, no matter what you go through you can weather the storm, you can still stand."

Other speakers at the launch included Thredbo landslide survivor Stuart Diver, Barry Medwin, who lost his wife and daughter in the Ash Wednesday fires of 1983, Marianne Coady, who lost her home and business in Cyclone Larry in 2006 and Leah Cameron, who lost her Brisbane home in the 2011 floods.

"The Thredbo landslide changed my life forever," Mr Diver said. >>>



Queensland premier Anna Bligh at the rostrum during the launch of The Salvation Army's post-disaster recovery DVD in Brisbane.



DVD video producer Anna Rudd is congratulated on her work.



Salvation Army officer Major Paul Moulds with disaster survivors Leah Cameron, Stuart Diver and Marianne Coady at the DVD launch. Photos: Shairon Pateron

# disaster victims



Barry and Joan Medwin speak with Premier Anna Bligh.



Marianne Coady lost her home and business in Cyclone Larry.

"After I was pulled from the rubble, The Salvation Army helped so much. I will never forget that. Counselling helped me in a huge way. I'm backing this DVD because people need to reach out and get help when they have been affected by tragedy."

Mrs Cameron has received help physically, emotionally and financially since losing her home in the January floods last year, and believes that reaching out for assistance is not a sign of failure but rather, is the key to recovery.

"People are often afraid to reach out for help when they need it because it is confronting, but those who haven't got help are still struggling," she said.

"When life falls apart, we need help to pick up the pieces and put them back together. Life will never be the same again, but it can be good and we can learn to deal with things again one step at a time.

"I am still a work in progress and am slowly rebuilding myself. I have the scars, but I am not a flood victim. I am a fighter and a survivor."

In addition to Barry and Marianne's stories, *Still Standing* also features Trisha Silvers who lost her husband in the Boxing Day tsunami in 2004, and Australia's leading trauma psychologist, Dr Rob Gordon, who offers advice for adults and children on coping with post-disaster trauma. □

## Seeking help vital, say the survivors

Barry Medwin and Marianne Coady spoke about their experiences working through tragedy and loss at the launch of The Salvation Army's DVD, *Still Standing*, in Brisbane.

Barry, who found the bodies of his wife and daughter in the aftermath of the Ash Wednesday fires in 1983 and Marianne, whose home and business were destroyed by Cyclone Larry in 2006, are both featured on the DVD.

"I never knew men could cry until this happened," Barry said.

"Throughout this dark time, though, I had the love and support of my community who reached out to me, even though they had lost loved ones and homes themselves. We all drew together and supported each other, and that's how we got through.

"It was a huge learning curve for me, though, because I had always been the one to give when others needed it. Now I had to learn to receive.

"And I had to learn to deal with what was on my heart, which didn't happen quickly, but my friends, my community, were patient and supported me for a very long time."

Almost 30 years on, Barry has rebuilt his home, is happily married to Joan and strives to help those who are experiencing heartbreak and trauma.

"There is always hope," he said. "Life doesn't end after a tragedy but it takes a lot of time, courage and willingness to take a risk and accept change in order to recover, rebuild and move forward."

He encouraged those dealing with trauma and tragedy to seek help.

"Don't separate yourself from your community," he said. "There is always someone there to give you the love, understanding and support that you need."

Marianne, who has survived three cyclones, agrees. "Without help, recovery is much more difficult," she said.

"Without the unlooked-for help of the Salvos, it would've taken me much longer to recover. It's so important to get help, we simply can't do this on our own."

Marianne admits that, even with help, she is still on a journey to recovery and it's not going to happen immediately.

"I'm not qualified to talk about recovery, but I am qualified to talk about trying to recover," she said with a smile.

"Anyone who went through Larry or the floods could do this talk. Everyone hurts; there are really no degrees of this."

Their stories can also be heard in full online at [www.stillstanding.com.au](http://www.stillstanding.com.au)

- SIMONE WORTHING



## Car donation gets Oasis program on the road

By ESTHER PINN

The Salvation Army Oasis Youth Support Network has partnered with Carsguide.com.au and car maker Skoda to launch the Oasis Drive For Life program, an initiative that helps Australia's disadvantaged youth to obtain a driver's licence.

At the Oasis Drive for Life launch on 7 December, the Oasis network was presented with three new Skoda Yeti cars.

"I would have been happy with one second-hand car but now we have three brand new Yetis," said Major Robbin Moulds, Oasis Youth Support Director.

With 75 people already on a waiting list, this program will not only provide young people with access to a vehicle and professional driving lessons, but a support base as well.

"For a lot of the young people here, they don't have the family support and so it's very difficult to obtain those 120 hours [required driving experience]," said Major Moulds.

"This Drive For Life program, it's not just about a program. It reflects a presence of companies, communities and corporations who come together to say that 'we believe in you, that we want to support you young people on your journey – that your life is important to us'."

The driving program began almost three years ago with the support of Sydney City Council. The council partnered with Oasis to establish a driving employment program.

Oasis Driving Instructor Coordinator Leanne Waldron, supported by many other volunteers, has spent the last 12 months teaching 52 young people to drive. She has already seen 20 young people gain their provisional driver's licence.

"A lot of the students have been able to stay in employment or gain employment as a result of this program," said Leanne. "One of our young men is now working as a security guard."

Amy, a single mother of two, is another recent success story of the Oasis Drive For Life program.

"Not having a car was creating so much extra stress for me and I had no family to teach me to drive," she said. "It's been a

life-changing experience and I'm grateful I've had access to the Oasis Driving Program."

Skoda Australia boss, Matthew Wiesner, said his company jumped at the chance to partner with Oasis Drive For Life.

"It's a fantastic cause," he said. "We take these things for granted growing up but today with 100-plus [driving] hours to achieve, it's difficult for those who don't have family [support]. It's great for a brand like ours to put back into the community."

It's a sentiment echoed by Carsguide.com.au Chief Executive Officer, Michael Shreck.

"We are delighted to partner with such a worthwhile program and look forward to helping disadvantaged youth get on the road safely," he said.

The donation of the three new vehicles has now opened doors to expand the driving program, with Major Moulds hopeful the service will also be available in Queensland soon.



From left to right: Matthew Wiesner (Head of Skoda), Greg Duncan (Executive Chairman of Trivett), Major Robbin Moulds and Michael Schreck (CEO of Carsguide.com.au).

## Women's ministry honoured at St Marys



The Women's Evening Fellowship group performs during the special worship service honouring women's ministry at St Marys.

A special worship service at The Salvation Army's St Marys Corps to celebrate women's ministry attracted nearly 50 women on 20 November.

Following the corps' recent "Women of Worth Camp", St Marys Corps Officer Major Tony DeTommaso said it was the right time to hold a worship service that focused on women's ministry.

The evening included a duet, *When Shall I Come*, by Loren Filla and Belle Strain, a solo, *Whispering of Hope*, by Colleen Wilson and a dance by the Women's Evening Fellowship to *You Are Worthy of Praise*, choreographed by Major Yan DeTommaso. This was followed by interviews with a few ladies who attended the "Women of Worth Camp".

The women of the St Marys' Home League were also presented with their different warrants.

The evening concluded with a benediction of *Son-Father God* to the tune of *Edelweiss* performed by Home League members.

"[It was] a great worship meeting [and] a blessing for all who were involved and all who attended the service," said Major Tony DeTommaso.

## Camp for new migrants builds sense of belonging

By SIMONE WORTHING

More than 230 people, the vast majority newly arrived refugees to Australia, took part in the fourth annual Kwetu Camp at The Salvation Army's Collaroy Centre on Sydney's northern beaches in November.

The Auburn Corps hosted the camp – the name of which means "to belong" in Swahili – which had as its special guests Australia Eastern territorial leaders Commissioners James and Jan Condon.

"The camp is for refugees from our corps and local community to help them transition into Australian society," said Auburn corps officer Captain Nesan Kistan.

"The Auburn church family embraces the refugees and several joined them at the camp. The focus was emotional and spiritual, giving the refugees an opportunity to come together, have fun, learn about each other and develop relationships in a tranquil setting.

"So many of the refugees come from dark and unforgiving places and their pathways in life have been hard. By helping to build relationships and a family bond we can help them overcome trauma and deal with the past."

The refugees come from many different countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Iraq.

"I loved the camp, it was just perfect," said Batool, who arrived in Australia from Iraq 16 months ago.

"I have no family here and The Salvation Army has become my family. It was good for my son, too, spending time with other children from similar backgrounds."

Johari is from the Democratic Republic of Congo and has been in Australia for six years.

"The camp was a good place to knit together with people from other countries and get to know each other more," she said. "We shared worship, prayer and grew together spiritually."

Teaching during the camp included three sessions by the Condons on mission with a global impact and a session on healthy relationships by Major Robyn Smartt, Director of the Army's Counselling Services Administration.

"I was blessed to see an incredible openness to God in the lives of the people and I was greatly encouraged by their

response," said Commissioner James Condon.

The joy expressed by the refugees in spite of their troubled past also impacted on Commissioner Jan Condon.

"Even though so many of the refugees have horrific backgrounds, their joy of the Lord is so vibrant," she said.



Johari, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, spoke highly of the Kwetu Camp held at Collaroy. Photo: Shairon Paterson.

## Birthday tribute for long-serving Salvo

The Griffith Corps of The Salvation Army recently took time to acknowledge in a special way, the 70th birthday of one of its valued and long-serving members.

Brian Savage has been a member of the corps since 1984.

He served as the welfare officer and corps treasurer for more than 20 years, before retiring from these roles a few years ago.

Brian is known around Griffith as "Mr Salvation Army" because of his lengthy dedication to pub ministry, and also his service to driving the bus for Home League and church members. He has also been involved in street ministry.

Brian celebrated his birthday with family and friends, some travelling long distances to be there him on the night.

In a tribute to his Salvation Army service, Brian's birthday cake took the form of a collection box filled with notes and coins bearing the number 70.



The unique "Salvation Army" cake for Brian Savage's 70th birthday.



## New Sunday format a winner at Taree

The Salvation Army's Taree Corps has had positive feedback to its new approach to Sunday worship services which has been adopted to meet the needs of a growing church community.

Corps Officer Captain Roscoe Holland said the corps had introduced three new services which it is calling the strong prayer meeting, the holiness meeting, and the contemporary family worship service.

"Our goal is to offer relevant, meaningful expressions of worship to multiple generations and do it all in the ethos of early Salvationists," Captain Holland said.

The corps kicked off its new Sunday format on 16 October with the prayer meeting, which was followed by the holiness

meeting where more than 60 people attended and sung many great hymns, heard excellent Bible teaching and shared testimonies.

Many new families were among the congregation of nearly 80 people who attended the contemporary family worship service, enjoying songs such as *Happy Day*. Many people were dancing for joy during worship.

"Captain Melanie [Holland] and I were delighted to hear the positive feedback from the day – all the target audiences received the right thing," said Captain Holland.

"They all connected with the music choice, the teaching style was appropriate and meaningful and they all felt a strong connection to God."

## Earlwood celebrates life with special service

"Celebrate Life" was the theme of a special prayer and worship evening at The Salvation Army's Earlwood Corps in November.

The evening service was the idea of Major Christine Unicomb, the School for Officer Assistant Training Principal who has battled cancer over the past three years.

Diagnosed in 2009, Major Unicomb has held a "Celebrate Life" party for the past two years to thank the people who have supported her during her illness. This year, Major Unicomb decided to have a worship service instead.

The Earlwood worship team led the congregation with songs such as *Reign In Me*, *How Great is Our God*, *The Stand* and Stuart Townend's *By Faith*.

Commissioner Lyn Pearce (ret.) shared a message from Isaiah 45. "She talked about the treasures and rich blessings that often come out of dark places," Major Unicomb said.

Major Shelley Soper also shared her journey of battling with cancer.

The evening concluded with a call for prayer where many people responded.

"People just went to where their friends were sitting and there were just prayers all around the hall," Major Unicomb said.

Major Unicomb plans to have a "Celebrate Life" worship service every year.



The Earlwood worship team performs at the service.

## Young Salvos serve on frontline at Schoolies



By SIMONE WORTHING

Young people from The Salvation Army joined hundreds of other Christians from around Australia and other parts of the world to serve on the Gold Coast during the annual Schoolies celebrations in late November.

Youth primarily from corps in south-east Queensland served during the first week of Schoolies, an event which attracts thousands of celebrating school leavers to the holiday hot spot. Edify interns and other youth from Sydney arrived during the second week.

As part of the Red Frogs Australia Chaplaincy Network, the "Red Frogs" teams, so-called for the huge amounts of the popular confectionary they hand out, aim to create a fun, yet safe "partying" alternative for the school leavers.

"We are there to be an organisation schoolies can trust with what they're going through or need help with," said Lincoln Proellocks, Youth Ministries Coordinator at Carindale Corps.

"This can range from just chilling out with the kids and supplying red frogs, to mediation and responding to sickness."

Nickey Bright, who considers herself a member of both Nambour and Centenary corps', has served at Red Frogs for the past seven years. This year she was an assistant zone leader, and believes that the Red Frogs teams are a positive force.

"We are just there for them, supporting them during a massive week in their lives and helping them make decisions that they won't regret," she said.

The 2011 schoolies were generally well behaved. When the teams get called to an incident, they assess how serious it is and whether extra help is needed.

"In Red Frogs there is a level of referral, including chaplaincy support. Our zone leaders provide debriefing and there is support from the police and ambulance service too."

The Red Frogs teams focus on building relationships with the kids, who trust and respect them.

"The relationships you build during the week are invaluable," said Lincoln. "Amazing doors open and the seeds planted just in one week are incredible."

## Salvos safe house receives Freedom Award

The Australian Minister for Home Affairs and Justice, Brendan O'Connor presented The Salvation Army's Safe House for Trafficked Women with the Inaugural Anti-Slavery Australia Freedom Award on 23 November at Parliament House in Canberra.

The award pays tribute to The Salvation Army's leading work in the fight against slavery, trafficked people and forced labour.

For the past four years the Safe House has provided accommodation, crisis support and long-term assistance for trafficked victims in Sydney.

"The [Safe] House offers beds for women trafficked to Australia. We also offer non-residential support to men and children. The services expanded initially more than intended," said Jenny Stanger, The Salvation Army's Samaritan Accommodation Supervisor.

The minister also presented 11 other awards to organisations and individuals who provide outreach, support services and advocacy for trafficked people.

"The individuals and organisations recognised here today have played a pivotal role in developing and implementing initiatives against people trafficking and slavery," Mr O'Connor said.

"Their dedication and work has greatly improved Australia's efforts to combat all forms of these heinous crimes."

Ms Stanger accepted the award on behalf of the Safe House for Trafficked Women.

"I was honoured to accept the award on behalf of The Salvation Army and to be publicly acknowledged by the anti-trafficking community and the Australian government for the complex work that we do every day with people who have experienced human trafficking."

## Life Community Church celebrates 10 years

A demonstration of self-defence skills, young musicians from the "TotallyArts" music mentoring program and speakers who shared their experiences working with young teenage mums in the local community, were all part of the Life Community Church (LCC) 10th anniversary celebration in November.

Around 200 people gathered to watch and take part in the day's events at The Salvation Army centre in Slack's Creek, Brisbane.

"There was both stunned silence and bursts of laughter as church members demonstrated their self-defence skills," said Captain Dennis McGuigan, Life Community Church Corps Officer.

"Church member Mark Vele, a 3rd Dan black belt instructor, and I run these classes each week, with a gospel story at the end of each lesson."

Ministry Assistant Leigh Forrester led a segment of worship with a group from TotallyArts.

"This program is a great way of connecting with our young people and teaching them some wonderful skills," said Leigh.

Charmaine Stubbs and Tracie Nelder, who work with Communities for Children, a social program run through LCC which supports local children at risk, spoke about their experience working in the community.

Many families from the Mainly Music program also joined in the celebration, with children dancing, singing and sharing with the church family.

"It was good to see the church working together like an octopus, with many tentacles reaching out into the community, giving people an opportunity to connect in some way," said Captain McGuigan.

"And we certainly attribute our church growth to these warm areas of outreach."



Young people from "TotallyArts" lead worship at the Life Community Church in Brisbane.



The self-defence group demonstrate their skills at the 10th anniversary celebrations.



## Appointment changes

On behalf of the Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, I advise the following change of appointments:

Major Wendy **Walters**, currently serving as the Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, Central and North Queensland Division, has an additional appointment as Divisional Candidates Secretary, Central and North Queensland Division, effective 12 January 2012.

Captain Merissa **Holland**, currently serving as the Assistant Manager, Glen Haven, South Queensland Division, is appointed as Manager, Glen Haven, South Queensland Division, effective 12 January 2012.

Majors Brian and Clair **Smith**, currently serving as Corps Officers, Casino Corps, North NSW Division, are appointed as Corps Officers, Dee Why Corps, Sydney East and Illawarra Division, effective from a date to be announced.

Lieutenants David and Tahlia **Grounds**, currently serving as Corps Officers, Maitland City Corps, Newcastle and Central NSW Division, are appointed as Corps Officers, Gunnedah Corps, North NSW Division, effective 12 January 2012.

Major Maurie **Clarke-Pearce**, currently serving as Business Support Officer, THQ, is appointed as Technical Support Officer, North NSW Division, effective 23 January 2012.

Major Kay **Clarke-Pearce**, currently serving as Assistant Divisional Mission and Resource Director - Social and Divisional Community Services Support Secretary, Sydney East and Illawarra Division, is appointed as Assistant Divisional Mission and Resource Officer - Social, North NSW Division, effective 23 January 2012.

Major Frank **Moxon**, currently serving as Manager and Director of Mission, Bethany Residential Aged Care, has a change of title to Director of Mission and Strategic Manager, Bethany Residential Aged Care, Aged Care Plus, effective 12 January 2012.

Major Steven **O'Neill**, currently serving as Manager, The Cairns Aged Care Centre, Aged Care Plus, has a change of title to

Director of Mission and Strategic Manager, The Cairns Aged Care Centre, Aged Care Plus, effective 12 January 2012.

Major Gary **Masters**, currently serving as Manager in Training, Inner West Aged Care Services, has a change of title to Director of Mission and Strategic Manager, Inner West Aged Care Services (including Maybanke and Macquarie Lodge), Aged Care Plus, effective 12 January 2012.

Major Debra **Friend**, currently out of appointment, is appointed as Assistant Corps Officer, Wagga Wagga Corps, ACT and South NSW Division, effective 23 January 2012.

Lieutenants Ged and Jeanie **Oldfield**, currently serving in the North NSW Division as Divisional Public Relations Director and Divisional Business Manager and Divisional Seniors Manager respectively, are appointed as Corps Officers, Armidale Corps, North NSW Division, effective 12 January 2012. In addition, Lieutenant Ged Oldfield will retain his current appointment of Divisional Public Relations Director, North NSW Division.

Envoy Joe **Clark**, currently serving as Assistant Manager, Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), South Queensland Division, is appointed as Property Officer, Hunter Region Recovery Services, Newcastle and Central NSW Division, effective 23 January 2012.

Envoy Bev **Clark**, currently serving as Assistant Manager, Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), South Queensland Division, is appointed as Manager, Central Coast Recovery Services (Selah), Newcastle and Central NSW Division, effective 23 January 2012.

Lieutenant Katherine **Mills** has an additional appointment as Assistant Director, School for Youth Leadership, Booth College, effective 12 January 2012.

Lieutenant Vanessa **Kohler**, is appointed as Far North Queensland Hub Team Member, Cassowary Coast, Central and North Queensland Division, effective 12 January 2012.

Colonel Wayne Maxwell,  
Chief Secretary,  
Australia Eastern Territory

## Children take centre stage in Christmas celebration at Petersham

The Salvation Army's Petersham Corps held its annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, 8 December, attracting an audience of almost 90 people.

The evening started with a barbecue which was manned by members of the Rotary Club of Sydney Inner West who then stayed for the concert and even helped in leading the carol singing. Many of those in attendance were from the neighbourhood and family of the corps' Sunshine Club (preschool music program).

The concert featured the Sunshine Club members singing carols before several of the children then took part in the Christmas Story, acting out the parts of Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the wise men (and women) and angels. As the story got to the birth of Jesus, one of the mums who had recently given birth to a son, placed the newborn in the manger.

The evening concluded with a bracket of carols performed by the parents of one of the Sunshine Club members who are professional singers/songwriters.



Children from Sunshine Club sing carols at the Christmas concert.

### ENROLMENTS

## Cowra Corps

Cowra celebrated its first new senior soldier in 12 years when Harry Craig was enrolled by Corps Officer Lieutenant Stephen Gorringer on 30 October. Earlier this year, Harry (pictured with his Articles of War) recently attended the Soldiership Bootcamp, which was hosted by the corps. He has become an active member of the corps, participating in street and pub ministry as well as starting an art group.



On 22 November, the corps also accepted Ian McDonald and Tracey Gunnyon (pictured with Lieuts Stephen and Kim Gorringer) as adherents. Ian has been a volunteer at the Cowra Family Store for the past seven years, and for six of those has been attending the corps. Tracey was attending Cessnock Corps before moving to Cowra where with her daughter, started coming to the Mainly Music program. She has been a regular at Cowra Corps for the past four years.



## Tweed Heads Corps

Lucy Powis was enrolled as a senior soldier at Tweed Heads on 20 November. Lucy (pictured with Corps Officers Captains Alwyn and Deborah Robinson) has been on a long journey of surrender to God, which has included battling addictions, and is excited about this step of faith in becoming a soldier of The Salvation Army.



## Forster/Tuncurry Corps

Corps members, family and friends joined in the celebration of enrolling two new soldiers, Pat Byram and Nathanael Hardaker, at Forster/Tuncurry Corps on 16 October. Both Pat and Nathanael shared testimonies of how God had been working powerfully in their lives, being faithful and constant to them. Nathanael also shared a vocal testimony singing *Salvation Poem*, expressing his love for God and his desire to serve him. Many members of the congregation surrounded Pat and Nathanael in prayer as they signed their Soldier's Covenant at the mercy seat. Pictured (left to right) are Captain Sandy Hogg, Pat Byram, Trevor Honess, Nathanael Hardaker, and Captain Michael Hogg.



Up to 2,000 Australians die through suicide every 12 months.

Around 16,000 Australians are left affected.  
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In less than an hour you can learn how to become aware of the warning signs that someone's in trouble and possibly considering suicide.

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# General Bond boosts soldiers'

General Linda Bond has had a busy end to 2011, visiting Salvationists in a number of countries in Europe and South America.

The visit of the world leader of The Salvation Army to Finland had a significant spiritual impact on Salvationists and friends of the Finland and Estonia Territory.

At the Saturday afternoon meeting in Helsinki, the General told soldiers, adherent members and friends of the Army that after many years as an officer she still had to strive to do her best in order to be the best possible soldier.

On the Saturday evening, Salvationists and friends gathered for the commissioning and ordination of four cadets. In her message, the General affirmed Jesus' call to radical discipleship. Several young people responded to the call to officership.

At the Sunday morning holiness meeting at Helsinki Corps, the General, in her Bible message, emphasised that Christians are holy, not only because they are in Christ, but because Christ is in them. There was a ready response to the General's message as many people knelt in prayer at the mercy seat.

A few days earlier, Salvationists had gathered to welcome General Bond when she visited the Army's Spain Command.

At a public meeting in Madrid, she based her Bible message on Acts 2. She challenged her listeners not to feel ashamed to preach the gospel.



General Linda Bond promotes The Salvation Army's vision for mission in Spain.

At the conclusion of her message, many people moved to the altar to dedicate their lives to the Lord. Others responded to God's call to serve him as Salvation Army officers.

To round off her trip to Europe, the General made visits to France, Switzerland, and Hungary.

In Paris, the General spent time with officers and the directors of various headquarters services, then spoke at a public meeting.

In her Bible address, the General spoke of the expectation people have of Christians living in their communities. She challenged the congregation to

ensure that people see in them a way of living which is coherent with their convictions, built on their trust in God.

Travelling on to Switzerland, the General told a public meeting in Berne, which followed officers councils, that "inspired by the Holy Spirit, The Salvation Army must take its mission seriously and go out into the world".

General Bond was then joined in Hungary by Europe Zone leaders Commissioners Robert and Janet Street, and Commissioners Franz and Hanny Boschung, leaders of the Switzerland, Austria and Hungary Territory. During her brief stay, she toured a number

# morale on international tour



The General inspects an education project in Paraguay.

of Salvation Army services, attended officers councils, and at a celebratory public meeting enrolled 10 new senior soliders.

Prior to her travels in Europe, General Bond had made an extended visit to South America.

Salvationists in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay prayed and prepared for months for the South America East Territorial Congress and the visit of the General.

Their prayers were rewarded with a time of inspiration and blessing, evident in the final meeting of the congress where there was great enthusiasm

inspired by the General's message.

The response of 98 seekers at the mercy seat was very moving. People knelt and prayed, many of them in tears. A call to officership was made and 43 people came forward.

The enthusiastic movement to the mercy seat occurred throughout the congress, attended by almost 900 people who had gathered in Huerta Grande, Cordoba Province, Argentina, from the three countries that comprise the territory.

The congress theme was "To Be Holy - My Life's Ambition" and in each meeting the General spoke about the

newly launched International Vision - One Army, One Mission, One Message.

"From the time I assumed this great responsibility [as world leader of The Salvation Army] I felt that we need to pray and prepare ourselves for the Holy Spirit to bring a revival to his people," the General said.

"I am just waiting for the day, the place and the time when God will send that revival upon The Salvation Army."

The General's time in the South America East Territory included visits to various Salvation Army centres in Buenos Aires (Argentina), Asuncion (Paraguay) and Montevideo (Uruguay).



Four cadets in Finland are commissioned by the General.

# Chief of the Staff leads Kenya in celebrating 90 years of Salvation Army ministry

By MARION NDETA

Salvationists from around Kenya and beyond gathered in Nairobi to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Salvation Army work and worship in the east African country.

The Army's Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Barry Swanson, and Commissioner Sue Swanson, World President of Women's Ministries, led the celebrations, giving thanks to God for what he has done in Kenya through The Salvation Army.

The Saturday morning meeting, held in Nyayo National Stadium, focused

on "Looking Back With Gratitude", in contrast to the afternoon celebration festival which took as its theme "Looking Forward With Confidence". The Holy Spirit's presence was felt throughout the weekend, with more than 100 people kneeling at the mercy seat in each meeting.

The Vice-President of Kenya, Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, commended the Army's efforts to improve educational standards in Kenya through its early childhood centres, primary and secondary schools and vocational training centres. He told the congregation of more than 6000 people:

"Nothing liberates the mind and whole societies as much as education.

"Add Christian values to that and you have the best recipe for wholesome education."

He added that, "I can declare unreservedly that you have done good work in your 90 years of existence in Kenya and that you deserve recognition for it.

"We know that the good Lord himself does recognise that and we are truly grateful. Happy 90th birthday!"

The Chief of the Staff acknowledged that it was a "great honour to be joined by the Vice-President of Kenya, and

the Mayor of the city of Nairobi, as we come before the Lord to celebrate his goodness". He prayed for God to pour a blessing upon his people, while reminding his listeners that "thanksgiving, enriched with prayer ... should be our foundation as Christians".

Heavy rain continued in Nairobi over Saturday night into Sunday morning, jeopardising the commissioning meeting which was also scheduled to take place in the open air in Nyayo Stadium.

However, about 90 minutes before the commencement of the ceremonies for the 51 cadets of the *Friends of Christ* session, the rains stopped and there were hints

of heavenly sunshine. After the Bible message, 70 people responded to the challenge to make themselves available for officership.

The Chief and Commissioner Sue Swanson also led territorial officers councils on Friday morning and then men's and women's rallies in the afternoon.

Various presentations throughout the weekend from songster brigades, Army-sponsored special schools, children's, youth, men's and women's groups had one resonating message: thanksgiving to God and prayers for a future focused on the Holy Spirit.



The Salvation Army's Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Barry Swanson and Commissioner Sue Swanson, with two junior soldiers in Kenya.



## PROMOTED TO GLORY

**Man of God**

Colonel Bramwell Lucas (OF) was promoted to glory on 1 November, aged 98.

A committal and thanksgiving service for his life was conducted by Major Peter Lucas at The Salvation Army's Dulwich Hill Corps in Sydney on Monday, 7 November. During the committal, grand-daughter Christine James read selected verses from 1 Corinthians 15 and Major Lucas commented that verse 58 applied in a special way to Colonel Bram: "Therefore, my dear brother, stand firm [and he did]. Let nothing move you [and nothing did] ... give yourself fully to the work of the Lord [and he did]."

At the conclusion of the committal, a guard of honour was provided by family members as the band played and the coffin was removed to Woronora Crematorium.

Bram Lucas and Aveline Smith, soldiers of the Tighes Hill Corps, entered the *Faith* session in 1934. They were married in January 1938. In the seven and a half years that followed, they served as corps officers in six locations in country NSW. During this time their sons Walter, Keith and Graeme were born.

Appointments in Sydney included Dulwich Hill, Petersham and Sydney Congress Hall corps; the officer training college; divisional young people's secretary in Brisbane; and divisional commander Sydney West. Subsequently, Bram held appointments as chief secretary of the India South and Australia Southern territories. Captain Walter Lucas was promoted to glory from his appointment as chief medical officer at The Salvation Army McRobert Hospital in Dhariwal, India, in 1973.

Bram and Aveline Lucas retired in July 1978 and settled at Macquarie Lodge in Arncliffe. For some years before retirement Aveline had been in poor health. Bram's devotion and loving care for her until her promotion to glory in August 1985 demonstrated the special relationship between these two individuals who lived for each other, and together lived for God.

In recent months, Bram's declining health required that he receive daily care. Members of his family are extremely grateful for the caring attention of many staff at Macquarie Lodge during this time.

During the service of thanksgiving, Lieutenant-Colonel Philip Cairns read a message from Commissioner James Condon. Lieut-Colonel Olive Lucas

offered a prayer of thanksgiving for Bram's influence on family members, Salvationists, the community, and for his strength and support during times of profound sadness and loss.

An officer's tribute by Major Annette West, former manager of Macquarie Lodge, included both personal recollections and brief memories of Bram from a representative sample of officers. He is remembered as a gracious gentleman, upright, humble, articulate, insightful, a man of integrity, a teacher, a man for the people. Major West acknowledged Bram's practical support to successive managers of Macquarie Lodge and his faithful ministry to residents and staff, particularly during times of sickness and personal crises.

Keith and Graeme each paid tribute to a father's formative influence on his three sons through example, instruction, wise counsel and direct (even dramatic) action. Both acknowledged his skill as a teacher with examples of how their lives were impacted. They spoke about his example as husband and father in a fun-filled and well-managed family in which God was universally acknowledged as "head of this house".

In relation to later years, they recalled their father's humour, empathy and spiritual maturity, his strength of character and resilience in the most desperate circumstances and a life that demonstrated growth into God's likeness.

With the passing of time, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren came to cherish memories of "grandfather's" quirky humour, incessant whistling, singing and godly life.

In his concluding message, Major Peter Lucas referred to the Old Testament story of Caleb and how God remembered his faithfulness after many years. Major Lucas said that God knew Colonel Bram, remembered him for his faithfulness and now he is "living with Jesus". At peace with God.

**Lifetime of service**

George Armstrong, of Gladstone Corps in Queensland, was promoted to glory on 7 August at the age of 85.

As a young man growing up outside Kingaroy, George and his siblings enjoyed a wonderful Christian upbringing. In his late teens, George became committed to service as a senior soldier in the Kingaroy Corps and later became Corps Sergeant

Major. After Captain Edna Will served as Corps Officer at Kingaroy, then retired due to ill health, they were married in Toowoomba. Thus began a lifetime of Christian and Salvationist service together in the Gladstone Corps, at the Machine Creek Outpost, and within their local rural community. This included more than 40 years running an outpost Sunday School which has influenced many people down through the years.

Together they were known as the local Salvation Army in their farming community as they operated a dairy, then beef property for 60 years, a school bus run for more than 40 years, held Anzac Day services and committed to various community positions for many years. This service was recognised by being installed as Divisional Envoys in 1975. Each was nominated separately for the Council Community Award.

When his beloved wife Edna passed away in 1991, George continued with his support to the Gladstone Corps and with his pastoral care work to local people and to those at a distance.

George was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1995 which developed into severely painful bone cancer. Yet he continued living and enjoying life, and service to his Lord, as he could. His final battle with cancer ended on 7 August, in Gladstone Mater Hospital.

Conducted by Major Dennis Bryant (son-in-law and corps officer at Mt Isa), George's funeral service was attended by about 250 people. Tributes were given by his family (son Lyndon, grandson Gavin) and his corps family (Miriam Lehmann). He is sadly missed by his children and their partners (Lyndon and Kathy, Keith and Indira, Genne and Dennis, Muriel), his 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Unconditional love**

Diane Kay Ravenscroft was promoted to glory on 3 August, aged 59.

Commissioner James Condon conducted the family committal service followed by a "Celebration of Diane's Life" held at Life Community Church, Slacks Creek, in Brisbane. Many gathered to participate in this time of reflection.

Lieutenant Colonel Philip Cairns brought a fitting tribute representing the *God's Soldiers* session. Major Daphne Cox paid tribute to a wonderful friend and also prayed. Marsley Luhrs also told of the devotion to the tasks in assisting

her for a number of years in the evening fellowship as well as a friendship that would be missed. Diane's two brothers, Graeme and David, thanked God for the life of their sister who had been the glue in their family relationships and kept the family a unit.

Diane's three children – Wayne, Troy and Kelly – spoke about the loving and giving mum so often misunderstood and taken for granted, now sadly missed in their hearts.

Diane's husband Warren spoke of how they had met and God's obvious plan for their lives together.

Commissioner James Condon presented the congregation with a timely reminder of our commitment to Jesus.

Diane's early Christian childhood was at the Dulwich Hill Temple Corps in Sydney.

Her teen years saw her involved in Spotlight, a Sydney divisional youth group, as a timbrellist and leader, a songster and a Sunday school teacher.

She was also an original cast member in the Sydney production of the musical *Take Over Bid*.

In 1972, Diane married Warren and the oneness continued for almost 39 years.

Diane taught in primary and Sunday school and later formed the Junior Youth Fellowship which continued on into the Senior Youth Group where she cared and nurtured young lives.

Being selected as "Miss Salvation Army", Diane represented The Salvation Army to many major Queensland towns, speaking and showing the love of Jesus wherever she went.

March 1980 saw Diane with her family answering the call to full time service being part of the *God's Soldiers* session. The family had three appointments – Katoomba, Roma and Kingaroy. Due to the ill health of her family, she found it necessary to return to soldiership.

Diane never lost her calling.

She became the Pastoral Care Secretary at Brisbane City Temple and later took on the role as YPSM and also senior timbrel leader and songster.

Evening Fellowship was close to her heart where she gave 110 per cent for a number of years. She also used her gift of hospitality in planning and feeding many hungry souls.

As a manager for Family Welfare in Brisbane, Nerang and Woodridge, Diane devoted 18 years of her life to serving and caring for people in need.

Diane was also blessed when her daughter Kelly married Scott and two grandchildren, Zoe and Ryan, became part of the family unit. Love and care

was always utmost in her thoughts and giving.

Her caring and sharing love carried on into the work which she loved the most and that was caring for those children who were disabled. She had no boundaries for the young souls and their needs.

Diane felt totally inadequate for the task, having no university degree, but the absence of academic qualifications was completely overshadowed by her obvious love and concern for those in her care.

Due to ill health, Diane found it necessary to finish her work in this area. Her daily hope was to be well enough to someday return to this work. Unfortunately this was not to be.

Diane's devotion to her Lord was expressed in her love and care for all those in her family.

She loved, she cared and she gave her all.

On Wednesday, 3 August, our Lord took Diane to be with himself.

Her suffering over ... her life's work completed.

**God's gentleman**

Following a brief, three-week illness, Frank Druery was promoted to glory on 24 October, aged 73.

A funeral service was conducted at Port Macquarie Corps by Corps Officer Major Brett Gallagher on Monday, 31 October.

A family tribute was brought by daughter Annette Bouchier.

Other tributes were brought by family friends Ted Rogers and Lieutenant John Corey, and corps representative Wayne Koivu.

Frank's son, Colin, on flugel, and his brother, Noel, on euphonium, played a duet to the beautiful *Share My Yoke*. His grandson, Billy Bouchier, enthralled with a vocal solo *Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone*. Captain Alison Gallagher read the Scripture.

Frank's favourite songs were also played throughout the service.

Frank Druery was born in Sydney on 3 September 1938 to Ron and Merle Druery.

He was the eldest of four sons, his brothers, Noel, John and Kenneth.

After the war the family settled at Auburn Corps. Frank learnt to play the cornet and was enrolled as a junior bandsman in 1948 with his brother Noel. Frank was still playing up until just before he passed away.

Frank enjoyed his Salvation Army

banding and was a keen supporter of young people in the band and corps. He regularly played the last post at local Anzac Day services.

Frank married his childhood sweetheart Lorraine Dewar in 1961. They had four children, Brian (deceased), Annette, Colin, and Garry, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

When Frank and Lorraine retired they moved to Gerroa and together they served at Nowra Corps until Lorraine passed away in 2006.

Frank was a founding member of the Territorial Mobile Mission (formerly the Caravan Mission) where he enjoyed the fellowship and encouraged all to do their best.

He was always the first to make contact with any new members joining the group, with a friendly handshake and a happy welcoming smile which generally ended in a long conversation.

His cornet playing and singing has blessed many over the years. He was described as one of God's gentlemen by those with whom he came into contact.

Frank was a very keen caravanner and was always happiest when travelling around Australia with his many long-time friends.

He always enjoyed a good laugh and at times was a bit of a larrikin.

Frank was a keen fisherman. Family and friends enjoyed many great times on the South Coast of NSW on these fishing adventures. There has been much reminiscing by those fortunate enough to have shared these often hilarious fishing trips.

Frank later married Gwen and moved to Port Macquarie, enjoying fellowship at the local corps.

A large band and capacity crowd filled Port Macquarie Citadel for a rousing Salvation Army memorial service and farewell to honour Frank's life.

He will be sadly missed by his family and many friends.

**Reports**

Please email Promoted To Glory reports and, if possible, a photograph to *Pipeline* at [eastern.editorial@aue.salvationarmy.org](mailto:eastern.editorial@aue.salvationarmy.org). Please limit reports to about 400 words.



## about people

## Bereaved

Lieut-Colonel Ron **Henry** of his sister-in-law and Lieut-Colonel Pamela **Hodge** of her aunt Vera **Henry**; Major David **Godkin** and Captain Peter **Godkin** of their aunt Beryl **Godkin**; Major Peter **Farthing** of his aunt Edna **Mayne** on 23 November.

## Promoted to glory

Envoy Kay (Catherine) **Henderson** on 27 November.

## School for officer training

The following candidates have been accepted to enter full-time training in the *Disciples of the Cross* session 2012-2013:

Ian and Sue **McIver**, Narrabri Corps; Troy and Donna **Munro**, Emerald Corps; Andrew **Jones**, Taree Corps.

## International college

The following person has been accepted as a delegate to the International College for Officer Session 212 from Jan 11-March 5: Major Sandra **Godkin**.

## Territorial promotions

To Major: Captain Christine **Atkinson**, Captain Luke **Coller**, Captain Peter **McGuigan**, Captain Alison **Gallagher**, Captain Alwyn **Robinson**, Captain Deborah **Robinson** on 8 December.  
To Captain: Lieutenant An **Won-Ja** on 8 December.

## Retirement

Major Marina **Randall** on 1 February.

## time to pray

## 1-7 January

Office of the Territorial Commander, THQ; Inala Community Welfare Centre, Carindale Corps, Redcliffe City Corps, all Qld; Queanbeyan Corps, Hills Corps, both NSW; New Years Day (1); Red Shield Summer Camp (7).

## 8-14 January

Office of the Chief Secretary, THQ; ACT and South NSW Divisional Headquarters, ACT; Toowoomba Corps, Brisbane Central Community Welfare Centre, both Qld; Lithgow Corps, Northern Beaches Community Welfare Centre, both NSW; Red Shield Summer Camp (8-14); World Wide Prayer meeting (12); Change of appointments (12-13).

## 15-21 January

Personnel Administration, Communications and Public Relations Department, both THQ; Wynnum Corps, Qld; Penrith Corps, Hurstville Corps, Blacktown City Corps, all NSW; School Holiday Camp – Years 5-8 (15-20); Sydney East and Illawarra Division Officers Fellowship (16-20); World Wide Prayer Meeting (19).

## 22-28 January

Program Administration, THQ; Springwood Corps, Panania Corps, Raymond Terrace Corps, all NSW; Gympie Corps, Far North Queensland Cluster, both Qld; World Wide Prayer Meeting (26); Australia Day (26).

## 29 January-4 February

Business Administration; School for Officer Training, both THQ; Caboolture Corps, Qld; Woden Valley Corps, ACT; Hornsby Gateway Corps, Cardiff Corps, both NSW; Entry of *Disciples of the Cross* Session of Cadets (31); World Wide Prayer Meeting (2); MASIC (Moral and Social Issues Council) Meeting (4); ACT and South NSW Division Youth Councils (4).

## 5-11 February

Central and North Queensland Divisional HQ, Toowoomba Crisis Centre, both Qld; Weeroona Village, Tweed Heads Corps, St Marys Corps, Newcastle Community Welfare Centre, all NSW; ACT and South NSW Division Youth Councils (5); World Wide Prayer Meeting (9); Sydney East and Illawarra Division Strategic Planning Day (9); Captivated, Brisbane (10-11); Welcome weekend to *Disciples of the Cross* Session of Cadets (11).

## engagement calendar

## Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

Stanmore: Fri 13-Sun 15 Jan – Sessional Reunion  
Bexley North: Fri 20 Jan – Dr Ken Collins Lecture  
Dulwich Hill: Sun 22 Jan – Installation of Divisional Leaders

## Colonels Wayne (Chief Secretary) and Robyn Maxwell

Brisbane: Tues 17-Thu 19 Jan – Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia National Conference  
Newcastle: Sun 22 Jan – Installation of Divisional Leaders, Newcastle and Central NSW Division  
Canberra: Mon 30 Jan – Meeting National Secretariat (Colonel Wayne Maxwell only)

