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The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory
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A Temporary Community Made Everlasting



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Finding meaning in times of turmoil

As I sit down to write this editorial, I'm experiencing something akin to writer's block. I'm not quite sure what I'm supposed to write about and even now, as my fingers hover over the keyboard, I have little idea what the next sentence will be.

Maybe my confusion is symptomatic of what has been, from a work perspective, a difficult start to 2012. The past couple of months have served up their fair share of challenges, and yet even during the toughest of days I have found a peace in the unrelenting assurance that God has me in the palm of his hand. Ultimately, I know *why* I'm doing this job – that it isn't a pointless pursuit – and I derive a tremendous sense of purpose from this. I am part of an organisation that is making a difference.

King Solomon was someone who knew a lot about pointless pursuits. He spends a lot of time in Scripture – in Ecclesiastes – on the subject. If ever there was a human being who feasted at the table of potential satisfaction without ever getting his fill, that man was Solomon. He had the means to explore all conceivable indulgences – and he did.

So what did he discover? "... I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me," he writes in Ecclesiastes 2:17-19.

Later, he comes to the conclusion that, "A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?" (Ecclesiastes 2:24-25).

Only God satisfies

Our cover story in this month's issue of *Pipeline* is about someone who understands that true satisfaction can only be found in God.

As a Salvation Army officer and chaplain, Lieutenant-Colonel Don Woodland has been at the scene of many of Australia's worst tragedies over the past 40 years. He's been a comforting presence to countless people in times of unimaginable grief. And yet despite the many horrors he has encountered, here is someone who has found satisfaction in their toil.

Don knows that his life's work hasn't been a pointless pursuit, because his labour has been for the Lord.

His Order of the Founder is well-deserved.

Scott Simpson
 Managing Editor

your say...

Commissioner James Condon loves a good story and he wants to hear yours.

Becoming a senior soldier of The Salvation Army is a significant step in the spiritual life of a Christian and every person who undertakes this step has a story to tell.

Pipeline this month is launching "your say ...", a page where Salvationists, whether

new recruits or experienced campaigners, share their experience of soldiership.

If you are a first-generation Salvationist, the commissioner would like to hear your story of how you came into contact with The Salvation Army in 500 words or less.

The commissioner would also like to hear from second, third, fourth and fifth-generation Salvationists,

answering one of two questions in 500 words or less: "What life lessons has God taught you through personal experience?" or "What spiritual truth or ministry are you passionate about?"

So if the Lord is speaking to you about something that you are willing to freely share in *Pipeline*, send your story to eastern.editorial@ae.salvationarmy.org

This year, during the season of Lent, Christians around Australia are uniting in prayer and fasting. Lent is the traditional period of preparation for Easter. For centuries, believers have used that special time to focus on what Jesus Christ has done through his work on the cross.

The National Day of Prayer and Fasting team has chosen Lent as the ideal period for all denominations to unite in prayer.

"Our focus will be to see people come to know Jesus Christ as their own personal Lord and Saviour," the team said. "If this nation is to come back to Christ we must first see individuals come to Christ as he is the only hope for our nation. That is why this year's theme is Soul Focus."

The campaign has the strong support of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory.

"I feel strongly led by the Spirit of God to call all Salvationists to special prayer and fasting during 2012," said Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon.

"This initiative for Lent offers us an exciting platform from which to begin. I urge all Salvationists and every corps and centre to support this initiative, and pray for souls."

For more information, go to www.nationaldayofprayer.com.au

CALL TO PRAYER AND FASTING



TC@PIPELINE

Speak the truth in love

Commissioner **JAMES CONDON** says there are times when a Christian must respond to a fellow believer's habitual sin by "pulling them out of the fire" and seizing their heart back for God

What action do we take when we find a fellow believer who is being caught up in sin? A story in the Bible comes to mind of Nathan, King David and Bathsheba. David committed sin and following this was confronted by the prophet Nathan as recorded in 2 Samuel 12.

Nathan told a story to David, not intending to make a re-run of the king's sin but to expose it in principle in a way that could not be denied. Thankfully, it resulted in David repenting and confessing his sin.

The evil David commits against the others is clear disobedience to the revealed Word of God. David is a "man after God's own heart," and yet in this instance, he "despised the Word of the Lord" and probably wished he had listened to wise advice. David's sin, like all sin, is never worth the price and he could well have said, "If only ..."

The psalmist knew what it was like to try to conceal sin and we read in Psalm 32:3-4, "When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer."

Destructive situation

So what do we do when we know someone is caught in sin?

Jude v23 says, "And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire" (*King James*). The word "pull" comes from the Greek word "harpadzo", an extremely strong and aggressive word that presents the picture of snatching someone out of a dangerous situation. In fact, it could be better translated to "seize".

Jude tells us to save them with fear. This suggests a great concern because of something that is life-threatening, dangerous or alarming. Sin is dangerous, alarming and even life-threatening to a person's spiritual life. Therefore, sin must not be tolerated nor should the sin be watered down.

The question is, what does the Bible say about believers who continue to practise sin? If you are personally aware of individuals who continually commit the same sin, what steps or actions should you take to rescue him or her?

Should they be of any concern to you? The answer is definitely yes.

Sometimes people are deceived about what they are doing

and they don't see a way out. Even if you tell them they are heading for trouble, they may not believe it. Your gentle words and tender persuasion may not work. In times like this you need to speak the truth in love as firmly as possible. Your words must reach out and seize their hearts like Nathan did with David.

The Scripture tells us about Lot, a nephew of Abraham, who got so caught up in the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, that when the angels told him the cities were going to be destroyed, he wanted to stay anyway. He had to be forcibly removed from the situation, otherwise he would have been annihilated. The angels literally dragged Lot out of the city against his will. In a similar way, we must do everything we are able to "snatch people from potentially dangerous predicaments".

We don't kidnap people or take them out of their situation against their will, but we are to pray and do our part when it comes to fellow believers who are caught in sin and don't realise how dangerous the situation may be. We must go to them, and do all we can "to pull them out of the fire".

Maybe you know someone who is in a destructive situation and whose relationship with the Lord is weak because of this. You need to pray and ask God to give you a door of opportunity to speak the truth with the person.

If you were in a similar situation, would you not want your close friend to speak the truth in love and turn you away from further pending destruction?

We say we will do whatever it takes to see our territory marked by prayer and holiness. Surely this begins with you and me, and the challenge for us in relation to a life of holiness is expressed in Jude v23, "And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire."

May God give us wisdom and words of truth expressed with love.



Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory

Responding with love

This month *Pipeline* continues its three-part Lenten series written by **Lieutenant-Colonel DOUGLAS CLARKE**, based on the Sermon on the Mount and focusing on Matthew 5:38-42

The urge for revenge unfortunately comes too readily to the human race. Each of us is born with the natural tendency to seek to retaliate when someone insults or offends us.

The “lex talionis” (the law of measure for measure) stems back in history over 4000 years to the Code of Hammurabi, the King who reigned in Babylon (modern-day Iraq). It was also drawn upon by the Greeks, Romans and Israelites.

“... life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.” (Deuteronomy 19:21 NIV. See also Exodus 21:24 and Leviticus 24:20).

This Law, “eye for eye” was designed not to justify retaliation but to limit it. It protected individuals and their families from disproportionate revenge on behalf of the victim.

Jesus lived what he taught in regard to a life of non-violence and non-retaliation.

Peter was deeply impacted by his Lord’s life and teaching and later when writing to the scattered churches of Asia Minor wrote, “Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his steps. When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.” (1 Peter 2:21-23 NIV).

Measure for measure

In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches his disciples to refrain from hitting back, in all its forms.

In so doing, Jesus gave four brief graphic illustrations to emphasise the principle of non-retaliation:

- The slap on the right cheek – a personal insult;
- Taking one’s clothes – a suit at law;
- Being forced to go the extra mile – an

official’s demand;

- Responding to begging – request for help.

This teaching is distinctly counter-cultural, especially in our frenetic, secular and increasingly narcissistic culture, with its focus on “me” and “my rights”.

English Christian leader John Stott wisely cautions that these illustrations must not be taken with a wooden unimaginative literalism. It is also important to understand that this is disciple teaching.

Significantly, each of the four illustrations introduces a person who seeks to inflict injury.

Each is an illustration of a principle and that principle is Christian love – selfless love.

First illustration: The slap on the right cheek – a personal insult.

“If a man hits your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well,” (Matthew 5:39 JBP).

A blow with the back of the hand, which would normally land on the other person’s right cheek, was particularly offensive and degrading to a Jew. As a result, it would be punishable by a heavy fine.

How difficult this saying is! This teaching of our Lord has challenged this writer’s mind and attitude as a professing Christian.

Take for example a day-to-day illustration. So often when driving one’s car, one is often confronted with impatient drivers in situations that could so quickly escalate into a serious accident. The constant “cutting one off” in the flow of traffic approaching a major intersection, road rage even when one is driving within the speed limits, all combine to deeply challenge one’s response and attitude.

Second illustration: Taking one’s clothes – a suit at law

“If a man wants to sue you for your coat, let him have it and your cloak as well,” (Matthew 5:40 JBP).

Of course, if this illustration is taken literally one would find oneself practically naked! Proof surely, that Jesus is again illustrating the principle of non-retaliation.

Third illustration: Being forced to go the extra mile – an official’s demand

“If anybody forces you to go a mile with him, do more – go two miles with him,” (Matthew 5:41 JBP).

In occupied first-century Palestine, a Roman soldier could requisition the services of a civilian to carry his bag. The same Greek word for “compel” or “force” is found in Mark 15:21 when the Roman soldiers compelled Simon to carry the cross.

Should the victim be a follower of Jesus, he will give double what is demanded.

The English Bible Scholar Thomas W Manson memorably commented on this illustration of our Lord’s.

“The first mile renders to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, the second mile by meeting oppression with kindness renders to God the things that are God’s.”

Fourth illustration: Responding to begging – request for help

“Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you,” (Matthew 5:42 NIV).

At first sight, the exhortation appears to be for indiscriminate giving. Rather, the teaching of our Lord is that of the principle of generous giving.

In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus establishes four basic principles for the life and behaviour of the Christian disciple.

- No retaliation;
- No standing on one’s rights;
- Give priority to serving others;
- Live generously.

The question to ponder and answer is – how do I measure up to that?

Transforming the enemy

An inspiring 20th century example of our Lord’s teaching on non-violence and non-retaliation is that of American civil rights activist Martin Luther King who met hate with Christian love.

Writing in his Georgia gaol, Luther King described how “hate multiplies hate in a descending spiral of violence and is just as injurious to the person who hates as to his victim.”

Luther King concludes, “Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy.”

German Lutheran pastor, theologian and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s comment on this section of our Lord’s teaching is very pertinent and again, focuses on the cross.

“The cross of Jesus is the only justification for the principle of non-violence, for it alone can kindle a faith in the victory over evil which will enable men to obey that principle.”

Part Three of the Lenten series will appear in the April edition of *Pipeline*.



Lieut-Colonel Douglas Clarke is a retired officer of the Australia Eastern Territory.

Order of the Founder

for inspirational Salvation Army officer



By BILL SIMPSON

Trauma counselling pioneer Lieutenant-Colonel Don Woodland has received The Salvation Army's highest international honour.

Lieut-Colonel Woodland was presented with the Order of the Founder by Australia Eastern Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon, on behalf of General Linda Bond, the world leader of The Salvation Army, in Brisbane on 19 February.

The presentation was made during a South Queensland Division rally at Stafford Corps.

Lieut-Colonel Woodland and his wife, Bernice, retired in 2001 after 40 years of active service together. He has previously received the Order of Australia and several other honours, principally from Rotary International and emergency services in which he worked as chaplain.

Presenting the Order of the Founder, Commissioner Condon said: "Lieutenant-Colonel Woodland, you have a distinguished career as a Salvation Army officer. You have been a man for the people who has touched many lives, been a friend and counsellor. You have been Jesus to many."

Commissioner Condon said that Lieut-Colonel Woodland's officer service had met the award criteria in many ways.

"The Order of the Founder is an award for distinguished service, rendered in the spirit of Christ by an officer or soldier, such as would have been specially commended by the Founder."

Admission to the order was based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty.
- Pioneering or innovative work of an exceptional nature.
- Personal sacrificial service in the interests of the work of the Army.
- An identifiable, unique contribution to the ministry of the Army.

Christian example

Lieut-Colonel Woodland is the 19th person from the Australia Eastern Territory to receive the award since its inception in 1920.

Commissioner Condon said the Order of the Founder was rarely given because every nomination was carefully and painstakingly scrutinised by a panel of senior leaders at the Army's International Headquarters in London.

"Salvationists have every reason to be proud of those who have been awarded this outstanding recognition for meritorious Christian example, witness and service," he said.

A large part of Lieut-Colonel Woodland's officer service was spent in



Commissioner James Condon (above) presents Lieut-Colonel Don Woodland with his Order of the Founder and (below) Lieut-Colonel Woodland celebrates with his wife Lieut-Colonel Bernice Woodland and close friends Majors Errol and Dot Woodbury (left) and Colonels Cec and Win Williams. Photos: Shairon Paterson.

chaplaincy, especially trauma counselling. His main introduction to trauma counselling occurred in the late 1960s when he served with Red Shield Defence Services in the Vietnam war.

He held senior chaplaincy roles, on behalf of The Salvation Army, with the Australian Citizen Military Forces, ACT Police, Rats of Tobruk Association, Australian Army Reserve, NSW Fire Brigade and NSW Rural Fire Service.

Lieut-Colonel Woodland pioneered chaplaincy in some of those services and was asked to assist several other churches and church organisations develop their trauma counselling work.

Some of the most memorable tragedies in which he took senior trauma counselling responsibility included the murder of 35 people by a lone gunman at Port Arthur (Tasmania) in 1996, the death of 15 backpackers in a Childers (Queensland) hotel fire in 2000, the rescue of Stuart Diver after several days in rubble

after a Thredbo (NSW) landslide in 1997 and the loss of more than 2000 people in a tsunami that swept away 13 coastal villages of Papua-New Guinea in 1998.

In retirement, he has continued to assist in trauma counselling and training with a number of organisations.

Responding to presentation of the award, Lieut-Colonel Woodland said he was overwhelmed - "which is not something that has happened too many times in my life".

"I am but a representative of the many people who have done this ministry," he said. "Every day is owned by God. That's how I start every day: 'O, Lord, another day ...'"

He paid tribute to his wife, Bernice, and family. "I could not have done this ministry without them. There were many times when they would not see me for days.

"And, so, I say, God has been good. All glory to him."

A life of the *highest order*

Lieutenant-Colonel Don Woodland's Salvation Army officership has been marked by service to those suffering unimaginable grief and despair. **BILL SIMPSON** profiles an extraordinary life



Lieut-Colonel Don Woodland has had a distinguished life in The Salvation Army, from (clockwise from top left) his early childhood in China (pictured front with his missionary parents), as the special guest on *This Is Your Life*, to his service in the Vietnam War and various counselling roles during times of disaster, which have all culminated in receiving honours such as the Order of Australia medal.

Lieutenant-Colonel Don Woodland was born in China in 1937. His parents, Harry and Florence, were Australian Salvation Army missionary officers at the time.

A fifth-generation Salvationist, he was four years old when he arrived in Australia.

His family settled in Brisbane, where Don met his wife, Bernice Arnold, at West End Corps. They married in 1959 and entered The Salvation Army officer training college in Sydney in 1960.

Lieut-Colonel Woodland once told an interviewer that as a young man he had trained as a surgical footwear maker, but "gave up mending soles to try and save souls".

An extensive period of his 40 years officership was served in chaplaincy appointments. They included the Australian Citizen Military Forces, ACT Police, Red Shield Defence Services, Rats of Tobruk Association, Australian Army Reserve, NSW Fire Brigade and NSW Rural Fire Service.

Lieut-Colonel Woodland pioneered chaplaincy in some of these services.

He was also Territorial and Divisional (ACT and South NSW) Co-ordinator of Emergency Services and Territorial Special Efforts Secretary.

With his wife, he had corps appointments at Mullumbimby, Bowen, Inala, Laidley, Helidon, Kingaroy,

"In life, we come across characters who have a significant impact on the social condition. Don Woodland is one such person."

- former Australian Governor-General Michael Jeffery

Sandgate, Canberra City Temple and Hurstville, was Divisional Commander (ACT and South NSW) and National Secretary.

His final appointment before retirement in 2001 was Territorial Co-ordinator for Pastoral Care, Trauma and

Crisis Management. However, he told *Pipeline* for an article two years ago that his commitment to God through The Salvation Army didn't end just because he turned 65 and had to officially retire.

"[Retirement] is not the end of the road, but [just] a bend [with flexibility] ... to continue meeting people at their point of need," he said.

He has continued to work with people in trauma, including engagement by the Seventh-Day Adventist and Lutheran churches, Lifeline, hospitals and various emergency services to assist with the many facets involved in counselling and training.

Significant impact

Lieut-Colonel Woodland has received numerous awards, principally for his trauma work. The awards include the Order of Australia. He also has been recognised by Rotary International and various emergency services groups, and was featured guest of the television series *This Is Your Life*.

In a foreword to Lieut-Colonel Woodland's book *Picking Up The Pieces*, published in 2006, former Australian Governor-General Michael Jeffery says: "In life, we come across characters who have a significant impact on the social condition. Don Woodland is one such person."

Major-General Jeffery first came in contact with Don Woodland in Brisbane in 1969. The then Major Jeffery was a company commander in the 8th Battalion Royal Australian Army Regiment.

Don Woodland had been appointed by The Salvation Army to work with the regiment. He and Major Jeffery would serve together for the next 12 months in Vietnam, which was Don's introduction to

trauma counselling.

Their paths would cross several times in the following 35 years, mainly through Don Woodland's unique ministry of trauma counselling with police, fire brigade and emergency services chaplaincy.

Don Woodland was there for people in trauma when 35 people were murdered by a lone gunman at Port Arthur (Tasmania) in 1996, 15 backpackers perished in a Childers (Queensland) hotel fire in 2000, Stuart Diver was rescued after spending several days trapped in the rubble of a Thredbo (NSW) landslide in 1997, a tsunami swept away 13 coastal villages of Papua-New Guinea and more than 2000 people in 1998.

He was there for victims of a Newcastle earthquake, Kempsey and Grafton (northern NSW) bus crashes, dozens of car accidents, house fires, drownings and untold other tragedy.

His ministry has been to victims, their families, emergency services people who have attended the scenes and also to counsellors and chaplains in need

of support after providing support themselves.

In the conclusion of his book, Lieut-Colonel Woodland says: "It never ceases to amaze me that in times of grief and despair, I am able to walk unobtrusively into people's lives and be accepted by them.

"It seems that the Lord gives me added strength and somehow those experiencing trauma are able to draw on that strength which enables them to cope with one moment at a time.

"In the words of the prophet Isaiah, we have been privileged to literally 'bind up the broken-hearted and bring comfort to those who mourn'."



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



Territorial Project Development Co-ordinator Greig Whittaker is overseeing the new Missional Hubs strategy. Photo: Carolyn Hide

“It is the focus of the hub journey to see that every expression of The Salvation Army is engaged strategically in their engagement with the community ...”

Why should we head in this direction?

The rationale behind taking this direction is complex, but I think it is explained best by an encounter I recently had. In a recent meeting of all expressions of The Salvation Army in one of the pilot hub areas, I had a conversation where I discovered that one of the leaders of one of the expressions (a Salvos Store manager) had worked in the area for over 20 years. I also met a counsellor who had worked in the same area for 18-plus years. The two had never met. When I asked the Salvos Store manager how often she could have referred people for counselling over the 20 years, her response was as expected, “weekly”. They now have open communication and know each other, the possibility for the future is very different than the past. This is illustrative of how The Salvation Army expressions have worked in silos in many cases at the cost of mission. Together in unity, strategically focused on mission, one-plus-one equals a lot more than two. The blessing created by unity, the sharing of resources, the referral and assistance we can give each other when we are known, the blessing of not “going it alone”.

Isn't this already happening? Where did the “hub” idea originate?

This is no new idea. It's happening to various degrees in many places throughout the movement. This is not a new idea from Australia Eastern

territorial headquarters but rather it is the strategic delivery of the “One Army One Mission” vision and a permission, resourcing of what is already happening at the front line.

So how do hubs start?

The divisions and territory have identified a number of hub missional areas to pilot the initiative. In each of these areas a “Hub Strategic Team Leader” has been identified from amongst the existing expressions and a “Hub Support Team” made up of divisional and territorial personnel (3-4 person team) has been identified. Both these teams have undergone some preliminary training and visioning together. The various expressions within each of the pilot areas are then brought into the conversation via these teams and the journey begins. No expressions or individuals are told they are a hub, that's not possible. All the divisions and territorial headquarters have done is identified the opportunity for the expressions to take the journey from identification to becoming. This cannot and is not, a top down direction. It is the resourcing and facilitating of a journey to see more strategic holistic mission take place at the front line of Salvation Army expressions. This is not a new program, it is a way of being The Salvation Army in our communities, and to that end it is a journey of individuals, of people. The people who are the expressions of The Salvation Army take the journey of embracing the vision, of becoming

unified, of taking responsibilities for whatever healing journeys may need to be taken, of understanding how they will operate and resource shared holistic mission. This is a journey to be taken – not a command delivered or a program to be unwrapped and implemented. So we start a hub by starting a journey together.

Where are the pilot hubs?

Out of respect for the individuals who are within the expressions of each of the hub missional areas, I am unable to identify the pilots until they have all commenced the journey. I can say at this point in time the Nepean (western Sydney), Lake Macquarie (Newcastle), Far North Queensland and northern Queensland hubs have commenced their journeys. Please hear my response not as an attempt to be secretive but rather a response of respect to the individuals that will commence their journeys. As they commence so the news will be shared publicly.

How were the pilot hubs chosen?

The pilot hubs were chosen after divisional and territorial discussions. They were chosen for their diversity of expression. It was felt that for a true pilot to be undertaken it would require city and country hubs with a variety of expressions and a diversity of leadership style and experience. The pilots were chosen based on their capacity to inform the journey.

>>>

Pipeline reporter **ESTHER PINN** interviews Territorial Project Development Co-ordinator Greig Whittaker about the new Missional Hubs strategy for The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory

What is a missional hub and what is the vision?

A missional hub is an identified region of Salvation Army ministry where its workers are involved in a strategic form of communication which promotes unity and results in more effective mission to the community. The vision for the missional hub project is threefold focused: 1. To unify all expressions of The Salvation Army within determined missional hub areas in order to engage in holistic frontline mission; 2. To facilitate unity with the local body of Christ to join us in the mission; 3. To network with the local bodies and resources (councils, schools, rotary etc) to join in the mission.

What do you mean by holistic frontline mission?

We are understanding mission in terms of three missional pillars. They have been expressed in the past as “save souls, grow saints and serve suffering humanity”. We have looked at this internal language, and we are now testing the language in the public arena of “freedom through Jesus/faith (save souls), freedom through community (grow saints) and freedom through action (serve suffering humanity)”. It is the focus of the hub journey to see that every expression of The Salvation Army is engaged strategically in their engagement with the community under these three pillars.

The hubs strategy draws together people from all walks of Salvation Army life, from senior leadership of the territory through to employees of the various services the Army provides. Photo: Carolyn Hide

“... as we all come together we are going to find that there is a wealth of resource that can be better facilitated to resource mission.”



What will it look like?

I am asked this question often. The answer is we don't know. It is not the task of territorial headquarters and the divisions to determine the strategy at the front line. The "what" it looks like will come to life as the people of the expressions take the journey of unity and start to allow the Holy Spirit to innovate and empower them to move. This is not a one-size-fits all, it will look different almost everywhere, although there will be some natural consistent expression.

What is the role of territorial and/or divisional headquarters'?

The role is - "to open the door and put on the coffee". It has become apparent from the pilot hub initial meetings that the energy, passion and creativity already exists, they just have never had the forum for the conversations to take place. So the role is to facilitate the space for unity and relationship to commence and grow. To cast the vision and facilitate the cultural changes required to see it realised. To assist in setting the values that will dictate the agreed behaviour for the journey. To ask good questions that will enable the journey. To ensure that

holistic mission is articulated well and understood at all points of its required communication. To give the necessary support that will see the resources held at divisional and territorial level function freely and efficiently to support frontline mission. To facilitate the stories of what God is doing in the various hubs, so as to ensure they do not become silos themselves. To set a new "score card", or outcomes, of measurement so that we measure what is valuable. To ensure there is accountability to the outcomes being reached. These are the critical undertakings of the role of support. And I am sure it will require territorial headquarters and the divisions to assess how they can best be the support teams of the journey. The pilots will assist in learnings for the future.

I have heard it said that we are all going to sell our buildings and gather in one place. Is this right?

This is not part of the agenda of the hub project. The hubs are a people-centric strategy and does not have in its scope changes to buildings. In saying that, as the various expressions of The Salvation Army sit in the same room together they may well

determine that it makes missional sense to share space. So the journey of hubs may facilitate communication that may result in this but it is not the focus or prerequisite of the journey.

Do you think that officers are already too busy to be able to embrace the requirements of the hub journey?

There is no doubt that many of our frontline leaders are under pressure, but I believe that the hub journey is going to relieve this pressure not add to it. The journey will allow us to understand this with more clarity, but we are believing that as we all come together we are going to find that there is a wealth of resource that can be better facilitated to resource mission. It is again the principle of one-plus-one equals more than two. If the journey creates a new weight to be carried then we have not taken the journey well.

This could be a long journey. With the constant changing of personnel and, particularly, top leadership, do we have what it takes to maintain the momentum for the journey?

There is no question that this is a long-term approach to understanding

how we do Salvation Army in the future. Whilst in our movement there are challenges to making of some commitments, what can be said today are two critical responses. Firstly, the hub strategic team leaders have been given a guarantee of a minimum five years in their appointments from the date of the commencement of the hub journey. The second comment is that this is not an initiative of a particular individual but a vision of the Army becoming one in mission. If this journey is viewed as anything other than a long-term commitment it should not be undertaken. The other comment that is worth noting is that within the context of the vision it requires less of individual leadership and more of team leadership. If the vision is realised a new leader (officer) would come into an expression and not need to recast vision as they would enter as part of an ongoing team that is facilitating a strategic holistic mission. Team takes the focus off the individual and this may serve The Salvation Army better within the context of its deployment undertakings. The critical objective is to see greater involvement in holistic mission at all places within the movement, with all people engaged in the movement.

What will look different at corps level?

The journey is one of continually taking our eyes off ourselves and realising we exist for those who are not yet part of us. Salvation Army corps will be invited further into the exciting, risky journey of seeing the reign of God expand into all areas of their community. They will be invited to understand the amazing opportunities that exist, when all expressions become unified, for every individual to be released into frontline mission. It will ask a lot of questions of us. We will need to be innovative in facilitating journeys for people who are seeking to know Jesus, beyond the already existing Sunday morning worship contexts.

We will need to know how to articulate what God is doing, what he is about in establishing his rule in our communities. We will be asked to serve alongside the community in seeing this happen. We will need to ask the Holy Spirit to lead us in all that we do in creating community within our communities. I hope that as we continually ask this question, "what does it look like?", we will not stop to paint a picture but stay in a place of constant creativity.

Do we have what it takes for the journey?

No! The answer is a simple and definite no. We, in and of ourselves, are not equipped on so many levels for the journey we are about to take. But our God is the God who takes ill-equipped people - his people - on miraculous journeys of seeing his Kingdom come. So we are not equipped but we have all we need. It's not a question, a journey, of being equipped, it's a question of being prepared as individuals and as a movement to do whatever it takes to see our miraculous God in and through us rescuing, serving and loving the communities he has placed us in. □



Esther Pinn is a staff writer for Pipeline.

my Salvos



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Major Colin Daines (centre) and mySalvos Web Content Manager Mel Cotton (left) celebrate the launch of the new site with the web team. Photo: Shairon Paterson

ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR MYSALVOS WEBSITE

What's coming up on mySalvos this month

- The second instalment in a series of articles on evangelism by Major Howard Webber
- Watch the 2012 Self-Denial video series which will be available week by week
- Worship articles, with resource ideas, by Nathaniel Brown

After more than two years in development, the team behind the new mySalvos website for The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory has finally hit the "go" button.

The website, which aims to provide up-to-the-minute information on news, events and resources in the territory and also be a central online hub for The Salvation Army community, went live on 11 February.

"This is a significant moment in the life of our territory. While it marks the end of one phase, it is really just the start and we believe it can only get better," said Major Colin Daines who has been overseeing the project from January 2010.

"Some developments were held back to after the launch so more enhancements will appear in the coming months."

After such a long and involved process in getting the website ready, Major Daines admitted to a sense of achievement – and relief – to finally see the project come to fruition.

Early indications suggest the site is being well received, with the Commissioner's LeaderSpeak video and the news item about the Indigenous Community House attracting particular interest.

The mySalvos team will continue to track trends in website viewing and "tweak" the site to accommodate user demand. To join in all the action on the new website, go to mysalvos.org.au

What people are saying on mySalvos

"People in Central and North Queensland have already said how this [mySalvos] also helps in uniting us together as an Army."
– **Matt Gluyas, Divisional Youth Secretary, Central and North Qld**

"Congratulations, a wonderful way to hear our leaders speak about issues relating to our mission. Let's work together to have One Army, One Mission, that is sharing the love of Jesus. The mySalvos site is a great resource, congratulations to the team."
– **Major Robyn Pullen, Territorial Chaplaincy Co-ordinator**

"WOW ... congratulations to you and your team. The mySalvos website looks fantastic and the great part about it is I can find my way around it – EASY!! It is so user-friendly. I love the maps, addresses showing location of each corps, centre, Family Store. Great to view all events right across our territory by one click."
– **Sandra Hargrave, Territorial Property Office, Queensland**

"Just a quick note to let you know I think the new site is fantastic. I am using some of the backgrounds and the DVD clip of the *Candle of the Lord* at chapel tonight."
– **Major Graham Tamsett, Manager, Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah)**

"Hey guys, have just been looking through the site. Great job! I hope that it goes a long way towards achieving it's mission."
– **Nathan Moulds, Edify Coordinator, Sydney Streetlevel Mission**

Addicted to God

Teena rescued from drug hell



Teena Hughes has triumphed over a life of drug addiction to become a Salvation Army officer.
Photo: Shairon Paterson

Seven years ago, Teena Hughes was trapped in drug addiction, forfeiting a marriage and a young son. Today, she is in her first few months as a Salvation Army officer. Teena tells her story through *Pipeline* reporter **BILL SIMPSON**

My young life was spent on the move. I attended six primary schools and seven high schools in three states and two countries.

The only religion I knew was what nuns and brothers taught me at a Catholic school. I was in awe of them. They were "different" somehow.

I also felt "different" to other kids, especially when I was around seven or eight years of age. This feeling increased as I got older. I remember feeling confused and sad about a whole heap of things, especially the abuse and betrayal by a distant family member I once adored.

I started to withdraw, spending more and more time on my own, often in the paddocks with my horses. I felt safe there – and the horses kept my "secrets".

My dad is a chronic alcoholic. He was very abusive. My parents separated when I was about 10 and later divorced. I grieved for a long time and vowed never to put any children I might have through what I was going through – no matter what!

I didn't really know God, then. I just knew of him from what I heard

Teena at her graduation from Selah Farm in 2005 with her counsellor, Major Thelma Fischle.



at school. But I would talk to him while I rode my horses, sometimes for hours. The God I imagined was a loving God; an understanding God who loved me just as I was, not wanting or expecting anything from me and was there ready to hear me whenever I needed to talk or cry.

I had a friend at one school and spent some weekends at her family home. The family attended church. I attended with them when I stayed at their place. It was nice.

As I got older, that feeling of being "different" from everyone else grew. I developed a yearning for success, approval and achieving perfection – in my work, relationships, appearance, marriage and even in other people.

Drug addiction

A random assault on the way to work as a nurse one day caused some events from my childhood to resurface. I didn't deal with it well and was eventually diagnosed with chronic depression. I was medicated, but I found the prescribed medication wasn't numbing my pain or taking away my sadness. So, I began self-medicating as well.

This started a roller-coaster ride of worsening depression, psychosis and many hospitalisations. The point came where I was spending more and more time scheduled as a psychiatric patient

in hospital than I was at home with my husband and son.

I would tuck my son into bed at night, read him a story and kiss him goodnight. Next morning, he would be told that mummy was in hospital – again! These middle-of-the-night hospital admissions soon became the cycle of my everyday life.

live according to God's will, well, that was one of the most difficult things I had to do in my life.

Firstly, I had to tell my family about my drug addiction. Then, I had to tell my work colleagues. I sought out and entered a rehabilitation program.

Being a new Christian, I felt that if

Making the necessary changes to live according to God's will, well, that was one of the most difficult things I had to do in my life.

There was no acknowledgement of God in my life. I had shut him out because I felt undeserving of his love. I was trying to manage on my own, even though I wasn't and couldn't.

A nursing colleague invited me to her church. I had nothing to lose. My life changed that day – 17 October, 2004. I asked Jesus into my life.

I thought: Wow – a second chance! But I was in active addiction. I needed to make changes. Addiction was easy. If I was happy, I took drugs; if I was sad, I took drugs. Making the necessary changes to

I had any chance at recovery I needed to find a spiritually based program. I was accepted into The Salvation Army's 10-month residential Bridge Program at Catherine Booth House in Sydney.

After three weeks, I was transferred to Selah Farm on the NSW Central Coast to complete my rehab. This was my introduction to The Salvation Army.

My husband and I had been together for 16 years by this time, but I felt I needed to release him from the horror ride that I had taken him on. I hated seeing the impact my addiction and regular >>>



Teena Hughes graduates as a Salvation Army officer at last year's Commissioning ceremony in Sydney. Photo: Shairon Paterson.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect

They were the words of solace and covenant being offered to me.

Arriving severed I never thought I would ever get recovery.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

Early days were smeared with guilt and shame, And I thought there was only me to blame.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

Confined and haunted by so many thoughts, I had to adjust to living with all sorts.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

As days passed by, some good some bad, I learnt in here it was OK to be sad.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

Many girls came and some of those went, I guess their time just wasn't meant.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

I pray to God - please keep them safe, and lead them to a harmless place.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

A lot was on offer for me to stay, a life without drugs and to live a new way.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

As trust increased, and friendships grew, Both were daunting and very new.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

I was filling with knowledge but more I could take, for I had a whole new life to make.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

Now as I move on it's not goodbye, I've just found my wings and learnt to fly.

Selah, a place to pause and reflect.

Teena Hughes - 20 December 2005

hospitalisations were having on him. He deserved a better life.

Although it meant the end of our family of three, I believed that in the long run it was the best decision for us all. I didn't know if I would ever get well or how long it would take.

Family separation

My husband had been the best dad from the day our son was born. I knew that together they would be OK. So, here I was doing to my son what I said I would never do - put him through the separation of

his family. He was the exact age that I was when my parents separated and I made the promise not to put any children I had through that.

I struggled for years with the family separation. I completed rehab, followed by some full-time study and a return to Selah Farm as an alcohol and other drugs case worker/counsellor. I saw it as an opportunity to give back.

While in rehab, I attended Gosford/Erina Corps. Later, I went to Long Jetty Corps, where I became an adherent and then soldier.

My calling to officership started when I was still a client at Selah Farm. At the time, I wasn't sure if it was truly God's calling or just me wanting it to be God's calling. I came to learn that there is a big difference!

A few years later, after numerous conversations and encouragement from my Corps Officer, I started making enquiries about officer training.

I started the application process. It was overwhelming. Old insecurities came flooding back, along with a whole smorgasbord of thoughts and feelings - none of which tasted very nice!

I wanted to withdraw my application. The Candidates Board suggested they "just hold onto the application for a while". I agreed and thought that that was the end of that.

I changed jobs, trying to settle restlessness, and continued to be involved in ministry at the corps. I was active in youth ministry, court chaplaincy, disaster relief, mentoring others in or seeking recovery for themselves, worship team and co-ordinating pastoral care. I had an opportunity to participate in a mission trip overseas.

About this time, I heard a testimony from a young woman officer. She said that if you have truly been called by God to be an officer and you ignore his calling you will just live a frustrated life.

She was right. Finally, I was able to recognise why I was still restless.

Time to serve

In September 2009 while at a divisional women's weekend, God spoke loud and clear. "OK, kiddo; it's time, let's go." In December 2009, I was accepted

as a candidate for the School for Officer Training and enrolled as a cadet of the *Friends of Christ* session the following month.

I was really ready this time - no thoughts of being overwhelmed or insecure; just excitement and privilege at the prospect of serving the God who had rescued me.

On 27 November, 2011, I was commissioned/ordained as a Salvation Army officer. It was a day of personal significance for me. Not only was I becoming an officer, but I was also celebrating seven years of being in recovery.

I could not think of a better way to thank God for bringing me through my addiction safely than covenanting my life back to him to serve with my whole heart, body and soul.

I have started in my first appointment as a prison/court chaplain at Kempsey, on the NSW mid-North Coast.

My ex-husband and I maintain an amicable relationship, which allows us both to comfortably attend events

involving our son. My son and I have a great relationship. He is 17 now and still lives with his dad.

A lot of rebuilding needed to be done, especially around me not disappearing on him again. We have a very open and honest relationship these days. I am very proud of him.

It's amazing when you fully place your life in God's hands. You need to hold on for the ride! I can now see the purpose of things that once didn't make any sense. We only see the waves and some of the sea, but God sees the entire ocean.

To be able to live free from drugs and the bondage of my sin is amazing. Praise God! ☐



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

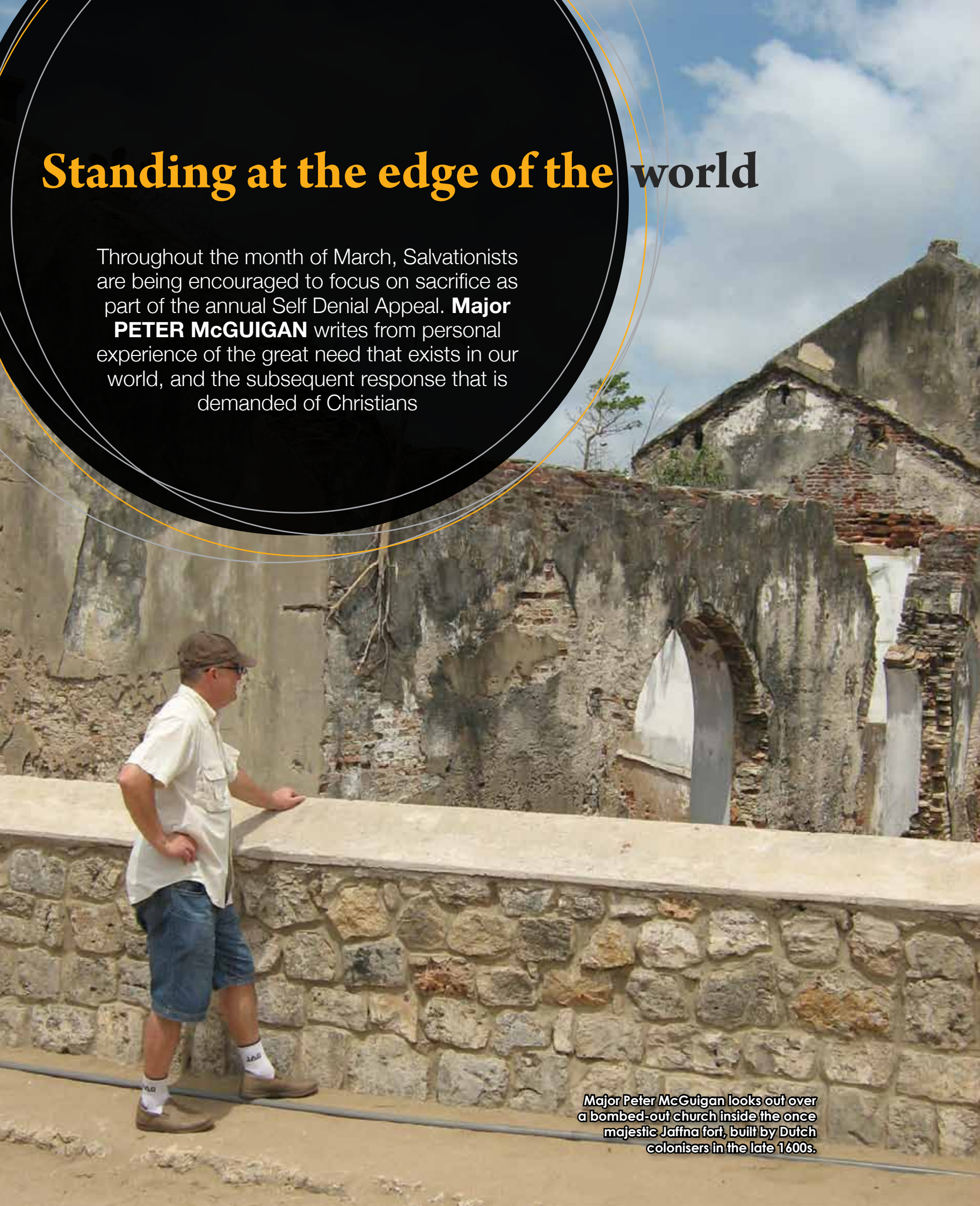


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Standing at the edge of the world

Throughout the month of March, Salvationists are being encouraged to focus on sacrifice as part of the annual Self Denial Appeal. **Major PETER McGUIGAN** writes from personal experience of the great need that exists in our world, and the subsequent response that is demanded of Christians



Major Peter McGuigan looks out over a bombed-out church inside the once majestic Jaffna fort, built by Dutch colonisers in the late 1600s.

The trip from Palaly airstrip to Jaffna in Sri Lanka's far north was anything but smooth. Civilians and soldiers alike bounced non-stop in the barely padded seats and all of us were grateful for the frantic, albeit amusing, efforts of an on-board luggage attendant who kept our belongings intact.

War-damaged roads, no doubt scheduled for renewal, made for a rough ride. But I reckoned worn shock absorbers on this ancient Lanka Ashok Leyland bus were also to blame. Not to mention negotiating the constant stream of cows, goats, dogs, bicycles, motorbikes, cars, vans, tuk tuks (motorised trishaws) and pedestrians that shared the same thoroughfare.

The Sri Lankan Army driver, immaculately uniformed in his jungle greens and with a black beret that remained in perfect place the whole trip, commanded the road like it was his own. Not only had he mastered the route, but an impressive mix of Sri Lankan driving skills as well, including swerving, dodging, sudden braking and, most importantly, horn-blowing!

Despite this heart-stopping journey, and the flight from Colombo on a Sri Lankan Air Force 15-seater beforehand, I felt at home. It was my third visit to Sri Lanka in five years, although my first to the Jaffna peninsula in the far north of the country.

The bus ride, I mused, was a metaphor for life in this relatively small island nation with its teeming 20 million people – a land of surprises, contrasts, sometimes shocks, and many twists and turns.

Here, you feel like you're standing at the edge of the world. Only 30 kilometres north-west is

the mighty India. Legend has it that the ancient Sinhala and Tamil peoples came down to Sri Lanka from India across a narrow strip of land that once connected them. Known as Adam's Bridge, traces of this natural causeway are still discernible. The beautiful Maldives beckon from the south-west, and the Indonesian archipelago and Australia are off to the south-east. Directly south, there is nothing until Antarctica.

If you're looking for adventure or beauty or history spanning thousands of years, you don't need to go any further than right where you're standing. Turn around and it lies before you in every direction: beauty in the natural wonders of Sri Lanka and in its beautiful people – predominantly Tamil and Sinhalese; adventure in discovering its highly communal way of life, its rich culinary delights and its hideaway tourist resorts; history in its ancient landmarks, now long-established archaeological sites – places with exotic names like Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura, Sigiriya and Jaffna, where thousands of years ago Tamil and Sinhala kings built their fortresses and centred their kingdoms.

Impact of war

But tragedy and human struggle also loom large in Sri Lanka, casting a shadow of suffering and complexity over its contemporary peoples. May 2009 marked the end of a bloody ethno-political war in the country that lasted 26 years. Beginning as an outbreak of ethnic violence in 1983, it quickly deteriorated into war between the separatist and militant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the nation's armed forces. The LTTE took the Tamil cause for equal rights across Sri Lanka >>>

“Having a global perspective means breakthroughs to new levels of Self Denial Appeal giving unimaginable a decade ago.”

into its own hands, campaigning fiercely for a separate Tamil state in the country's north.

The island, particularly in the north and east, was exposed to a ferocity of fighting that was both unexpected and unfamiliar. The Sri Lankan Army scrambled to devise containment and warfare strategies to meet the LTTE's unconventional fighting tactics. Intense propaganda campaigns fuelled confusion and fear. At least twice during the conflict, ceasefires and peace talks brought glimmers of hope, but to no avail. Hostilities only ended with the LTTE's formal surrender following the demise of its leadership at the battle's front.

It has been estimated that up to 80,000 Sri Lankans lost their lives over the 26 years. At least 50,000 were directly involved in the fighting, the rest civilians – Tamils, Sinhalese and people of minority ethnicities such as the Sri Lankan Muslims. A drive through the Jaffna peninsula, Sri Lanka's Tamil heartland at the centre of much of the fighting, reveals the devastation. Destroyed buildings – including Christian churches, Hindu temples, schools, the once majestic Jaffna fort and a multitude of houses – tell of a blood-stained conflict that went on far too long. Whole villages have been razed. You can drive for kilometres and see nothing but abandoned, shelled-out structures.

Starting again

It is confronting to spend time in Jaffna. Sobering. You are truly at the edge of the world. Devastation is all around you, but the people are happy because the war is over and they have their freedom back. They are starting again. The bazaars are once more full of people making a living from their stalls. Roads are being rebuilt. In fact, the streets are hazardous now, not because of war but because of the amount of people on them – walking, working, riding, driving all manner of vehicles – and the amount of animals meandering in and out of this human tide.

The people of Jaffna are relieved. The Sri Lankan government, initially criticised for its internment of 300,000 displaced Tamils in refugee camps following the war, has worked a miracle in resettling them in little over two years. Many have returned to the Jaffna peninsula. International aid agencies are assisting and various nations have committed significant resources to help rebuild infrastructure and kick-start the Jaffna economy.

We discovered a Salvation Army refuge in Jaffna filled with girls and boys who have no other place to call home. We spent time with them, laughed with them, took photos with them. It was an impromptu visit, but we were accompanied by a young man who

spoke fluent Tamil and reasonable English. Through him, as we were leaving, we said to these young people, "You know that God loves you." To our surprise, with no hesitation and with real affection, came their response in perfect unison, "And God loves you." It was in Tamil, but we didn't need the English translation.

We were greatly moved, and thanked God for the faithfulness of the Army and its people who, amid such strife and relative remoteness, had continued showing and teaching the love of God in Christ. We felt proud of the Army, not an unholy pride but a deep respect and admiration for our church remaining true to itself and its calling here at the edge of the world.

Leadership

The impact of a 26-year war, now ended, is complex to say the least. These people have been badly traumatised; terrorised in many instances. They have lived in fear for their lives and need deep assurance and stability for a peaceful and constructive future. Loved ones are gone, never to be seen again. They have lost a generation of social, educational and economic momentum. They have regressed and need leadership on the ground in Jaffna that is committed to both their recovery and ongoing progress.

We spoke with some influential Tamil businessmen while staying in Jaffna. One was a hotelier who, in the two years since the war's end, has built Jaffna's only multi-storey four-star hotel. Thilak is one of thousands of Sri Lankan Tamils who have settled in other parts of the world. He believes, as do many others, that Jaffna's hope for a full and holistic recovery lies in well-resourced members of the "Sri Lankan Tamil Diaspora" returning to their country of origin. They not only need to invest their money into Jaffna, which they are, they need to come back and live in Jaffna and lead its recovery on every front – emotional as well as economic, social as well as spiritual, private as well as commercial, recreational as well as industrial. For as long as it takes, Thilak himself has now committed to spending six months each year in Jaffna. For the other six months, you can find him in London where he and his business interests are officially domiciled.

Sacrifice and risk are involved



Major Peter and Lieutenant Tara McGuigan with carers of the young people at The Salvation Army's Shalom children's home on the Jaffna Peninsula in Sri Lanka.

in taking a decision to go and help out at the edge of the world, particularly in a place like Jaffna. In fact, rebuilding is complicated, and for reasons too sensitive to air here. Suffice to say that trust needs to be restored following a war like the one that's been fought on Sri Lankan soil.

Standing at the edge

Back in Australia now, I haven't found it easy to reassimilate or reconnect with our ordered and comfortable lifestyle. Chaotic Jaffna is now part of me – its potent mix of immediate past tragedy and rising hope for the future. The term "global community" has taken on new and very personal meaning.

I reflect on what it means to be the Church in a globalised world and hold my head in shame at the thought of some of the trivial matters that engage our time and effort in corps leadership teams and as Salvationists at the so-called frontline of mission.

Perhaps the most telling question for us should be: What does it mean to lead in a globalised world? The advice of Stephen Covey, Robert Greenleaf, John Maxwell, Rick Warren, Bill Hybels and others has given us good leadership models for a prescriptive and predominately cerebral Western context. But we are rapidly moving past "Western" and "cerebral" as descriptors for life in a globalised world, and "prescriptive" models of leadership are definitely no longer adequate.

The first criterion for effective Christian leadership today, other than unwavering devotion to Christ and holy living, is having a global perspective. This not only means going to the edge of the world and resonating with its multicultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious, boundary-less heart, but being at the edge of the world in our spirit and our vision.

It means leading the church and the community – private, public, corporate and government sectors included – towards the end of exclusivism, the end of judgementalism, the end of racial inequality, the end of imperial or superior ways of thinking and being, the end of cultural ignorance. It means facilitating our church communities filling up with people from every conceivable background; most communities now are microcosms of the world. It means creative thinking and dynamic action on how to bring the nations together, no matter where you serve. It means helping our people go to the edge of the world themselves and embracing people who are different from them as friends and potential followers of Christ. It means breakthroughs to new levels of Self Denial Appeal giving unimaginable a decade ago.

The whole world is now our context for life and mission. Australia, overshadowed last century by an official "White Australia" policy and its lingering presence in the Australian psyche, is now a melting pot of nations. The

whole world is right where you are with both its richness of cultural, language, and culinary diversity and the pain of its struggle against prejudice and inequality.

The Salvation Army is held in such high regard by the world community today that being "a church for everyone" is more within reach than perhaps it has ever been. Surprising as it may be for some, our Founder saw this in what could only be described as "prophetic":

*O boundless salvation!
deep ocean of love,
O fullness of mercy,
Christ brought from above,
The whole world redeeming,
so rich and so free,
Now flowing for all men,
come, roll over me!*
- (Salvation Army Song Book 298)

A prayer: "Father of all creation, pour unbounded love into our hearts; Christ of the Cross, forgive us our prejudice and fill us with your transforming grace; Spirit poured out on all flesh, take us far beyond ourselves and shape us with a vision that sees the whole world through the eyes of God, and then acts." □



Major Peter McGuigan is Corps Officer of Capricorn Region Corps.



The young people of The Salvation Army's Shalom children's home on the Jaffna Peninsula of Sri Lanka, pictured with Lieutenant Tara McGuigan (centre front) during a visit to Jaffna with Major Peter McGuigan.

SELF DENIAL STORIES



Altar Service 1 April

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one week's salary on missionary service



Holy Habits

with Major Barbara Sampson



Habit 15

The discipline of worship

Isaiah 6:1-8

"Woe is me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty!" (v. 5, NIV).

William Temple, the renowned Church of England preacher and teacher, wrote: "To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God."

Worship is more than a one-hour-slot on a Sunday. Worship is the natural consequence of living with openness to God's active presence in one's daily round.

Worship is a life of conversation with God that involves listening, looking,

tasting, feeling, smelling – engaging every sense and turning one's whole being to the greatness of God.

Worship as a multi-sensory experience is what happened to the prophet Isaiah in the temple. When he caught sight of the radiant holiness of God, the prophet cried out in despair at his own sinfulness and that of all humankind. In feeling the temple shake, in smelling the smoke and seeing the glory of God's grace, Isaiah saw also the depth of his own guilt. This experience transformed him.

When Thomas saw Jesus for himself after the resurrection, he cried out, "My Lord and my God!" That was worship. When Mary poured out her expensive perfume over Jesus' feet, that was worship. When the man who had been healed by Jesus after 38 years of being an invalid went around telling people what had

happened to him, that was worship.

As a spiritual discipline, worship helps us to live with a holy expectancy, an inner attentiveness, a perpetual openness to God. Outwardly we live and work, eat and engage, but inwardly we are ever-listening, always on the lookout, ready to respond to the overtures of love that come to us from the heart of the Father.

*Set my spirit free that I might worship thee,
Set my spirit free that I might praise thy name.
Let all bondage go and let deliverance flow,
Set my spirit free to worship thee.*

Author unknown

To reflect on ...

"Of all today's miracles the greatest is this: to know that I find thee best when I work listening." (Evangelical Christian missionary Frank Laubach)





Silver Service

Eleven Salvation Army officers of the Australia Eastern Territory have completed 25 years of service this year. A selection of officers describe their journey in ministry and vision for the future

Marking 25 years of Salvation Army officership are: Majors Kelvin and Julie Alley; Lieut-Colonels David and Sandra Godkin; Major Neil Clanfield; Majors Glenn and Lynn Whittaker; Major Julie Radburn; Major Christine Ivers; Majors Lyall and Susan Reese.



Majors Kelvin and Julie Alley

Kelvin says:

It was never my intention to be a Salvation Army officer. After leaving school I wanted to pursue my career with the Australian Government and look forward to a comfortable life and a secure retirement.

I am glad, however, that God's plans were not my plans. I have never forgotten the experiences of those early days when God applied those extra exertions of his grace to bring me into submission and surrender. I have never regretted and how could I? These past 25 years have been more than anything I could ever have imagined - life and ministry has been a most wonderful adventure, with many seasons of growth, learning to rely and trust in his many promises, exploring the truths of the Scriptures and learning to apply all of this to the ministry to which he has so clearly called me.

The life that I had planned for myself could never have been as rich and rewardingly diverse. These past 25 years have opened up wonderful appointments that seemed to have been divinely chosen,

travel and experiences to many parts of the world and study opportunities that I would never dreamed were possible. I have grown by his grace through challenges that have been the means of shaping me into the person he is still calling me to be.

The Lord has revealed his will and desires for my life through many Scriptures over the years, but of late I have found a fresh resolve in St Paul's words to the saints of Ephesus: "I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me - the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace," (Acts 20:24).

Julie says:

It took a number of years for me to act on knowing that God wanted me to enter full-time ministry. The past 25 years have been filled with adventures, challenges and many blessings. God has allowed me to go to places I never dreamed of going and meeting people from all walks of life. More than this, though, he has blessed our children and their children. A few years ago on a long bike ride through France and the UK, my thoughts were turned to William the Conqueror, a man of great stature and power. Sadly, the end of his life was not like that - he died after falling off his horse. Not really the image of a conqueror. In Romans 8, it says these words: "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." No matter what challenges, adventures or blessings come my way, this is what I want my life to display for Jesus. I want to continue officership running towards Jesus and finish well - in fact not just fall over the line but be a conqueror for him. Only by God's grace and trusting solely in him will this happen.



Lieut-Colonels David and Sandra Godkin

Sandra says:

I find it so hard to believe that 25 years have gone since our commissioning in 1987! What an amazing 25 years; so much has happened! I feel so grateful to God for the experiences I have had and the people God has placed in my life. What a joy to journey with people, to see people find Jesus, to see many others grow in their relationship with him and their desire to be passionate disciples.

Have all the experiences been good? No! There have been days when I have

wondered why. Would I do it all again? Yes! Even the most difficult situations. It is amazing how we can say that with the blessing of time. Now I can say that it has probably been those difficult days that have strengthened me and help me lean into Jesus.

My verse for 2012 is Ephesians 3:19: "... and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." My prayer for this year is that I would experience more of his love. I don't want to just know about it, or talk about it. I don't want to miss out on anything! I want to daily experience more of his fullness in my life. What an exciting life, if daily I was filled to the measure of ALL the fullness of God. Let it be in my life, Jesus!

David says:

What an amazing journey the past 25 years have been! I would never have imagined at the commencement of this journey some of the experiences that God would bring my way as a Salvation Army officer.

Not all of them easy to handle but every one of those experiences helped to develop who I am in Christ today and for that I am extremely grateful to my Lord.

Whether it was sitting with a family in palliative care, conducting the funeral of a cot death, celebrating a wedding or birth, preaching the word of God every Sunday or just building relationships with people over a cup of coffee (or two) my God has been incredibly faithful.

He has equipped me for the task, given me wisdom, patience and grace at times when I had absolutely nothing to offer those entrusted to me and he never left my side when I was hurt and disillusioned. What has sustained me? Firstly, I am convinced of my calling and I trust God completely to equip me for the task and he has honored that trust. Secondly, God has gifted me with a wonderful wife to share ministry with, a family which supports and encourages me in my calling and many wonderful soldiers, adherents and friends along the way in every appointment who have made the journey enjoyable and exciting.

It doesn't feel like 25 years, in many ways I feel like I've only just begun and I am excited about what lies ahead. Every day I am reminded of Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your path."

Major Neil Clanfield

Neil says:

As I reflect over the past 25 years of my officership there are many good memories and much I give thanks to God for. In those 25 years I have got married, had four great kids (and two beautiful grandchildren), lived in some great parts of Australia, had the privilege of doing life with heaps of good people, and seen God do some amazing things. I have had the opportunity to minister on the front line as well as at a divisional and territorial level. For four years my wife Sharon and I even had some international experience when given the privilege to serve as the corps officers of Halifax Citadel in Canada, an experience that will always remain one of the highlights of being an officer.

While being the son of Salvation Army officers, the choice to become an officer was something that was born out of a very personal response to that which I believe God was calling me to. There is no doubt that as the years have ticked over I have learnt many things and I know will continue to learn. I have learnt that being a Salvation Army officer doesn't



define me but that my significance and value is in Christ; I have learnt that while I am called to "save souls, grow saints and serve suffering humanity", I am not the "Saviour"; I have learnt that while fulfilling my ministry roles through the vehicle of The Salvation Army is important, more important is making sure I minister to the family God has entrusted me with.

As I begin my 26th year and ponder the years ahead, my prayer is that I will always have a living relationship with Jesus and that in the end I will hear the words, "well done, good and faithful servant".

>>>



Majors Glenn and Lynn Whittaker

Glenn says:

Twenty-five years of service - wow, what a journey! But for me the journey started several years before that as I sought God's guidance on my life and wrestled with his calling. Oddly enough, as I struggled to find answers to what God wanted for me it was not until one night when the Bible fell open to Matthew 9:37. The words of Jesus spoke to me very clearly: "The harvest is great, but the workers are so few. Pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send out more workers for his field."

Over the years the journey has taken me into a variety of appointments from corps, Recovery Services, Communications and Public Relations and Salvos Stores. There is no doubt in my mind that God is the one who equips for all the tasks that have been presented to me so far, and will continue to do so in my service for him. I have learnt that God is no man's debtor as long as we are faithful.

Lynn says:

When God placed his hand on my life and called me to be an officer in The Salvation Army, and I said yes, I could never have imagined the journey that would be mine from that point on. It



has been a very mixed journey - one of great highs and one of great lows but the constant in my life has been my loving Father God.

Early in my officership, at a particularly difficult time, I was given a verse from Joshua 1:9 that I believe came straight from God: "... be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." That journey has taken me to some fabulous places - and the Lord my God has been with me every step of that journey.

I remember standing with Glenn at our welcome weekend at Sydney Congress Hall, having come to Sydney from Brisbane, and not knowing anyone. We felt quite alone at that time. Now, 25 years later, I think back to that time and have only love and awe for God and where he has taken me and the wonderful people he has brought into my life.

I have found in ministry such excitement to see people come into relationship with God and see his movement in their lives in ways that are miraculous and astounding.

It has been such a privilege to be used by God in ways I never could have imagined. Thank you, God, for seeing a potential in me that I never would have seen and thank you for using me in your service.



Major Julie Radburn

Julie says:

I could never have imagined a more diverse life than what I have experienced in officership in The Salvation Army. My calling to follow Jesus, and subsequent calling to follow him in full-time ministry, has given me opportunities for service in corps and social centre settings, and in divisional and territorial supporting and resourcing roles. I have also had the opportunity to serve in Papua New Guinea for a short time.

Serving suffering humanity is part of our mission statement that has been the main focus of my ministry. It is such a challenge, privilege and responsibility to be the presence of Jesus to people in distress. People need the Lord, and how wonderful it is to be used by God to draw people closer to himself.

Over the past year, my task was to organise teams of people to work in

earthquake-devastated Christchurch and in those areas affected by the Brisbane floods and Cyclone Yasi in north Queensland. It was so inspiring and encouraging to hear stories of how God had placed our volunteers (officers, soldiers, employees and friends) just where he needed them, at the right time and the right place to minister and touch the lives of those who have been through so much. They were proclaiming the Gospel - the good news of Jesus Christ through their listening ear, their caring hearts and the practical assistance they were able to offer.

The name of our session was *Proclaimers of the Gospel* and over the years I have been grateful to God that he has shown me how he can use the gifts and abilities he has given me to be a "Proclaimer of the Gospel".

I am so thankful for God's presence in my life, on a daily basis, nourishing and sustaining me, allowing me to be used by him in his work.



Major Christine Ivers

Christine says:

Twenty-five years of officership seems both fleeting and a lifetime. It occurs to me that the 21-year-old single officer who ventured into the vast world which was to be her ministry, lacked confidence

yet dreamed of making some kind of difference in her appointments. How could this become a reality?

The story of Moses always had great appeal to me since my early childhood. The incessant questioning of God's call on his life, the many lame excuses Moses placed before God, seemed to resonate with me. Significantly, when Moses relayed to the Lord his inability to speak, God raised up Aaron who would become Moses' mouthpiece. This story became more significant to me as I had been wrestling and praying through issues of singleness and the prospect of ministering alone. God intervened and sent me my "Aaron" who became my husband (Earle).

The transition from single to married officership was both challenging in terms of determining roles, and a relief as I no longer had to "do" life and ministry alone. What a miracle! God had chosen exactly the right life partner for me who would

turn out to be complementary in ministry and relationship. The addition of three children and then two grandchildren, has greatly enriched my life and given me incredible blessing and joy. This is especially true as my family has shared in ministry with both Earle and I.

The appointments - both corps and divisional - and related experiences, have been diverse, challenging and character-building all at once. One of the most significant aspects of these years has been discovering a listening and caring ministry while developing and enhancing the skills in this area. This is in addition to the numerous roles and expectations placed on me as an officer today. I continue to be passionate about people as I journey with them - this is truly fulfilling. However, the mantra that motivates me and prayed daily as an encouragement from God is this: "Be still and know that I am God," (Psalm 46:10).

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WITH MAJOR FRANK DURACHER

GOD SHOWS HE'S NO MAN'S APRIL FOOL

Will Hoskin as a
new Salvationist in
the mid 1880s. He
later became the
Chief Secretary for
Australasia Territory.



April Fool's Day 1883 was a day Will Hoskin would never forget. The entire first week of April, in fact, was life-changing.

Will was a typical young man growing up in the Victorian goldmining town of Ballarat. He loved playing Australian Rules football with his mates. In fact, he was pretty good. Had his lifespan occurred 100 years later, he may well have been a top-class football star.

But, then again, God had other plans for the young man - and his contribution to The Salvation Army's successful start in Australia hinged on that very fact - making Will, and that special April Fool's Day, part of the Army's story.

Football was not all there was for Will. He was a part-time firefighter and owned his own business as a shoemaker.

A gifted athlete, a courageous fireman, a successful entrepreneur - Will Hoskin had much to offer.

And so it was on that first day of April 1883, Will sat spellbound by a sermon, of all things, being preached by a Salvation Army Captain, of all people.

The sermon, being delivered by Captain Charles Lindsay, somehow touched Will's heart. When the invitation was given for seekers to pray at the Mercy Seat, Will was there, pouring his heart out to God. When Will rose to his feet, he was a new creature in Christ Jesus.

Captain Lindsay knew leadership potential when he saw it and began immediately to recruit Will to become a Salvation Army Officer. Will was not at all convinced that a lifelong commitment to officership was for him.

Becoming born-again is one thing but it is quite another to start life over at square one. How could he leave his many friends at the football club? His mates at the firehouse looked up to him for leadership and bravery. Could they get on without him? And what of his shoe cobbler business? He had developed a nice clientele. It provided a comfortable living for he and his pretty, young wife. Could he really walk away from a livelihood at which he had become fairly good?

But that's not the worst. All of Will's objections to what Captain Charles told

him were nothing compared to the real obstacle to Will becoming a Salvation Army Officer.

All the arguing aside, Will finally blurted out to Charles in the strongest of terms why he must disregard the ministry fulltime - his wife, his unsaved wife.

"Look," Will shouted at Charles, "I'll tell you why I cannot. My wife is an unsaved woman. God doesn't want me to be an Army Officer and cart an unsaved woman about the country!"

Captain Charles couldn't respond to that. Will, for his part, felt a wave of relief rushing through his body. Apparently, he stopped this "messenger" from God in his tracks.

Officership, indeed. How ridiculous!

On the next Thursday evening, Will planned to attend the meeting at the corps. He was to give his witness there. His wife said to a neighbour, "Come on down with me and hear him spout!" The two women thought it would be great fun - a good laugh!

But by meeting's end, Will's wife knelt, weeping at the altar and praying for God's forgiveness.

Will was totally without defense when Captain Charles came up to him and asked, "Well, what about it now?"

With a smile of surrender, Will could only say, "Well, look, if God wants us (and I don't know why!) we'll offer ourselves."

By the end of 1883, Will and his wife were uniformed soldiers, sold their business and became officers.

Turns out, Captain Charles was spot-on about the potential he saw in Will. The happy couple threw themselves into the Army's tremendous growth throughout Australasia.

By 1905, Will was appointed Chief Secretary (second-in-command) for the Australasia Territory. As such, he was the first Australian-born officer to rise to such a high position in his own country.

For all Will's protestations that April, God was not fooling. Will was to be God's man at a time when the Army in Australasia needed him most.

Colonel Will Hoskin learned that if he didn't put a limit on God, God wouldn't put a limit on him. That's good advice for us as well, now that we have unlocked this story from the Army's archives.



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



What would Jesus view?

With Pipeline culture writer Mark Hadley



Carnage

RATING: M
RELEASE DATE: 1 March

I've never really appreciated the suggestion that the two topics you shouldn't bring up at dinner are religion and politics. I think this polite exclusion existed for previous generations because those topics were considered to sail too close to personal identity to suffer any real criticism.

However, we seem to live in a society that's both post-faith and post-ideology, and for precisely that reason religion and politics are now some of the safest subjects. Few people are offended by topics they care nothing about. No, if you really want to start a conversation that strikes at the heart of a person, talk to them about their parenting.

Carnage's opening titles roll over a wide-shot of a New York park where boys are playing in the background. You can't hear their words but it's clear an argument is developing. The situation escalates and one boy hits the other in the mouth with a stick. The credits end and we find ourselves in the company of two sets of parents dealing with the aftermath.

Jodie Foster is Penelope, a highly organised mother with a keen sense of social justice; John C Reilly her peace-making husband, Michael. Their son Ethan lost two teeth to the altercation. Kate Winslet plays the perfectly poised Nancy, housewife of the Blackberry-packing, corporate lawyer Alan (Christoph Waltz). Their son Zachary dealt the blow. But there's apparently no acrimony; these civilised parents have come to a civilised solution. That is, until Penelope makes a passing reflection on Nancy and Alan's parenting:

"We told Ethan that if we were this boy's parents, we would want to know."

It's just a snowflake's worth of inflection, but it's enough to set in motion an avalanche of emotion. The couples first needle, then poke and finally club their opposites and their partners with their parenting positions.

Parenting is emotionally fraught



Jodie Foster (left) and Kate Winslet star in the movie drama *Carnage*.

territory. Any mum or dad who has considered their responsibilities for more than a second becomes aware of a serious pressure. They can't just be healthy, they have to be confident, artistic, athletic, intellectual, musical ... the list goes on. We sense we're supposed to be producing not just adults but balanced human beings. The problem lies in defining what that means. Even couples can't agree, as *Carnage* demonstrates when Nancy reveals her son Zachary hit Ethan because he wouldn't let him join his gang:

Penelope: "Did you know Ethan had a gang?"

Michael: "No, but I'm thrilled to hear it."

Penelope: "Why?"

Michael: "Because I had a gang. When I was the leader I beat up Jimmy Leech in a fair fight."

Nancy: "How is that any different?"

Alan: "There is no difference."

Michael: "There is. We agreed to fight."

Where one parent sees violence and the end of civilisation, the other sees strength and the development of masculinity. Neither can convince the other because in this postmodern age one opinion is as valid as another. *Carnage* descends into chaos and ends with an admission we're all wrong, because no-one can point to a standard that is self-evidently correct.

And so we arrive at the problem at the heart of modern parenting. It's not a joke when mums and dads tell each other, "We're making it up as we go along". So long as we parent without an external standard we're doomed to parent in the dark.

Christians refer to God as our Heavenly Father not because he is like a cosmic dad, but because it's from him we draw our idea of what a father should be. The Bible may not have a verse for every childhood crisis, but it does present us with the goal that gives mums and dads direction.

The Hunger Games

RATING: PG
RELEASE DATE: 22 March

This is what kids are into today: a mixture of classical Greek mythology and Roman history. Sound far-fetched? But they are the basic ingredients of the hit series, *The Hunger Games* to be released to the big screen this month.

The Hunger Games is the first part in best-selling trilogy by author Suzanne Collins. Close to three million copies in print helped the first volume occupy the *New York Times* Best Seller list for more than a hundred weeks.

The first film installment introduces us to Katniss Everdeen, a 16-year-old girl

living in a dystopian future. Katniss's world is carved up into 13 districts ruled over by an authoritarian Capitol City. Each region is required to choose by lot a girl and boy to fight to the death for the televised amusement of their overlords.

To Katniss' horror her little sister Primrose is selected to fight in the 74th Hunger Games. The only way to protect "Prim" is to volunteer in her place. But is Katniss prepared to kill strangers for love's sake?

Collins attributes her storyline to a fascination with the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur. Legendary King Minos forced Athens to yearly sacrifice seven youths and maidens to the bull-headed monster.

This led her to consider Rome compelling conquered races and criminals to fight to the death for entertainment. *The Hunger Games* asks how someone can survive such civilized barbarism without losing their essential self?

The film carries the tagline "The games will change everyone."

It's a nod to how dependent modern morals are on perspective. The Capitol City audience can be enraptured by suffering because it's confined to their small screens.

Within the games, though, principles are sacrificed for the sake of survival. Katniss is paired with Peeta, a boy who once risked himself to get her food.

Collins has ensured Peeta's moral determination has made it into the film, even as Katniss emerges the ultimate pragmatist:

Peeta: "I just keep wishing I could think of a way to show them that they don't own me. If I'm gonna die, I wanna still be me."

Katniss: "I just can't afford to think like that."

But Peeta does because he holds his beliefs to be more important than simply living. This is not just Hollywood guff; it finds its foundation in the same history Collins drew upon to create her trilogy.

Among the thousands that died to amuse Roman citizens were a high proportion of Christians. Polycarp, the Bishop of Smyrna, was offered his freedom by the presiding proconsul if he would acknowledge Caesar as God.

The alternative was a death by beasts or flame - fates mirrored in *The Hunger Games*. However he responded:

"Eighty-six years I have served him, and he never did me any wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me?"

Katniss faces a spiritual crisis centred on who she understands herself to be.

If her watchers can learn from her example that life is more than getting on, and our characters can survive even when our bodies don't, then there'll be a remarkable pay-off to *The Hunger Games* series.



The Hunger Games is part one of a trilogy, starring Jennifer Lawrence and Josh Hutcherson.

Doing 'whatever it takes' to build the kingdom

Doing 'whatever it takes' is a key plank of the One Army One Mission platform. But what does it mean? **Lieut-Colonel MIRIAM GLUYAS** puts it into perspective

Firstly, let's make something clear. Doing "whatever it takes" is not a call to force the Army to respond corporately to whatever request or demand is made upon it.

So, what is it? Let's start with a question: "What will it take?" That question leads us to another question: "Take to do what?" Answer: Whatever it takes to see the Kingdom of God advance and his reign brought to bear in the lives of individuals and over the cities and communities we serve. This is what we are sold out for; this is the call of The Salvation Army – the call of the church. The "doing whatever" must be focused here.

The gospel – the good news announcement that Jesus has invaded earth and taken back the reign of his kingdom, and his rescue of us into the freedom of his kingdom – calls forth from the individual "whatever it takes" to see his kingdom come.

When The Salvation Army adopts a cultural stance of "whatever it takes", it is mirroring the cry of the heart of the individuals that have been rescued by Jesus. "Whatever it takes" is the permission to the individuals, who are the movement, to fulfil the cry of their hearts.

It's a challenge to be embraced, a permission to be explored, a dream to be dreamed, a miracle to be witnessed, a call to trust God for whatever he calls you to trust him for.

Several times I have been told: "You won't do whatever it takes!" My immediate response has usually been: "I hope I will. Will you?"

It's permission from the movement; a call to us as individuals. These are desperate days and they call for desperate kingdom people to dream and trust in the God who can do the "whatever".

Only eight per cent of Australians attend church regularly. Jesus has become another consumer commodity on the shelf of spiritual options.

The story of Jesus and the freedom he longs to bring has been mistranslated by a generation that has never had first hand encounter or exposure to the real message of Jesus.

Many people have not grown up in a Christian home. They haven't attended church. It's not really something that is at the forefront of their minds. It doesn't even enter their minds, in many cases.

So, what will it take to see people come to Jesus?

- it will mean doing life with people
- it will mean sharing a faith journey with people
- it will mean inspiring them to serve alongside us
- it will mean that we will need to rely on Jesus
- it will mean that we will need to get on our knees and pray
- it will mean that we will need to listen to the Spirit
- it will mean that we will need to partner up with other churches
- it will mean that we will need to be salt and light in this world
- it will mean that we will serve the poor
- it will mean that we will be true disciples of Jesus

It means "doing whatever it takes". It means asking God to make our corps real communities, where people feel safe and encounter him.

It means we will give our best in terms of time, talent and treasure. It means we will train our people for frontline mission; that we will value everyone so that an ageing Army will be filled with youth and children again.

It means that people won't just like us; they will join us in this magnificent adventure and journey with Jesus.

"Whatever it takes" is the heart response of individuals who have been saved by a God who did whatever it took to rescue them.

It flows out of gratitude and is inspired by their ongoing encounters of God's love. It's the revolutionary song of the free people of the kingdom, as only freedom will call forth the payment of the price – "whatever it takes."

I'm up for "whatever it takes." Let's be people of "whatever it takes" and then we can brag about the goodness of our king.

What is God calling you to on this journey? ➤

"God did whatever it took to rescue us ..."



Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas is the Australia Eastern Territory's Secretary for Program.

Jock bowled over by God's ministry idea

BY LIEUTENANT PETER GOTT

Six years ago, Batemans Bay soldier Jeffery (Jock) O'Connor attended a sports ministry camp at Collaroy Conference Centre.

The weekend camp was designed to explore ways in which sports could be used effectively for evangelism and reaching Australians with the transforming gospel of Jesus.

Discussions spurred many thoughts and led Jock to seek God in prayer, asking him to reveal a ministry opportunity that Jock could do.

Jock was, at the time, still new to The Salvation Army, having recently completed a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program.

At the Collaroy camp, God put on Jock's heart a ministry through carpet bowls for people with disabilities. This was perplexing to Jock because he didn't know anything about carpet bowls.

He had never played carpet bowls; never even seen it played. He had no idea where to get the gear needed. Yet, as we know, when God is in it, he makes a way.

When Jock returned to Batemans Bay, he and another soldier found that carpet bowls was run one night a week at the local bowling club. They decided to check it out. They had a look and even played a game. They ended up borrowing mats and bowls from the club to get their ministry started at the corps.

During the first visit to the bowling club, Jock met a kind woman named Veronica Newson, who was playing bowls. As they were in conversation, Jock spoke of what God had put on his heart and Veronica jumped on board.

As a result, Veronica became part of bowls ministry, attended The Salvation Army and is now also a soldier at Batemans Bay Corps. She and Jock are still working together.

7 MISSION PRIORITIES

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

Bowls is played at the corps centre every Tuesday, with around 30 people involved. In addition, the bowls group gets together for lunch once a month.

Players from several community groups, including Life Without Barriers and House With No Steps, participate.

The corps bowls ministry team ministers to community group leaders, helpers and participants alike. For example, Sarah (name has been changed for privacy), arrived for bowls in a wheelchair a few years ago and could only take a few steps with a walker to bowl.

Each week, she would do her best to bowl. After a couple of years, her mother noticed that Sarah's mobility had improved around the house.

Now when Sarah comes to bowls, she walks herself from the car park to the bowls room. She doesn't need her wheelchair at all for bowls. Jock believes that God brings healing and hope in his way to all kinds of situations.

The ministry provides a wonderful partnership and the group has become like a family. This is seen greatest in the encouragement of the group when players bowl well.

It shows that God works in the most mysterious ways and equips those who are willing to listen and obey his voice. ➤

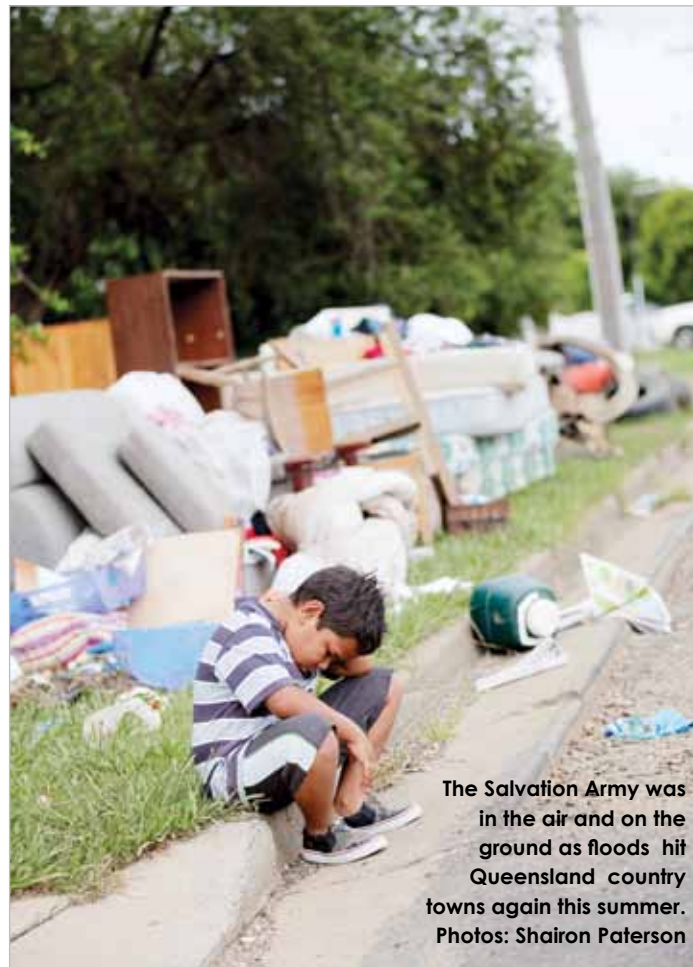


Lieutenant Peter Gott is Corps Officer at Batemans Bay.



Some of the Batemans Bay carpet bowls team (from left): Alan, Jock O'Connor, Pat, Wayne, Fi, Danielle (wheelchair), Warren, Adam, Christian (wheelchair), Eddy, Veronica Newson, Ben, Lucy, Trish, Edie and Elaine.

Flood of relief as Salvation Army



The Salvation Army was in the air and on the ground as floods hit Queensland country towns again this summer. Photos: Shairon Paterson



In Queensland, the hardest hit towns were St George, Roma, Dalby, Mitchell and Charleville.

An Australian Defence Service Chinook helicopter took SAES crews from Dalby, Caboolture and the Gold Coast to Mitchell on Sunday morning, 6 February, where they served thousands of meals at the evacuation centre there.

Captain Mark Bulow, The Salvation Army's South Queensland Flying Service chaplain and Dalby Corps Officer, also flew the service's chopper to Mitchell, carrying essential supplies for the evacuation centre.

"I flew some volunteers to Roma and Mitchell, and the chopper was on standby because so many roads were closed," said Captain Bulow.

"We are now in the recovery phase. Our rural chaplains are now going out to surrounding towns to assess needs and provide financial and other assistance.

"I will fly to areas outside Roma, Charleville and St George to save hours of driving time. The relief work is far from over for us in these areas."

Captain Bulow is extremely grateful for the SAES teams from around south-east Queensland that provided their skills, support and time, to assist.

SAES volunteers had also been serving meals at the evacuation centre in St George before most of the town was evacuated on Sunday, 5 February. More than 30 homes were inundated with water, as well as the local nursing home and other areas of the town.

After residents returned on 10 February, Rural Chaplains

dives in to help



Majors Allan and Christine Daly were back at the evacuation centre.

"The military was also here helping and the local people pulled together to help too," said Major Christine Daly.

"We have a fantastic country with fantastic people. This is the Australian Year of the Farmer, and we need to appreciate country people more and do what we can to help them."

The Dalys left St George on 14 February to visit rural properties and assess the needs of the people there.

"We will do whatever is needed, whether it's helping to clean up, give referrals to various agencies, or make a cuppa," said Major Daly.

In Charleville, an SAES team, flown in, served thousands of breakfasts and lunches at the evacuation centre there.

An evacuation centre was also set up at the RNA Showgrounds in Brisbane to cater for those arriving from inland areas. Local SAES teams served meals and assisted with immediate needs.

As the water levels began to recede throughout the state, people's spirits began to lift.

"A lot of people are getting back to some sort of normality," said Captain Bulow.

Salvation Army personnel and volunteers are now focusing on the clean-up.

"Much needs to be done as the recovery process begins," said Norm Archer, SAES Director for the Australia Eastern Territory. "We'll continue to support every affected community as long as it's needed."

Changing of the guard at Temora

A packed congregation at The Salvation Army's Temora Corps, in NSW's central west, witnessed two special ceremonies on 15 January – the retirement of Corps Leaders Doug and Ruby Smith and the installation of Caleb Smith as the new leader.

Both segments were conducted by Major Julie Alley, the ACT and South NSW Divisional Resource and Mission Director – Corps.

Major Alley spoke of the love, compassion, integrity and godliness shown by the Smiths during their three years of ministry as Corps Leaders at both Temora and West Wyalong corps.

A large portfolio of letters and photos from officers and soldiers from across the Australia Eastern Territory was presented to the Smiths, including letters from Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon and former ACT and South NSW Divisional Commander Major David Godkin which Major Alley read out.

Corps Sergeant Major Ian Clarke spoke with affection of the Smiths' ministry in Temora and how the respect of The Salvation Army in the community had increased significantly during their time.

In responding, Doug Smith thanked the congregation for their support and love and urged them to give the same support to Caleb and his wife, Jennifer, and daughter Lydia.

Doug and Ruby were then presented with a Service Appreciation Certificate, but they aim to be just as active in retirement with plans for a road/camping trip around Australia, spreading the good news of Jesus to fellow travellers. They also plan to assist Salvation Army corps along the way under the banner of "Following the Road – Serving Christ".

Following his installation, Caleb Smith presented the Bible message based on 2 Corinthians 11:22-33. In the message, Caleb reflected on the many "journeys" written about in the Bible and reminded the congregation that God is a God of journeys and encouraged them to discover what journey he has planned for them by actively reading his word.



Major Julie Alley (right) presents Doug and Ruby Smith with their Service Appreciation Certificate at Temora.

By SIMONE WORTHING

The Salvation Army has once again provided valuable assistance to victims of devastating floods which in February wreaked havoc over large areas of Queensland and NSW, stranding hundreds of people and causing widespread destruction and loss.

Only 12 months ago, the Army was called on for similar assistance as floods hit numerous towns in these states.

As rivers reached their peak during February, The Salvation Army provided meals to those cut off by floodwaters, evacuees, emergency services personnel and volunteers. In several places they also assisted with clothing and essential supplies.

In NSW, the flooding began on 2 February. In Moree, the Salvation Army Emergency Response (SAES) team went into action immediately, serving thousands of meals at the Police Citizens and Youth Club evacuation centre over several days.

Once the floodwaters receded, Salvation Army personnel and volunteers worked alongside residents as they assessed the damage and cleaned up their homes.

"We had teams of people out in the streets cleaning up the town and helping people move ruined furniture out of their homes, mow their lawns and anything else that needed doing," said Captain Chris Shadbolt, Moree Corps Officer.

"They also gave out food hampers and supplies, making sure everyone had what they needed. Practical help and emotional support will continue in the community for months to come."

Hodges honoured for four decades of service

By ESTHER PINN

Salvation Army School for Officer Training College session mates, colleagues, friends and family turned out to honour Lieutenant-Colonels John and Pam Hodge's 41 years of officership on Sunday, 5 February, at Hurstville Corps.

Graduates of the *Victorious* session in 1972, the Hodges celebrated this special occasion with Australia Eastern territorial leaders Commissioners James and Jan Condon, who went through college with them.

The Hurstville Band kicked off the joyous occasion followed by a welcome from Graeme Hodge, Lieut-Colonel Hodges' son.

Booth College Vice Principal for Administration and Second in Command, Major Donna Evans, then led the congregation in two songs, *Lord for the Years* and *Accept the Gifts, O Father*.

The first speaker of the afternoon was Major Chris Witts, Territorial Coordinator for Pastoral Care and Officer Well-Being Team Leader, also a graduate of the *Victorious* session. Quoting poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Major Witts spoke about the incredible work completed by the Hodges over the past four decades.

"Great is the art of beginning but greater is the art of finishing," he quoted.

"I think they have a left a very good example for officers today. They have given themselves financially, physically and in every other way. For John and Pam have both been obedient to God's calling even in difficult times."

Major Witts also acknowledged the life and work of John's first wife, Marie, who was promoted to glory while serving in Papua New Guinea on 5 February, 1974.

Lieut-Colonels John and Pam have served in a variety of appointments, including internationally in the Caribbean, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and New Zealand.

In the Australia Eastern Territory, they have served as divisional commanders, childcare co-ordinators, corps officers, business administrators, property administrators and their last appointments - Lieut-Colonel John as the Principal of the School

for Officer Training, Booth College and Lieut-Colonel Pam, Director of The Salvation Army International Development (SAID).

Following Major Witts, the Hodges' two daughters, Sandra and Michelle, spoke on behalf of the family, sharing their experiences of being officers' children and both the joys and struggles they faced while serving internationally.

"Rarely were they moved just down the road. They moved countries," said Michelle.

"I think the key is that Mum and Dad were willing and able to do what was required of them in any varied situation that God had placed them in over their officership."

Sandra continued: "Graeme, Michelle and I were blessed with a unique childhood. God did provide abundantly and certainly protected [us] from harm."

Michelle finished by sharing about their future: "Mum and Dad have never looked on at their job as work, always as a ministry. "I don't think they'll give up their work in retirement. Instead a new chapter of ministry will evolve for them."

Graeme then gave a powerful rendition of the song, *The Power of Your Love*, for his parents and Commissioner James Condon followed by presenting the Hodges with retirement certificates and praised them for their service in the Army.

"What has marked your service?" asked Commissioner Condon to Lieut-Colonel John. "Self-denial."

Commissioner Condon then commended Lieut-Colonel Pam for her work with developing the SAID department.

Lieut-Colonels John and Pam then rose to podium to share some of their 41 years of experiences, but also challenged the congregation about serving God in their territory.

"We are both proud to be officers of this territory. This territory has a proud heritage. Look what God is doing. Be proud of your territory," said Lieut-Colonel John Hodge.

During a reflection song, *Find us Faithful*, the Hodges knelt at the Mercy Seat.

The afternoon concluded with a song *Yet Once Again* and a benediction prayer by Lieut-Colonel John Hodge.



Lieut-Colonels John and Pam Hodge, with flagbearer Hurstville Corps Officer Major Trevor Nicol, share a lighter moment during their retirement service last month. Photo: Carolyn Hide

New round of cadets enter college

By ESTHER PINN

Seventeen new Salvation Army cadets were officially welcomed into the *Disciples of the Cross* session at the School for Officer Training, Booth College, in Sydney, on 1 February.

School for Officer Training Principal Major Stuart Evans opened the celebratory lunch by welcoming the cadets to their session and spoke enthusiastically about the year ahead.

"What a privilege to be stationed here [Booth College] and to speak into the lives of future ministers," he said.

Territorial Candidates Secretaries, Majors David and Shelley Soper, congratulated the candidates on their journeys towards officership and offered some words of wisdom.

"As you take the next step of obedience into full-time training, whatever you may be feeling just now, remember this: God does not want you to be the best. God wants you to give your best," said Major David Soper.

Major Soper also acknowledged the work of their predecessors, Captains Craig and Donna Todd, for helping the cadets with their decisions to enter the training college.

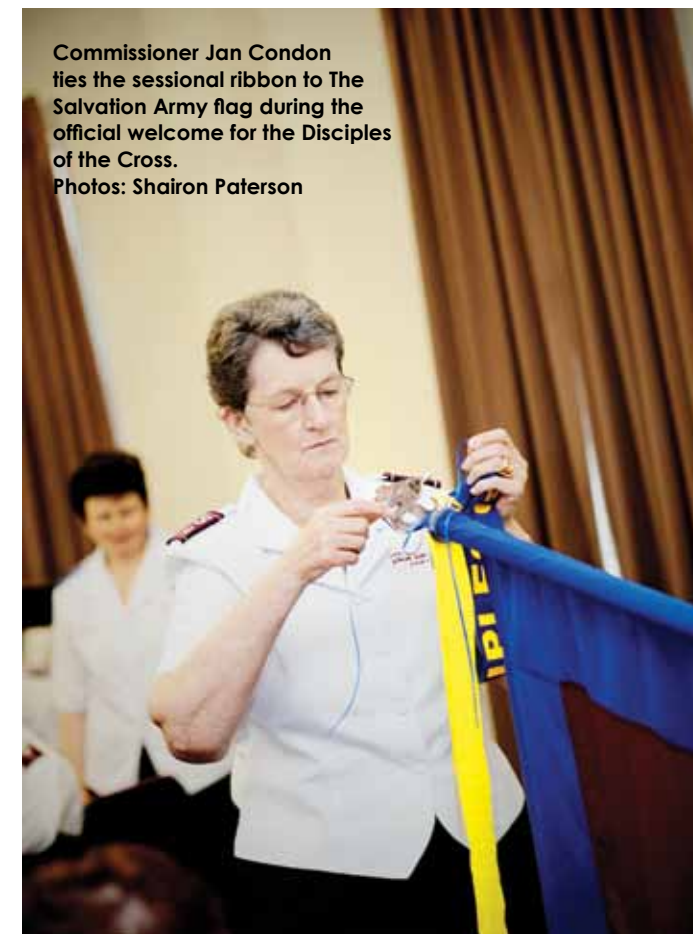
"[Captains] Craig and Donna have been a significant part in your preparations which have brought you each to this point. We honour the Todds for their investment, commitment and their creativity," he said.

Major Shelley Soper then introduced the candidates individually, explaining their previous involvement with



New cadet Andrew Jones, from Taree Corps, speaks to Commissioner James Condon and Territorial Secretary for Program Miriam Gluyas at the official welcome at Booth College.

Commissioner Jan Condon ties the sessional ribbon to The Salvation Army flag during the official welcome for the *Disciples of the Cross*. Photos: Shairon Paterson



ministry at their local corps, their personal lives and how they came to the decision to become officers for the Army.

An honorary cadet was also added to the session - Whisper, the guide dog for visually impaired Cadet Nicola Stowe.

"We praise God for your obedience. While you may face more challenges we will be there to support you," said Major Shelley Soper to Cadet Stowe.

Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, then offered the cadets some advice, sharing from his own journey when he began his training 42 years ago.

"[Then] Captain Les Strong gave me some advice [when Commissioner Condon entered the School for Officer Training]. He said this: 'College life will be what you make it'."

With the assistance of Cadet Sean Li, Commissioner Jan Condon then placed the sessional pennant on the training college flag to signal that the *Disciples of the Cross* was now in session.

Captain Sharon Sandercock-Brown, Assistant Training Principal and Director of Spiritual Formation for the School for Officer Training, closed the lunch with prayer.

While enjoying fellowship after the presentation, *Pipeline* spoke to a couple cadets about their decisions to become officers.

Cadet Andrew Jones said: "I've always had the call to officership, but I'd just felt it more strong in the last five years. I'm looking forward to the different areas of ministry work and the challenge of seeing where I fit."

Cadets Brad and Helen Whittle said that they were confident about their decision to enter the training college. "Sometimes I think, 'should I have gone at [age] 23 or 24', but there seems to be a lot of confirmation in this season for our lives," said Brad.

Australia Day medals represent teamwork

By SIMONE WORTHING

Gwen Hammerton, from Innisfail Salvation Army, and Major Bruce Dobbie, the Director of Mission and Chaplain, Riverview Gardens Aged Care Services, each received a National Emergency Medal at a special Australia Day ceremony at Parliament House, Canberra, on 26 January.

Both Gwen and Major Dobbie were recognised for their tireless work during Queensland's summer of natural disasters in 2011.

Gwen, who led The Salvation Army Innisfail Emergency Services Team at the time of Cyclone Yasi, and her team, were the first volunteers to reach Tully in central north Queensland after the cyclone had devastated the area.

Gwen co-ordinated initial relief efforts, feeding stranded residents, holiday-makers and emergency services personnel. Other Salvation Army emergency services teams arrived from Atherton and Cairns to help as the needs of the community rapidly increased.

After the initial disaster relief, Gwen and others worked on the Cassowary Coast visiting people in their homes, distributing aid and offering emotional support.

Major Bruce Dobbie, then Ipswich Corps Officer, co-ordinated The Salvation



Major Bruce Dobbie and Gwen Hammerton receive their awards from Prime Minister Julia Gillard in Canberra.



Glen Hobson (centre) presents Bob and Val Hodges with their volunteer award. Photo courtesy The Namoi Valley Independent.

Army's relief efforts in the city during the devastating floods in January last year. Major Dobbie, his wife Major Margaret Dobbie, and a team of volunteers fed 12,000 meals to victims of the disaster and other emergency services personnel.

"We were going 24/7 and it was a massive team effort," said Major Dobbie.

"We had people coming in at midnight and working through till 6am, and teams of volunteers from all over Queensland and parts of NSW coming to help."

Gwen emphasised that the medals definitely represent a team effort.

"I feel honoured that I've been selected but I feel very humbled at the same time," she said.

"I want to share the award with everyone who worked alongside me. We wouldn't have accomplished anything without everyone's help."

Major Dobbie agreed. "It's a humbling experience," he said. "I will accept the award but I accept it on behalf of all of the people who were around me during the crisis. It was a team effort."

Salvationists from three areas across the Australia Eastern Territory have received Australia Day awards for exceptional volunteer work in their local communities.

Linda Pierpoint, Ulladulla Mission Team Leader and Ministry Assistant, Bateman's Bay Corps, was awarded the Jeff Britten Award for the pursuit of excellence for the ongoing and positive impact she is having in the region.

During her nine years with The Salvation Army at Bateman's Bay, Linda has distributed tents and blankets to the homeless, counselled people in crisis, provided financial assistance to those in need and helped families reconnect.

"I try to be the coalface of hurting people down here and stick up for them when things are not right," said Linda.

"It was certainly humbling to receive this award."

Major Steve Metcher, Coffs Harbour Corps Officer and Rural Fire Services Chaplain, won praise for his tireless work in trauma and grief counselling with victims of road accidents and their families, and his service to Coffs Harbour's needy and homeless.

Major Metcher was also recognised for his work founding bike rides with Romac - a program of the Rotary districts of Australia and New Zealand that brings children from developing countries to Australia for urgent medical treatment to restore both their health and their dignity (www.romac.org.au).

Major Metcher was both humbled and surprised by his volunteer award.

"It seems so strange to get an award for just being reasonably obedient to Christ," he said.

Long-serving soldiers from the Gunnedah Corps, Bob and Val Hodges, received the Ossie and Beryl Campbell Memorial Volunteer of the Year award for their outstanding contribution to the community over the decades.

For more than 40 years, the Hodges have been volunteering at The Salvation Army Family Store, raising funds through pub and street ministry, and serving at Hopedale House. Val was also active in Sunbeams, Guards, Girls Brigade Clubs and Home League.

Val suffered a stroke three years ago, but the couple still visit the elderly, sick and bereaved.

"This award was unexpected," Val said. "I just do it all for the Lord."

Computer donation aids mental health research

The School of Computer Science and Software Engineering at the University of Wollongong (UOW) recently donated 12 computers to The Salvation Army as part of its community engagement activities.

Some of the students from the school currently participate in voluntary work that benefits charitable organisations within the community.

The computers will directly assist people with substance abuse problems and other mental health issues.

"The computers will be used for an online depression treatment program, that is also researching the effectiveness of this type of treatment," said Gerard Byrne, the Army's Territorial Mission and Resource Clinical Director - Recovery.

"The goal of the program is improved mental health and a reduction in symptoms of depression."

The computers will be used in Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah) where clients are undergoing treatment for various substance abuse and mental health disorders.

Dr Peter Kelly, a clinical psychologist affiliated with the Illawarra Institute for Mental Health and School of Psychology at UOW, has been leading a Rotary Health-funded project to examine the effectiveness of using computer-delivered psychological interventions to enhance treatment outcomes at Salvation Army sites.

The donation of these computers will provide an opportunity to extend this research program to The Salvation Army Brisbane sites.

The Salvation Army is Australia's largest provider of residential treatment services for individuals with substance misuse problems. It provides more than 500 beds across the Australia Eastern Territory alone.

For five years, researchers at UOW have been evaluating substance abuse treatment services provided by The Salvation Army. The success of this partnership was formally acknowledged when the research team was the recipients of the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Achievement in Research Partnership in 2010.

"It is expected that the use of the computers will greatly enhance treatment outcomes, particularly for those people who have co-occurring mental health problems in addition to substance abuse," Dr Kelly said.



Captain Vanessa Garven, Territorial Mission and Resource (Recovery) Project and Design Manager, receives the computer donation from staff at the University of Wollongong.

Award for chaplain

Fire and Rescue NSW has honoured its Senior Chaplain, Major Lyndsay Smith, with an award for outstanding contribution to the field of critical intervention.

The Salvation Army's Major Smith and his wife, Major Dawn Smith, who is also a chaplain, provide counselling and referral services to firefighters throughout NSW, and in some cases, to members of the public who are affected by major incidents.

During and after serious incidents, they also ensure firefighters have access to the support they need.

The Smiths also support and counsel staff and retired personnel and their families who are struggling to deal with a difficult incident.

Calamvale prayer week

The Calamvale Corps of The Salvation Army held a 24/7 prayer week from Sunday, 29 January to Sunday, 5 February.

More than 70 people were involved in taking up shifts to meet with God in the prayer room during the 168-hour marathon.

"It was almost unbelievable as people seemed to be scrambling to fill the hour time slots," said Calamvale Corps Officer Major Jo-anne Brown.

People from the other side of the world were praying with the corps, including two young women from Germany who had placed their names on the roster.

"Sunday [5 February] was a time of celebration and victory in Calamvale Corps as we marked the closure of the 24/7 Prayer Week," said Major Brown.

New Family Store

The Salvation Army in Cairns will open a new Family Store in the Yarrabah Aboriginal community this month.

Yarrabah has a population of about 3000 people and is situated just outside Cairns.

"We also plan to train the people in the community to run a shop of their own, plus to repair bikes and furniture," said Alison Geno, Area Manager for Red Shield Family Stores.

"We want to engage Work for the Dole participants and anyone else who would like to volunteer. We will also be working in conjunction with Jobfind Australia to run a women's program empowering women to start their own businesses and offering training and support."

Session celebrates golden anniversary

The 1962 *Servants of Christ* session of cadets gathered at Canaan, near Ipswich in Queensland, in January to celebrate 50 years since entering training.

The reunion, largely organised by Major Marie Hambleton, featured 15 *Servants of Christ* session members and their families.

Members and staff of the session who could not attend sent greetings and messages, as did Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon who congratulated the group on reaching its golden anniversary.

A significant segment of the anniversary, held on 19-22 January, was the sharing by session members of their experiences since leaving the college in 1964.

Some of these were most helpful and for many this sharing led to healing of memories which was both moving and therapeutic.

Incorporated into the sharing time were acts of worship which used elements of Salvation Army and Quaker worship.

These also included a reading of the names of those of the session who had been promoted to glory and the names of those unable to attend.

Meditation times were enriched by emphasis placed on prayer and Bible reading.



Members of the *Servants of Christ* session at the reunion were (back row, left to right) Major Graham Harris, Major Bill Mole, Jeff Staines, Lex Ellis, Major Stan Wilson, Major Robert Douglas, and Ross Kellahan. (Front row, left to right) Dorothy Elliot, Major Bruce Buckmaster, Major Marie Hambleton, Bub Ellis, Major Margaret Law, and Barbara Cheesman. Seated are Les Underwood and Laurel Staines.

Tuggeranong Corps

Tuggeranong Corps Officer, Captain Mark Everitt, enrolled Luisa Stuart as a senior soldier of The Salvation Army on 29 January. In Luisa's testimony she spoke of the inner peace she now enjoyed since accepting Jesus as her saviour and obeying his call to serve him as a soldier. Sam Murray, Luisa's work colleague who also attends the corps, read from Psalm 23, one of Luisa's favourite passages of Scripture. Mavis Palmer, Luisa's spiritual mentor knelt and prayed with Luisa as she signed her covenant. Luisa is pictured with Captain Everitt and Mavis.



Port Macquarie Corps

The enrolments of Melinda Patterson, Faith Duffel and Tom Barber was a day for genuine celebration at Port Macquarie Corps recently. Their stories were not the same, but Mel, Faith and Tom each confirmed the transforming presence of a faithful God and his hopeful purpose for the lives of people. Choosing to become a soldier in The Salvation Army was their way of embracing the next step on their journey of faith. Pictured are (from left) Recruiting Sergeant Commissioner Ian Cutmore, Melinda Patterson, flagbearer Greg Cocking, Faith Duffel, Tom Barber and Corps Officer Major Brett Gallagher.



BAND TOGETHER FOR AFRICA



SYDNEY BENEFIT CONCERT

SATURDAY JUNE 9, 2012 @ 6 P.M.

THE SALVATION ARMY SYDNEY CONGRESS HALL, 140 ELIZABETH STREET.

AUSTRALIAN 'TOP BRASS' BAND

Selected players from brass bands in NSW and Queensland combining to perform exciting brass band repertoire: brilliant new music as well as brass band classics.

Under the leadership of
Bandmaster Dr Stephen Cobb,
The Salvation Army International Staff Band, London

TICKETS: Reserved VIP \$100 | General Seating \$35

For details: www.bandtogetherforafrica.com or phone Robert on 0407 273 819

All proceeds from the events will go to The Salvation Army's Auburn-2-Africa Project Raising funds to build a primary school in Sierra Leone, West Africa

Gold Coast Temple Corps

Major Andrew McKeown, Gold Coast Temple Corps Officer, enrolled Laura Southall as a senior soldier on Sunday, 12 February. Laura was surrounded by family, friends and youth from the corps for her enrolment. Her grandmother, Captain Robyn Collins (Ret.) gave an introduction to the service and her father, Rodney Southall, gave the Bible reading from Hebrews 12:1-3. During the enrolment, Laura's grandfather, Ron Southall, held the flag. "I am so happy to be a soldier," Laura (pictured, second from right, with Captain Collins, her grandfather, Ron, and mum, Maree) said in her testimony. "It shows that I am part of the corps and that this is where God wants me to be."



Newcastle Worship and Community Centre

The Newcastle Worship and Community Centre of The Salvation Army has celebrated a number of enrolments in recent months.

Anne Ward (pictured right) and Lil Hadassah became senior soldiers with Captain Wendy Spindler mentoring both women through soldiership classes. She then had the privilege of enrolling them both as soldiers.

Lyndell Peachman (pictured right with prayer pal Lil Hadassah) began attending the corps at the invitation of a friend during a difficult time in life. She has become involved in a number of ministries and decided to call the Army her spiritual home as an adherent.

After attending the Kingdom Come youth event, Maddy Allen and Lilly Gosling (pictured right) were challenged to become senior soldiers. Under the mentoring of Recruiting Sergeant Christine Harrison, the girls were enrolled by Captain Scott Allen.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Army gives life-saving help during Europe's big freeze

The Salvation Army has provided life-saving assistance in the Ukraine, one of the hardest hit countries of the European cold snap which saw temperatures drop as low as -36 degrees celcius.

The eastern European nation was given "natural disaster" status after more than 120 people died due to the freezing conditions.

However, Major Bobby Westmoreland (Divisional Commander, Ukraine Division) said the toll could have been

much higher if not for the assistance provided by The Salvation Army and other relief organisations.

"We (The Salvation Army) particularly targeted the vulnerable and we strongly believe our efforts have saved lives," Major Westmoreland said.

"In Kiev (Ukraine capital), Salvationists and officers collected warm clothing and purchased socks for distribution to homeless people living in shelters.

"Hot tea was also served to people taking shelter in subways and on the streets. We also distributed information about shelter locations."

Prior to the excessive drop in temperatures, Kiev Corps conducted a campaign across the city to collect warm clothing, leading to thousands of items being given out during December and January.

On one day six shelters were visited, with 400kg of warm clothing and boots distributed, as well as 160 pairs of new thermal socks and 30 sleeping bags.

The Salvation Army is partnered with local government and the Ukraine central government's social fund.

Officers and Salvationists in another major city, Yalta, cared for the homeless in a similar way, and were credited with saving the life of a pregnant woman who, suffering in the freezing conditions, sought help at the local corps in the last week of her pregnancy.

She was helped with food, essential baby items and clothing, as well as being assisted in getting to a hospital for the birth of her baby.

The Salvation Army was also active in caring for the vulnerable in other Ukraine cities such as Kharkov, Lviv and Simferopol.



Captain Konstantin Svub delivers a box of thermal socks to a shelter in Kiev, during the freezing weather in January and February.

Words of Life now available electronically

The Salvation Army's daily devotional *Words of Life* has been made available in electronic format, potentially opening it up to a whole new readership.

Content can be accessed on e-readers as well as through the Kindle application which can be installed on many mobile phones or tablets such as the iPad.

The May-August 2012 issue of *Words of Life* looks at how faith is a journey. It can be purchased as a Kindle e-book from amazon websites (www.amazon.com).

From the travels of the Israelites to the Promised Land, to David's perseverance in faith despite his failings and the spread of the good news in Acts, the reader takes his or her own journey of discovery, exploring how God stands by his people when they trust in him.

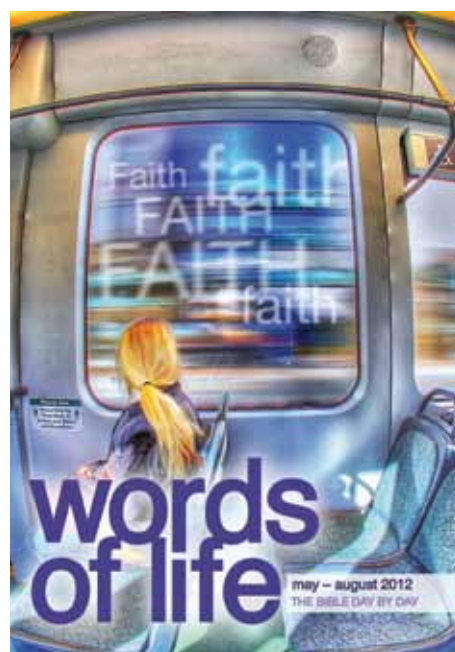
The importance of prayer is considered through the suffering of Job and the story of Ezra, while guest writer Major Sasmoko Hertjahjo, from Indonesia, provides a beautiful Pentecost series.

Each weekend, excerpts from hymns, psalms and proverbs provide reminders of a faith journey shared with brothers and sisters worldwide.

Words of Life is written by Major Beverly Ivany, a Canadian Salvation Army officer. It is published three times a year by Hodder & Stoughton on behalf of The Salvation Army.

Individual printed copies of *Words of Life* can be purchased from Christian bookshops, on www.amazon.co.uk or from Salvation Army Supplies or Trade Departments. Annual subscriptions can be ordered online from sar.my/wolsubo (for delivery to UK addresses), sar.my/wolsubo (rest of the world) or www.hodderfaith.com.

It can also be purchased through Apple's iBooks application and in epub DRM format (for e-readers other than Kindle) from www.waterstones.co.uk, www.kobo.com (particularly useful for users of the Kobo e-reader) and from www.hive.co.uk.



Readers of *Words of Life* will now be able to view the devotional online.

Faithful soldier



Gwen Dixon (nee Garth) was promoted to glory on 23 December, aged 88 years.

A thanksgiving service, conducted by Major Stan Evans, was held at Gosford Citadel on 29 December. Gosford Corps Officer Major David Palmer opened in prayer and read scripture from John 14. Al Clifton read a poem *My First Christmas in Heaven* and a corps tribute was brought by Eileen Gordon. Michael Garth, Gwen's brother, brought a tribute on behalf of the family and Woodport Retirement Village Chaplain, Captain Jo Chant, read from Luke 10:39-42.

Before Gwen entered The Salvation Army Training College in 1943, she was working as a Salvation Army soldier, in the "Field Unit" as a corps assistant.

Gwen left Molong Corps to enter the college at Petersham in Sydney, to be trained as a cadet in the 1943-44 *Valiant* session. She served in children's social work at Stanmore Girls home in Sydney, Canowindra Girls Home and Toowoomba Girls Home in Queensland.

Due to the illness of her mother, Gwen returned home to care for her. Realising that she was needed more at home, Gwen resigned in 1948 from the work she loved as a Salvation Army officer. She continued to be a faithful and loyal soldier for the remaining 63 years of her life.

Gwen met and fell in love with Alan Dixon in Sydney and they were married in 1957 at Campsie Corps where they continued to soldier.

When Gwen and Alan moved to Gosford in the late 1980s they both became very much involved in the corps - Alan worked on the property as the gardener.

Gwen started to work for Woodport Retirement Village in 1989, even before it was constructed, as a secretary and receptionist. In 1991, with the aid of Bob Smith, Gwen helped to set up Woodport Retirement Village. They worked as a team from a caravan, which was located in the parking area of the citadel at Gosford, giving forms to applicants for staff positions.

They also interviewed possible residents and were selling the self-care units virtually off the plan. They aimed to

have the village full when it was officially opened on 21 September, 1991.

Both Bob Smith (Business Manager) and Harry Linsell (Manager) said that Gwen was a great mentor to them and guided them in the ways and the protocol of The Salvation Army. Gwen amazed Bob with her ability to adapt to computerisation - particularly the debtors and payroll systems. They moved into the main building in June 1991. Gwen retired from Woodport Village in 1999 and, with Alan, became residents in 1999.

Following her retirement from Woodport, every Monday morning (including public holidays) Gwen and Eileen Gordon were available as assistants to the Gosford Corps treasurer. Gwen became the treasurer of the Home League and faithfully carried out this role for many years.

Gwen's husband Alan suffered a fatal heart attack in April 2002. They had been married for 44 years. Gwen continued to be involved in Gosford Corps and Home League, plus Woodport Fellowship activities.

Gwen was a member of the "Friends of Woodport" committee which organised activities to raise funds. Gwen's heart was in the work at Woodport right up until when she was no longer able to do it.

Just like Mary in Luke 10:42, "Gwen chose the right thing, and it was never taken away from her". Gwen would witness, "Jesus tells us our highest priority in life should be to 'seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness ...' But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all of these things will be added unto you," (Matthew 6:33).

Humble servant



Florence Elizabeth Scott was promoted to glory from Cherrywood Grove Residential Aged Care Facility on 2 September, aged 82.

A celebration of Florence's life was held at Orange on 9 September, conducted by Corps Officers Captains Greg and Karen Saunders. Young People's Sergeant Major Margaret Dean spoke on behalf of the corps and Diane Cooper (daughter) spoke

PROMOTED TO GLORY

on behalf of the family. The scripture - 1 Peter 1:3-9 - was read by Ian Barnes.

Florence Elizabeth Markham was born on 11 July 1929, the first of three children to Ernest and Irene Markham. Florence was a loyal and faithful soldier of the Orange Corps holding the positions, over time, of sunbeam patrol leader, Sunday school teacher, timble leader, hospitality and catering, and sympathy cards coordinator.

Florence married James (Jim) Scott at Orange on 4 October 1952. They settled on the family property at Cargo, travelling to Orange for worship and fellowship each Sunday.

For a number of years, Jim was the Corps Sergeant Major. Florence loyally supported Jim in this important role and made it easier for him to carry out his responsibilities.

Upon retirement, Jim and Florence made the move back to Orange where Florence had a wonderful behind-the-scenes ministry for which she never sought recognition. Each day she would look at the funeral notices in the local paper and send a sympathy card on behalf of The Salvation Army to the bereaved families.

Florence will be remembered as someone who quietly and humbly served and made no fuss. She was supported in her servanthood by Jim and daughters Diane, Annette and Elaine, her six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Florence's health had its ups and downs in the past few years making it impossible for her to worship at the corps she loved. She took up residence at Cherrywood just two weeks before her promotion to glory.

Reports

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

about people

Bereaved

Major Karen **Smith** of her mother, Amy Maud **Jenkins**.

Births

To Lieutenants Andrew and Kirsty **Stringer** a baby girl on 15 January.

Retirements

Captain Trevor **Friend** on 31 December 2011.

Promoted to glory

Major Hazel **Coker** was promoted to glory on 11 February.

SAGALA Awards

The following people have received the Commissioner's Challenge Award: Caitlin **Lannoy**, Taree Corps; Amber **MacDougal**, Maroochydore Corps; Sarah **Muller**, Bundamba Corps; Joseph **Murray**, Brisbane City Temple; Windston **Olive**, Kalbar Corps.

International College for Officers (ICO)

The following person has been accepted as an ICO delegate from 11 April - 4 June: Major Earle **Ivers**.

time to pray

26 February - 3 March

Counselling Service, Moneycare, Spiritual Life Development, Property Department, all THQ; Toowong Student residence, QLD; ACT and South NSW Division Chaplaincy Services, ACT; Launch of the Self Denial Appeal (26); Zonal Leaders' Conference (26-27); World Wide Prayer Meeting (1); World Day of Prayer (2); Ignite Children's Conference (3).

4-10 March

Petersham Corps, Gosford Corps, Rockdale Corps, Orange Corps, all NSW; Canberra City Oasis Corps and Oasis Support Services, ACT; Pindari Women's Accommodation, Qld; Public Welcome to *Disciples of the Cross* session of cadets (4); The Greater West Division Officers Fellowship (4-8); South Queensland Division Officers Fellowship (5-9); ACT and South NSW Division Fellowship (5-8); Administrative Leaders Training Course (6-19); Central and North Qld Division Northern Mission Days - Townsville (8-9); World Wide Prayer Meeting (8); Central and North Qld Division 202 Task Force (Northern) (9-10).

11-17 March

Booth College, Chaplains to Statutory Authorities (oversighted by DHQs), both THQ; Gladstone Corps, Beenleigh Corps, both Qld; Youthlink, Korean Speaking Ministries, both NSW; Administrative Leaders Training Course (6-19); North NSW Division Officers Fellowship (12-16); Newcastle and Central NSW Division Mission Forum (12-15); World Wide Prayer Meeting (15).

18-24 March

Northlakes Corps, Northern Beaches Aged Care Services, Mudgee Corps, Albury Corps, all NSW; Centenary Corps, Qld; Red Shield Defence Services, THQ; Administrative Leaders Training Course (6-19); Wider Cabinet (19-21); Candidates Board (22); South Queensland Division Youth Councils (23-25); World Wide Prayer Meeting (22).

25-31 March

Hong Kong and Macau Command; Central West Aged Care Services, Wagga Wagga Corps, Campsie Corps, all NSW; Still Waters, Qld; Aged Care Plus, THQ; South Queensland Division Youth Councils (23-25); Sydney East and Illawarra Division Regional Youth Rally (25); Official Opening of Red Shield Appeal (29); World Wide Prayer Meeting (29); MASIC Meeting (31).

1-7 April

Ghana Territory; Bankstown Corps, Sydney Streetlevel Mission, both NSW; Mackay Corps, Lake Community Church Mission, Townsville Faithworks, all Qld; Territorial Candidates Department, THQ; Self-Denial Appeal Altar Service (1); World Wide Prayer Meeting (5); Good Friday (6); SAGALA Territorial Guard and Ranger Camp (6-7); Red Shield Easter Camp (6-7).

engagement calendar

Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

*Sydney: Fri 2 Mar - World Day of Prayer at the Wesleyan Church.
Newcastle: Sat 3-Sun 4 Mar - Worship and Community Centre Official Opening.
Hurstville: Sun 4 Mar - Public Welcome of Cadets.
Bowral: Mon 5-Wed 7 Mar - Territorial Policy and Mission Council Retreat.
Grafton: Sun 11 Mar (am) - Retirement meeting of Captain Keith Atkinson.
Coffs Harbour: Sun 11 Mar (pm) - North NSW Divisional Rally.
Coffs Harbour: Mon 12-Wed 14 Mar - North NSW Officer Fellowship.
Wollongong: Sat 17 Mar - Wollongong Official Opening.
Nambour: Sun 18 Mar - Retirement meeting for Majors Judith and William Hutley.
Collaroy: Mon 19-Wed 21 - Wider Cabinet.
South Queensland: Sun 25 Mar - Youth Councils.
Bexley North: Mon 26 Mar - School For Officer Training, Territorial Commander lecture.
Sydney: Thu 29 Mar - Red Shield Appeal Official Opening.

*Commissioner Jan Condon only

Colonels Wayne (Chief Secretary) and Robyn Maxwell

Sydney: Fri 2 Mar - World Day of Prayer at the Wesleyan Church.
Hurstville: Sun 4 Mar - Public Welcome of Cadets.
Bowral: Mon 5-Wed 7 Mar - Territorial Policy and Mission Council Retreat.
Bexley North: Thu 15 Mar - Booth College Retreat Day.
Collaroy: Mon 19-Wed 21 Mar - Wider Cabinet.
Capricorn Region: Sat 31 Mar - Sun 1 Apr - Corps visit.