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The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory
May 2012
Volume 16 Issue 5

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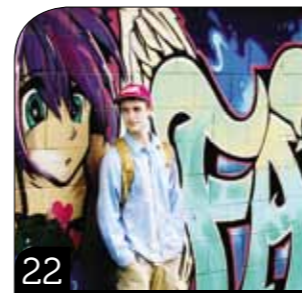
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Published for:
The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory
by Commissioner James Condon

Printed by:
SOS Print + Media Group
65 Burrows Rd, Alexandria
NSW 2015, Australia
Print Post Approved
PP236902/00023

Playing our part in God's greater plan

Let's be honest. There are not many of us who love Red Shield Appeal collecting. We're a bit embarrassed about knocking on doors and asking for money. There are some who, unfortunately, see it as an intrusion on their ministry time. Generally, they have missed the point.

Ask anybody who has been assisted through funds collected by the Red Shield Appeal and they will very quickly put you straight. It's these people we should be talking to about the Red Shield Appeal and its value, not those who think it is a waste of time. It is not!

Salvationist Graeme Packer (Page 8) is an inspiration to us all. Graeme, his wife Noreen and three friends run the appeal each year in the NSW South Coast town of Kiama.

There is no corps in Kiama. Their collectors are members of local Rotary and Lions clubs, who see it as part of their service to the community. It's a priority on their annual calendar.

In a town of 20,000, they raise almost \$24,000. As you will see from Graeme's article, it's about compassion and organisation.

Graeme reminds us of The Salvation Army's mission statement Save Souls, Grow Saints, Serve Suffering Humanity.

He says: "Not all of us can physically carry out the third part of this statement. However, our part can be raising funds to enable suffering humanity to be served."

Need is real

I worked for five years in a Salvation Army welfare centre before retiring a year ago. I have returned to the centre one day a week as a volunteer.

I have seen and spoken with the people who need our help. We have officers, soldiers, adherents and friends in our corps across the country today because of the help they received at welfare centres, recovery programs, homelessness centres and elsewhere – programs dependent on Red Shield Appeal funds.

Our founder William Booth demanded we help the needy. "Brought it all on themselves, you say. Perhaps so. But that does not excuse our assisting them ... and that in the most practical, economical and Christlike manner."

Jesus taught (Matthew 25) that to assist those in need is to assist him. Conversely, not to assist others, he said, was to ignore his needs.

The Red Shield Appeal gives us all an opportunity to assist our Lord through helping others. As Graeme Packer said, we may not be in a position to physically help people in need, but we can assist by raising funds so that others can.

Jesus indicated that the measure of our love for others is a measure of our love for him. There's a challenge!

Bill Simpson
Pipeline writer

TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW

your say...



When I was 18, I had heard numerous addresses on holiness (which we don't seem to hear so often these days) and I tended to switch off. That was only for the archangels, or for ministers and officers, I thought.

However, I must have been listening once as I was struck by a statement made from the platform which I never forgot, and which was to be reiterated numerous times in later years – "not only is holiness available but everybody should have it."

I couldn't believe what my ears had just heard – "everyone should have it".

The officer didn't say it was for the archangels, ministers or officers. He said EVERYONE. That could mean me ... and I was open to spiritual improvement.

The main question was,

"What is holiness?" Because I had heard the subject spoken of for years, I felt awkward asking the officer how to obtain it.

It was about this time I felt a strong spiritual urge and God's will for my life. This resulted in my kneeling beside my bed and praying. I was very conscious of the presence of God, which filled the whole room.

It wasn't until much later that I realised that I had experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. I used the words of the chorus, based on Isaiah 64:8, to express my prayer:

Have thine own way Lord, have thine own way,

Thou art the potter, I am the clay, Mould me and make me after thy will,

While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Two years later, I was strongly convinced of the call of officership. I again reminded God of my unworthiness. Then I asked him to show himself clearly in his word and he led me to Isaiah 66:2, "To this man will I look even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit and trembleth at my word".

With tears streaming from my eyes, I cried: "I yield, I yield, I yield".

I then asked the Lord to give me a verse of scripture to show me it was me he wanted (for fulltime service). God gave me, "Who hath saved us and called us with a holy calling (2 Timothy 1:9).

I let my head fall on my arms, as my whole body relaxed. I sighed, "Oh, he knows what he's getting."

– Mavis Gilbert

Commissioner James Condon wants to hear your story.

"Your Say" is a page inspired by Commissioner Condon 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@aue.salvationarmy.org

TC@PIPELINE

We preach Christ crucified

Commissioner JAMES CONDON says the message of the Gospel is on the lips of all believers who are willing to harness the Spirit's power to communicate the saving power of Jesus Christ

One of the great privileges I have is to preach in all kinds of settings – corps, centres, conferences, meetings. We need good preachers, teachers and expositors of the Word. Our people need to hear the Word of God.

I do love preaching and the preparation involved in getting into the Word of God; sitting with an open Bible and asking God to speak to me.

The word *preach*, from the original Greek word *kerusso*, refers to a town crier who is sent out by a king or queen to make a public announcement. They ring a loud bell, make the announcement (give their message) and then usually attach it to the doorpost of a local inn.

When we preach our message it should have an even greater impact than that of the town crier and make people really desire to know the Jesus that we are preaching about.

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians it is interesting to note that he did not say "I preach Christ crucified" but he said "We preach Christ crucified". We have one message – Jesus Christ. He is central to our preaching.

So we preach Christ crucified, but Paul says in verse 18, "The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

To many people Jesus was just a poor commoner who died as a criminal. But to us who believe in Him, He is Christ crucified. There is great power in the gospel message about Jesus.

I identify with Paul – who am I that I should have the privilege of speaking the very words of God? He writes about this in 1 Corinthians 1, verse 26 – "Brothers, think of

what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth."

And also in Chapter 2, verses 1 to 5, "And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. ² For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. ⁴ My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power."

Yes, we preach Christ crucified and may it be with a demonstration of the Spirit's power and to God's glory.

Paul in Romans 10, verse 15 says, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

It is the best message – the message of the crucified Jesus – and there are still thousands who have not heard it. This is the challenge for all of us today.

God help us.



Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory

Eternal security based on obedience

Maintaining a right relationship with God is the key to assurance of salvation, writes **Major ALAN HARLEY**

It's a good idea to be upfront about what you believe. Some churches, probably the majority, give the passer-by no clue as to their doctrines. In fact it's rare to find a church which boldly asserts "this is what we believe."

Mind you, being upfront can produce negative as well as positive responses. Like the time I took a friend to visit a Salvation Army centre in suburban Sydney. On the outside wall were its doctrines.

Pointing to the one which says, "Continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ," he said, "I don't believe that one. Christians can't lose their salvation."

My friend believed that once saved, you are always saved, regardless of how you live. Lots of folk share this viewpoint. Some base this on the belief that God has already decided who he is going to save or send to hell. Because God is sovereign, they claim, nothing we do can affect his plan. If we're destined to go to heaven, we'll get there.

Others argue that we would not reject a child of ours, no matter how badly behaved. Surely God, who is the perfect father, would never reject one of his children.

Three things need to be said at this point.

First, most who believe in "eternal security" do so because they seek to be true to the Bible. They accept what respected pastors and Bible teachers have taught them. From them they learned that "eternal security" is the only correct position.

Second, many who hold to this position live godly and exemplary lives. Most believe in serving Christ and sharing their faith with others. They are a praying, Bible-reading people. And they are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Third, it must be acknowledged that the Bible contains many passages of strong assurance regarding our security in Christ. We can have the kind of confidence which is expressed in words we used to sing,

He will keep you from falling, he will keep to the end;

What a wonderful Saviour, what a wonderful friend.

At the same time, the Bible says that to "gain a crown of life" Christians must be "faithful unto death". It tells us that it is possible to "make a shipwreck" of one's faith.

And these warnings must not be seen as bluffing on God's part.

Dangers of ignorance

Some, however, seem to think that it is. Like Wendy, who made an appointment to see me. She was a member of an evangelical church in another part of the city. And she believed nothing she did could affect her salvation. She said, "I'm married to Tony, and we have two small children.

"Over the past few months our marriage has lost its meaning for me. During this time I've really fallen for Robert, the man next door. I'm in the process of moving in with him."

Then she said, "I know whatever I do won't affect my salvation. I know I'm eternally secure. I just want your blessing on my new plans."

My response was to point to those New Testament passages which present a different picture. I told her she could not count on God's grace if she violated his Word. I urged her to break off the affair and work on rebuilding her marriage.

A few days later Wendy phoned to say that she'd broken it off with Robert and moved home. A good result.

All's well that ends well, you could say.

But it's distressing to think that a professed Christian could even contemplate such behaviour. Lots of people who aren't Christians have higher standards. She believed that her relationship with God would be unaffected by adultery! That indicates gross ignorance of God's Word. Or worse, it represents wilful disobedience. It also reflects an inadequate view of God - the God who said "I am holy; you shall be holy."

Antinomian, we call this kind of behaviour. Opposed to law, the word means. In this case it's God's moral law. Being under grace and not under law is no grounds for sloppy standards. Jesus had an even tougher position on adultery than Moses. He said that bad thoughts were as sinful as bad deeds!

What Wendy believed was a caricature of a biblical truth. She needed to learn what the Bible actually says on the subject of security.

Certainly it does teach that there's security for the believer. Christians can be sure they really are God's children. They really can have the assurance of eternal life.

At the same time, the Bible teaches that the Christian life is similar to a branch on a vine. United to the vine (Christ) the believer has total security. Separated from him there's none.

Some don't like to hear this. They are like the man who questioned that "continued obedient faith" doctrine. For them any other position is unbiblical. But having worked with folk like Wendy, I'd rather err on the side of caution. Better to tell people not to presume upon God's

goodness than to say it doesn't really matter how they live.

But for some this raises the question: If there is a possibility that we could fall away, how can we have any real assurance of salvation?

Actually, the answer is simple.

Relationship-based security

The Christian has at least as much assurance here as in other major areas of life. For example, when two people wed, they know that marriages can and do fail. They know in their minds that the possibility exists that their relationship could suffer an irreversible breakdown. They could "fall out of love".

In other words, they have no "eternal security" regarding their relationship. However, this knowledge does not detract in any way from security in their relationship.

They are able to assure each other that it will continue until death. They don't embark on their married life saying, "We're married today, but we may not be married a year from now." As they proceed through their married life, intellectually they know that the possibility of marital breakdown exists. But this does not create doubts regarding their marriage. They are bound together in love. They know, and so do we, that we do not demand an ironclad "eternal" guarantee before we marry someone.

What we do require is love, commitment, trust and loyalty. These provide us with a secure relationship - a security that is not just for today, but also for the unknown future.

This also is true of our relationship with God.

He asks for our love, loyalty, trust and commitment. At the same time he loves us, is committed to us and is faithful to us. His love for us precedes our love for him and makes our love possible.

A marriage relationship can be secure even though it involves two fallible human beings. Our relationship with God is not merely as secure as the best of marriages; it is far more secure because one of the partners is divine! And this divine person, the Holy Spirit, is committed to keeping us in his love. When we stray, the Spirit seeks us and brings us back. If tempted to wander away from him, he urges and enables us to keep to the right path.

Jesus spells it out in word-pictures. There's a shepherd who left 99 sheep out in the bush to find one that strayed. And a woman who lost her treasure and scoured the place until she found it.

That's what the Father is like, says Jesus. He searches for backsliders. He wants to find them and bring them home.

His part and ours

The possibility of a true Christian irrevocably falling away is slim.

We are not like someone hanging from a cliff top by our fingertips. We are in a relationship of love with God. It's a relationship which God initiated and is committed to maintaining.

At the same time Scripture says, "Keep yourselves in the love of God".

It counsels, "Make your calling and election sure; if you do these things you will never fall". Those who believe that

Continued page 18



Graeme Packer is known as "Mr Salvation Army" in Kiama, where he has organised the Red Shield Appeal for many years. Photos: Shairon Paterson

Collection king has Kiama covered

Seaside village is Graeme's domain for the Red Shield Appeal

There is no Salvation Army corps in Kiama, yet *Pipeline* reporter **BILL SIMPSON** discovered this small seaside community will donate thousands of dollars to the Red Shield Appeal because of one man's commitment to the cause

It's unlikely there is a calmer Red Shield Appeal centre in Australia on collection Sunday than picturesque Kiama on the NSW South Coast. Gently rolling waves from the Pacific Ocean to the east and lush green pastures of dairy farms to the west provide beautiful borders to a little village best known for its blow hole, craft shops, markets and folk festivals.

It's the kind of place people go to retire or to leave the city behind. The lifestyle is serene. People are not in a hurry in Kiama.

The orderly pace is reflected in the annual Red Shield Appeal. While Salvationists and supporters in cities and

towns across the country scurry in and out of organising centres and along suburban streets early Sunday morning, hoping to cover at least part of their area, Kiama's collection is a mere formality.

Organisation starts in February, with most teams arranged a few weeks later. Team captains have their maps and bags two weeks before collection day. Collecting is underway two days or the day before the Sunday.

For Kiama, it's just a matter on collection Sunday of the remaining few teams to finish the job and captains to hand over the donations for counting.

Graeme Packer is principally

responsible for the calm. A life-long Salvationist of 70-plus years, Graeme heads up Kiama's collection. And he does it without the support of a corps structure.

He and his wife Noreen chose Kiama 15 years ago after a busy life of business, family and Salvation Army service at Hurstville Corps, in Sydney's south-western suburbs.

In Sydney, Graeme spent years in trucking companies. In Kiama, he is "Mr Salvation Army", even though the nearest Salvation Army corps is 15 kilometres to the north at Shellharbour.

Shellharbour Corps is where Graeme and Noreen now serve. Graeme is bandmaster and Noreen is pastoral care coordinator.

They were asked by the Shellharbour Corps Officer 14 years ago if they would take responsibility for Kiama's collection. In his first year of organising Kiama for the RSA, \$7571 was collected. The total has risen every year. Last year, almost \$24,000 was raised.

Graeme, Noreen, their life-long friend Anne Peterson - also formerly of Hurstville - and Margaret Windolf are the only Salvationists involved. Graeme is the organiser. Noreen, Anne and Margaret are the "back room" people - the counters on collection day.

Local ambulance officer Colin Randall is Graeme's assistant on collection day. Colin has been assisting Graeme almost since the first Kiama collection.

The collecting is done by teams from two Lions clubs, two Rotary clubs and a few supportive townspeople. More than 100 collectors and captains are recruited to form around 30 teams of varying size. About 6000 houses are visited.

Most collectors are adults. School student numbers have dropped dramatically over the years. Graeme is not dismayed. Schools offer other forms of Red Shield fundraising, such as red shirt days.

The Salvation Army should try to find a way of cloning Graeme Packer, according to businessman Bill Dowson, who chairs the regional residential committee which covers the Illawarra area from Helensburgh south through Wollongong and Shellharbour to Kiama.

Wollongong and Kiama are the only centres of six in the Illawarra that have consistently improved their result over the past decade. Kiama is the only centre that has operated an RSA without a corps for most of that time.

Bill Dowson says Kiama's ever-increasing collection is, to a large extent, down to Graeme Packer's organisation and passion.

"How do I define Graeme Packer?" Bill Dowson wonders as he talks to *Pipeline*. "What word or phrase sums up



Graeme and his wife Noreen attend the Salvation Army Corps at Shellharbour, but their heart is 15km to the south in Kiama where they have run the Red Shield Appeal for 14 years.



Graeme acknowledges the valuable support he receives from community leaders like Jerry Granger-Holcombe (left), who is president of Kiama Lions Club.

this wonderful man who works so hard and surpasses expectations with the Red Shield Appeal every year?

"Motivated? Without a doubt. But it's more than that. Enthusiastic? No question there. But it still doesn't give enough credit.

"Hard working? This man starts his Red Shield Appeal preparations six months before anybody else. But there still must be a better description.

"Inspiring? Critical? Diligent? Tenacious? Committed? All of these come to mind and they all apply. But they don't quite fully explain the relationship that Graeme has with the Red Shield Appeal.

"Quite frankly, I can only say that Graeme has pride in his ownership of his Red Shield Appeal. Graeme Packer is not passive in his town. He 'owns' Kiama and

its generous citizens.

"He 'owns' the service clubs, the shopping centre, the schools. You will hear Graeme talk about all of these things as 'his'.

"Graeme doesn't just work on the Red Shield Appeal. He 'owns' his Red Shield Appeal and he is so proud of all that he 'owns' that he pulls out all stops to make 'his' the best.

"As a residential appeal chairman, I would love to see fewer people 'work' on the appeal and more people take 'ownership' of it. Graeme is a shining example and he makes the appeal look like 'Money for Old Rope'."

Success, says Graeme, is not guaranteed by "getting busy" a week or two out from the appeal. Actually, he suggests, that approach guarantees >>>

failure. "To be successful in any facet of life, you must work all year round," he says. "The intensity builds as May approaches. And after the RSA, the work continues as you thank all who contributed.

"I go to meetings of the service clubs and personally thank all of the collectors. Over the years, I have gotten to know the people who collect.

"At the meetings, I thank the clubs for participating and make a presentation of certificates of appreciation. It is an ongoing relationship because if I see people in the street, I make a point of talking to them.

"It is not a matter of forgetting them until next year. These people are my friends."

In addition, Graeme organises the Shellharbour Salvation Army band to play at Anzac Day marches and dawn services each year, and community-run Christmas carol programs at Kiama and nearby Jamberoo.

He also organises Salvation Army social and welfare workers to address

various service clubs in Kiama to ensure they get the message about the Army's work. In a place where there is no official Salvation Army presence, Graeme brings The Salvation Army to town.

And by involving the community, he says, they feel that they belong to The Salvation Army.

The local Lions and Rotary clubs include the Red Shield Appeal on a list of what they do each year.

"(Before Kiama) I was one of the owners of a transport company in Sydney, which was very successful. In 1986, we sold the company and I took a change of direction of my life and became a truck salesman.

"Over a period of time, I attended several seminars to improve myself in my chosen profession. Every seminar I attended came up with the same result, which was that the top 20 percent of the sales people make 80 per cent of the sales.

"This was done by getting to know your customers and relating to your customers. The most important thing was persevering - not waiting for them to

contact you, but you keeping in contact with them."

And that is his principle for organising a successful Red Shield Appeal.

His motivation is much deeper. "Let's remind ourselves of the Army's mission statement - Save Souls, Grow Saints and Serve Suffering Humanity," he says. "Not all of us can physically carry out the third part of this statement. However, our part can be raising funds to enable suffering humanity to be served (or helped).

"We are The Salvation Army. We are here to help the needy. Isn't this God's calling? So, what can we do?"

"Well, the more money we raise, the more we can help 'suffering humanity'."



Bill Simpson is a staff writer for Pipeline and supplements.

Hit the street,
because too
many
are living on it.

Director appeals for doorknockers to see bigger picture

Major Jeff Winterburn says he doesn't want this year to be another routine year for The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal.

As the Australia Eastern Territory Appeals Director (external) he is asking Salvationists and volunteers to take up the National Doorknock Appeal challenge because the need is greater than ever before.

The money raised during the Red Shield Appeal is used to assist in financing the Army's vast network of social and community services in Australia, across both Eastern and Southern territories. These include providing crisis accommodation, support for families in need, employment services, addiction recovery support, emergency services, rural chaplaincy and telephone counselling.

Many of these ministries would struggle to continue without financial support that is generated by the appeal, particularly the doorknock appeal.

"If we don't have the appeal, we don't have the services," says Major Winterburn, candidly speaking about the Red Shield Appeal.

"Your two and a half to three hours [on the doorknock weekend] might produce \$70. In the big picture it might not mean much. But you do it for the person who comes to the Salvos for support.

"We spend about \$260 million on social services costs and the \$39 million we aim to raise will contribute to that. That's why we need our people out on the doorknock weekend."

Last year the Red Shield Appeal raised more than \$66 million nationally and about \$35 million in the Australia Eastern Territory.

The national target for the Red Shield Appeal this year is \$81.5 million. In the Australia Eastern Territory the target is \$39 million which incorporates the business, mail and doorknock appeals.

The business component of the campaign encourages the corporate sector to support the appeal and was officially launched on 29 March in Sydney.

The direct mail campaign is another vital part of the appeal and about half of the funds are raised this way.

The remainder of the money is collected through the National Doorknock Appeal. The appeal runs on 19-20 May and The Salvation Army needs 100,000 volunteers to hit their goal of \$5.6 million, which will help maintain the Army's social services for the year ahead.

"It's only two to three hours of their time. It's not much time to give," asserts Major Winterburn.

"The money is there [referring to the many Australians who have given in the past]. The people [Salvationists and volunteers] just need to get out there."

"It's important to say there's been an unprecedented amount of disasters recently. While there may be a bit of donor fatigue out there, we need to put our focus on the Red Shield Appeal to maintain our social service programs."

For more information about the Red Shield Appeal or to sign up for the doorknock weekend, visit salvos.org.au. You can also sign up as a volunteer for the doorknock on The Salvation Army Facebook page. Go to www.facebook.com/TheSalvationArmyAustralia



Major Jeff Winterburn urges all Salvationists to volunteer for the doorknock appeal.

Over 25,000 families are **homeless** every night in Australia.



Register to collect for the Doorknock
19-20 May
13 SALVOS (13 72 58)
salvationarmy.org.au



RED SHIELD APPEAL

THANK GOD FOR THE SALVOS

Register



on your mobile

Qantas chief asks business sector to soar for Salvos

By ESTHER PINN

Leigh Clifford, Chairman of Qantas Airways Limited, encouraged the corporate sector to use their heads and hearts when considering their donation to The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal.

Mr Clifford was the guest speaker at the official launch of the Red Shield Appeal fundraising campaign which attracted more than 500 business and community leaders at The Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney on 29 March.

Distinguished journalist and now Director of Media and Public Affairs for Coca-Cola Amatil, Sally Loane, conducted an interview with Mr Clifford who shared his overwhelming desire to support the Red Shield Appeal and encouraged all guests to provide financial support.

Among the guests were Federal MP Hon Bronwyn Bishop, NSW Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione, State MP Hon Pru Goward on behalf of the NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell, State MP John Roberston, State MP Mark Coure and Stephen Conry, CEO of Jones Lang LaSalle, National Sponsor of the Red Shield Appeal Launch.

Former Wallabies rugby union captain and Sydney Red Shield Appeal

Committee member, Nick Farr-Jones, was the Master of Ceremonies.

Other guests included Roger Massey-Greene, Chairman of the Sydney Red Shield Appeal, and Chairman of the Red Shield Appeal in Sydney's Greater West, Paul Matthews.

Mr Massey-Greene officially launched the Red Shield Appeal by thanking everyone who attended.

"All this is made possible with the generosity of the Australian public, business community and governments."

This was followed by a presentation of a \$200,000 cheque by MP Hon Goward to The Salvation Army Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon.

"The NSW government recognises the important work of The Salvation Army. A need to re-emphasise the task is not just to make people comfortable in their distress but to break the cycle," she said.

Mr Conry was then invited to the stage to share a few words of behalf of Jones Lang LaSalle.

"We are humbled to support The Salvation Army and the Red Shield Appeal. We support The Salvation Army financially but we support them also in any way we can."

Through a video presentation, the



Former Wallabies rugby captain Nick Farr-Jones was MC for the appeal launch.

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC also encouraged the guests to give financially to the Red Shield Appeal.

Another interview was conducted by Major Peter Sutcliffe, Communications and Public Relations Secretary for Sydney East and Illawarra Division with a brave man called Barry (see story on opposite page). Barry shared how he overcame his adversity of being homeless for 12 years through connecting with The Salvation Army.

Mr Massey-Greene was invited again to the stage to announce his family's generous donation of \$100,000.

Commissioner Condon then closed the launch with a few remarks, thanking the guests for their continual support of the Red Shield Appeal.

"Thank you for partnering with us. We cannot do it without you," he said.

Another 21 Red Shield Appeal launches also occurred around the Australia Eastern Territory during April and May.

The Red Shield Appeal doorknock campaign will be held on the weekend of 19-20 May.

For more information go to salvationarmy.org.au



Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon (centre), with Coca-Cola media director Sally Loane and Qantas chief Leigh Clifford. Photos: Shairon Paterson.

Brave Barry's story inspires

Dressed neatly in a suit and tie, Barry* blended in with the famous faces, high-flying executives and other important guests at The Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal launch.

It wasn't until he was invited to the podium for an interview with Major Peter Sutcliffe, the Communications and Public Relations Secretary for Sydney East and Illawarra Division, that he stood out from the crowd of 500 that packed the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney on 29 March.

Barry was here to tell his story.

And his story epitomises what the Salvation Army and its Red Shield Appeal is all about.

Barry's story is one that is often heard, but it's impact never fails to stir the emotions. He fell and The Salvation Army picked him up.

Before becoming homeless for 12 years, Barry was married with children, had a successful career working for an international construction company and had travelled the world.

However, that all fell apart when his marriage broke down.

"I was much like everyone else in this room," said Barry. "But then suddenly my marriage was finished. My kids were teenagers ... and at that stage they didn't want Dad around. I suffered with depression and in 1999 decided to hop off the world."

And hop off the world he did, ending up on the streets of Sydney.

Barry described his harrowing first night of being homeless and what he did to survive. "If you can imagine standing in your underwear in a fridge, that's how cold it was," he said.

"To survive on the streets you had to change your habits. Sleep during the day and walk at night. I wasn't an alcoholic, I wasn't a drug addict and I didn't claim benefits, but I was desperate."

It was in desperation over the June long weekend last year that Barry picked up a telephone book and found an address for The Salvation Army in Glebe.

"I don't know why I wanted to hop back on the world," he said. "[Majors] Dawn and Lindsay Smith [Chaplains



Barry tells his story of how The Salvation Army helped him at his lowest point to a crowd of 500 guests at The Red Shield Appeal launch in Sydney. Photo: Shairon Paterson

for Fire and Rescue NSW] organised accommodation for me which was at Foster House (The Salvation Army's homeless men's facility in Surry Hills, Sydney). When I got to Foster House the staff there provided doctors, psychiatrists, counsellors, case workers and I started volunteering."

Barry now works at a café in Waterloo, has reunited with his family and has begun his spiritual journey at Glebe Salvation Army Corps.

Barry finished the interview by encouraging people at the Red Shield Appeal launch to donate.

"Homelessness isn't a disease," he said. "Everyone in this room is

only a pay cheque away from being homeless. The Salvos do a very good job. But it's people like yourselves that donate that turn a good job into a great job and a success story."

Commissioner James Condon later summed up where The Salvation Army stood in relation to men like Barry.

"The Salvation Army sees the person not just the problem. Not the junkie, not the bum, not the hobo, not the useless individual ... it's our privilege to reach out to the many Barrys of this world," he said.

* Name has been changed for privacy reasons



Mission field: **MEN**

Thinking like a missionary is the key to balancing the Church's gender scales, writes **Major John Farquharson**

"Boring, irrelevant, hypocritical and for women!" That's how my neighbour Jose described the church when I surveyed him about patterns of church attendance.

It set my mind racing. I have heard the irrelevant, boring and hypocritical bits before, but for women? That was new.

I decided to test his claim with some young people I know, all in their mid-to-late-20s, both male and female. None attend church, but they have no anti-church predispositions. All of them agreed the church was "for women".

As I thought about their responses, I realised that a sense of commitment is the major reason I attend my Salvation Army, rather than the corps having captured my passion and imagination. Perhaps there is something about the church that is simply not working for whole groups of men who feel similar dispassion?

Now, if this is true for those who don't attend church, and it is also true for myself, I reasoned, there must be others who feel the same.

So began a period of research. I read scholarly articles, sociological journals, church statistical information and church

growth literature. I ran focus groups, conducted interviews and undertook surveys. To my surprise, this phenomenon is much more widespread than I had imagined.

Research reveals that 38 per cent of Salvation Army corps attendees are men and even fewer actively participate in the life of their corps. Separate studies conducted by Thompson H Edward Jr in 1991 and 2002 indicated that men who feel out of place at church maintain an inner faith and were active participants in church life sometime in the past. So what happened?

These and a number of other academic studies point to three factors at work.

First, the traditional division of labour along gender lines has meant, historically, that men comprise a greater part of the workplace than women. Therefore, men have been time poor, with many competing demands upon their time. For some, attending a church is not something they are opposed to, but they feel unable to make it a priority in an already busy schedule.

Secondly, the nature of a person's vocation also affects how likely they are to attend church. In a 1991 study,

Just Men conference

puts Brisbane on the map

The Salvation Army's annual Just Men conference is celebrating its 20th anniversary by expanding to Queensland this year.

"This is the first year we've broken it up," says Malcolm Beeson Australia Eastern Territorial Men's Ministry Coordinator (pictured right).

Last year, the South Queensland Division hosted a successful one-day divisional men's rally but were eager to expand to a three-day conference.

"If Sydney has been too far away, especially if you're from North Queensland, here is an opportunity to share life with other men finding what God wants you to do," says Malcolm.

The Sydney conference on 27-29 July will be held at The Collaroy Centre and the Queensland conference on 3-5

August will be hosted at Maranatha Camp at Yandina on the Sunshine Coast. Both conferences will follow a similar program but will be different from last year, assures Malcolm.

Guest speaker Buhle Dlamini (pictured below) will be sharing at both conferences. Buhle, a Salvationist from South Africa, is a leading corporate and youth speaker.

He was raised in the rural KZN (Zulu Kingdom) and has served as both the Territorial Director of Youth Ministries and the Project Manager for Television Drama for Heartlines films in 2006 in the Southern Africa Territory.

In the lead-up to the conference Buhle says God has already put a message on his heart, based out of the Biblical passage, Isaiah 43:19: "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

"This, I believe is the calling for Just Men 2012," says Buhle. "Take action. But remember God is more interested in the men we are becoming than in the things we achieve."

"To move forward you need to stop looking back. To reach higher ground your eyes need to be fixed on what's above you not what is below you."

The Sydney Just Men conference will also have the privilege of hearing from Gary Steenbergen, both conference speaker and butcher. Just Men delegates are in for a "meaty presentation" says Malcolm, as Gary



will preach out of Proverbs 15:17 (NLT) – "A bowl of vegetables with someone you love is better than steak with someone you hate," – demonstrating with a slab of meat.

Other conference activities include Bible study, worship sessions and workshops that focus on topics such as financial responsibility and a man's responsibility. Along with the inspiring workshops and sessions there will be plenty of time to have fun with social activities including laser tag.

If you are interested in attending Just Men in either Sydney or Queensland, email Malcolm Beeson: Malcolm.beeson@aue.salvationarmy.org



Gee M Ellen observed that those in the people-oriented professions are much more likely to attend church than those in the product-oriented professions. The church seems to engage in activities where people-skills and orientation are reinforced. Historically, it just happens that many more women are employed in the people-oriented professions than men. This is changing, however.

Thirdly, the church has become increasingly feminine in the way it performs its ministry. While there are

many men who are comfortable with the way the church has evolved, those who feel disconnected are increasing in number. They often feel that their needs are not considered in the traditional corps structure and are not able to contribute as much as women. While this may be mere perception, it is important to take into consideration; their perception is their reality.

Most churches are great places where verbal, sensitive and studious men can meet God. Yet while this is attractive

to some men, it is anathema to others. The image of Christ that has become widespread is that of the gentle, caring, sensitive man. Many call this "the theology of the lamb"; Jesus is presented as the Lamb of God. It is an image where softness, meekness, grace and mercy are reinforced. Attendees are encouraged to "enter a relationship" with Christ. For many men (and women) this language has become a major turn-off. The theology of the lamb also means that boys are quick to distance themselves from Sunday >>>

Reward for 20 years of commitment

In celebration of Just Men's 20th anniversary, two men have received scholarships for this year's conference.

George Atherton and his son-in-law Allan Shaw (pictured), both from Tuggeranong Corps, received free entrance to this year's Just Men conference for their milestone achievement of attending every conference for the past 20 years.

Territorial Men's Ministry Coordinator Malcolm Beeson said George and Allan were committed to the conference being an outreach for men within the community.

"It is not an exclusive club for Salvationists," says Malcolm adamantly. "You can invite friends along – it may mean they have an encounter with Jesus Christ. And that is the aim of the weekend."

Malcolm is passionate about seeing Men's Ministry grow within local corps, particularly because the numbers of church attendance have been declining.

"We need to see more men into God's Kingdom ... when you get down



to the nitty-gritty, men's ministry is one man walking with another man, helping him to know Christ in a deeper way."

Over the past year, Malcolm has

also been developing resources for corps to use in growing their men's ministries. These materials are available on the mySalvos website.

schools and other similar church activities to assert their budding masculine identities. The church dropout rate among teens is extremely high.

An image that is often missing is that of the Lion of God. Jesus was courageous, bold and willing to accost evil. He proclaimed a vision that would confront and change the world. He was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice of his life. He called others to follow a hero who would change the world. The early Salvation Army was dominated by such a spirit of boldness.

Jesus is completely balanced as both lion and lamb. It is only when one side is emphasised to the detriment of the other that the balance is distorted and the Gospel – as well as the perception of church – becomes one-sided.

"Why should we bother?" you might ask. It's the men's problem, not mine, right? That attitude might be ok, were it not for the missionary calling upon which The Salvation Army is based.

We have a mandate to bring Christ to the world. This mandate requires us to become missional in our thinking. Missionaries learn to think around the cultural barriers to the spread of the Gospel. They think, "What is it that stops the subculture I am trying to reach from

taking hold of the Gospel and becoming active in mission and ministry?" Then the missionary tries to tear down those barriers.

The Apostle Paul expressed it in this way. "Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: religious, non-religious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralised – whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ – but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view" (The Message, 1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

Likewise, we ought to do everything we can to win all who we can. If men are the "subculture" exhibiting barriers to receiving the gospel, it is our job as Salvationists to actively think about how to eliminate those obstructions.

Recently, a conference was held at Geelong to do so – to discuss ways to reach more men with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The conference was not seeking to find easy answers such as men's programs and ministries or conventions. As useful as these are, the key to reaching men is to think and act like missionaries. To seek to

call men to a bold mission that will change the world.

Participants shared practical ideas. One such idea was a "men's huddle" at the conclusion of a worship service, the preacher calls all the men forward and talks to them about action points from the sermon and offer some extra encouragement and key points of action.

Other ideas for making corps more male-friendly included selecting songs with less-feminine lyrics, altering décor, editing the format of Sunday school to better accommodate active young boys, and calling men to action in addition to a relationship with Jesus. Whether these are useful solutions (and how they might be arranged) is yet to be seen, but such practical, missionary-style brainstorming is a solid first step.

There is a place for men in the life of each corps. But it does mean being willing to have the present disturbed a little in order to build a more balanced future.



Major John Farquharson is a lecturer and Co-ordinator for Training of ESL Cadets at the training college in the Australia Southern Territory.

Major Deslea Maxwell and husband, Major Phil Maxwell, with their children at Kylie and Nathan's wedding last year.



Family security in God's hands

Mother's Day can invoke a whole range of emotions as **Major DESLEA MAXWELL** shows, sharing her journey of living away from her three children

I don't think it gets any easier the more you do it – that is, to say "goodbye" to your children and move away to live in another country.

It's funny what life dishes up. I really never saw myself as the mothering type. In fact I never wanted to get married or have children. However, God had a different plan and I have come to realise that being a mother is one of the greatest joys in my life.

When I was appointed as Territorial Director of Schools, Territorial Literacy Secretary and Tokaut Editor and my husband Phil as Secretary for Business in Papua New Guinea two years ago, we were a family of five. Now we are a family of seven, as two of my children are now married. I have three biological children and two children through love.

Late last year Kylie, 26, was commissioned and ordained as a Salvation Army officer and then married Lieutenant Nathan Hodges. I had the pleasure of

joining with Phil to walk her down the aisle when she got married – not sure too many mums have that privilege. Chris 24, who is a financial planner, has just married Nichole McIver and Nathanael, 23, has just completed his basic training with the Australian Navy and will commence work as a member of the Australian Navy Band this month.

My greatest joy as a mum has been to see them each grow in their relationship with the Lord. And I am pleased to say that when I get out of the way, God does incredible things in their lives and through them. But there is not a day goes by when I don't think about them and ask that the Lord might "hedge" them in, to use an Old Testament term.

I must admit that whilst I love being in the centre of God's will and would not wish to be anywhere else, I do have my good days and also my bad ones; days when I really ache to be around my kids and to share in their lives and ministry.

This will be my third Mother's Day without my children and I'm not too sure that it gets any easier. Phil has taken me out for lunch on Mother's Day since we have been away, which is very thoughtful. I do have a link-up with them each through Skype and phone calls, but I do tend to spend at least some of the day in tears. But more than just one day in the year, I miss the day-to-day contact of knowing they could just "pop" in at anytime. I just love being their mum.

I guess one of the hardest things I have had to come to terms with is not being there for special occasions in their lives – birthdays, wedding preparations, university graduations, Nathanael's music recitals at the Conservatorium and his "passing out" ceremony with the Navy. But I do know that God is no man's debtor and each day I am rewarded with a deep abiding joy of knowing that I am in the centre of God's will and someone much greater than me is looking after my kids.



Holy Habits

with Major Barbara Sampson



A Temporary Community Made Everlasting

Habit 17

The discipline of guidance

Psalm 32:8-11

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you" (v. 8, NIV).

God's promise of guidance is a wonderful reassurance for those moments when we stand, like Samuel before the sons of Jesse (see 1 Sam 16), and ask ourselves, "Is this the one?" Is this the path God has laid out for me, the right house to buy, the right man to marry?

"I will instruct you," says God, "make my way clear before you, give you my guidance." If only it was always as easy as it sounds! What about those times when we ask and the only response we get is silence?

It seems that God uses different ways to make his purposes clear to us. Quakers

founder George Fox wrote about God "opening a truth" to him. Theologian John Calvin spoke of the "inner testimony" of the Holy Spirit. Ignatius, the 1st-century apostolic father, received guidance from what he called "movements of the soul", consolations and desolations, through which he discerned the will of God.

Guidance of this kind is not just for the spiritually super-fit. What each of these people is referring to is a spiritual mindfulness, a conscious attentiveness to God. As we practise listening to God in the small matters of each day, we will gradually develop an inner sensitivity to God at work.

In George Bernard Shaw's play *St Joan*, when one of the characters asks Joan of Arc why the voice of God never speaks to him as she claims it speaks constantly to her, Joan replies, "The voice speaks to you

all the time. You just fail to listen!" When Jacob woke at Bethel after a dream in which God spoke to him he said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it" (Gen 28:16).

When we have what evangelical Christian missionary Frank Laubach called "a mind set upon continuous surrender" then the guidance of God becomes clear. He may speak to us through the circumstances of our lives, through a word of Scripture, through other people - or all of these things.

To reflect on ...

May the spiritual discipline of guidance help us to be open to God with what 19th century hymnist Thomas Kelly called "a gentle receptiveness to divine breathings". - Dietrich Bonhoeffer (German Lutheran pastor, theologian).

Eternal security based on obedience

Continued from page 7.

security is tied to continued obedient faith do so because the Bible says so.

"We have eternal life," says John. We have it now.

He goes on to explain that eternal life is actually in Jesus. In him we have all his blessings, including eternal life.

Separated from him we forfeit every one of them.

The Christian life is a relationship of love. Just like a good marriage.

In such a marriage, as we've noted, the knowledge that marriages can fail does not detract from a sense of security for two people committed in love to each other.

They know in their hearts that their relationship is secure.

So with Christ and us. We know in our heart that we belong to God. This is because of the witness, or testimony of the Holy Spirit.

This witness is two-fold. It is found in God's Word and confirmed in our hearts.

The Holy Spirit speaks through Scripture to give us assurance. He makes it alive and personal to us.

He communicates its message to our hearts.

He assures us from the Word that we truly are forgiven and accepted by God. "Anyone who believes has this testimony in his heart. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God".

None of this can be proved by logic or debate.

Neither for that matter can the bond of love between two people. Both are unexplainable.

At the same time the person who is in love and the person who knows God each have a relationship in which they are secure. In their hearts they know the relationship is firm. And because it is a love relationship, they wouldn't have it any other way.

So, back to those doctrines on the wall of the Citadel.

We do affirm the necessity of continued obedient faith in Christ. So does the New Testament. But we believe that God works in the lives of those who determine to "keep in step with the Spirit" to produce these qualities.

And in this love-based relationship we are secure. We know in our hearts that we belong to God. And in that relationship we rest assured.

General Albert Orsborn wrote of this relationship in words inspired by Jesus and Paul:

*Who the child of God shall sever
From the faith in which he stands?
Who shall wound or who shall pluck him
From the careful shepherd's hands?
Not distress or persecution,
Neither peril nor the sword;
For in days of tribulation
Shines the glory of the Lord.*

(The Song Book of The Salvation Army no. 554 (1986 ed.))



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



SAVING THE SOUL OF THE SOLDIER

The Salvation Army is always a visible presence at Anzac Day services around the country but there is also an integral involvement in the lives of servicemen year-round. **SIMONE WORTHING** asked Red Shield Defence Services Chief Commissioner Barry Nancarrow for an insight into this vital ministry



Salvation Army Red Shield Defence Services (RSDS) representatives all over Australia attended Anzac Day services on 25 April to support diggers and returned servicemen and women from WWI to Afghanistan and Iraq – and all conflicts in between where Australian Defence Force personnel played a role.

In many parts of the country, including the dawn service at the Royal Military College in Duntroon, Canberra, the “Sallyman” was part of the guest list for the main Anzac Day parade. The RSDS representatives also joined the parade in several services, forming the 2nd last contingent.

“In Queensland, the service in Brisbane was particularly significant,” said Barry Nancarrow, Chief Commissioner of the Salvation Army RSDS, currently based on the Gold Coast. “We had six representatives attending and three landcruiser trucks to provide hot and cold drinks and snacks to the diggers. One of our most important jobs though, was to be there for them, and to listen to their stories about the war and their experiences with the ‘Sallyman’. The diggers live in their memories on Anzac Day.”

As well as providing refreshments, the landcruisers are also mobile chapels and give the diggers a place to come, to chat, and to reminisce.

“It’s a great experience sitting and talking with them,” said Chief Commissioner Nancarrow. “It helps us to refocus the legacy – they earned the stripes we wear today.”

The Chief Commissioner explained how, because RSDS personnel were not an

official part of the ADF, diggers often felt more comfortable opening up and talking with them about issues and concerns that they wouldn’t share with others.

“The ‘Sallyman’ certainly played a vital role in boosting morale and helping maintain emotional and mental stability,” he said. “Our role was and is a unique and interesting one; it wasn’t just providing drinks and the treasured paper and pens for writing letters home, although that was much appreciated as well.

“Even today, servicemen and women returning from Afghanistan and Iraq, where the RSDS is not currently serving, seek out the “Sallyman” and chat with us.”

Evangelistic focus

Over the past 18 months, the focus of the RSDS has been much more intentionally centred on evangelism.

“For example, at Puckapunyal Military Area (near Seymour, Victoria), Captains Russell and Dianne Lawson are the RSDS representatives and run a Friday night youth group that attracts up to 80 kids,” said Chief Commissioner Nancarrow.

RSDS Representatives, Captains Peter and Leanne Bennett, also run the Singleton Corps which is a community corps but with an ADF focus.

In Darwin, Townsville and Brisbane, many families are now attending The Salvation Army with their RSDS representatives. Numerous people have also gone back to church, and several have made commitments to Jesus.

“It’s friendship evangelism,” said the Chief Commissioner. “We purposely sit down to point the conversation to spiritual life, and gently direct people to Jesus. The

soldiers know this, and they know we are there for more than their physical needs.”

The “Saving the soul of the soldier” logo appears on RSDS letterhead to clearly focus this goal.

Family support

As well as field work, much of the RSDS representatives’ service is focused on their role as family support officers. This is usually, although not exclusively, carried out by the female representatives and includes supporting the spouses and families of those serving overseas and those without family networks nearby. This is done through home visits, assistance with appointments, pastoral counselling as appropriate and building strong relationships.

“The diggers and their families are dealing with enormous pressures,” said Chief Commissioner Nancarrow. “And the veterans from Afghanistan are now experiencing what the Vietnam veterans went through 20 and 30 years ago.

“The military are aware of and support what we do and the morale we provide.”

The team of 26 RSDS representatives currently supports around 60,000 in the ADF community Australia wide.

This year Chief Commissioner Nancarrow and assistant Chief Commissioner Major Pam Nancarrow have relocated to the Gallipoli Barracks at Enoggera in north west Brisbane.

“This will give us better military access and puts us in closer touch with field leadership,” said the Chief Commissioner.

In August Australia’s RSDS representatives will all come together for their biennial conference.

Project debunks couch surfing myths

By ESTHER PINN

It was pouring with rain but the spirits of those who attended were not dampened at the launch of The Salvation Army Oasis Youth Support’s campaign, The Couch Project, on 18 April.

The Couch Project is an inaugural awareness and fundraising campaign that aims to remove existing misconceptions about couch surfing.

Coinciding with national Youth Homeless Matters Day, the project launch room at Oasis was filled with at least 12 couches to represent the ever-growing problem of couch surfing in Australia.

Major Robbin Moulds, Director, Oasis Youth Support Network, says that while a staggering 32,000 young people are homeless in Australia, 14,000 are living on the couches of friends and dealers, facing both abusive and inappropriate living circumstances.

“Couch surfing is a really trendy thing to do now. Well, I want to tell you that couch surfing in Australia is no holiday,” she said.

In conjunction with online market research organisation, Pureprofile, Oasis conducted a survey showing 64 per cent of Australians do not consider couch surfing to be a form of homelessness.

“Unfortunately, there is a misconception that if you are homeless, you sleep on the street,” Major Moulds said. “We want people to understand that you don’t have to be houseless to be homeless.”

Major Moulds then challenged Australians, both young and old to join Oasis in combatting youth homelessness by spending a night on a couch – whether at home or at a friend’s place – on Friday 8 June. All donations will go directly to supporting the programs at Oasis.

Bianca Orsini, The Oasis School for Liaison Officer, 23, told her story at the launch, reading out a letter addressed to her 20-year-old self, sharing her experiences of couch surfing before she received help from The Salvation Army.

“This campaign shows that Oasis is

MP for Hornsby, Matt Kean (left), Major Robbin Moulds, Oasis Youth Support Director (middle), James Kerley, Australian TV presenter and radio presenter on Nova FM (right) and Bianca Orsini, Oasis School Liaison Officer (far right), all spoke passionately about the troubling issue of couch surfing at the launch of The Couch Project. Photos: Shairon Paterson



Major Paul Moulds (middle), Captain Karen Flemming (left), Matt Gluyas (right) and Lieut-Colonels Peter and Jan Laws (top row) all attended The Couch Project launch, offering their support to the youth homeless fundraising and awareness campaign.

being the voice for those who aren’t being heard,” she said. “I’m looking forward to spending a night on the couch so 14,000 people don’t.”

Sharing of behalf of the NSW Minister for Communities, Hon. Victor Dominello, MP for Hornsby, Matt Kean says he is committed not only to creating awareness about youth homelessness but is looking to take action to address the issue.

If you would like to make a stand against youth homelessness and raise money for The Couch Project, log onto thecouchproject.com.au and register your couch surfing fundraising event.

Jason wins prestigious youth award



Jason Poutawa, 22, youth worker for The Salvation Army Oasis Youth Network, was presented with the prestigious City of Sydney’s Youth Worker of the Year Award on 17 April at Redfern Town Hall. For the past four years Jason has been working at Oasis, assisting the needs of homeless young people who come through their doors every day.

Among the distinguished guests at the award’s night was Anthony Mundine, Australian Boxing Champion, who celebrated the work of Jason and other youth workers who attended the event. Jason worships regularly at Ryde Salvation Army Corps.



Life in **FULL** COLOUR

Daniel's life was in a downward spiral before he came across The Salvation Army's Youth Outreach Service who, as **SIMONE WORTHING** discovered, helped him put his creativity into action

Just a few years ago, Daniel was involved in crime, living on the streets and struggling. Today, he has a place of his own, has completed his schooling, is building a business in graffiti art and knows he has good friends and support.

"I am not fully transformed yet, but I have my goals and am well on my way to meeting them, not just wishing things would happen," he says.

Daniel (pictured) believes that without the help of The Salvation Army Youth Outreach Service (YOS) in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley, he wouldn't be where he is today.

"The staff at YOS have always supported me and wanted to help with school work, financial and legal issues, and to have a place to sleep and food," Daniel says.

"I don't know what I would have done without them. I'm so thankful YOS is here and appreciate everything they have done."

Just a few years ago, YOS had to ask Daniel to leave their education program due to his poor attendance, and the service could not renew his lease for the accommodation program due to other issues.

Photo: Troy Grice

"We did not see him for a long time, but he still knew he could come back for support and assistance – that he would always be welcome at YOS regardless of the past," says Louise, YOS Client Manager Coordinator.

"We at YOS are in for the long haul and we won't give up on young people."

Daniel spent a year completing a traineeship at the Police Community Youth Club working with a range of people with special needs, before a series of events in his life led him to re-engage with YOS.

"A youth worker supported Daniel through this particular event and assisted him with choosing some courses to do as the next step," Louise explains.

Daniel chose a creative arts course, Project 180, run by the organisation Hope Empowered, that focused on sound engineering and mixing, multimedia, video production and graphic design. As part of his course assessment, Daniel was required to produce some original artwork.

"I've always loved graffiti and I really wanted to do it as a legal production," he explains. "YOS allowed me to do a mural [pictured on previous page] on the side wall of their building for my course, and we were all really happy with the result."

While Daniel was painting, a man from a nearby business approached him about doing some graffiti work for one of his clients.

"That was sweet, as I wanted to start doing more commission jobs and murals, but wasn't quite sure where to start," Daniel says.

"Graffiti is a habit. I love the smell,



Photo: Troy Gilce

the styles and structure of pieces. Art offers imagination, hope and adds colour to life. It allows you to put your personality and ideas onto something living in the world."

Daniel has since done aerosol art for various companies and would like to expand this to other businesses, schools and to teaching young people how to paint.

Caring community

As well as Project 180, Daniel has also completed Years 10 and 11 of his secondary schooling through the YOS education program. This program is run at YOS in partnership with St James College, Brisbane.

"My teacher, Sam, was the best, and different to any other teacher I've had," says Daniel.

"My youth workers, Ben and Mel, were just awesome and all the workers are just awesome.

"It wasn't like a school, it was like

a community. Everyone was learning together, everyone was struggling, most people wanted to learn and we were all in similar situations."

Daniel admits that although he hasn't always made an effort in the past, he is making a huge effort now.

"Working with kids made me appreciate life and realise I had to look after my health and do something with my life," he says.

"YOS encouraged me to believe I could do it."

Daniel has a message for other young people who are out there struggling: "If you put in the work you will get results, don't give up, things will work out."



Simone Worthing is a staff writer for Pipeline and supplements.

Empowering young people

The Salvation Army Youth Outreach Service (YOS) works with homeless and at-risk young people aged 12 to 20 across four sites around Brisbane – Caboolture, Fortitude Valley, Lawnton and Stafford.

The aim of the service is to empower young people to make changes in their lives and support them in a non-judgmental and compassionate way.

"We focus on giving the young people hope," says Louise, YOS Client Manager Coordinator.

"We build relationships and rapport in a non-confrontational way, giving young people emotional and practical support in a crisis, and offer case management where individual workers assist the youth identify and achieve their goals and deal with other issues they may be facing," adds Sherene Hicks, YOS Manager.

As well as case management, YOS offers a wide range of activities and services including: a drop-in centre with showers; laundry facilities; access to

food, computers and the internet; an Alternate Delivery Education program across all four sites where students can do Year 10 to 12 studies; an externally supported transitional accommodation program; an anger management program; a driver's education program; a street outreach program in the Brisbane North Region and a range of life skills and personal development activities.

For more information, visit salvos.org.au/youthoutreachservice/

GETTING TO THE HUB OF THE MATTER

Pipeline reporter **ESTHER PINN** gives an update on The Salvation Army Missional Hubs strategy and finds that the wheels are beginning to turn on the Australia Eastern Territory initiative

"We're off to a great start," is the united response from Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas and Greig Whittaker while talking about the six Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory missional hubs that have commenced their journey.

Northern Beaches, Queensland rural, Nepean (western Sydney), Lake Macquarie (Newcastle), Far North Queensland and northern Queensland are the six hubs that are currently being trialled throughout

"The hub is the idea of how we actually build the kingdom of God into the community we serve."

the territory, but the concept of hubs is starting to spread like wildfire says Greig, who is the Territorial Project and Development Coordinator. In fact, the initiative is believed to be the only one of its kind in The Salvation Army world.

"There are three pilots who need to start the [hub] journey and we have several other places already wanting to be part of the [hub] journey."

The hub strategy aims to connect all Salvation Army services from one area such as Aged Care, Salvo Stores, corps, Samaritan Services and so on and have them operating as one team instead of as silos.

The hope, says Greig, is to see Salvation Army services communicating more with each other and sharing both resources and clients to enable them to bring more fruitful results for the kingdom of God.

"The hub is not a thing," says Greig. "The hub is an idea. It's a delivery mechanism for holistic mission. The hub is the idea of how we actually build the kingdom of God into the community we serve."

Only six months into the journey, Lieut-Colonel Gluyas (Program Secretary) and Greig have already witnessed some positive changes happening within these six hub areas.

Firstly, they assert there has been a change with people's thought processes in the way they view their ability to complete ministry.

"There's a sense of 'we can' which is really positive. There's a move from the poor-man mentality into a sense of we can see the kingdom of God in us and in the communities we are called to serve. Together we can do better and we're seeing the evidence of that," explains Greig.

Secondly, Salvation Army services are moving out of isolation, from working as silos to completing ministry as a team.

"We're moving out of the lone-ranger space of isolation. People are not feeling isolated, starting to not feel overwhelmed," says Greig.

Lieut-Colonel Gluyas adds: "It's gone from, 'Oh no, one more thing to do', to 'Oh my goodness I've got all this support'."

Major Beth Twivey shares how one hub has seen this operate and completely changed the way mission is viewed.

"We're trying to really maximise the

contact we have with one another in the hub area, whether that be through phone calls or visits to one another, or through our new Facebook page.

"It's been everyone together and there has been a lot of crossover in encouraging each other in what we are doing."

And thirdly, there has been an increase in sharing of resources not only within the hub, but also from divisional and territorial headquarters.

"They are starting to see how well resourced we are, not only in the things we have but opportunities that exist," explains Greig. "So not only are we seeing greater resources when we come together but also greater missional opportunity."

While there have been positive stories coming out of the missional hubs, Greig believes there will be challenges ahead. Greig says they are still in the "honeymoon" phase and are planning ahead to combat challenges that may arise.

"We're entering into some places of uncertainty and while this is incredibly exciting, that does produce some challenges."

Over the next six to 12 months, Greig and his team will be forming strategic teams for each hub that will oversee the mission of their hub area. Greig says they are also looking towards networking with community stakeholders by conducting a research survey to find out the needs of each community.

And finally, the goal is to strategically implement The Salvation Army's missional DNA into every hub.

"So this means freedom through action, freedom through community and freedom through faith," says Greig.

Watch this space for updates about the developing hub mission.



Territorial Project and Development Coordinator Greig Whittaker says the Missional Hubs message is getting through.

Commissioner pays tribute to Rev Mallison

1929 – 2012



By SIMONE WORTHING

Reverend Dr John Mallison, the Christian educator, mentor and author who was promoted to glory on 29 March, aged 82, was a respected friend of The Salvation Army.

"John was a close friend of The Salvation Army and when I think of John Mallison, I think of the times when he was a guest lecturer at The School for Leadership Training at Stanmore – something he did over many years," reflected Commissioner James Condon, Territorial Commander.

"I well remember one course I attended where his words to me were straight from God and so applicable to me and my leadership at that time. I still remember what he said to this day.

"He was a great man of God."
Rev Mallison, who was born in Concord West, Sydney, on 15 May, 1929, had a wide-reaching impact and influence internationally and within Australia.

He specialised in assisting churches in establishing small-group ministry. His main areas of ministry were in training and leadership development, church growth and renewal.

Rev Mallison was also a prolific writer, with 23 books and numerous articles published. A number of these are

published in various languages. He was also a lecturer, consultant and trainer.

Rev Mallison focused on enabling Christian leaders to develop personally and spiritually, equipping them for service and helping them to finish well. A key aspect of this was mentoring, one of his great passions. "Mentoring is not an optional extra" is one of the key tenets of John Mallison Ministries.

For more than 45 years, Rev Mallison mentored Christian leaders, young and old, across all sections of the Church throughout Australia and in numerous countries overseas. For eight years he was also a key facilitator and National Director for Mentoring for the Australian Arrow Leadership program.

In 2003, The Australian Government awarded Rev Mallison with the Order of Australia medal for his services to the community. This included the founding and directing of the original Newcastle Youth Service and the Port Kembla Blue Nursing Service.

The Reverend held an honorary Doctorate of Theology from the Australian College of Theology for "a substantial contribution to theological learning and for a notable contribution to the life and work of the church".

He leaves behind his wife June, five children and nine grandchildren.

The Salvation Army's response

I was privileged to attend several of John's seminars at Stanmore. For me, these were life-changing experiences and I am so grateful for his influence on my life.

Lieutenant-Colonel Olive Lucas (Ret.)

I remember John's involvement with the early church growth movement in Australia. [He was] an inspiring man with a great heart for the kingdom of God, a dry sense of humour and grace-filled as well.

**Major Peter McGuigan
Corps Officer
Capricorn Region**

John made time for me to talk about resources for small groups when I was co-ordinating the role at Parramatta Corps ... a great Christian gentleman and encourager.

**Captain Mavis Salt
Director of Mission & Chaplain**

I first knew John when he was a young theology student from Leigh College and came to Woonona Church (Wollongong) as a regular on the Bulli Circuit Preaching plan. We young folk of the church looked forward to him coming and regarded him as friend. I remember John with fondness as a part of my "growing up" days and with respect for his service for the Lord.

Major Jill Whitehouse (Ret.)



UNLOCKING THE ARMY'S ARCHIVES
WITH MAJOR FRANK DURACHER

The General's crucifix

Despite being one of the world's leading Protestant organisations, The Salvation Army identifies with very few icons. Our Catholic friends, on the other hand, have several special icons that are a part of their faith. Probably the most universally recognised of these is the crucifix.

For that reason, you might be surprised to learn that there is a General in our history who proudly hung a crucifix in a prominent place above his desk for most of his career.

How General Clarence Wiseman came to cherish that religious item and its subsequent significance, well, that's where we will delve into the Army's archives.

Majors Clarence and Janet Wiseman served in several corps throughout their Canadian homeland. Most corps had little money; each had their challenges; all proved to be rewarding, as God's hand could be plainly seen in each appointment.

Their career gave them countless friends and associates through the years and one appointment in particular, in Newfoundland was no exception. St John's Temple Corps provided a treasure trove of victory and blessing.

Then, at the beginning of 1954, the Wisemans received orders to report to territorial headquarters in Toronto. Major Clarence was to become field secretary for the Canada and Bermuda Territory.

This new assignment meant a different direction in administrative appointments for the Wisemans, culminating at International Headquarters in London as the Army's 10th General.

As they prepared to farewell from St John's, those last few weeks were hectic, to say the least. Besides the usual packing, farewell meetings and final reports, the Wisemans faced the trauma of leaving their twin children, Doreen and Donald. Both were now grown and had decided to stay.

The night before their departure there was a heavy snowstorm. Major Clarence was out and Major Janet heard the doorbell ringing.

Who could possibly be calling in this weather? she wondered aloud.

When she opened the door, an elderly man stood bundled and shivering in the



General Clarence Wiseman waves to well-wishers at International Headquarters during his term as world leader of The Salvation Army between 1974 and 1977.

snow. He announced that his name was Peter O'Mara, a fellow Rotary member of Major Clarence.

Mr O'Mara had come to say goodbye and was disappointed that Major Clarence was not at home.

"Tell him I've been inspired time and time again by his addresses at the Rotary Club," Mr O'Mara said. "And I want to give to him one of my most precious possessions."

With that, he pulled out a small crucifix and handed it to Major Janet to deliver to her husband.

"It's my personal crucifix," he explained. "Please tell him that it will be a perpetual bond between us!"

Pulling up his coat collar, O'Mara disappeared into the howling blizzard.

General Clarence Wiseman would later write in his autobiography, *A Burning In My Bones*, "Since then we have lived in many parts of the world. In every place, that crucifix has occupied a position of honour over my desk, constantly reminding me not only of a faithful friend, but also of the Lord whom we both love – he in his way, and I in mine."

Both Peter O'Mara and General Clarence Wiseman are with their Lord now. Theirs was a special bond between two Christian brothers – a covenant sealed on a snowy night nearly 60 years ago. They shared a love for the Saviour who made that covenant possible.

Now you know why the one-time international leader of The Salvation Army proudly displayed a simple crucifix above his desk at 101 Queen Victoria St in London.

For two men, who would only meet again in heaven, this Catholic icon held even more meaning than usual.

So it's not hard to understand why General Clarence Wiseman regarded this gift with such esteem, 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



Gardening Australia

RATING: G
DISTRIBUTOR: ABC
RELEASE DATE: Saturday, 6:30pm

Gardening is a funny topic for Australians – depending on your age it can mean wildly different things. I remember when I was young it actually represented a punishment. Giving mum a hard time could earn you half an hour pulling up weeds in the veggie patch.

But these days the idea of escaping to the backyard for a bit of grubbing about in the garden is actually a pleasure. And it seems that programs like *Gardening Australia* are determined to grow that good feeling across the generations.

Gardening Australia is an icon in Australian television having commanded loyal audiences for 22 years. Most of that time hosts like Peter Cundall guided its content towards the more ... er ... mature viewer. However, the 23rd season is aiming to bring in a much younger harvest with the appointment of Costa Georgiadis as the new host, fresh from SBS's *Costa's Garden Odyssey*.

Costa arrives with his own "early days" gardening story. He unearthed his own love of green things in his grandfather's market garden and in time it grew into a degree in landscape gardening. "I was compelled to spend my life with my hands in the soil that became sacred to me," he explains in episode one. "I believe in gardening the soil and the soul."

Under Georgiadis, *Gardening Australia* will turn over a new leaf, paying more attention to sustainable growth and the world ecology we're all a part of. His four-minute introduction to the new series refers to the entire planet as a garden that has as much potential to shape us even as we shape it: "Gardens are sanctuaries that provide sustenance, beauty and tranquility ... gardens harmonise and heal us ... in gardens it's not only plants that grow, it's people."

He's not alone. Jane, a woman who's spent 50 years transforming her sandy-soiled lot into an oasis, shares how her



Costa Georgiadis brings his quirky outlook on gardening to ABC's *Gardening Australia*.

labours have benefited her as much as they've benefited the backyard – "It can be your gymnasium and your psychiatrist all rolled into one," she says.

Over coming weeks Costa will encourage viewers to take part in "The Verge", an experiment in transforming communities by transforming the little nature strips that border most lots.

The idea is to arrest the decline in community by creating organic bonds between our blocks.

In doing so he draws attention to a very Christian belief, that we were designed to live in relationship with the land, not simply on top of it.

Costa's almost religious fervour seems more likely to settle on a new crop of green gods – biodiversity, eco-awareness and sustainability to name a few – which

are not bad things in themselves, just poor substitutes for worship.

We can rest and retreat in a garden but it will continue to remain silent where the meaning of life is concerned. Yet Costa's basic premise is right: labouring in the garden can transform our perspective towards each other and the world around us.

Humanity's first job was to till the garden that God planted, a task that led to both a consideration of all the good things he'd made and our place amongst them. The backbreaking nature of the work and the weeds that infest our efforts can even point to what's gone wrong with the world.

In short, getting grubby with the kids provides plenty of opportunity for spiritual as well as organic growth.

The Avengers

RATING: M
DISTRIBUTOR: Disney
RELEASE DATE: April 25, 2012

The Avengers, that paragon of comic book history that has been soaring closer to the big screen since 1963 has finally arrived and cinemas are overflowing. But as you watch this team of champions beat down the box-office records it's worth considering what they think is the greatest threat facing humanity.

It would be hard to have missed Disney's steady build up towards the release of *The Avengers* given it's been going for close to five years. In 2008 Robert Downey Jnr landed in *Ironman*, followed by *Ironman 2* in 2010.

Chris Hemsworth gave us a new vision of the god of thunder in 2011 with *Thor*. And later that same year Chris Evans was recruited as *Captain America: The First Avenger*.

Now this team is assembled for the first time to fight an alien invasion from another dimension and viewers are entitled to ask, "How many super egos

can one film contain?" Considerably more, given Disney also managed to squeeze in the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo), Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner) and Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson).

What should occur is a mish-mash of storylines driven by slap-dash one-liners and smash-crash effects. However, the result is far more watchable than my cynicism allowed.

Joss Whedon, the creative genius behind diverse projects like *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Toy Story* and *Serenity* has managed to hold together what could easily have been a catastrophe of heroic proportions.

Whedon focuses on the human qualities that sit behind the various shades of skin and armour rather than their super skills and even manages to turn potential anachronisms like Captain America's nationalistic uniform into a badge for common values – Captain America: "[My] uniform? Aren't the stars and stripes just a little old fashioned?"

Agent Coulson: "With all the things that are about to happen, to come to light, I think people will be able to do with a

little 'old fashioned'."

By concentrating on a straight-forward storyline rather than special effects (of which there are plenty), Whedon also keeps a central question in front of the audiences' eyes: What is it that humans can't bear to live without?

According to the scriptwriters, it's our freedom. Loki, the Norse god turned villain forces a crowd to cower before him, telling them: "Is this not the birthright of humanity? You crave subjugation. In the end you will always kneel."

And quickly we're led to understand that the self-determination Adam and Eve stole in the Garden of Eden was actually their entitlement.

Loki is in fact the god no-one has asked for, and Ironman assures him, "There's no throne for you here." That's because we're all sitting on it.

The real God only gets a glancing mention as a quaint figure only the dated Captain America could acknowledge – SHIELD Agent: "I'd sit this one out captain. These guys come from legend. They're basically gods." Captain America: "There's only one god ma'am and I'm pretty sure he doesn't dress like that."

Overdressed he might be, but the false god Loki does reveal the one enemy the Avengers can't defeat – guilt.

When Black Widow is cajoled into saying why she fights against unbeatable odds, she confesses that she has, "It's really not that complicated. I've got red in my ledger and I want to wipe it out."

Loki might be wearing horns, but he's no fool. "Can you wipe out that much red by saving one man? This is the basest sentimentality. This is a child at prayer."

This is the key to understanding the conflict at the heart of what might otherwise pass as just another holiday blockbuster.

The Avengers stand for freedom but they also realise that the very things they do to attain it weigh heavily against them.

So they struggle on, not realising that it really is something as simple as a "child's prayer" that could set them free – so long as they begin by giving back to God the glory they've claimed for themselves.



Chris Hemsworth (*Thor*) and Chris Evans (*Captain America*) are two of the five superheroes who make up the star cast of *The Avengers*.

Grandson's death led San on journey of deeper trust

Losing a little grandson tested **Major SAN HOLLAND'S** faith to trust God with her family. She tells how she learned about "having everything and possessing nothing"

Four years ago, my husband Topher and I went to New Zealand for a conference, followed by a two-week holiday. Exciting, you think? Not for me. As soon as we arrived, I wanted to go home.

The house we were booked in to at The Salvation Army Training College brought back memories. It was similar to a house we had stayed in during a holiday in Queensland 16 months earlier. While at that holiday house, we received news that shattered our lives and changed us forever.

Our 21-month-old grandson Elijah had died.

Elijah had lived with us at our family home with his father Liam (our son), his mother Allison, and four-month-old brother Asher. Topher and I had gone on holiday to spend time with our daughter Giselle, who had just had her second child.

We knew that Elijah had health struggles and had been very sick as a baby. But he had been doing well. We were later to discover that Elijah had a genetic disorder. A little while after Elijah died, Asher was tested. We all prayed fervently that he would not have the same disorder. However, the tests proved positive and once again our lives were shattered.

So why was it so hard to be away in New Zealand? Liam and Allison with little Asher now lived down the road from us. I got to spend a lot of time with Asher. I thought that Asher needed me. Maybe I needed him.

How could I be sure that the same thing wouldn't happen to Asher as it did to Elijah while I was away?

On the third morning of the conference, I had to do devotions. I was using a song by Brian Doerkson - *To The River*. There is a line in the song that says: "Precious Jesus, I am ready to surrender every care". I realised that I was not ready to surrender every care. I was holding very tightly to what I thought at first was just Asher and my need to take care of him.

Sitting in the prayer room that morning, God spoke to me. He said: "San, I love Asher even more than you do". My response was: "Father, help me to trust you; help me to let go. How can I trust you when ... (Elijah died). Where were you?"

Also at about that time, I was reading AW Tozer's book *The Pursuit of God*. I was up to a chapter entitled "The Blessedness of Possessing Nothing". And, so started my journey of surrender (... to yield ownership; to relinquish control), as I allowed the Holy Spirit to very lovingly prise open my hands.

I was surprised to find that I was holding on to more than Asher. There was the rest of my family, the church, my ministry. I was holding them all so tightly, trying to keep them safe.

The next day, Liam called to say Asher was in hospital. He had had previous visits to hospital and some had been critical. Now, I was faced with a choice. Would I trust Jesus?

Again I heard the Lord's words: "San, I love Asher even more than you do." I felt this incredible sense of peace come over me. I messaged Liam that I believed Asher was going to be okay. Asher was home from hospital the next day. This was not normal.

It is hard to put everything on the altar. Abraham and his intended sacrifice of his son Isaac came to my mind. I tried to imagine what that would have been like.

How had Hannah felt when she took Samuel to the temple and left him there with Eli? She had made a promise that if God gave her a child she would give that child back to serve in the temple.

While at the New Zealand conference, I received prayer. Two people had a vision for me. One was of a bush bursting into blossom; the other was of me standing next to a tumble weed.

In front, was a long road with a white line down the centre and a bright light at the end. I had to choose whether to stay next to the tumble weed or move to the light. To move to the light meant to trust.

In the prayer room the next morning, I took a promise from a promise box. It was Matthew 4:19: "Follow me ... and I will make you fishers of men." The prayer on the back of the promise read: Thank you, dear Lord, for your precious light; keep my vision clear that I may travel on your lighted pathway.

On the Saturday, Major Barbara Sampson spoke about prayer, revealing a method she found helpful. It involved holding our hands out with palms facing down. That way, she said, we can't be holding on to anything. Then, we turn over our hands ready to receive. I call that a surrender

prayer. On the Monday morning as we drove to the airport, I noticed that all of the bushes were bursting into blossom. What a week!

Having everything and possessing nothing - Psalm 24:1-2: "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it ... the world and all its inhabitants (belong to the Lord)"; Colossians 1:16: "... everything was created by him and for him"; Psalm 89:11: "The heavens are yours and the earth is yours ... everything in the world is yours, you created it all".

What I am learning is that I can trust God with all that is precious to me ("San, I love Asher even more than you do"). I was not to realise at the time that in the following weeks God would take the church and my ministry which I loved so much and move us to another appointment.

My journey of surrender still continues, every day ... in everything. Asher is now four. Two days before I wrote this article, I waited for an ambulance to come as Asher lay unconscious after a high fever.

I hear the words: "San, I love Asher even more than you do" and I whisper the name Jesus into Asher's ear. ➤



Major San Holland is Corps Officer at Ryde, with husband Topher.

I heard the Lord's words: "San, I love Asher even more than you do."

Mission Priorities enliven growing Taree Corps

Corps and centres are increasingly embracing the Seven Mission Priorities in their regular programs. **Captain MELANIE-ANNE HOLLAND** reports on how Taree Corps is focusing on the priorities in its activities

Linus Pauling, a famous biochemist and dual Nobel Prize recipient, once said: "The best way to have a good idea is to have a lot of ideas".

The best way to explain what has happened at Taree Corps is to say that we have become driven by a spirit of adventure and willingness to try new things for the sake of people who don't know Jesus as their Saviour, yet.

In The Salvation Army, we use a phrase: "Doing whatever it takes". We, at Taree, are trying to put flesh and bones to that challenge. We are reaching out. That is our big, best idea. But to simply state it would be to gloss over opportunities grasped, risks embraced and initiatives taken under the Holy Spirit's tutelage. We are giving the mission priorities a work out!

Mission Priority 1: prayer and holiness

- Sunday morning prayer meeting at 8:45.
- Sunday morning holiness meeting at 9:30.
- A prayer team which has established three prayer networks in the corps.
- More than 30 people in the corps committed to praying for the corps officers and the corps leadership - every day.
- People encouraged to join small groups/Bible studies as part of their discipleship. The number of groups is growing.
- Special weekends of prayer and 24/7 prayer initiatives



Young people and leaders prepare for a corps swimming carnival at Taree.

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

scheduled into our corps calendar.

Mission Priority 2: everyone involved in evangelism

- We had Operation Andrew over a six-week period, teaching on the life of the disciple Andrew and the power of inviting others to adopt his "come and see" approach. Everyone was encouraged to consider whom they could invite.
- Every ministry of the corps has been encouraged to become more inclusive so people can "come and see".
- Through Pay it Forward - a program linking the community to assist people in need - many new people have become connected with the corps and are exploring Christian spirituality as they serve alongside Salvationists.

Mission Priority 3: corps healthy and multiplying

- In October 2011, we launched a second congregation on Sunday mornings at 11am. This is a family-friendly, relaxed, highly participatory environment, where whole families are encouraged to explore Christian faith. This has been successful, with new families coming to worship and people giving their lives to Jesus.
- We are investigating the opportunity to commence congregations and other ministries in various locations within the Manning Valley.

Mission Priority 4: equipped to serve the world

- As people minister, new training needs are being identified.
- We try to think wider than ourselves and share training opportunities with other local churches.
- Some examples of training include worship workshops, C4K (Caring for Kids), music tuition and mentoring in ministry.

Mission Priority 5: passionate about bringing children to Jesus

- God is bringing children into our congregation in so many ways: Kids Church, Junior Soldiers, Mini Muzos, First Steps Playtime, Community Care Ministries, Food bank, >>>

FREEDOM STORIES

Corps and centres are encouraged to send regular reports of changed lives to the Territorial Mission and Resources team under the heading Freedom Stories. Pipeline will pass on a selection of stories each month.

Carindale Corps:

An Iranian refugee couple came to us looking for welfare help. After some good discussions about Muslim and Christian faith, they started coming to our Sunday morning meetings. They said that when they were in a refugee camp in Darwin (after spending \$9000 each for a leaky boat ride from Indonesia) they attended a Baptist church where they learned about Jesus. We bought for each of them a Farsi/English New Testament from The Bible Society. They have accepted Jesus Christ as their God and are now part of our worshipping community. The corps family has embraced them in a wonderful way. – **David Terracini**

Auburn Corps:

At a youth summer camp, two teenage Muslim boys came up to me after the message and confessed that they wanted our Jesus. Both these boys found Jesus' freedom. Immediately after this encounter, they were praising Jesus, dancing – going crazy before God. What an EPIC Jesus we serve! – **Matt Gluyas**

Indigenous Community House, Sydney:

Our students invited friends from their school to come home for a barbecue and watch the Indigenous and NRL All Stars rugby league game. About 40 people were there. It was a great night. It stirred my heart to see a beautiful picture of reconciliation with a great bunch of northern beaches non-Indigenous kids sitting alongside of a group of rural Aboriginal kids enjoying life together. The Holy Spirit certainly was at work that night, with great faith conversations and people in awe of the Salvos having the audacity to believe that God can do the impossible in "closing the gap" on Indigenous disadvantage in Australia. – **Adrian Kistan**

Lismore:

A 16-year-old girl was planning to leave home and join a cult. Instead, she found her way to the local Salvation Army. We found her sleeping on the doorstep. Unable to return home and unwilling to take the plunge toward the cult, she spent the next 10 days being cared for and ministered to by local Salvos. By the power of Jesus, she has been rescued. She still has quite a journey ahead toward complete freedom – but she has made a huge step away from complete slavery. Praise God! – **Jennifer Reeves**

Still Waters:

One of the ladies from Still Waters asked Jesus into her life and found freedom – not only from sin, but from a life spent using tarot cards, angel cards and other forms of witchcraft. I spoke to her next morning. She was beaming and said it was the first time in years that she felt free from evil influences. She proudly told me how she was reading the Bible we gave her and how much peace it had given her. – **Robyn Collins**

Territorial Recovery Ministries:

In January, the bells rang 47 times as our people found freedom in Jesus. – **David Pullen**

Aged Care Plus:

We had three conversions and 123 recommitments in January. God is good! – **Beatrice Kay**



Children and parents follow Captain Roscoe Holland's lead at a corps Mini Muzos session.

11am worship, friendships and evangelism. "Come and See" has been powerfully at work here.

- Children's lives are being changed and the parents are noticing the difference.
- Kids love coming to The Salvation Army and are eagerly bringing their friends to also meet Jesus.
- The whole corps is encouraged to be welcoming and considerate towards families and children.

Mission Priority 6: youth mobilised for mission

- God has grown our youth group and people are getting saved.
- The young people in our youth group are regularly involved in ministering through Kids Church and 11 am congregation.
- Both our Youth Group and Junior Soldiers are developing ways that they can be involved in mission locally and in service to other congregations.

Mission Priority 7: more soldiers and officers

- Over the past year, Taree Corps has joyfully released three senior soldiers into full-time ministry in The Salvation Army. Envoys Gordon and Lyn Jones are the rural chaplains based at Longreach, and Cadet Andrew Darcy Jones commenced at the Officer Training College this year.
- We have re-enrolled one soldier in the past year and have a new group of people eager to explore covenant and ministry in The Salvation Army over the coming months.

Please understand that we do not have it made. What we have learned is that obedience and mission can be messy. Innovation and availability invite situations for which there are no manuals.

We are inadequate and overwhelmed on a regular basis. But Jesus is using our weakness to project his light in dark and pressing circumstances. People are being saved and God is building his church.

Perhaps Jeremiah describes it best: "From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sounds of rejoicing. I will add to their number, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honour and they will not be disdained. Their children will be as in the days of old, And their community will be established before me" [says the Lord] (Jeremiah 30:19,20a). ↗



Captain Melanie-Anne Holland is Corps Officer at Taree, with her husband Roscoe.

my Salvos



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What's coming up on mySalvos this month

- **Foundations:** Especially for small groups, the Foundations series brings superb teaching from Salvation Army teachers around the globe. Short

videos, combined with study guidelines, make for enthralling groups. The first series of 10 sessions, Conversations on Prayer, is sure to enrich and expand your prayer life.

- **Cultivating a multicultural corps:** From missional teacher Major Bruce, Domrow, this two-part

article will offer tips for anyone who is interested in creating an atmosphere ripe for multiculturalism in their corps.

- **LeaderSpeak:** With new episodes every Wednesday, this weekly video series brings inspiring teaching from our territory's leadership.

Brisbane City take musical encouragement across the Tasman

The Brisbane City Temple Band and Timbrels travelled to New Zealand to share their ministry of music from 30 March to 9 April.

The mission of the 41-strong contingent was to bring encouragement and uplift through the ministry of music.

"We offered our gifts to the Lord and asked him to bless and use us for Kingdom purposes," said Paul Parkinson, the Corps Sergeant Major.

During the 10-day "Tour of Encouragement", the group visited five major centres – Christchurch, Timaru, Wellington, Napier and Palmerston North.

"We saw many vacant blocks in Christchurch, particularly in the city centre," said Paul.

"Large numbers of buildings were in the process of 'deconstruction', and many more marked for removal or extensive modification. A city once very beautiful is now only a shadow of its former self."

The band and timbrel brigade focused on outreach opportunities and concerts in all locations, playing wherever crowds gathered.

"Sometimes we marched to the location at the request of the local corps leaders," said Paul. "Many, including children had opportunities to interact with the group, including school children at Grantlea Downs School in Timaru, where brass banding is a big focus."

Major Earle Ivers, Brisbane City Temple Corps Officer, also led a series of Easter meetings in Napier and Palmerston North Corps. Night concerts were popular and included drama and the presentation *Best Day Ever*.

Paul described the unforgettable moment when the hauntingly graphic presentation of the earthquake damage in Christchurch and the extensive flooding in Brisbane was shown.

"These are sister cities, almost, who both experienced protracted periods of calamity and disaster," he said.

"The band played with great feeling and sensitivity Dean Goffin's arrangement of Edward Elgar's *Nimrod*, during the presentation and at the end, there was complete silence."

Positive response

The New Zealand corps were supportive, generous and encouraging to the band and timbrels during the tour.

"Everyone understood the reasons why we were on tour," explained Paul. "Nothing was too much trouble."

The concerts also made a deep impact on those who attended.

"The music, the story, the whole focus of what these people



Ron and Cheryl MacDonald at New Brighton beach, Christchurch.

are trying to do has changed my outlook – there is hope and a future," said one long-time resident of Christchurch who came to connect again with the Army.

"I don't go the Army anymore, but tonight, especially the music has made a huge impression on me," was a comment from Timaru.

On Good Friday, in Napier, a listener said, "The service and the music of the band was exceptional, it moved me. I need to come back to Napier."

And from Palmerston North: "I have listened to brass bands and Army music all my life, but this band played differently. It was though they meant what they were playing. I found myself a bit teary."

The band and timbrel members are confident that God blessed their visit. "We had daily devotions to set the scene for us all and to ask for God to do with us what he willed," said Paul.

"We know lives were touched, people were blessed, and commitments were made to Christ. We saw clear evidence of his work and his leading.

"The real impact and end result of the tour will never be really known – we leave that in God's hands."

Members of the Brisbane City Temple Band and Timbrels believe they, too, were uplifted through the people they met, and are encouraging everyone to pray for the people of New Zealand, particularly those in Christchurch.

"They have a long road to travel back to some level of real normality, but are boldly trusting God for the future," said Paul.

"May God continue to bless, uplift and encourage them."



Bandmaster Stuart Lang conducts at the New Brighton outreach.



Timbrellists attract a crowd at the street outreach in Christchurch.

Surfest raises funds for Aged Care Plus centre

Residents at The Salvation Army's Carpenter Court Aged Care Plus Centre in Newcastle have been given a new lease on life with the donation of exercise equipment from the 2012 Newcastle Surfest.

Impact AV Australia and Merewether Surf House, in conjunction with Surfest, hosted a fundraising evening for Carpenter Court, which is situated right on the beach at Merewether, in March. Impact AV Australia and Maitland Toyota were the major supporters for the evening, which raised \$3940.

Guest speakers on the night included director of the film *Fighting Fear*, Macario De Souza, along with surfers Richard (Vas) Vaculik and three-time Oakley big-wave champion Mark Mathews.

"Impact AV and Surfest wanted to give something directly back to the community and we are excited to be able to involve the elderly living on the beach with the youth of Surfest," said Kath Creel, of Impact AV Australia.

Carpenter Court Centre Manager, Tracey-Lee Garratt, said: "It was great to be part of the night and involved in the beach community. The money raised by Impact AV, Surfest and Maitland Toyota will go directly to providing gym equipment for our residents such as an exercise bike and a balance board."



(From left) Richard Vaculik, Tracey-Lee Garratt, Macario De Souza, Major Margaret Millington and Mark Mathews at the Surfest fundraiser for Carpenter Court.

Maroochydore honours valuable volunteers



There was much fellowship to enjoy at the luncheon which followed the Family Store and Community Volunteer Appreciation service at Maroochydore.

Maroochydore Corps held its annual Family Store and Community Volunteer Appreciation service followed by a fellowship lunch on Sunday, 18 March.

"This year the invitation was extended to the local Employment Plus office and our local public relations department, continuing the developing relationship between our Corps and other Salvation Army services in line with theme of 'One Army, One Mission, One Message'," said Corps Officer Lieutenant Ashley Barkmeyer.

"What makes this lunch so significant this year was that two years previous when this lunch was first started, Wally Ellis (from our family store) and his wife Marge came along for the first time and have since both been sworn in as senior soldiers just a week before this year's lunch.

"We are so blessed to have such strong community support here in Maroochydore." (See Enrolments, page 39)

Let's talk recognition in reconciliation week

Each year, National Reconciliation Week is held from 27 May to 3 June to celebrate the rich culture and history of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

This week is promoted by Reconciliation Australia, an independent, not-for-profit organisation that encourages reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

This year's theme is "Let's Talk Recognition" with a particular focus on the constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

National Reconciliation Week has its origins in two

significant dates: the 1967 referendum and the 1992 Mabo land rights decision. Sunday, 27 May, marks the anniversary of one of Australia's most memorable referendums where the public voted in 1967 to have the clauses removed from the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Indigenous people.

The Mabo land rights decision on 3 June, 1992, recognises the Native Title rights of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the original inhabitants of Australia and overturned the myth of terra nullius – the belief that Australia did not have an owner prior to the arrival of Europeans in 1788. This year is also the 20th anniversary of the Mabo decision.

Recognition Australia is urging community groups, schools, churches and other organisation to host discussion forums, Indigenous cultural festivals and walks to create awareness about the history and culture of Indigenous Australians.

For more information on National Reconciliation Week or if you would like to host an event, visit www.reconciliation.org.au

Community garden springs up at Waterloo

Partnering with the Sydney City Council and TAFE Outreach, The Salvation Army Samaritan Services launched a community garden at the Army's Waterloo Community Centre on 30 March.

The Salvation Army's Director of Samaritan Services, Major Raewyn Grigg, officially launched the garden with the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon.

"Isn't this great?" said Major Grigg. "I want to say thanks to the city council for their support."

Sydney City Council SAVE (Sustainable Action Values Everyone) initiative representatives, Megan Chatterton, Sophie Golding and Nikki Carey attended the launch.

The community garden at Waterloo is part of the Sydney City Council's "Green Village" program, which is one arm of the SAVE initiative and this garden will be used for educational purposes within the community.



Major Raewyn Grigg cuts the ribbon to officially open the Salvation Army's community garden at Waterloo in Sydney.

"SAVE is about creating green space for people. So they [SAVE] have funding to make gardens [in Sydney] and we were lucky enough to be accepted as one of their projects," said Lauren Mason, Life Skills Coordinator for Samaritan Services.

TAFE Outreach are also running education courses as part of their support to the Waterloo Community Centre including introduction to gardening and carpentry courses for the local community to learn how to take care of a garden. A few people from The Salvation Army Foster House and Waterloo Community Centre have already completed the courses.

Major Grigg also announced at the launch that they would be running a garden club at the Waterloo centre.

"We want you to come in and join us and share in the beauty. We will also be running excursions to visit other gardens," she said.

A number of regular Waterloo Community Centre visitors attended the launch, showing their support for the new community garden.



Officials and guests at the launch – (From left to right top row): Peter Watson (Waterloo Community Centre Manager), Joanne Kirkpatrick, Sophie Golding, Lauren Mason, Lieut-Colonel Colin Haggart; (Second row): Lieutenant Craig Sutfon, Major Raewyn Grigg, Megan Chatterton, Niki Carey.

Salvos now offer lattes by the lake



Salv's by the Lake manager, Richard Stark, left, Kate Holland and Major Gavin Watts, Divisional Commander, Newcastle & Central New South Wales Division. Photo by Peter Stoop. Reproduced with permission of The Newcastle Herald

Hundreds turned out for the grand opening of a new Salvation Army cafe, Salv's by the Lake, at Speer's Point in Lake Macquarie in late March.

Salv's by the Lake manager, Richard Stark, says the cafe will have a family focus, which was shown on the day with balloons, face painting, and activities for the whole family.

"The aim is to give friendly service at an affordable price," he said. "And all profits made through the cafe will go towards helping fund local Salvation Army services in the community."

Divisional Secretary Major Warren Parkinson says the cafe presents an opportunity to connect with the community in a new way.

"It also allows us to raise money for local community programs, as well as provide employment opportunities," he said.

The cafe is located in the Lake Macquarie Variety Playground, the largest playground in Australia. It will be open seven days a week, from 8.30am-4pm Monday to Friday, and 8am-5pm Saturday and Sunday.

Special guests on the day included the Lake Macquarie Mayor, Councillor Greg Piper, and Newcastle and Central NSW Divisional Commander Gavin Watts.

Retiring Hutleys honoured for their faithful service

"On behalf of all the leaders under whom you have served, I thank God for your faithful, dedicated service," said Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, who officiated at the retirement service for Majors Bill and Judy Hutley on 18 March at Nambour Corps.

"You have finished well and a new chapter of life opens up before you – enjoy it!"

"I know you will continue to offer yourselves in faithful service to the Lord in retirement."

The corps' hall was full as family, friends and fellow officers came from near and far to pay tribute to the couple as they retired.

Throughout their varied and fruitful ministry, the Hutleys have served across the territory in corps appointments, Aged Care, public relations, planned giving and Community Care Ministries. During their active officership they rejoiced to see people come to the Lord and have their lives transformed.

Commissioner Condon who, with his wife, Commissioner Jan Condon, were commissioned with Major Bill Hutley in 1972 with the Victorious session of officers, also spoke about the extra skills and training the Hutleys had achieved during their service as they focused on enhancing their ministry.

Major Bill Hutley, a qualified electrician, also holds a Bachelor of Administrative Leadership. Major Judy Hutley, who was commissioned in 1971 with the Undaunted session, completed a Certificate in Pastoral Counselling as well as courses in conflict resolution, mediation and facilitation.

During his testimony, Major Bill Hutley praised God for his faithfulness. He acknowledged that his Christian journey had not only brought many challenges, but also much learning and joy.

"For both Judy and myself, the highlights of our ministry would have to be the joy of seeing someone come to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, and seeing people grow in their spiritual lives," he said.

In her testimony, Major Judy Hutley acknowledged her godly parents and their faithful prayers over the years. She particularly thanked her 96-year-old mother for "making nine uniforms in two weeks, writing letters and, then later when writing got too much, for the phone calls we shared".

Major Bill Hutley concluded, "Today we praise God for his goodness and faithfulness".

During their retirement the Hutleys look forward to spending more time with their family and enjoying leisure interests.



Commissioner James Condon presents Majors Bill and Judy Hutley with their certificates of retirement at Nambour Corps.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Townsville tornado recovery

On March 20, violent winds forged a path of destruction through a local business district and surrounding residential area in Townsville, destroying 10 houses and damaging 107 others to various degrees. The Salvation Army Emergency Services (SAES) teams were quickly at the scene, providing meals to emergency services personnel and shocked residents, many of whom were evacuated for up to 48 hours.

Salvation Army volunteers also provided meals and a listening ear at the Tornado Recovery Centre, set up to assist victims of the disaster in accessing emergency compensation payments.

Café opens in new location

The Olive Branch Café recently opened in its new location at Hamilton (Newcastle). Around 40 people attended the opening, including Lady Mayoress Cathy Tate and members of The Salvation Army Advisory Board.

Students and staff served an outstanding two course meal to the guests.

Major Warren Parkinson, representing Newcastle & Central NSW Divisional Commander, Major Gavin Watts, addressed the media. He explained that 80 students a year gain their Certificate II in Hospitality through the Café and that The Salvation Army has a very high success rate of young people gaining employment once they complete the course.

Port Kembla Harmony Day

On March 21, the Port Kembla Mission – Dark Places program – hosted a typical South African "Boerewors braai" (sausage sizzle) for members of The Big Issue – Street Soccer in Wollongong.

Around 20 young people attended the event, representing at least seven different nationalities and cultures including Irish, Chileans, South Africans and Australians.

After the first half of the soccer, Naomi Cox, Health Promotion Officer from the Healthy Cities Illawarra Unit, spoke to the youth about healthy sex. At the conclusion of the soccer, the youth enjoyed the barbecue.

"This event was hugely appreciated with three hurrahs for the Salvos and text messages of appreciation the next day," said Gert Feldtmann, Youth Outreach coordinator for the Illawarra area.

The Dark Places program is a Salvation Army outreach program focusing on youth at risk.

Power of prayer helps Amy soldier on Cowra Corps

When Major Julie Alley enrolled Amy Carr as a senior soldier in the Cowra Corps earlier this year, it was both the completion of a journey of prayer by many people as well as the beginning of a new journey for Amy.

"It was a huge privilege to enrol Amy," said Major Alley, Divisional Mission and Resource Director – Corps, ACT & South NSW Division.

"I had met Amy many years ago when her dad was very ill with cancer. Her mum, Heather Carr, was attending the Narellan Corps patchwork group. We helped her make a quilt for her husband, David, who was in the Camden Palliative Care unit. Heather gave the quilt to him the night before he passed away – Father's Day 2006."

Not long afterwards, Major Alley and her husband, Major Kelvin Alley, left to go to Papua New Guinea.

In the meantime, just after David's death, then-Cadet Alice Folan-Foley from the Witnesses for Christ session (2007-8), was doing her out-training at the nearby Campbelltown Corps. She heard about the Carr family – Heather, Amy and her two sisters – and was praying for them.

In her second year of training, Cadet Folan-Foley visited Narellan Corps when Heather Carr was very sick with what would also be diagnosed as cancer.

"I told my then fellow cadet, Kim Gorringer, about the family and that we needed to pray for them," said Lieutenant Folan-Foley. "Kim agreed to pray faithfully for Heather and the girls."

Tragically, Heather also passed away from cancer at the end of 2008. Amy and her sisters went to live with an aunt.

"God was at work though, in the connections he was making for Amy as people prayed for the family," said now-Lieutenant Gorringer, Cowra Corps Officer.

Back in PNG, Major Alley was watching a Sunday night television show and saw a story on a family of young girls who had lost both parents to cancer and had to go and live with their aunt. "You can imagine the shock when I heard the family name of Carr and realised that lovely Heather had passed away from cancer as well," she said.

Fast forward to 2010 at Cowra Corps. Amy was now studying with the Cornerstone Community in Canowindra and attending the Cowra Corps. "On my first visit there, I was introduced (again) to Amy and it was so exciting to hear that she was studying with Cornerstone," said Major Alley.

Lieutenant Gorringer, with her husband Lieutenant Stephen Gorringer, was appointed to Cowra in 2011.

"You can imagine our surprise when Lieutenant Alice and I realised, at the February 2011 Women's Bible Camp, that the young girl we had been praying for in college was Amy, who was now attending Cowra Corps," said Lieutenant Gorringer.

"I was delighted to reconnect with Amy. I told her how I'd been praying for her over the years and how amazing it was to see the power of prayer – how God had worked in her life and here she was, answered prayer, rising up to be a woman of God."

Lieutenant Folan-Foley confirmed this. "We along with many others had continued to pray for Amy, for what she was doing in her life, and that she would become a soldier, and it's happened," she said.

Amy had wanted to become a senior soldier for many years. "I'd been talking to my corps officer in 2010, Captain Louise Nicholson, about it and did some soldiership classes, but didn't finish them at the time," she said. "I did the soldiership Bootcamp which was hosted by Cowra Corps in 2011. Then I finished the classes with Kim and Stephen."

"It was really special to have Major Julie enrol me and I am looking forward to what God has ahead for me next."

For Amy, looking back, the care, love and discipleship of the Narellan and Cowra Corps, William Carey Christian school and Cornerstone, is something she thanks God for.

"The Narellan Corps looked after my family, people like Brenda Sedgwick and so many others who prayed for my family, prepared meals, did what they could," said Amy.

"I will always remember what they did."



Major Julie Alley with Amy Carr, proudly displaying her Soldier's Covenant certificate after the enrolment.



(From left) Lieutenants Kim and Stephen Gorringer, Major Julie Alley, Amy Carr and Dot and Les Pfeffer from Cornerstone Canowindra campus enjoy a special moment after Amy's enrolment at Cowra Corps.

Dubbo Corps

Dubbo Corps Officers Majors Colin and Kate Young enrolled 11 junior soldiers in early March.

On Sunday, 4 March, Major Colin Young enrolled nine of the junior soldiers – Emily Austin, James Austin, Clayton Phillips, Alex Moy, Hayley Moy, Kathryn Moy, Amy Young, Caitlin Young and Molly Young. Caitlin Young read the Junior Soldier's Promise during the ceremony.

On Friday, 10 March, Major Kate Young enrolled Daniel and Jonathon Parker during a special Sagala night gathering. "The children stepped up from one group to another, and all the children received the badges they had worked so hard for," said Major Young.

"It's been an exciting few months at Dubbo as we have people doing soldiership classes, junior soldier preparation classes, and have also restarted corps cadets."



From left to right, back row: Hayley Moy, Caitlin Young, James Austin, Clayton Phillips and Alex Moy. Front row: Emily Austin, Kathryn Moy, Amy Young, Molly Young.

Maroochydore Corps

Maroochydore Corps Officer Lieutenant Bronwyn Barkmeyer enrolled Wally and Marge Ellis as senior soldiers of The Salvation Army on Sunday, 11 March.

Wally had known about The Salvation Army growing up and, two years ago, he began volunteering at the Family Store. Not long afterwards, he and his wife Marge were invited to and attended the inaugural annual Family Store & Volunteer Appreciation service and the fellowship lunch that followed.

Since that day, Wally and Marge have been actively involved in the corps and its ministries.

"They help out with our weekly street ministry, they volunteer at the church and want to be more involved in the corps, and are hungry to know more about God and The Salvation Army," said Lieutenant Ashley Barkmeyer, Corps Officer.

"After they completed soldiership classes, Marge told me that 'she should've done this a long time ago!'"



Lieutenant Bronwyn Barkmeyer enrolled Marge and Wally Ellis as senior soldiers as Colour Sergeant Mary Murray, holds the flag.

Lockyer Valley Corps

Seven-year-old Laidley youngster Matthew McNeish has been enrolled as a Salvation Army junior soldier of the Lockyer Valley Corps.

Corps officer Major Marie Gittins, in stating that young people were precious, said, "We now live in a world where social and moral standards are different to what we knew in earlier times. As Matthew takes the pledge, I want to thank all corps members for what they do for our young people."

Major Gittins said the junior soldier course involved a five-week preparation class and included award levels from bronze, silver, gold and crest.

"Being a junior soldier is one of many ways of giving the children a role within the corps and is also considered a step towards their becoming senior members of the corps," she said.



Matthew McNeish with Major Marie Gittins following his induction as a junior soldier. Photo: Jim Nicholls.

Goulburn Corps

Evelyn Hughes, who is a resident at Gill Waminda Aged Care in Goulburn, has attended The Salvation Army for many years. Before moving to Goulburn, Evelyn was a soldier at another corps, but, as sometimes happens in this imperfect world, the records of her soldiership went astray.

This ruled out a simple transfer as a soldier to Goulburn Corps, but Evelyn – encouraged by staff at Gill Waminda and Goulburn corps officers – was very happy to go through a soldiership refresher class with Major Kaye Townsend so that she could be re-enrolled as a soldier.

With the refresher class completed, Evelyn's re-enrolment was held on 25 March, when Evelyn was pleased to be able to re-state her commitment to God and The Salvation Army by re-signing the Articles of War. Friends and staff from Gill Waminda attended the re-enrolment as a show of support.



Watched by Major Kaye Townsend, and with Barry Dobing holding the flag, Evelyn Hughes re-signs her Soldier's Covenant.

General reveals Welsh links during visit to Land of Song



The General enjoys a musical moment with the Williamstown Babysong group. Photos: Major Nigel Collins



The General prays as seekers kneel at the mercy seat.

By Major DAVID EMERY

'Songs of praises', as featured in the great Welsh hymn *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*, resounded throughout the visit to Wales by General Linda Bond.

Cwm Rhondda is the name of the tune most commonly associated with the hymn, so it was fitting that the Saturday Showcase – the first event in the General's visit to the South and Mid Wales Division of The Salvation Army's United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland – was held in Penygraig, in the Rhondda Valley (*Cwm Rhondda* in Welsh).

This showcase featured 18 different expressions of divisional ministry, including the Williamstown Babysong group. The General showed great interest as she mingled with participants and visitors.

The event concluded with a *Gymanfa Ganu* (singing festival) in which Salvationists treated the General to a feast of traditional Welsh hymn-singing in both English and Welsh.

The General revealed a special connection to Wales. She told members of the capacity congregations: "I'm a coal miner's daughter. I also feel a strong link to the Welsh Revival of 1904. It continues to inspire me."

During Sunday meetings at the Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot, the General spoke about her conviction to share the Word of God and challenged everyone to meet with God and to allow him to meet with them.

Music sections from Risca, Pentre, Swansea and Morriston all contributed to the preparation for hearing God's voice through his Word.

Personal testimony from Sarah Halfpenny (Morriston) enlightened the congregation about the Army's work in Sri Lanka and the privilege she feels to be a part of an international movement.

Steve Evans (Pentre) shared how his long burden of ill-health and the miracle of kidney transplants made God's gift of a new life even more poignant.

Salvationists were challenged to experience holiness and transformation and to commit themselves wholeheartedly into God's hands. In a time of divine communion, seekers claimed God's grace.

The experience of a Spirit-filled weekend was sealed by the General personally greeting every congregation member as they left the building.

Doctrine Council welcomes three new faces



Members of The Salvation Army Doctrine Council who gathered in London last month.

Three new members were introduced to The Salvation Army International Doctrine Council at its March 2012 meeting, held at the International College for Officers and Centre for Spiritual Life Development, London.

Major Danielle Cesar (France and Belgium Territory), Captain Amy Reardon (USA National) and Dr James Read (Canada and Bermuda Territory) each bring distinctive gifts and expertise which will enrich and expand the deliberations of the council.

Major Cesar, an experienced corps officer, brings a knowledge of the ways in which theology impacts upon the practical realities of ministry; Dr Read, Director of the

Salvation Army Ethics Centre in Winnipeg, is an ethicist whose work is concerned with the connection between belief and behaviour; and Captain Reardon is a writer with a gift for communicating theological truth and relating it Christian living.

Discussions and debate at the meeting centred upon the instigation, continuation and revision of a number of writing projects and planning for events.

The Salvation Army's involvement in ecumenical events was also considered, particularly the contribution of the Korea Territory to the planning for the 10th Assembly of the World Council of Churches in the Republic of Korea, in 2013.

Dogs help tornado victims deal with stress

The Salvation Army is finding unusual ways to help people whose homes and livelihoods were destroyed by tornadoes in southern Indiana, USA, in late February and early March.

Animal-assisted therapy teams from the organisation HOPE Animal-Assisted Crisis Response (AACR) has visited residents in the tornado-stricken areas, in partnership with The Salvation Army.

Since HOPE AACR was founded in 2001 it has grown to have more than 100 certified crisis response teams in five regions that cover 34 states. Members of HOPE have responded to all manner of crises, including major hurricanes, wildfires, train derailments and school shootings.

Gayle Sprinkle with her dog Charlie, and Deirdre Stanon with Brie, assisted Captain Cynthia Shiels of The Salvation Army in bringing smiles and joy to tornado survivors.

"It's amazing to see," says Captain Shiels. "People come up to the dogs and give them a hug. You can see their stress start to go down and they just light up. Pretty soon they're opening up about their experience and their needs."

In addition to the successful animal therapy teamwork, The Salvation Army continues to assist families of tornado recovery. In the first two weeks after the disaster, more than 10,000 meals had been served.

In Borden, more than 40 families received emergency financial assistance and financial assistance distribution has also begun in Henryville.



Brie and Charlie bring smiles from survivors of tornados which tore through America's midwest. Photo: Michael Rowland

International website revamped and relaunched

The Salvation Army's international website has been revamped and relaunched on a totally updated platform. With a more contemporary design and easier-to-find content, www.salvationarmy.org gives Salvationists and friends an even better overview of The Salvation Army's work and ministry around the world. The bright, user-friendly look is backed up by improved search facilities and an intuitive navigation system which makes it easy for users to get straight to the information they need.

The new website – constructed over many months in a collaboration between the International Headquarters (IHQ) Communications and IT Sections – includes easy access to The Salvation Army's growing social media presence, enhanced with content from Flickr, Twitter, Google Maps, TimeRime (an interactive, historical timeline) and Issuu (online versions of All the World and Revive magazines). It also includes material from

Words of Life, updated weekly.

David Giles, the IHQ webmaster, reveals that the first users of the relaunched website give a good demonstration of its worldwide reach. "The first people to come onto the site were from the USA and the United Kingdom. The next three were from Guyana, Zimbabwe and Kenya. Within two hours of its launch the new site had received visitors from 57 countries!"

Lieutenant-Colonel Laurie Robertson (Communications Secretary, Editor-in-Chief and Literary Secretary, IHQ) will ensure that the new website gets even better with time, as new features and facilities are incorporated. "This is not the end but only the beginning," he says. "My prayer is that the website will always be a catalyst for multitudes of people to receive the saving grace of Jesus. It will offer uplift and inspiration to Salvationists as well as providing relevant, helpful resources and information."

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Man of God

Edward (Ted) Thornton was promoted to glory on 2 December, 2011, aged 83. A committal service was conducted by Captain Clayton Spence at the Woronora Crematorium, followed by a thanksgiving service at Rockdale Corps.

A corps tribute was given by Major Peter Lucas, and a friend's tribute by Mark Shepherd, who spoke of Ted's influence upon his own life.

Grand-daughter Phoebe Martin read Psalm 121, which was Ted's favourite, while Ted's daughter Kerrie Anglin paid tribute on behalf of the family.

Ted's favourite songs were sung – *O Boundless Salvation*, *My Jesus I Love Thee* and *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (sung by Susan Petterson).

Captain Spence spoke on 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, focusing on the eternal hope that we all have in Christ. Ted was given as an example of focusing on eternal things, not temporary things.

Ted was born in Nubeena, Tasmania. The family lived on a small farm where Ted spent many hours fishing and farming. At 12, Ted gave his heart to the Lord. When he told his cousins, they laughed, saying "It won't last! You will be like the rest of us." He proved them wrong, preaching his first sermon at just 14!

After leaving school, Ted worked on several farms and orchards. At the end of the apple season in 1950, Ted and two friends decided to move to the mainland to work for six months. Whilst working in Nowra, he was introduced to The Salvation Army through an open-air meeting. Soon after he was enrolled as a senior soldier at the Nowra Corps.

On a trip to Sydney Ted met Lorraine, their relationship grew and on 28 November, 1953, they were married at Rockdale Corps. They were blessed with 58 years of marriage.

They have two daughters, Kerrie and Sharon, and two grand-daughters, Phoebe and Txai.

Ted served for 15 years as YPSM and as assistant CSM. He loved singing and was a songster for many years.

In retirement, Ted taught Scripture and ministered in nursing homes as well. He never missed an opportunity to witness for his Lord.

Ted's favourite verse was Romans 15:13 – "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Faithful soldier

Major Allan Armstrong was promoted to glory on 27 December, 2011, aged 81. Family and friends gathered at the Dee Why Citadel to attend the thanksgiving service for the life of Allan. The service was conducted by Majors Bruce and Lillian Hodges, a service prepared by Allan himself.

After the opening song Guide Me, Oh Thou Great Jehovah, Major John McGuigan (brother-in-law) prayed, followed by family tributes given by Adele Armstrong (daughter), Joel Worsley (grandson) and Major Max Clanfield (brother-in-law). Doug Everett represented Dee Why Corps gave tribute to the life and godly influence of Allan and appreciation for his generous support of the corps. Commissioner James Condon's tribute was read by Major Lillian Hodges, followed by a vocal solo *In The Love Of Jesus* by Carolynn Everett. The Bible message was given by Major Bruce Hodges.

Major Allan Armstrong was born to George and Alma Armstrong on 7 January, 1931, at Frankston, Victoria. Allan's early memories were of difficult times during the Depression; of moving with the family from Victoria to Queensland, following jobs in orchards and vineyards, until the commencement of the Second World War, when the family moved to Brisbane to be near their serviceman father. Here Allan became a qualified tradesman.

Renewing links with The Salvation Army at Paddington Corps in Queensland, Allan was made a junior soldier, eventually becoming a senior soldier in 1951. He also became a bandsman at that time. The call to officership followed and Allan became a Cadet in the *Intercessors Session* in 1952.

His first appointment was to Ingham in North Queensland as Pro Lieutenant. Many appointments followed, both as a single and married officer, after his wedding to Captain Elva Clanfield in Rockhampton in 1956.

Some married appointments included Umina, Barraba, Mitchelton, Kalbar and Grafton, over a period of 25 years. He was then appointed to the Red Shield Military Services, where he served at Holsworthy, Enoggera and Townsville for 10 years, then finally at Singleton for five years.

A change of work saw the Armstrongs at Bethesada in Rockhampton until they decided to live at Trigg Village in Collaroy, where friends and support was never far away. Allan's craft skills were of benefit

to many, and he had a love of music and reading. His quiet sense of humour and fun helped brighten many a day. Service to others was his aim in life. He is survived by his wife Elva, children Kevin, Adele and Glenda, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Well done good and faithful servant.

Humble servant

Helen Elizabeth Roberts was promoted to glory on 1 October, 2011, aged 95. When Nell Roberts was born on 22 September, 1916, God had a mighty plan for her life,

even though her faith and service would not find fulfilment until she was in her 70s. Nell was a beautiful soul who cared for others in practical and life-changing ways.

When Nell's husband passed away in 1986, she lost the love of her life and despite her large circle of family and friends, she felt broken and a little lost. Yet it was from this place of heartbreak that Nell encountered God in a new way and found a mission field in which to work.

Nell's daughter Margaret was a member of the Woden Valley Corps and arranged for the officer to conduct her father's funeral. This began Nell's connection to The Salvation Army.

After Margaret had been enrolled as a soldier in 1986, the officer of the time asked Nell, in 1988, if she, too, felt that she was called to make a soldier's covenant. Whilst Nell's faith in God was strong, she asked, "What could a woman of 72 do?"

Well, what indeed! Nell was a living testimony of God's power to work through willing souls regardless of age or circumstance. Nell became an active member of Woden Valley Corps and then Canberra City Corps. Her ministries extended from Community Care Ministries to junior soldiers to pastoral visitation to street ministry.

Nell's ministry at the Coleman Court Shopping Centre saw her become somewhat of a local legend. Local newspapers wrote about her, the local Rotary club awarded her with a Community Service Award and, more importantly, many lives were encouraged and enhanced by Nell's friendship and practical support.

Nell will be missed greatly by her family, friends, church family and community contacts, but her legacy of humble service for God lives on.

about people**Additional Appointment**

Captain Elizabeth **Garland**, Extension Training Officer, Southern Africa Territory, effective 1 March.

Appointments

Effective 12 April: Major Ian **Channell**, Corps Officer, Maitland City Corps, Newcastle and Central NSW Division; Major Carolyn **Harmer**, Territorial Communications and Publications Resource Officer, Territorial Headquarters; Lieutenant Katie **Harlum**, Assistant Corps Officer, Gold Coast Temple, South Queensland Division.

Effective 30 April: Captain Michelle **White**, Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Social, Territorial Headquarters.

Effective 5 July: Major Janet **Siddens**, Divisional Community Care Ministries Secretary, Newcastle and Central NSW Division; Major Nellie **Moed**, Corps Officer, Cardiff Corps, Newcastle and Central NSW Division; Lieutenants Dean and Rhonda **Clutterbuck**, Corps Officers, Umina Beach Corps, Newcastle and Central NSW Division.

Births

Lieutenants Peter and Rebecca **Gott** a baby girl, Sophia Kate on 14 March; Lieutenants Kylie and Martin **Herring** a girl, Matilda Grace on 20 March.

Promoted to glory

Aux-Captain Isabel **Tite** on 28 March; Major Rodney **Towerton** on 30 March.

Retirement

Major Colin **Hopper** on 31 March.

time to pray**29 April – 5 May**

Major Eva Phillips, Australia Southern Territory; Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), Kalbar Corps, both Qld; Salvos Stores, THQ; Taree Corps, Grafton Corps, both NSW; ACT and South NSW Division Red Shield Launch, Canberra (3); World Wide Prayer Meeting (3); Sydney East and Illawarra Division Strategic Planning Day (3); DFL Weekend – Sydney East and Illawarra and The Greater West Division (4-6).

6-12 May

Commissioner Marie Willermark, Sweden and Latvia Territory; Salvation Army International Development Office (SAID), THQ; Ballina Corps, Goulburn Corps, Sydney Congress Hall, all NSW; Emerald Corps, Qld; One Army One Mission Sunday (6); Community Support Services Forum (9-11); Sydney East and Illawarra Division Red Shield Launch, Illawarra (10); World Wide Prayer Meeting (10); Sydney College of Divinity Graduation (12); MASIC Meeting (12).

13-19 May

Sydney East and Illawarra Chaplaincy Services, Blue Mountains Services Centre (Hadleigh Lodge), Tarrawanna Corps, Bathurst Corps, all NSW; Dalby Corps, Qld; Legal Department, THQ; Mother's Day (13); World Wide Prayer Meeting (17); Booth College Review (17); Red Shield Appeal (19-20).

20-26 May

Major Alison Cowling, Canada and Bermuda Territory;

Maitland City Corps, Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Headquarters, Clulow Court, all NSW; Bayside Community Church, Qld; Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Social, THQ; Children's Decision Week (21-27); Candidates Board (24); World Wide Prayer Meeting (24).

27 May – 2 June

Commissioner Andrew Kali, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands Territory; Umina Beach Corps, Coffs Harbour, Broken Hill Social Programs, all NSW; Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Systems, THQ; Lake Cargellico Rural Mission, NSW; Pentecost (27); Central and North Queensland Division Men Officers' Retreat (28-30); World Wide Prayer Meeting (31); Newcastle and Central NSW Division Local Officers Boot Camp (1-2); ACT and South NSW Division Kid's Camp (1-3); South Queensland Division Kid's Camp (1-3).

3-9 June

South Queensland Division Chaplaincy Service, Indigenous Ministries Divisional Headquarters Outpost, Inner City West Mission, all Qld; Belmore Corps, Greater Liverpool Corps, all NSW; Territorial Moral and Social Issues Council (MASIC), THQ; World Wide Prayer Meeting (7); Central and North Qld Division Youth Councils (8-11).

encorement calendar**Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon**

#Canberra: Wed May 2 – Edenfest meeting
Ryde: Sun 6 May – Sunday worship
#Sydney: Sat 12 May – Sydney College of Divinity Graduation
Sydney: Sat 12 May – Staff Songsters concert
#Newcastle: Wed 16 May – Red Shield Appeal Launch
Sydney: Sat 19-Sun 20 May – Red Shield Appeal Doorknock
*Strathfield: Mon 21 May – Australian Church Women service
Lismore: Sun 27 May – Sunday worship
Arnccliffe: Mon 28 May – Macquarie Lodge Aged Care Services refurbishment official opening
#Sydney: Tue 29 May – Business Spectator CEO Pulse dinner
Kingsgrove: Thu 31 May – Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Review

*Commissioner Jan Condon only
#Commissioner James Condon only

Colonels Wayne (Chief Secretary) and Robyn Maxwell

*Gold Coast: Wed 2 May – Red Shield Appeal Official Opening
#Orange: Wed 2 May – West Refresh
Parramatta: Thu 3 May – Red Shield Appeal Official Opening
Rockhampton: Wed 9-Thu 10 May – Red Shield Appeal Official Opening
Canberra: Tues 15 May – Red Shield Appeal Official Opening
Sydney: Sat 19-Sun 20 May – Red Shield Appeal Doorknock Weekend
#Strathfield: Mon 21 May – Australian Church Women Annual Service of Dedication
Macquarie Park: Sun 27 May – Corps visit

Colonel Robyn Maxwell only
* Colonel Wayne Maxwell only



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