


Read me at: pipelineonline.org

pipeline

The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory
July 2012
Volume 16 Issue 7



The discipline of
prayer & fasting

A Pipeline special feature

In this issue

- BREAKING THE CYCLE**
Helen wins alcohol war
- FINDING SANCTUARY**
House a haven of renewal
- GRAND DESIGN**
Course transforms lives

ARTICLES BY

Commissioner James Condon | Lieut-Colonel Janet Munn | Major Merv Holland | Major Kelvin Alley | Captain Phillip McCall



Freedom TO BUILD YOUR OWN TEAM



Call us to today for your next team building event

P: 02 9982 9800 W: www.collaroycentre.org.au
 E: collaroycentre@aue.salvationarmy.org
 Homestead Ave, Collaroy Beach, NSW 2097



Contents

COVER STORY



6-15 THE DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER AND FASTING
 A 10-page *Pipeline* special feature



FEATURES

20-23 GRAND DESIGN
 Conference puts duo on course for ministry. By Simone Worthing

25 SOUL FOOD
 Introducing a new *Pipeline* column in which people share their favourite piece of scripture



26-27 FINDING SANCTUARY FROM LIFE
 Esther Pinn visits a couple who are committed to the renewal and restoration of people in ministry



REGULARS

- 3 EDITORIAL
- 4 YOUR SAY
- 5 TC@PIPELINE
- 6-7 INTEGRITY
- 31 BOOK REVIEWS
- 32-33 WHAT WOULD JESUS VIEW?
- 36-46 COALFACE NEWS
- 47 PROMOTED TO GLORY

IN THIS MONTH'S CREATIVE MINISTRY: CLASSY BRASS



The Salvation Army
 WILLIAM BOOTH, Founder

International Headquarters
 101 Queen Victoria street
 London EC4P 4EP

Linda Bond, General
 Australia Eastern Territory
 140 Elizabeth Street
 Sydney NSW 2000

James Condon, Commissioner
 Territorial Commander

Bruce Harmer, Major
 Communications and Public
 Relations Secretary

Managing Editor
 Scott Simpson

Graphic design
 Kern Pobjie

Cover photo
 Shairon Paterson

Pipeline is a publication of the
 Communications Team

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

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

Reaching new levels of intimacy with God

I have a confession to make: I hate the idea of fasting. I enjoy eating and the prospect of going without food for an extended period of time leaves me with a sinking feeling.

I am, however, aware that many followers of Christ down through the centuries – and even Jesus himself – have placed great importance on fasting. And yet I have little understanding of this biblical discipline.

So when the Territorial Commander recently requested that an issue of *Pipeline* have a focus on prayer and fasting, I took it as an opportunity to deepen my understanding of the practice. It's been a fascinating journey of discovery.

Fasting is an ancient practice that godly people have used for thousands of years to enrich their relationship with God. If we look through biblical history, we see that at specific times for particular purposes, people chose to go without food. They determined that for a time they would not be strengthened or comforted by food, instead crying out to God, acknowledging that "you are my comfort, you are my strength".

Fasting has always been a spiritual discipline for God's people, and it remains so for followers of Jesus today. It serves to deepen our prayer life and brings us to new levels of intimacy with God.

World-changing

In Deuteronomy, we read that Moses fasted for 40 days when receiving the Ten Commandments. King David, a "man after God's own heart", fasted at different times throughout his life.

In Acts 13, we read about a group of Christians – in essence, a local church – gathering in Antioch to pray and fast as they seek God's guidance. The result is the sending out of Paul and Barnabas, sparking a missional movement that would make Christianity the dominant religion of the Roman Empire within 250 years, and 2000 years later have more than a billion followers of Christ around the world.

Most importantly, though, Jesus spent time fasting. He waited 30 years before getting the call from God to begin his public ministry, and what is the first thing he does? He goes into the wilderness for 40 days to pray and fast (Matt 4:1-11).

If Jesus could have accomplished everything he came to do without fasting, then why did he fast? So, then, why would we think that we can fulfil the calling of God on our lives, without fasting?

The course of history was changed because one little church at Antioch grasped the importance of prayer and fasting.

I wonder what would happen if the Church in the 21st century got serious about prayer and fasting. What would happen if The Salvation Army got serious about this biblical discipline? What would happen if you got serious about it?

Scott Simpson,
 Managing Editor

your
say...



Living in the slipstream

I attended a church service recently where the preacher mentioned a concept she termed the “slipstream of grace”. The term captured my heart with the depth of truth that it held.

A slipstream is the region behind a moving object in which a wake of fluid, air or water is moving at a comparable speed. An object caught in the slipstream behind another object experiences less pressure and requires less power to maintain its course.

While physics is not my strong point, I can't help but see the parallel to this phenomenon and our walk with Christ.

The scriptures say, “In this life you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world,” (John 16:32-33). When we step into the slipstream of God's grace we enter into a place of rest and ease.

While the troubles, trials and stresses of life still occur, the pressure is not as strong and we require less power to keep on keeping on.

To step into the slipstream we need to acknowledge that in our own strength we can accomplish nothing, but through Christ all things are possible.

We need to know that he has plans for us and that those plans are for good and not for evil. To stay living in the slipstream we must trust that God has gone before us and prepared the way; that he is our provider, our ever-present help in times of trouble; that he is the healer of our diseases, forgiver of our sins, deliverer, Saviour and friend.

I praise God that even though his grace is undeserved (by me especially), that it is freely given!

**Amy Hefferan,
Centenary Corps**

Red Shield appreciation

I felt like writing about my Red Shield Appeal experience as a way of thanking those who gave so generously, and in praise of the great work The Salvation Army does.

My first experience as a Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal volunteer on Saturday 19 May was both an uplifting and emotional journey.

Uplifting because of the spontaneous generosity from all those who gave so generously, and emotionally because this generosity made me realise what a wonderful humanitarian association I was representing, and the high regard in which The Salvation Army is held in our community and indeed throughout Australia.

Their deeds of compassion and kindness have touched great numbers of Australians, and it is through the generous donations given on Red Shield Appeal day that enables this great work to continue.



I was a little apprehensive about knocking on strangers' doors and asking them for a donation, however these fears were soon allayed – with my Red Shield ID card around my neck and my Red Shield bag in hand, my credibility was assured.

I was allotted three streets in Tuncurry for my collection area and at my very first call a donation of \$50 was gladly given.

This generous amount was repeated on numerous occasions and the generosity from the collective houses I visited was overwhelming.

Helping with the Red Shield Appeal was for me, a most worthwhile and socially rewarding experience and one that I would recommend wholeheartedly.

To all those kind people I visited, many thanks for your kind and generous nature.

**Keith Pearce,
Forster**

TC@PIPELINE

Power and authority sourced through prayer and fasting

Commissioner JAMES CONDON takes a look at the biblical perspective of praying and fasting, and urges all Christians to explore this spiritual discipline

In recent times when significant decisions are being made concerning the Australia Eastern Territory I've asked my colleagues around me to fast and pray with me. I cannot say it is a regular discipline, but over the years I have fasted occasionally. In particular, I have fasted on Sundays when I've had significant speaking engagements. I've certainly seen the fruit of the discipline of fasting.

I've asked for this issue of *Pipeline* to particularly look at the issue of prayer and fasting because I believe God is calling us as an Army, to seriously look at this spiritual discipline.

Our first Mission Priority says, “We will do whatever it takes to be a territory marked by prayer and holiness”. I'm totally committed to this and all of the priorities.

Before Jesus commenced his public ministry, he spent 40 days in the wilderness and during that time he had nothing to eat. At the end of this time we read in Luke 4:14, that Jesus returned to Galilee in the “power of the Spirit” and then went on to minister with authority and power that amazed all those who heard him. As we read Luke chapter 4 we discover that prayer and fasting were the key to Jesus' very effective ministry and this must be the same for all his disciples.

There's a story in the gospels of Matthew and Mark, about a man who came to Jesus on behalf of his son whose body was wracked by seizures. The disciples had tried to heal the boy but were unsuccessful. Jesus, however, commanded the evil spirit to leave the boy's body, and it happened. The disciples were at a loss to understand why they were unable to cast out the demon. Jesus said to them: “This kind can only come out by prayer and fasting,” (Mark 9:29).

Those who have spiritual authority to undertake such ministries are those who are spiritually disciplined through prayer and fasting. Jesus said we would do even greater works than he, but this can only come about through prayer and fasting.

Denying ourselves

Fasting has often been associated with self-denial of some kind – when we deny ourselves of some privileges to give to the poor. For example, in the early days of The Salvation Army the

Self Denial Appeal was one occasion when Salvationists were encouraged to go without pudding. They were to put the money saved aside for this appeal for the poor. But fasting is not just about food. It includes other comforts, appetites and indulgences.

Fasting and prayer is very useful when we are aware of a particular situation or person that is in great need of prayer. We deny ourselves so we can give full attention to God and his Word, and pray intentionally for the person or situation.

In Matthew 5, Jesus speaks as though it is an expectation that we fast and pray. It is recorded “and when you pray ... when you fast”. Is that our expectation?

There are many references in the scripture to people who called a fast and prayed intensely. Revival happens, people and situations change when we fast and pray. John Wesley would not approve candidates for the ministry who did not fast twice a week. What if we had that same expectation today?

Many heroes of the faith, when feeling spiritually weak or when facing a tough assignment, have prayed earnestly and fasted.

What fast does God call us to? God must be our first passion in life but there are so many things that can take first place in our lives today – things such as Facebook, Internet, television, telephones, sport, movies – all harmless if used correctly. But if they take away from us time that could potentially be spent in prayer and fasting, then maybe we need to get on our knees before the Lord and seek his forgiveness.

Maybe this is a spiritual discipline that you want to explore. God promises to give his power and authority to those who fast and pray.



Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory

If the Lord is speaking to you about something you're willing to share in *Pipeline*, send your story to eastern.editorial@ae.salvationarmy.org

Fast track to new spiritual level

How often do we really say “no” to ourselves, to our own appetites and cravings for the sake of seeking the face of God through fasting and prayer? **Lieutenant-Colonel JANET MUNN** discusses this spiritual discipline

Is it possible that greater revival, an increase in the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit on all people, is delayed in our day, at least in part, as a result of our lack of fasting, our self-indulgence rather than our self-denial?

In the Old Testament, fasting appears to be a prerequisite for revival. In Joel, chapter 2, prior to the prophecy of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh, the people of God are challenged to “declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly,” (Joel 2:15). Then God promised, “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people,” (Joel 2:28).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught the disciples how they were to pray and fast; his assumption was that they would do both.

⁵ “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full ... ¹⁶ “When you fast, do not look sombre as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,” (Matthew 6: 5, 16-17).

When his disciples were criticised for their lack of dietary restraint compared to John the Baptist’s disciples, Jesus assured the critics that when he, the bridegroom, was taken from them, then they would fast.

³⁵ “But the time will come when the

bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast,” (Luke 5:35).

Benefits of fasting

In fasting, we humble ourselves, and we know from the book of James that God gives grace and favour to the humble (James 4:10). Jesus’ example reminds us of the power over temptation connected with fasting (Luke 4).

Throughout the book of Acts, the early Church gathered corporately for periods of prayer and fasting in order to gain clarity and guidance regarding the will of God.

This he made known to his people when they were together seeking him in prayer and denying themselves of food as they sought him.

Imagine if we as Salvation Army leaders began to make major decisions only as we met together in fasting and prayer, rather than at meetings planned around meals!

Pioneers of fasting

Queen Esther called her people, the Jews, to join her in a corporate fast for their deliverance as a people. Anna served in the Temple in Jerusalem around the time of the birth of Jesus Christ, with prayer and fasting.

She lived a fasting lifestyle (Luke 2:37), as did John the Baptist. It was during a period of fasting and prayer that God spoke to the Gentile Cornelius, the Roman centurion, about contacting Peter, which then led to a major shift in understanding regarding the Gospel and the Spirit bestowed also on the Gentiles (Acts 10:30-31).

The Apostle Paul fasted for safety and deliverance during a fierce storm (Acts 27) and Daniel fasted as a gesture of repentance on behalf of the sin of the people (Daniel 9).

Jesus began his public ministry immediately following a 40-day fast.

The early church fathers, Polycarp and Tertulian, fasted, as did Martin Luther,

John Calvin, John Knox and John Wesley. Wesley was so committed to fasting that he would not approve a candidate for ministry if he did not fast twice a week!

How would that policy change our Candidates’ Councils and us?

Whenever he became aware that his spiritual power or anointing was weakening, Charles Finney would immediately commence a three-day fast.

Following the fast, the presence of God would radiate so powerfully through Finney that people would fall under overwhelming conviction upon his entrance into a room, a building, or even the city limits.

Jonathan Edwards and Charles Haddon Spurgeon would fast and pray in order that they would be able to preach well.

Types of fasts

Elmer Towns outlines various types of biblical fasts and their purposes, in his book *Fasting for Spiritual Breakthrough*.

These include the Samuel fast, in which people join together to seek God’s guidance for them corporately (1 Samuel 7) as well as the Ezra fast, a corporate fast for protection (Ezra 8:22). The Elijah fast is an individual fast to cry out for God’s help

in time of trouble and discouragement.

The Disciples’ fast is for spiritual power to exercise authority over the demonic (Matthew 17:21) and the Saint Paul fast is an individual fast for increased light – for an opening of the eyes of the heart (Acts 9: 17-19).

God’s covenant people agreed together to fast for deliverance from danger and evil in the Esther fast (Esther 4:16) and the Daniel fast is one in which the individual fasts for physical health and strength.

For more on fasting...

Mike Bickle, *The Rewards of Fasting*
Mahesh Chavda, *The Hidden Power of Prayer and Fasting*

Richard Foster, *Celebration of Discipline*
Elmer L. Towns, *Fasting For Spiritual Breakthrough*

Dallas Willard, *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives*



Lieut-Colonel Janet Munn is The Salvation Army’s International Secretary for Spiritual Life Development

A TIME TO SEEK FOR SAKE OF HIS KINGDOM

By Lieut-Colonel MIRIAM GLUYAS

Have you ever taken a child to a toy store? They wander around saying, "I want that, and I want that, and I want that, and I want that" and then at some stage, "Oh, but I really want that! Can I please just have that?" You know what they really, really want. They may get it, they may not!

This perhaps gives a simplistic idea of what fasting is about. "God, I really, really want that!"

In fasting, we humble ourselves before God. We seek him. We deny ourselves something, to seek him, to hear from him. We say no to our own appetites and cravings, for the sake of seeking God's face through prayer and fasting. We recognise that we can't but he can.

I fast fairly regularly, and for a variety of reasons.

"IN FASTING, WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE GOD ... WE DENY OURSELVES SOMETHING, TO SEEK HIM."

I usually fast for a day at a time and I don't have any food on those days, just mainly water. Every time I feel hungry, my attention goes to the person or thing that I am praying for.

I spend a lot of time those days praying. It is very focused prayer, for an individual, for healing, for a Kingdom matter, for an important decision, for something that matters a lot to me or to someone else.

Sometimes I will fast for three days. These times have usually been for important things for others. Again, no food, only fluids.

I gave up coffee and chocolate for around two years while praying for the salvation of a person that I love, and for someone's healing.

At a corps I was at, a group of around six to eight of us had a day each week when we would fast and pray



for specific things. It's encouraging to have people fast and pray together. God does something wonderful in the encouragement of a group in answered prayer.

When fasting individually, I don't usually tell people, and if asked why I am not eating, I play it down. (I don't look sombre as the hypocrites do and disfigure my face to show others that I am fasting - Matt. 6:5, 16-17).

I have seen many answers to prayer ... healing, transformation, salvation, miracles, guidance in decision-making, real breakthrough in tough situations etc.

But, just as the child in the store doesn't always get what they ask for, sometimes I see a prayer answered differently or I am still waiting.

The person I prayed for when I gave up chocolate and coffee still hasn't become a Christian. There's been a

softening in them. God's at work. I'm not disappointed. I keep praying and believing.

I guess the big deal for me is that in the western world we have so much. It would be easy to be a Christian and never really have to rely on God.

God challenged me about this a long time ago, and it changed my life. The reality is that there are many things we can't do.

The world needs saving, people need freedom, we need guidance.

Satan has a strategy that we need to stand against, people need healing, people need our beautiful Saviour! We need him.

Fasting is not for the super-spiritual. It is a discipline for disciples.

It's time to seek him, to focus away from something and on to him, for a person or a thing that really matters, for the sake of God and his Kingdom. □

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

- Type "Prayer and fasting" into a search engine on the internet and you'll get about 2,120,000 results in 0.10 seconds!
- The world's longest prayer meeting commenced in Saxony, Germany, on 13 August, 1737, and continued for 100 years. A small group of Moravian believers were prevailing in prayer at a specially convened communion service when at 11am the Holy Spirit came. The Moravian brethren had sprung from the labours and martyrdom of the Bohemian Reformer, John Hus. They had experienced centuries of persecution. Many had been killed, imprisoned, tortured or banished from their homeland. This group had fled for refuge to Germany where the young Christian nobleman, Count Zinzendorf, offered them asylum on his estates in Saxony. They named their new home Herrnhut, 'the Lord's Watch'. This unbroken prayer meeting, known as the Hourly Intercession, involved relays of men, women and children as young as six engaging in fervent prayer. That prayer also led to action, especially evangelism. More than 100 missionaries left that village community in the next 25 years, all constantly supported in prayer.
- Is this the world's longest fast? Irom Sharmila, from Manipur, a small state in the north-eastern part of India plagued by decades of insurgency, had, in 2010, completed 10 years of fasting, trying to seek justice over the alleged human rights abuses by the Indian security forces. She was arrested and kept in solitary confinement in a prison hospital.

fasting 40 days and 40 nights, he was hungry." This verse does not mention Jesus being thirsty. (Matthew 4:2).

- 2. Partial Fasting** – Generally refers to foregoing a particular meal daily or refraining from eating certain foods for the period of the fast. (Daniel 1:8- 12).
- 3. Absolute or Full Fast** – No water or food, (liquid and solids). Acts 9:9 records of Saul, after his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus that "For three days

he was blind and did not eat or drink anything." Esther 4:15-16 records Esther calling for all Jews not to eat or drink for three days or nights.

- 4. A Sexual Fast** – 1 Corinthians 7:3-6 encourages a mutual constraint where husband and wife consent to be chaste for a time "... so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

Photos: Shairon Paterson



Tradition has it that there are four forms of fasting:

- 1. A Regular Fast** – Involves refraining from eating all food and consuming only water or juice for a number of days or weeks. When Jesus fasted in the desert, the Bible says, "After

SOLVING THE FASTING PUZZLE

Lieut-Colonel JANET MUNN leads a Bible study on the discipline of prayer and fasting

Fasting is a powerful spiritual discipline, yet Satan has warped our understanding of it so much that many Christians don't practise it. How did this happen? Like so many of the enemy's schemes, it began with a distortion of Scripture.

Read Matthew 6:18

The Bible instructs us not to make a big deal of fasting. It is properly done so discreetly that others don't even know about it. Satan has exaggerated this counsel into a command never to talk about fasting. As a result, even devout Christians hear so little about fasting that they assume it is irrelevant or obsolete.

Read Matthew 6:16

Here, Jesus tells us not to look sombre while fasting, "as the hypocrites do". Most Christians rightly recoil as soon as they hear someone say "hypocrite", so determined are they not to be associated with this ugly word. Unfortunately, Satan has used this impulse as a way to frighten people away from fasting, as though there were intrinsically a link between fasting and hypocrisy. A classic case of throwing out the baby with the bathwater!

Read Matthew 9:14-15

When Jesus is asked why his disciples feast while the Pharisees fast, he replies that you don't fast while you're with the bridegroom for a pre-wedding celebration. Satan distorts this teaching, too, causing many Christians to assume: "Well, Jesus

is still with us and he hasn't actually married "the bride" yet, so I guess fasting isn't necessary!" However, verse 15 states clearly that Jesus would be "taken away" from the disciples, after which they would fast. If we forget verse 15, we remove a potent spiritual weapon from our arsenal and leave ourselves more vulnerable to temptation.

Many giants of the Christian faith were devoted to fasting. Yet even their example has perversely been used to dissuade believers from fasting. There is the argument from modesty: "Who am I to reach for such heights?" Or the argument from fear: "What if it's too hard? What if striving to be better prompts a spiritual attack?" Too often, this kind of thinking leads Christians to settle for less than God intends for them.

As well as asking how Satan deceives us in this way, it's also worth asking why he deceives us in this way. Our answer: fasting, when wielded by a godly warrior, is a supernaturally powerful weapon.

The Lord's expectations

In the Old Testament, fasting is often a pre-requisite for revival.

- Read Joel 2:15 (God's challenge) and Joel 2:28 (God's promise)
- What do you think is the connection between fasting and Holy Spirit outpouring?
- How often do we choose self-indulgence and fleshly satisfaction

over self-denial and spiritual vitality? In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught his disciples how to pray and fast. It was his expectation that they would do both.

Read Matthew 6:5, 16-17

What should our expectation be? Remember Jesus' words: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself," (Matthew 16:24).

Jesus our model

Jesus is truly and properly God. He is our Redeemer and Saviour. However, he is also truly and properly human. The signs and wonders he displayed, the purity he exhibited, the compassion and mercy he demonstrated - all of these are possible for us as well.

Read John 20:21 (NASB)

He is the example for us - not only to imitate, but surpass.

Read John 14:12 (NASB)

- How can this be?
- How can we do "greater" things than Christ did?
- What does it mean to be "sent" by Jesus?

In *The Hidden Power of Prayer and Fasting*, Mahesh Chavda likens our task to that of a gymnast. Just as gymnasts must master elementary moves, such as the forward roll, before they can master more advanced ones, so we must practise the "first works" of Jesus before we

can accomplish the "greater" works he promised.

Read Luke 4:1-2, 36

Before commencing his public ministry, Jesus went into the wilderness to fast for 40 days. It was thus after fasting that Jesus began ministering with "authority and power".

If fasting was a key to Jesus' effectiveness, it must be so for his disciples. Fasting and prayer are the "first works" we must perform if we want to do the greater works to which Christ calls us.

Authority v Power

Read Matthew 17:14-21

The Gospel of Matthew tells us of the disciples' inability to free a boy from demonic torment.

"BY FASTING WE DECLARE THAT OUR HUNGER FOR GOD IS GREATER THAN OUR HUNGER FOR OUR NEXT MEAL."

After driving out the demon himself, Jesus rebuked his disciples for their ineffectiveness. He expected them to perform miracles; after all, he had given them the authority to do so (Matthew 10:1).

However, only those who have been spiritually and physically disciplined through prayer and fasting can exercise such authority.

As believers, we will face challenges and confront evils that can only be overcome in this way. We therefore neglect the "fasted life" to our own detriment.

The purpose of fasting

Fasting has often been one means of "self-denial". It is a voluntary practice whereby we lay down certain privileges and deny or delay our appetites. Short of physical death, fasting is one way to relinquish aspects of life such as food, comfort, appetites and indulgences.

Today most societies in the West are prone to overeating. It might even be said of us what Paul said of the "enemies of the cross of Christ. Their god is their stomach" (Philippians 3:18-19). In such a context, fasting is a radical practice.

Through fasting we affirm that we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. By fasting we declare that our hunger >>>

Photo: Shairon Paterson



for God is greater than our hunger for our next meal.

God does not change and cannot be manipulated. Our fasting does not persuade him to do something against his will. We are the ones changed through fasting. The psalmist David wrote that he humbled himself with fasting (Psalm 35:13).

When we are aware of someone in trouble, we can enter into fasting and prayer for them, setting aside our appetites and physical comfort for the sake of that person. Fasting helps us redirect our energies toward God, toward the Scriptures and toward intercession. It is one way to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus (Matthew 16:24).

Benefits of Fasting

Through fasting we humble ourselves. We know that God gives grace and favour to the humble. (James 4:10)

Fasting gives us power over temptation. (Luke 4)

Fasting and praying gives us a clearer picture of God's will. (Acts 13:1-3, 14:23)

What would happen if we fasted when approaching important decisions?

Pioneers of prayer and fasting

- Queen Esther (Esther 9:29-32) – Called her people to enter a corporate fast for their deliverance.

- John the Baptist (Mark 1:1-8) – Lived perhaps the ultimate “fasted lifestyle”.
- Cornelius (Acts 10:30-33 NKJV) – God spoke to him about visiting Peter, an encounter that led to a pivotal new understanding of the gospel's universality.
- Daniel (Daniel chapter 9) – As a gesture of both personal and collective repentance.
- Jesus (Luke 4:1-2) – Began his public ministry immediately after a fast.

“FASTING IS ABOUT GOD'S STRENGTH REVEALED IN OUR WEAKNESS.”

The church fathers Polycarp and Tertullian fasted. So did Martin Luther, John Calvin and John Knox. John Wesley was so committed to fasting that he would not approve candidates for ministry who did not fast twice a week! How would that policy affect leader recruitment today?

Whenever he felt that his spiritual strength was waning, Charles Finney would immediately enter a three-day fast. After a fast, Finney would be so filled with the Holy Spirit that people felt an overwhelming sense of conviction at the mere sight of him.

Jonathan Edwards and Charles Haddon Spurgeon fasted in order to be more effective in the pulpit. Surely a worthwhile investment!

Which fast?

There are many ways to fast. Some fasts are routine, others are extraordinary or “occasional”.

God may call you to refrain from something harmless simply in order to re-establish your priorities, or to abstain from harmful practices.

In *Fasting for Spiritual Breakthrough: A Guide to Nine Biblical Fasts*, Elmer Towns catalogues the various fasts described in the Bible. These include:

- The “Samuel fast” – a way of seeking the Lord's guidance (1 Samuel chapter 7)
- The “Ezra fast” – a way of seeking his protection (Ezra 8:21-22)
- The “Elijah fast” – individuals crying out to God in times of trouble (1 Kings 19:2-8)
- The “Disciples' fast” – a way of developing the spiritual authority to heal and cast out demons (Matthew 17:21 NASB [this verse is not in all translations])
- The “Saint Paul fast” – for individual spiritual insight (Acts chapter 27)
- The “Daniel fast” – for physical health and strength (Daniel 1:8-16)
- The “Esther fast” – a fast for deliverance (Esther 4:16)

“When You Fast ...”

Which type of fast does God desire for you? Are you called to enter a short-term “refreshing” fast, or a long-term season of fasting, such as over the 40 days of Lent?

God may be calling you to a lifestyle of continuous abstention from something. Fasting is one of the best ways to re-establish – in your spirit and in your habits – God as the foremost passion of your life. No matter how innocuous it may seem, anything that crowds out God should cede way to him through fasting.

Fasting as a call to voluntary weakness

Fasting embodies the paradoxes of God's kingdom. Look at its manifestations:

- Losing leads to finding (Matthew 10:39)
- Dying leads to living (2 Corinthians 4:11; Romans 4:25 and 5:10; 1 John 3:14)
- Giving leads to receiving (Luke 6:38; Colossians 3:22-24; Matthew 10:8)

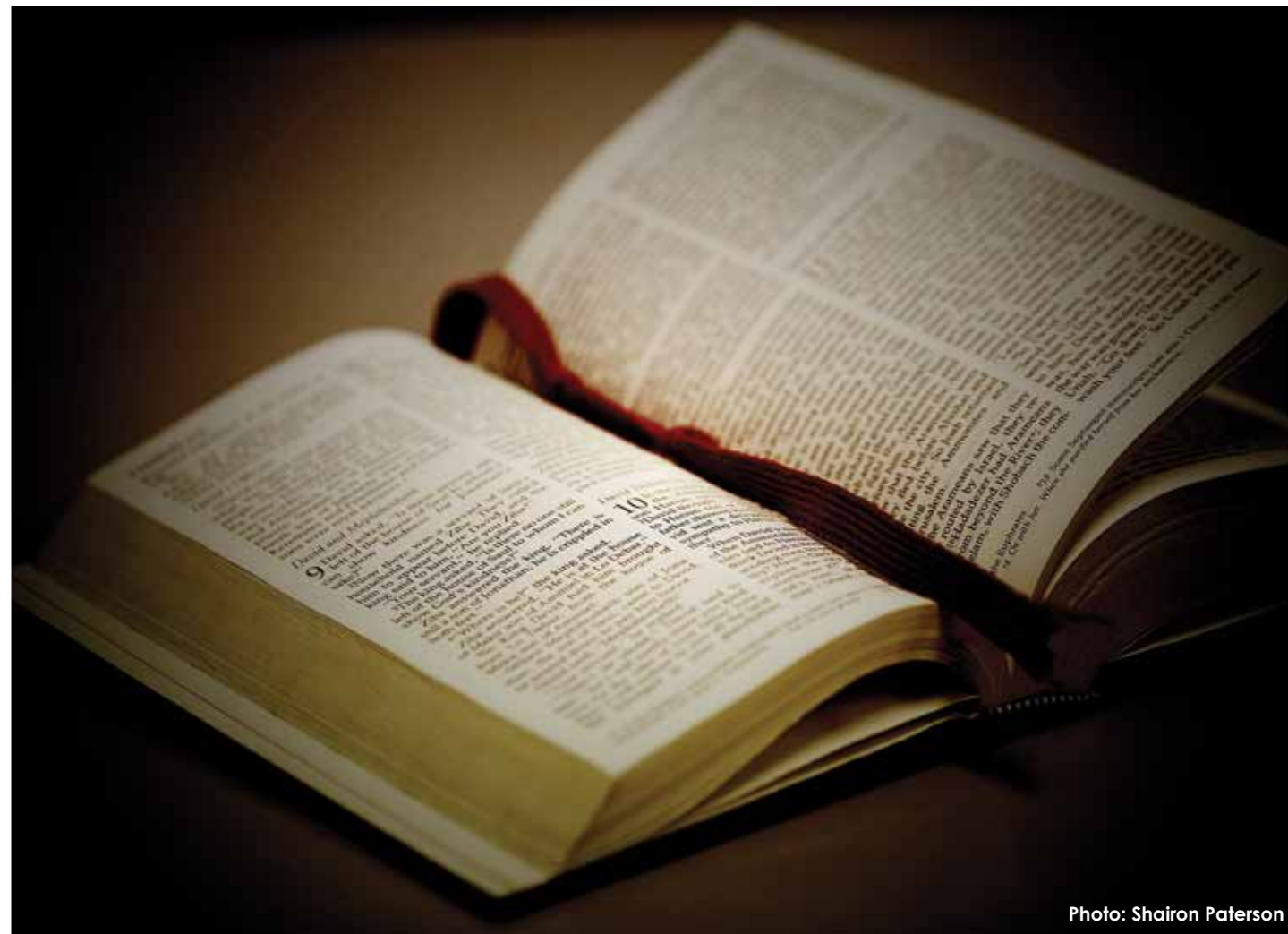


Photo: Shairon Paterson



- Humility leads to exaltation (James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:6)
- Weakness leads to strength (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Fasting is about God's strength revealed in our weakness. It is about denying oneself for the glory of Christ – and for the benefit of others. (2 Corinthians 12:15).

This is a kingdom principle. There are two kinds of weakness: involuntary and voluntary. Involuntary weakness arises from persecution, calamity and demonic attacks. Fasting is a form of voluntary weakness: its purpose is for God's power to be perfected in us. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

Discipline the appetites, nourish the spirit

- Why fast?
- Traditional fasting: physical nourishment is sacrificed for spiritual nourishment.
 - Prayer: time is sacrificed for communion with God.
 - Giving: resources are sacrificed for others.
 - Silence: pride is sacrificed for spiritual attentiveness.

You are not your own; you were bought at a high price. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. You belong to God.

He wants your spirit fed as well as your body. We often forget that when our physical appetites are not in sync with the Holy Spirit, our spiritual capacity is diminished.

What are you doing to nourish your spirit?

In the desert, the Israelites put their appetite for food and drink before everything else – even freedom. (Numbers 11:4-6)

The Psalmist tells us that God granted their desire, but at a steep cost. (Psalm 106:15)

Your stomach is a false god and will leave you unsatisfied. Dethrone it ... through fasting!

Synopsis of scriptural fasts

Why not try each of these seven fasts this year?

1. To avert calamity: 1 Samuel 7:6; Jonah 3:3-5; Joel 1:14.
2. To experience the power of God in personal ministry: Jesus; Elijah 1 Kings chapter 19; Martin Luther, John Wesley and Charles Finney.

3. For revival: John the Baptist (Matthew 11:18); Anna (Luke 2:37); Apostle Paul (Acts 13:2-3); Joel 1:14 and 2:15ff; Matthew 6:16-17).

4. As an expression of sorrow or mourning: David's sorrow (Psalm 69:10); Saul and Jonathan (2 Samuel 1:12); Abner (2 Samuel 3:35); David's infant son (2 Samuel 12:16-23).

5. Over the sin of a nation or city: 1 Samuel 7:6; Nehemiah 9; Jonah 3:5.

6. Preparation for a divine assignment: Nehemiah 1:4; Ezra 8:21; Daniel 10:2-3; Acts 13:1-2; Acts 14:23.

7. The “bridegroom fast”: Matthew 9:15. How would routine fasting and prayer affect your lives, both individually and as a community of faith? How would it help you to become more like Christ?

How are you willing to sacrifice – what appetites are you willing to deny – in order to establish God's kingdom on the earth?

Are you seeing “greater works” in your community? What is the relationship between these works and the discipline of fasting?

May God inspire us to enter into the “first works” of Jesus and may the result be a surge of “greater works” in our midst. □

WHO PRAYS AND FASTS?

It's a revealing exercise to find out what people believe and practice when it comes to fasting and praying. **Major MERV HOLLAND** surveyed 85 people from teens to retirees – officers, soldiers, attendees and people from other churches stretching from South Australia to North Queensland – and attracted 38 responses. The survey sought instant responses – no reference books, web searches or phone a friend! Here's a summary of responses to the eight questions

1. HOW DO YOU DEFINE PRAYER AND FASTING?

"Prayer and fasting is a voluntary spiritual discipline in which one intentionally focuses on communing with God, open to receive the Spirit's direction, without being distracted by human or material influences."

"... to engage ... to wait on the Lord ... to experience deeper intimacy with God ... to heighten spiritual awareness."

"... part of the spiritual disciplines of the Purgative-Thye Illuminative and the Unitive Way of Jesus."

"... enlightenment, discernment, contemplative awareness."

"Voluntary giving up ... depriving myself ... set time ... focus on God for some special purpose."

"Fasting shows my ultimate spiritual commitment to him."

"... prayer and fasting are required for victory in deliverance (Matthew 17:21)"

"... not eating to satisfy the physical being, but fasting to satisfy the spiritual being."

"That's what people in monasteries do and is for those who go off to retreats where you can't speak or eat much."

- Sixty-five per cent know what prayer and fasting is.
- Twenty percent understand it is practiced during Lent, Easter, New Year and the Self-Denial appeal period.
- Six per cent believe it to be a ritual for spiritual retreats or for monasteries and religious orders.
- Nine percent unsure or don't know.

2. HOW IMPORTANT IS THIS SPIRITUAL EXERCISE IN THE CHURCH TODAY?

"For those who are called to the discipline, very important. I feel it must be done for the right motives and not because we are instructed to do."

"... appears sometimes to be used to try to manipulate God ... must be for right motives."

"... prayer vital, fasting is optional."

"I don't know, but it's biblical."

"It's not seen as important in The Salvation Army ... not taught in my corps."

"I'm desperate to live in union with God and be guided by the Holy Spirit and find that fasting removes a distraction from having unbroken communion."

"Jesus did – we should..."

"... vital ... very important ... spiritual refreshment ... renewal ... essential for God to work through church."

"... banging loudly on God's door, showing I am serious about getting more of him."

3. DO YOU PRAY AND FAST

One third do, two-thirds don't.

4. HOW OFTEN DO YOU PRAY AND FAST?

Six per cent prayed and fasted for one meal per day, 25 per cent fasted on one day weekly, 30 per cent regularly (mainly as part of a group) and 39 per cent on special occasions.

5. WHAT FORM DOES YOUR PRAYER AND FASTING TAKE?

"I get up an hour before the family every day to pray and do a liquid fast."

"I skip at least one meal a week and devote several hours in quiet contemplation."

"I go kayaking and experience a sense of clear direction from God in the quiet and solitude."

"... one day a week ... only drink water ... in solitude ... prayer is a constant."

"... regularly as part of a group."

"I pray and fast when I receive a specific prayer request on behalf of someone and every time that prayer has been answered."

"Religious occasions ... new year, Lent and Good Friday."

"... fast from food, TV, computer games ... chocolate ... Pepsi Max."

6. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE OUTCOMES?

"... more focused on God ... more God dependent ... a renewing of the mind."

"A deeper consciousness of the presence ... and omniscience ... of God".

"God honours when we spend time praying and fasting."

"A sense of being involved in something much bigger than me."

"... Improved home and family life."

"I'm healthier in every way."

7. WHAT PREVENTS YOU FROM PRAYING AND FASTING?

"Nothing ... not convinced it is necessary ... I experience a close walk with the Lord without fasting."

"We both work, have two kids, struggle to pay the bills ... involved in our corps and I pray constantly but can't find time to fast."

"Health concerns." " ... diabetic."

"Far too busy ... routine engagements ... tiredness ... hunger ... pace of life."

"Lack of self-discipline and control over schedule ... procrastination ... devil's influence."

"... no teaching ... unsure ... lack of understanding."

8. WOULD YOU EXERCISE SOME FORM OF PRAYER AND FASTING IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES WERE DIFFERENT?

"Group support would make me more accountable."

"If my health improved maybe."

"No – unless God convicts me to start ... unlikely."

"I plan to resume this exercise ... survey has challenged and convicted me to start."

PLEAS FOR PRAYER FLOOD WEBSITE

By Major MERV HOLLAND

"Please pray for me" is the plea made by an ever-increasing number of people turning daily to The Salvation Army's Australia Eastern Territory website salvos.org.au to log their prayer request.

Major Kerrie Farthing, Territorial Spiritual Formation Coordinator, monitors the website, emailing the prayer requests to a faithful group of prayer warriors who intercede for each person requesting prayer.

"GOD IS UNIMAGINABLY CREATIVE IN HIS RESPONSE TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL WHO REACHES OUT TO HIM."

Many requests reveal an underlying desperation, often a sense of hopelessness and urgency as people reach out to find answers and solutions to life's challenges from God. The trend is disturbing.

"Can you please pray for my marriage to be successful and our financial problems to be a lot better ..." one man writes.

"I've been terminated from my job ... feel helpless ... bills ... weighed down ... but put my life in God's hands ..." a woman shares.

More and more people seek prayer when faced with homelessness.

A young mother describes how hard life is for her and yearns for a home for herself and children, while another mum pleads for God to answer her prayer for somewhere for her family to live.

Wide-ranging requests

Depression is far too often disclosed in requests logged on the website.

"I need prayer to restore my faith in God. I'm depressed ... is life worth living? ... please pray for me ..." What

must life be like for this student?

Hundreds of unemployed men and women request intercession for suitable employment. Many disclose that they are penniless, in debt, struggling to maintain even the basic living standards many of us so often take for granted.

The stresses in relationships, employment, housing, and finances invariably lead to major health issues and so regularly enquirers reveal stark and disturbing stories of mental, emotional and physical illnesses.

The requests are wide-ranging: "Pray for my healing ... pray that I can afford medication ... for an end to my deep depression ... that I can get surgery soon ... for my child, my mum, my wife." This theme of deep concern for family and self is oft repeated.

Prayers are open and frank: "Please, God, keep my sister out of jail ... Almighty God, help me to stop my son from taking more drugs ... O God, help me to break my addiction ..."

A committed Christian seeks prayer support: "I'm becoming desperate in the spiritual fight that I'm going through right now. The enemy is trying to get me down in many ways and stealing from my life the things God wants to do in my family ..."

One man, unemployed for three years and with seemingly insurmountable financial challenges, asks for prayer for famine-ravaged people in Africa and for orphans ahead of his own needs.

Creative response

Do any of these prayer requests get answered? Yes! Every one of them – but not in the way that many expect.

God is unimaginably creative in his response to every individual who reaches out to him, not necessarily in granting instant miraculous healing, or a financial windfall, a home or a job. But he does dispense a sense of inner peace, security and courage alongside the visible, tangible miracles of healing and provision of material needs.

"Thank you" testimonies are not uncommon. They confirm that God Almighty is helping people find answers to life's challenges.

Do you want to participate in a meaningful intercessory prayer ministry? Then contact Major Kerrie Farthing to sign up as a prayer partner, interceding for people seeking God. Or, become part of the worldwide prayer meeting. Sign up on <http://sar.my/wwpmqr>



Breaking a cycle of misery

Caught in a cycle of alcohol abuse, Helen's life was on a downward spiral until she walked through the doors of The Salvation Army's William Booth House in Sydney, writes **BILL SIMPSON**

Helen hated God. She really did. She's 40 now and things are a lot better. But as a younger woman, she watched heartbroken as her mother died a slow, agonising death from cancer.

How unfair! Helen's mother was a lovely lady who loved God and went to church every week. Why didn't he do something!

Helen was well on the road to alcoholism when her mother died. She had started drinking at 14. Her mother died when Helen was 24. The sad loss didn't help.

Her mother's death made Helen's drinking worse. Helen didn't care. The alcohol was a good numbing agent. She could forget when she was drunk – which was often.

Helen grew up in a small Victorian country town. She had a mum and dad and two older sisters. She was a bright girl who excelled at school and sport.

Her mother's cancer was diagnosed when Helen was eight. At the same time, her father was discovered to have serious diabetes. Helen was sent to live with another family.

"Some nasty stuff went down there," she says, but prefers not to say any more.

Deteriorating pattern

Her mother responded to chemotherapy and radiotherapy and, after a few years, was in remission. Helen returned home, but her older sisters had moved away by then.

"I think I became a lonely kid," she says.

At 14, she joined her friends in social drinking. "It was a bit of fun and a bit naughty."

It turned into weekly binge drinking. She drank to get drunk. She loved the effect of alcohol. "It made me feel confident and funny, and cool.

"Looking back now, it was already alcoholic-type drinking. I was having blackouts. I had loss of memory of the night before. It was embarrassing next morning when I couldn't remember. But I kept doing it. I always wanted more."

After high school, she went to university in the city. She lived on site. She didn't know anybody at university and had never had to make new friends before. It wasn't easy.

"The way I had learned to socialise comfortably was to get drunk. So I did that [got drunk] more often."

Her studies suffered. Fearing academic failure – something Helen had never experienced before – she quit university.

"This became a pattern for my life. I've quit almost everything I've started since then."

And then her mother died. Helen was 24. "I had a job at the time, which I quit after Mum died. My mental health deteriorated and my drinking increased. I started doing illicit drugs, as well.

"I was taking and drinking anything I could to obliterate my feelings and stay numb."

The pattern continued for 10 years. Then, six years ago, she tried rehabilitation – several times. Each time, she chose to quit.

She had nowhere to go and moved

into her father's house when he went into a nursing home. The house was in the same town as her eldest sister. Helen was now a chronic alcoholic.

Her behaviour embarrassed her sister and family. "They were being exposed to the person I had become. We became estranged as a result." There is still no relationship between Helen and her sister – or her second sister. "She disowned me."

Helen spent a couple of years in the house doing nothing much else than drinking and taking valium.

"I realised that I had opened my heart to God and there he was, getting me through it. And he still is."

Her doctor and a counsellor referred her to another rehabilitation program. This time it was with The Salvation Army in Melbourne. After a detox period, she was transferred to William Booth House in Sydney in November 2010.

After a shaky start during which she had three seizures, fractured a collarbone and spent four days in hospital, Helen was introduced to the first three steps of the William Booth 12-step program. But, would she quit again?

"Step one I thought was made with me in mind. I was totally powerless over alcohol and my life was unmanageable. In fact, my life felt like it was nearly over.

* Generic image. Photo supplied by iStock

"Steps two and three talked about a higher power – or God. During my intake interview, apparently I signed something that said it was a spiritual program. I didn't remember that.

"I thought spirituality meant religion. That wasn't for me. So, I thought that I'll just keep going. I didn't need God.

"I had gone to Sunday school when I was little. I would sit in church with my mum. She was a Christian. But when she got sick, I didn't have to go anymore."

At William Booth, she was advised to be "open" in regard to God.

"The longer I was in the program, the more God seemed to be involved. I had to go to church, chapel and Bible study. I didn't get it.

"I think that behind my resistance and resentment, however, I started to want to get it." She stayed "open" and signed on for an Alpha course at Sydney Congress Hall.

It introduced her to Christians other than those she met through the William Booth program. "They actually seemed okay. I didn't feel too judged, which was a preconception I had about Christians. I stayed open."

She moved on to step four – "a searching and fearless moral inventory of myself". It developed into a "very detailed, honest, gruelling review of my life to date".

"It was hard enough to admit the reality of some of the paths that I had chosen to myself, but then I went to step five where I had to admit them to someone else – and God.

"I found it an extremely confronting

process. All this left me feeling pretty raw and vulnerable, and I was struggling because I wanted to avoid all of that reality like I had always been able to do in the past through drinking and using [drugs].

"But I had to get through it because I just couldn't stand to go back to addiction and the misery it partnered in me."

Discovery

It was at this stage that Helen made a very personal discovery.

"I realised that I had opened my heart to God and there he was, getting me through it. And he still is."

Helen graduated from the William Booth program on 28 September 2011. She is now a casual receptionist at William Booth House and is studying again. She is a volunteer helper in a literacy course at William Booth.

"I attend church each week because I want to and I enjoy it. I pray to God with extreme gratitude, relief and love. I don't feel lonely or alone anymore. I am sober today and for this I thank God for working through the Salvos and William Booth House to change lives."

Helen worships at Glebe Salvation Army Corps. She sings in the Glebe Community Gospel Choir, which practices fortnightly and performs occasionally. The choir consists mainly of people involved in the William Booth program. She also assists the corps' university chaplain.

Her Corps Officer Captain Robyn Black has intimately observed the changes. "Helen is a naturally reserved person and is very quiet. So it was very brave of her to

"I am sober today and for this I thank God for working through the Salvos and William Booth House to change lives."

take a risk on this new community of faith [Glebe].

"It turns out that behind the quiet exterior is a person who thinks deeply about life and loves a good laugh.

"Helen's story is all about the transforming power of God. She would say that all she had to do was to be open to God and that he did the rest. I would say that each day, Helen, in partnership with God, has made choices about putting off the old life and putting on the new life.

"Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, says: 'Everything – and I do mean everything – connected with that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it. And then take on an entirely new way of life – a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you'." (Ephesians 4:23-24, *The Message*).

"God and Helen are a great team. He is shaping her into the woman he always planned her to be."

For Helen, quitting is no longer an option.

"I don't want to quit the life I have now," she says. "Life is worth living and I want to keep it that way." □



Bill Simpson is a staff writer for Pipeline and supplements

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community Appeal 2012



telling the story, revealing the need

By ESTHER PINN

On their regular bus run, Brooke and Mr Wong, the driver, spend four hours every Sunday picking up Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their homes so they can attend North Ipswich Corps' Sunday service. With only one bus that seats 40 children, they complete four bus runs to get everyone there.

While they are already reaching a large number of Indigenous Australian children, North Ipswich Ministry Leader Brooke Prentis says there are still many more children they could bring into the corps, if they had more resources.

This year marks the second year of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Appeal and Brooke's story is just one of five videos that will feature in Salvation Army corps across the territory, starting on Sunday 8 July.

The appeal aims to create awareness about the various Salvation Army indigenous ministries happening within the territory as well as provide an opportunity for Salvationists and friends to support the work by giving financially to the appeal.

The DVD series will be shown over five weeks starting with a message from the Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon.

The second week features Brooke and the North Ipswich Corps in south Queensland. For the past eight years, Brooke has been reaching out to the children in the community through the Sunday bus runs.

The third story features Shirli Congoo, an Indigenous Engagement Officer who shares about The Salvation Army Townsville Riverway Youth Band in north Queensland and how more instruments and resources are needed to help build this ministry.

During the fourth week, Territorial Indigenous Ministry Coordinator, Adrian Kistan and his wife, Natalie, talk about the North Sydney Indigenous Community House they set up earlier this year. Living together in one big house under the "parenting" of the Kistans, are four young people from Moree. Buddy, Kyle and Ida were all given scholarships to attend Northern Beaches Christian School, and Jess is currently completing a youth worker traineeship.

The final week will feature a video montage of footage from the four previous weeks and also a message from Commissioner Condon.

The appeal will conclude with an altar service and an opportunity to give on Sunday, 12 August.

A separate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander series has been prepared for children, featuring the Agents of T.R.U.T.H. – Bally, Eva Logan and Indigenous Agent, Harry.

"Ultimately the campaign is about creating awareness about Indigenous ministry – that is our main goal. But if people can prayerfully consider their donation, the money will go a long way," said Steve Burfield, Australia Eastern Territorial Appeals (Internal) Operations Manager.

If you would like to donate to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Appeal, go to mysalvos.org.au/indigenous

WEEK 1 – INTRODUCTION

Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon talks about why the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Community Appeal is important and encourages Salvationists to support it by giving.

WEEK 2 – NORTH IPSWICH

Brooke Prentis, North Ipswich Indigenous Ministry Leader, is changing the lives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children by providing bus runs which bring them to church every Sunday.

WEEK 3 – TOWNSVILLE

Due to an increasing number of Indigenous Australian children joining the Townsville Riverway Youth Band, Shirli Congoo, Indigenous Engagement Officer in north Queensland, needs more instruments and resources to help develop the ministry.

WEEK 4 – NORTH SYDNEY

Adrian Kistan, Territorial Indigenous Ministry Coordinator, and his wife, Natalie, talk about the North Sydney Indigenous Community House they started earlier this year.

WEEK 5 – VIDEO

Featuring footage from the previous four weeks as well as a message from Commissioner Condon.



May you always stand as tall as a tree
Be as strong as the rock Uluru
As gentle and still as the morning mist
Hold the warmth of the campfire in your heart
And may the Creator Spirit always walk with you.

Aunty Betty Pike

8 July – 12 August 2012

mysalvos.org.au/indigenous

CONFERENCE PUTS DUO ON COURSE FOR MINISTRY

Two years ago, Angela Czoban and Roz Edwards, both feeling at a loose end, were encouraged to attend a Salvation Army Design For Life conference. As *Pipeline* reporter **SIMONE WORTHING** found out, the weekend course had a profound impact on each of them



Angela Czoban had been working as a public servant for 24 years and was in a senior management position. She was active in The Salvation Army's Tuggeranong Corps, in Canberra. Despite her achievements, Angela was also struggling at work, feeling unsettled and was searching for something but didn't know what.

"My corps officers, Captains Mark and Fran Everitt, nominated me for the Design For Life [DFL] weekend and I had no idea what to expect," she says. "But during the first teaching session, 'Because You Say So', I realised that God was calling me to serve him full-time. There was only one response for me, 'I will'."

Until then, Angela hadn't considered full-time ministry as an option. "I'm in my

"I spent time and shed tears talking to Major Maree Strong [then ACT and South NSW Divisional Candidates Secretary]," Angela says. "She confirmed my calling but I had to make the decision. The rest is history!"

Angela resigned from her job and, despite the anguish of not knowing what her future held, was bubbling with joy.

"My husband has been an amazing encouragement and my kids have too," she says. "I feel so much more fulfilled than I have for many years. My spirit is refreshed."

Roz Edwards first heard about DFL through then Salvation Army training college cadets and now Lieutenants Peter and Rebecca Gott, who were doing their out-training at Tuggeranong and suggested she attend.

"At the time I was in pastoral care and running a seniors program at the corps, and was also the chaplain at Oasis Youth Crisis," Roz explains.

"I think I had the record for the most number of different contracts within the division! I was familiar with ministry and had felt called to ministry years ago."

When Roz went to the DFL weekend, she was feeling troubled.

"I knew some of my contracts were coming to an end and also felt a bit flat with what I was achieving," she says.

"I had spoken to my corps officer, Captain Fran Everitt, about becoming a divisional envoy, but when I thought about my family, I dropped the idea.

"I went to DFL thinking that maybe this weekend would help me discover what God had next for me." >>>

"I feel so much more fulfilled than I have for many years. My spirit is refreshed."

60s, my husband is not a Salvationist and I just couldn't do it," she says.

"I had also been struggling for several months since my last child at home, Jacoba, who is now a Salvation Army lieutenant, had left for the training college. I think God was talking to me even back then. Jacoba told me that God was talking to me, but that I just wasn't listening!"

God confirmed Angela's calling to full-time ministry at a Refresh women's weekend she attended two weeks after the DFL course.



Angela and Roz love mixing with the community in their roles as envoys.

Angela Czoban and Roz Edwards found their niche in life as Salvation Army envoys after the Design For Life course. Photo: Shairon Paterson

NOT ALONE IN THE JOURNEY

By SIMONE WORTHING

When Anne-Maree, without even knowing it, drew a picture of a sapling next to her tree of life timeline during the Design For Life course in Gundagai two years ago, she knew she was at the start of a new journey.

"During that session at DFL I just realised that God loves me no matter what I've done, he forgives my sins, and there are others with me on this journey," she says. "I am not alone."

"My adult life had been bleak and dark because of my drinking. I had a history of sabotaging everything good that happened, because I didn't think I was good enough for it, but God had brought me to the place where I could ask him back into my life."

Anne-Maree had only started attending church again in March 2010, after years battling an addiction to alcohol.

"For a long time I didn't want God and thought I could do it on my own," she explains. "I couldn't though, and now, with God's help, I've been sober for four years." Anne-Maree decided to attend the DFL weekend to learn more about herself and her journey with God.

"The weekend showed me the depth of God's love and enabled me to see that I could really continue my Christian walk," she says.

The course also enabled her to start writing poetry, something that she loves and hadn't been able to do for many years.

"The impact of DFL upon my life was just huge," she emphasises.

"I came back to Cooma pumped, wanting more of God and wanting to give something back to those who have helped me on this walk."

One lady who had prayed faithfully for Anne-Maree for 35 years and is now aged in

her 90s is Connie Lesar.

"Connie and her husband planted the seed that was to eventually get me where I am today," says Anne-Maree.

"When I saw her again and told her I had made a decision for God, she just said, 'I told you prayer works'. 'Now that's faith!'"

Anne-Maree now works part-time in the local Salvos Store, and has attended Salvation Army soldiership classes. She has also started, and attends, an Alcoholics Anonymous group in Cooma.

"I felt it was badly needed in Cooma, so I got it going," she says.

"Once I knew that God would give me the strength to do all I have wanted to do, in his time things started to fall into place. I want to help others."

"I love my Christian walk and it's amazing. I'm at the point where I think, 'bring it on!'"

>>> from previous page

DFL challenged Roz about ministry, about how God could use her and the plans he had for her life.

"DFL is the best thing," she says. "It's brilliant and the teaching is so down to earth and real to life. The [DFL] manual became my second Bible. I felt affirmed in every session but I wasn't getting any answers. I kept waiting for answers."

Roz continued to seek God for specific direction in her life.

"I told the Lord that I had a few questions about becoming a divisional envoy - what about my kids, my marriage, finances, all these earthly questions?"

"As I drove home [from the DFL weekend], the Lord spoke to me through the words: 'I will take care of your "but" list ... kids, family, marriage'."

Events followed where God made it clear that he was calling her.

"I spoke with Major Maree Strong and she asked me what I saw myself doing," Roz says. "I replied that I do pastoral care, grief and loss, funeral ministry, death and dying, broken people. I don't do paperwork and children. I know what I can and can't do."

"Major Maree also asked me if I got on well with Angela. I said, 'Of course, she loves shoes and handbags as much as me!'"

And here we are, serving God together.

Major Rodney Ainsworth, then Divisional Commander for the ACT and South NSW Division, commissioned

Angela and Roz as Divisional Envoys in December 2010. They began leading the Belconnen Corps, also in Canberra, in January last year.

"This is the most joyful experience of working with someone that I have had," says Angela.

"Roz and I laugh together, cry together. We're really on the same plane, travelling the same journey."

"We are different too, but we promised

"This is the most joyful experience of working with someone that I have had."

each other that we would always be honest. There are times when we need to sit down and talk about issues.

"We are prepared to listen to each other; we have never fallen out because of a difference of opinion."

Although both ladies are involved in all aspects of the corps, Roz focuses on pastoral care and Angela takes care of administration and children's ministries.

"God has put our gifts together into a ministry and it's working brilliantly," Angela says.

Session outlines

- Because You Say So ...
- The Different Ways God Speaks
- Living Life in Your Sweet Spot
- God Doesn't Call the Equipped, but Equips the Called
- Every Calling Demands a Response
- Wrapping Up



Angela Czoban and Roz Edwards have always had a passion for handbags, but they now also share a passion for serving the Lord as Salvation Army envoys. Photo: Shairon Paterson

"It hasn't all been easy, but ministry isn't supposed to be. God continues to work in me; he doesn't write off someone in their 60s. I have a new lease of life and am very grateful for that."

"This was God's design for me. I encourage everyone to be open to God speaking to them. He is the most important part of our existence."

Roz firmly believes that Angela and her have been brought together for a reason, although they weren't especially close before becoming envoys.

"Angela did children's ministry at Tuggeranong and I would talk about my kids with her," Roz explains.

"We were co-soldiers in the corps, in the leadership team and songsters, and we would discuss shoes and handbags."

"We have different strengths and styles and, as envoys together, complement each other. We both want this to work and we're not so controlling that we're

not flexible. Angela also gives me good advice about my children and brings my lunch most days," laughs Roz.

Roz feels she is doing what God designed her to do - pastoral care and coming alongside others. She emphasises that, spiritually, God has made her a humbler person through becoming an envoy.

"I feel more and more disciplined to humility and to be open to his way and his leading," she says.

Angela and Roz were commissioned as Territorial Envoys in February.



Simone Worthing is a writer for Pipeline and supplements

WHAT IS THE DFL COURSE?

Have you ever thought about why God designed you the way he did? Have you ever wondered where he may be leading you?

Forty people had those and other questions answered at the annual Design for Life (DFL) weekend at The Collaroy Centre on Sydney's northern beaches in May.

DFL is a weekend set aside specifically to help people think deeply through what God's design for their life might be, and to give them teaching and space to consider what that means in practical terms.

No one form of ministry, vocation, or service is promoted at DFL. Instead, the context is provided to allow participants to stop, look, and listen, to what God is saying.

"The DFL course empowers people to identify their giftings and passions and to consider how God is calling them to his plan and purpose by investing who they are for the Kingdom," says Major Shelley Soper, who leads the course.

"For some, but not all, this will mean leadership in specific ministries, or officership. For everyone though, it's about rising up to identify and take responsibility to be 'true' to how God made and equipped them for life and service."

Major Soper is "hooked" on the course.

"It's all about who you are, why you're here, and finding out what you do best," she says. "And I love seeing people awaken to their 'true' self in Christ."

Participants at the DFL weekend must be at least 18. The course is equally for those at the beginning of their journey and considering many options, as it is for those who've been walking a certain path and want to stop, reflect or change direction.

"The weekend is broken into relevant and relaxed teaching sessions with the whole group, small group sessions where discussion can take place with the help of a trained facilitator, and personal reflection time," says Captain Donna Todd who with her husband, Captain Craig Todd, served as course leaders from 2006 until last year.

"This is a great weekend to set goals and to think through where your life is heading. It can help set the direction for young people, as well as guide older people who feel they want to get out of a rut."

The DFL program is a Salvation Army initiative originating from The Salvation Army's UK with the Republic of Ireland Territory. It was brought to the Australia Eastern Territory by Majors Alwyn and Deborah Robinson, who are now Corps Officers at Parramatta.

For more information, go to salvos.org.au/designforlife/

Design For Life: why consider it?

- If you don't know what the next step in life is, or if you are dry in your spiritual experience, the course is for you;
- At DFL they talked about Salvation Army officership, but in the context of God's design for all of us - how we can work for God in our corps, our lifestyle, and our family;
- The DFL weekend is about God's design on your life and not settling for how life is. If you are obedient to God he can design you for greater things;
- DFL is not about becoming an officer but about Christian development and becoming all that God designed us to be.

Angela Czoban and Roz Edwards
Corps Leaders, Belconnen

my Salvos



Get
connected
mySalvos.org.au

What's coming up on mySalvos this month

- **mySalvos eNewsletter** - Don't forget to sign up for our monthly email newsletter. Just head to mySalvos.org.au to subscribe.
- **LeaderSpeak** - In new episodes of our weekly series, Commissioner James Condon looks at productivity from a distinctly Christian perspective, while Lieutenant Colonel Miriam Gluyas gives us some thoughts on multicultural ministry.
- **Knee Drill** - Robyn Black challenges us to consider the importance of prayer in our mission.
- **Ministry Blogs** - We bring you inspiration and practical tips for those involved in children's ministry, social justice or Sunday morning worship teams.



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

My Favourite Verse – Major Kelvin Alley

*"You are the
light of the world.
A city on a hill
cannot be hidden"*

Matthew 5:14

I have many favourite verses. However, this verse has been a major preoccupation of my mind and heart for many years now, more than any other verse.

The verse falls within the flow of the greatest team talk of all history – Jesus, aside with his disciples on the mountainside. Most people know it as part of the Sermon on the Mount. However, this is no mere sermon – it is a call to be part of a revolution, a call to be part of a world-changing force by living a visibly alternate lifestyle.

My head asks, "How can I, as a disciple, be the light of the world when Jesus himself claims to be the light of the world?" (John 8:12). He does say, however, in the same verse, "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life".

As a committed disciple of Christ, the light I reveal to the world is not of my own doing, but is, in fact, a reflection of the light which is Christ within me.

Leon Morris, the great biblical scholar and author, calls it "borrowed light". As

disciples of Christ, we have received the light of life from Christ that he now calls us to shine for all the world to see.

I think about this virtually every day. Is my life a reflection of the life of Christ – in my speaking, in my writing, in my actions, in my behaviour? Is there anything in my life that may prevent the light of Christ from being fully revealed?

The disciples of Jesus knew exactly what Jesus meant when he said, "A city on a hill cannot be hidden".

Cities were built on hilltops for various reasons, including security, but one thing they could not do was to hide. They were very visible. Their concealment was impossible.

This verse, therefore, has become my "life verse".

It reminds me every day that, as an intimate follower of Christ, his light shines in my life, and challenges me to realise that as a consequence and just like the city on a hill, the light of Christ that radiates from within me is a visible witness to the world of the qualities of the one who bids for all to "come, follow me," (Matt 4:19).





Finding sanctuary from life

Pipeline writer **ESTHER PINN** visited Sanctuary House in Sydney where she spoke to a couple who are committed to the renewal and restoration of people in ministry

It's quiet. The loudest sound is the crunch of my shoes as I walk down the pebbled pathway. Bordering the Lane Cove National Park is an oasis from the hustle and bustle of city life. It's called Sanctuary House. And there is only one word to describe this place: *Selah*, from the Hebrew word meaning to stop, pause, reflect and rest. For Jonathan Browning and his wife, Michelle Kay-Browning, this word is essential to their lives. And Sanctuary House was birthed out of their desire to help other people, particularly Salvation Army officers, soldiers and other Army personnel, learn how to rest, find healing and encounter God.

"It's a necessary part of life to stop, take time out and to renew your mind, renew your heart and deliberately spend focused time with God. We need to do that to look after ourselves," explains Michelle.

"This place is for someone who is struggling in ministry and needs a bit of time out and care."

For Jonathan, learning how to rest wasn't something he understood until his first wife, Amanda passed away in 2007, leaving him behind with their two sons, Jacob now 13, and Eli, now 11. Working as Salvation Army officers, things suddenly changed when Amanda and Jonathan needed to leave officership for health and other family reasons.

"For me, my own personal journey of restoration came through people looking after me," says Jonathan.

"The restoration of the heart was a big part of my own recovery journey and the need to meet with God for that healing. And finding spaces where I could sit down, relax and feel comfortable - a place where I felt safe.

"The design [of Sanctuary House] was very much creating a place that would be safe, where people would come and just share life's journey and meet with God, but also meet someone who would just sit there and listen to you. That's my part of how the house came about."

Safe place

Michelle shares a similar healing journey to Jonathan as her first marriage ended in divorce. She says she wasn't surprised when she met someone like Jonathan who shared her passion for renewal and restoration ministry.

"God had spoken to me for years about a husband who would have been involved in the healing process," she says

"So I wasn't surprised when I met Jonathan and inherited two boys. God prepared me for that years and years before.

"Through lots of ministry, through worship and prayer, God had spoken about a place where people could come to encounter him and to *Selah*, to rest. So when we met it was [a case of] how do we outwork that when we have a similar passion for restoration and renewal."

A week before Jonathan and Michelle were married in 2008, they signed a

contract for the property where Sanctuary House now stands. Just over three years later, the shack that was originally on the property has been turned into two beautiful, modern retreat homes.

The first house is where Jonathan, Michelle and their three children [a daughter, Abbey, joined the family in 2010] live. The second house is for their guests. The guest house has three bedrooms, a kitchen, a sitting room for relaxing, reading and prayer, a training room with a piano and a bathroom that includes a retreat spa bath.

"There's very deliberately a spa in there," says Michelle. "God really put on my heart that we need to put something in there for care and well-being. It's a very deliberate thing that I think the church really needs to start to take notice of. The world does it [retreats] so we need to do that better than the world."

Aside from relaxing indoors, guests are welcome to venture into the tranquil national park where they can go for a walk, feed the chickens, collect eggs, tend to the vegetable garden or sit outside and read a book.

The property epitomises the word "sanctuary" in every aspect. Michelle says the name "Sanctuary House" was a deliberate choice.

"A sanctuary is both a meeting place with God and a safe place. So that's a very intentional name. A safe place to retreat to and a holy place to set time aside to deliberately meet with God."

While Sanctuary House has only been running for a few short months, it's already hosted a number of guests including a couple of Salvation Army officers. And while Jonathan and Michelle have set up the place primarily for Salvation Army personnel, they also



Jonathan Browning and wife Michelle Kay-Browning, managers of Sanctuary House (facing page).

welcome anyone in ministry who needs time out.

Jonathan and Michelle have developed a program called SoulCare to help their guests find healing. Jonathan explains that SoulCare is not a focused structure because every individual will find restoration differently.

"Some people want to sit here and talk. Other people just want to go for a walk," he says.

"But we start out just talking with people, letting them share the journey, and out of that conversation we might suggest books to read or reflections or some guided retreats such as meditation, to help facilitate their encounter with God."

While Sanctuary House is set up for

short-term stays, Jonathan says they are committed to making sure everybody's stay is suited towards their circumstances. Plus, it's only a low cost of \$50 a night.

"It might be multiple short stays, for a weekend, or regular stays. I like the idea that it could be ongoing. For someone who is struggling in ministry they might need to come here every month for three days and make it part of their every strategy to stay in ministry and look after themselves."

Aside from running Sanctuary House, Jonathan also works for The Salvation Army as the "Welcome Home" Team Leader - a program that is focused on bringing people back to the Army.

Michelle also works as a teacher at Tara Anglican School for Girls in North Parramatta, running music choral groups and developing worship at the school chapel. Music is her passion and she intends for worship to become a significant part of the SoulCare program.

"It's very much about personal engagement," she says. "So providing tools of worship that they can choose to engage with, whether that be reading, music or out in nature with a focus on meditation."

For further information about Sanctuary House and worship training, visit sanctuaryhouse.net.au □



Michelle rounding up the chickens with daughter Abbey. Photos: Shairon Paterson



Esther Pinn is a staff writer for *Pipeline* and supplements.

Auburn's 'house of prayer for all nations' open for business

By Major CAROLYN HARMER

What started as a Salvation Army outpost in Sydney's western suburbs in the late 1800s, has subsequently evolved into a relevant, mission-minded community of faith dedicated to serving in the culturally diverse community of Auburn.

At the official opening of the new Auburn Corps complex recently, Salvationists and friends took time to reflect on the past, rejoice in the present and anticipate the future as they celebrated the evolving life of their church.

The Salvation Army was able to purchase a multi-story building in the heart of Auburn to accommodate the expanding work of the corps in that community. For the Auburn Corps, the move from Mary St to South Parade was an opportunity to celebrate.

The ground-floor level of the two-storey building is dedicated entirely to corps activities and the services it provides to the public. Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, and

Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Commissioner Jan Condon, both said it was a thrill to take part in the opening celebrations at a corps which was an earlier appointment in their officership.

During the celebrations visitors were invited to browse through the history of the corps in a specially created room. Here they could visualise the journey taken by the Auburn Corps over the years.

From 1919, when the first corps building in Mary St was opened, through both renovations on that site in 1963 and 1979, the memorabilia belonging to generations of faithful Salvationists was on display.

Captain Nesan Kistan, Auburn Corps Officer, greeted everyone and invited them to celebrate the gift of their new home. He was intentional as he reminded those gathered of the nickname adopted by the corps for their new building.

"We call this building 'donkey' because just as Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, this building is merely the vehicle. Jesus is the King," he said.

The Auburn Corps is a real celebration of faith, mission and culture, sharing a

healthy working relationship with their local, state and federal government representatives. The Parliamentary Secretary and Member for Hawkesbury, Ray Williams, was a special guest for the opening and he shared words of encouragement to all.

"It is not just the facility that will change lives, but the people in it," he said. "We are proud to partner with The Salvation Army."

Throughout the celebrations the congregation was led in contemporary worship. A small brass band ensemble also took part. The young children of the corps delighted everyone as they sang with big smiles all over their little faces.

The corps is blessed with a strong presence of African Salvationists and friends of the Army who now call Auburn their spiritual home. The stage lit up as the African choir sang in their native language and the dancers performed with natural rhythm and enthusiasm. Their praise through song and dance filled the room and they received great support from the crowd.

Firm foundation

Captain Kistan acknowledged that The Salvation Army at Auburn had been built on a great foundation established by the faithfulness of soldiers, officers and friends who had paved the way for today's mission.

As the celebrations continued, Commissioner Jan Condon recalled the transformation she had witnessed from her own out-training days as a cadet in the early 1970s, through to the late 1980s when with her husband, she was appointed to Auburn as corps officer. Now, in 2012, she has witnessed again the transformation of this vibrant expression of The Salvation Army in the evolving community of Auburn.

Focusing on 2 Corinthians 3:18, Commissioner Jan Condon encouraged the congregation to let Christ transform their lives. "As we let him in, our lives can be brighter and beautiful like Jesus," she said.

Commissioner James Condon



(Facing page) Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon enrolls three senior soldiers during the official opening of the new complex at Auburn.

Commissioner Condon and Auburn Corps Officer, Captain Nesan Kistan (left), stand alongside the plaque which celebrates the opening date of the Auburn Salvation Army centre which proclaims it as "A house of prayer for all the nations!"

addressed the congregation, telling them of his recent experience while looking for a retirement home. He cautioned them about looking at houses, saying "don't see it as it is, see it as it could be". Speaking from John 2:17, as the disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me", Commissioner Condon encouraged people to be passionate about the house of God being a house of prayer for all nations. He referred to The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory's first Mission Priority, "to be a territory marked by prayer and holiness", emphasising that "before God hears the prayer, he looks at the heart".

At Auburn, it is obvious the "house of prayer for all nations" is alive and well. Before the services begin fervent prayer is offered in the prayer rooms from many of the 27 nationalities in the corps.

Commissioner Condon had the opportunity to enrol three new senior soldiers - Alice Musa Koromah, Sia Bongao, and Johari Bakari - on the Sunday of the celebrations, with each woman giving a heart-felt testimony.

At night, a huge illuminated cross shines in the darkness above The Salvation Army at Auburn for all to see and know that Jesus Christ is central to what they do there.

The house of prayer for all nations is clearly One Army, One Mission, One Message - proclaiming that there is freedom for all through Jesus.

Greater West Divisional Headquarters gets in on the move

The move to the new South Parade facility was not just a relocation for Auburn Corps.

Under the leadership of Majors Gary and Judith Baker (pictured), the headquarters of The Salvation Army Greater West Division has also relocated to the site and now occupies the second level of the Auburn building.

Having shared office space alongside the Parramatta Corps for many years, the decision to move divisional headquarters to Auburn was seen as appropriate for a number of reasons. "This layout lends itself to a friendlier working atmosphere and easier communication between divisional departments," said Major Judith Baker.

Some territorial services have also been moved to the complex at Auburn, with the Information Technology Department, Shared Services Group, and the Internal Audit Department also sharing the new office space.

- Major Carolyn Harmer





SUBSCRIBE NOW!

Want to be notified when the latest issue of *Pipeline* magazine is available online?

Just go to our web address www.pipelineonline.org and enter your email address where directed. Each month you will be automatically notified by email when a new issue of the magazine has been uploaded for viewing. It's as simple as that!

BOOKS

Bringing home the message of friendship

Home. Author Mark Hadley

"I'm just not sure kids would recognise a friend these days, even if they fell over them," Mark Hadley says, reflecting on the feelings that led to him writing his new children's book *Home*.

Mark has been writing about popular culture for 15 years and is a regular

contributor to *Pipeline*. He's been writing scripts and articles for 25 years, but in 2009 his career turned towards children's picture books when he became friends with gifted illustrator Nathan Lee.

"Adults aren't the only ones losing their way in a world that sees the Bible as irrelevant," Mark explains. "Children growing up in Australia today are navigating relationships without a compass."

Mark and Nathan saw the opportunity to use a friendless Panda as a guide for teaching kids what real friendship looks like.

Home is about a gifted but lonely bear who lives in a village full of elephants. He decides that the solution to his problem is to find a new place "... where people liked the things he liked, where people were more like him".

However, making himself the centre of his quest for friends doesn't result in the happiness he expects.

Mark says Panda is very much like the child who's grown up seeing relationships

in terms of what they can deliver.

"Happiness depends on how many people like them, look like them, or like the things they like," he says.

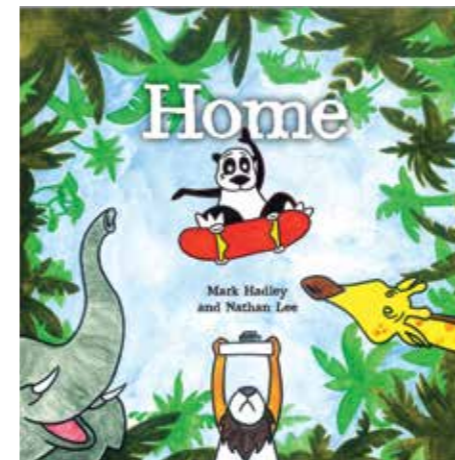
"God's idea of friendship - choosing people who need us more than we need them - is insane by this world's standards. But putting others at the centre is the only sure way of making sure we all get what we need."

Home has been picked up by Christian publisher Growing Faith. It is the first of three Panda books they will release, each aiming to teach children the foundations of real friendship.

"... if one selfless gift to a bear leads a single child to think about the selfless gift God has given them, then I think three years of playing with paints and words has been well worth it," Mark says.

Home was released on 16 June and is available for purchase at Christian bookstores and through www.growingfaith.com.au/panda

- Scott Simpson



Putting faith in practical health ministry

Keeping Faith in Faith-Based Organizations. Author: Dean Pallant

The major United States theology publisher, Wipf and Stock, has just released an academic book by a Salvation Army officer, Major Dean Pallant. *Keeping Faith In Faith-Based Organizations - A Practical Theology of Salvation Army Health Ministry* has been described by Professor Kjell Nordstokke of the Diakonhjemmet University in Norway as "practical theology at its best!"

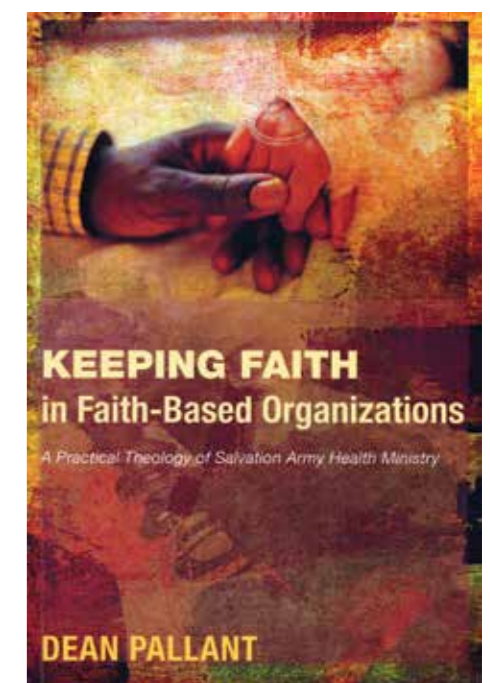
The book describes how the world's poorest people are struggling to access quality, affordable health care and argues change is urgently required. Faith-based organisations (FBOs) deliver more than 40 per cent of health services in many of the poorest places. This book calls FBOs to deliver quality health services without sacrificing their faith in the process. Major Pallant poses the question: "If its faith does not drive an FBO, whose faith does?"

Major Pallant, Under Secretary for Programme Resources and International Health Services Coordinator at The Salvation Army's International Headquarters in London, says: "It has

been my privilege to witness amazing Salvation Army ministry in more than 40 countries around the world in the past four years. I have observed similar challenges being faced by Salvationists - we have more in common than we think! This book tells the story of how The Salvation Army lives out the gospel faithfully while not pretending we are not sometimes tempted to be unfaithful."

The major's proposals are bold and far-reaching for The Salvation Army and other FBOs. They are insightful and challenging for everyone. General Linda Bond, in the preface, writes: "I have been challenged and encouraged by Dean Pallant's fresh approach. This book is not a word in season for The Salvation Army alone. It is timely for any faith-based organisation. The time has come for us to stand because of our faith in order to serve with compassion and grace."

Keeping Faith In Faith-Based Organizations can be purchased from Salvationist Supplies is Sydney (www.salvosuppliesyd.com) for \$29.50.





What would Jesus view?

With Pipeline culture writer Mark Hadley



The Amazing Spiderman / The Dark Knight Rises

RATING: M
RELEASE DATE: 4 July / 19 July

There are two types of people when it comes to superhero films: those who buy the tickets and those who roll their eyes. With this month's release of two of the year's most anticipated films falling into that comic category, I'd like to encourage that second group to join the first.

Yes, you can be sure that destruction will often take the place of dialogue. Yes, the villains' methods will remain largely unexplained. And yes, the heroes will display more drama than the combined cast of an amateur theatre company. But courage in tights is still courage.

Sony Pictures has made good on its promise to reboot the Spiderman franchise after three-time director Sam Raimi and his star Toby Maguire walked away in 2010. *The Amazing Spiderman* is a return to a simpler Peter Parker, with Andrew Garfield presenting a hero who has to work much harder at being heroic. This version of spiderman no longer possesses the innate ability to shoot webs from his body, but has to invent devices that

will do it for him. But he still has plenty of Parker's cockiness and overactive conscience.

When the teen discovers his parent's disappearance had something to do with his father's scientific experiments, he tracks down Dr Curt Connors (Rhys Ifans) for answers. But reforging the connection

provides Connors with the missing piece to a genetic puzzle that unleashes the villainous Lizard on an unsuspecting city. Once again, Spidey finds himself defending a public that is busy hunting him down as a masked vigilante.

Which brings us to where *The Dark Knight* left Batman ...



At the end of Christopher Nolan's second instalment, Bruce Wayne's alter-ego took the blame for the murderous Two-Face's crimes so that the city could heal around the memory of the virtuous DA Harvey Dent. However, Christian Bale's character is forced out of retirement eight years later in *The Dark Knight Rises* when the adrenally overcharged Bane (Tom Hardy) arrives to wreak havoc.

According to Nolan, Bane was chosen as his main antagonist to stretch Batman, "... mentally as well as physically". Like Parker, Wayne's integrity is tested to its very limits by an adversary who acknowledges none.

Equally challenged, equally misunderstood, Batman and Spiderman are forced to combat inner and outer demons to defend that which they know is right, even when it seems the object of their devotion is unappreciative of their efforts. This is the hero's primary characteristic: courage.

But, I hear my second group of film-goers ask: "Why do we need men in body suits to show it to us?"

Heroic stories make the invisible visible. Lessons like, "stand up for what you believe in" fade to beige because they're so familiar. When imaginary characters wear those inner qualities as boldly as bright Lycra and body armour, we get a stark reminder of what our real lives should reach for. CS Lewis criticised people who criticised fantasy stories for the same reason: "Since it is so likely that [children] will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage. Otherwise you are making their destiny not brighter but darker."

Public Christianity often shies away from heroism, but I find that strange when missionaries, social workers and other pastors provide some of the brightest points in a socially dark landscape. They in turn, have been inspired by the story of a misunderstood Messiah. Batman and Spiderman are useful billboard figures that reflect the real-life courage Jesus showed in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Jesus was heroic not because he felt no fear, but because he mastered it. He served God even though the world opposed his efforts, and continued to do so all the way to the cross. It remains to be seen whether Batman, Spiderman or you and I, will go that far.



Downton Abbey – Series 2

RATING: M
DISTRIBUTOR: Seven Network
RELEASE DATE: Sundays, 8.30pm

The second season of *Downton Abbey* has finally arrived. The story of the great house picks up with World War I in full swing and though half the village is off to fight, service is still on the minds of those who stay.

For those of you who missed the first season, *Downton Abbey* is a drama built around the aristocratic Crawley family and their slow emergence into the 20th century. It is 1916 and Lord Crawley, Earl of Grantham, enters still hoping that he will be able to save his wife's inheritance and marry his daughter to Matthew Crawley, his third cousin. Matthew has become the heir to his estate and title due to some untimely deaths. However, the recalcitrant cousin has taken a commission in the army and returns to put a cat amongst the pigeons by announcing his engagement to someone else.

The second season of *Downton Abbey* is as visually rich and dramatically engaging as the first. And as before, it is the stories that take place in the servants' quarters that derive the most interest. Everyone above and below stairs is contemplating what the war requires of them. Some serve grudgingly, others like the valet William struggle with the idea of not being able to follow the other men to the front line.

It must seem quaint to modern

audiences, the idea of volunteering to be involved in a war. It seems to be only in Christian circles that you hear of someone talking about the value of dying for something that wasn't intensely personal – another reflection of our obsession with the rights of the individual. However, what continues to be relevant is *Downton Abbey's* presentation of the youthful take on sacrifice.

Young people tend to view sacrifice in terms of the dramatic – millions of dollars given away, life-threatening rescues, spontaneous gifts of love. There's nothing wrong with these examples, they're just not the examples you'd expect to meet every day. They are sacrifices of the moment, not of a lifetime.

Young Christian men and women can be like William, longing to get to the war and failing to see the quieter, humble service that waits for them on their own doorstep. Though much, much more should be made of the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross for us, it shouldn't be done at the expense of the three decades of faultless life he lived for us, that gave his sacrifice meaning.

Rather than long for the day they can take up a "ministry", we would do well to encourage our children to discover what opportunities and which people God has placed in front of them to serve today. I can't think of a better way of preparing someone for great opportunities than to see them develop the humility God grows through unnoticed labour.

Pushing the pain button opens window on world poverty

SONYA PELL suggests all Salvationists should take a close-up look at poverty to inspire their involvement in eradicating the problem

P sychologists say that in order to create a sense of urgency, sometimes we have to push the pain button; that we need to engage with something first hand.

Often, however, the reality is that we can live in a comfortable middle-class western lifestyle with little engagement, exposure or even understanding of the pain and poverty suffered by others.

It may be said that it was this pain button – this experience of poverty – that provoked early Salvationists into urgent action in response to poverty; this pain that led them to create innovative solutions and equipped them with the knowledge and understanding of how to respond effectively.

These days, it may seem the grinding reality of pain suffered by poverty is something distant from our daily lives, where even as Christians and Salvationists engagement, exposure or even the actual suffering of poverty is something many of us have never seen or known.

In a recent study by the World Bank, the world's poor unanimously said they felt invisible to others: "Just as blind people cannot see, they cannot see us." If for many of us the poor are "invisible", how then can we create an urgency and truly engage with those most in need of support within our communities and our world?

Recently, a Greens senator agreed to attempt to live off \$17 a day for a week in order to understand what it was like for people in the community living on Newstart allowance.

Approximately 600,000 Australians live off Newstart, which equates to \$243 a week or approximately \$17 a day once rent has been factored in.

Sadly, research indicates that keeping the allowance low does nothing to increase a person's capacity to access long term employment and is more likely to see people struggling to pay

the minimal costs associated with looking for work and other activities that support community engagement.

It has been said that the first step to contributing to injustice is refusing to see it. So, while many of us may have grown up separated from the pain and suffering of such poverty, it is encouraging to see community advocates, churches and even government "give it a go" and experience first hand the difficulties associated with living on such a minimal allowance.

Poverty is complex. We know that despite unprecedented global prosperity, poverty still persists. Without pushing the pain button, experiencing a \$17 a day budget or moving our heart to see the people who may feel invisible to us, then how can we truly understand and respond to our calling?

Some of the greatest injustices are taking place in our world right now and often what is lacking is that sense of urgency to engage and do something about it.

The Salvation Army is uniquely placed in our communities. In Australia and globally, there is room for everyone – absolutely everyone – to engage in eradicating poverty where we live.

Every person can choose to tackle injustice, push the pain button, reignite a sense of urgency, get to know their community and take action.

If we take hold of this urgency today and simply start sharing the Gospel up close and personal within our communities, then we can establish change and see our world transformed. ➤



Sonya Pell is Assistant Director, Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Social

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.

Territorial Recovery Services:

Celebration of transformation! In March we saw the bell ring 80 times, bringing the total for the year to 201.

– Recovery Services Newsletter.

Maroubra:

Three new people have made first time commitments to the Lord; one through originally being assisted at our community welfare centre and then attending our meetings and another after an invitation from a corps member.

– Lenore Johnson.

Far North Queensland Cluster:

Another six for Jesus. The first guy was a trolley boy working in a supermarket on my first day in Cairns. Another lady came in for welfare and accepted Jesus in her life. The third person came to church on my welcome Sunday and I led him to the Lord. Then, I had the opportunity to pray for a guy on a day the division allocated for us to reflect. I was thanking God aloud for all he had given me. I thought I was alone, but sitting behind me was a visitor from France. We talked and he accepted the Lord. I met a woman in a hotel and she accepted Christ, as did a young woman after three weeks attending our meetings. Praise God. – Darren Kingston.

Aged Care Plus:

During the month of April, 328 of our residents renewed their Christian walk. – Beatrice Kay.

Leeton centres building pathways to connect

Although only a small corps, **Captain PHILLIP MCCALL** reports how Leeton is using the Mission Priorities to expand into the community

L eeton Salvation Army Corps is situated in the heart of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, in southern NSW. The MIA has a very vibrant agricultural industry and many challengers among its small but close community minded country towns.

We at Leeton are so blessed and humbled as God continues to work in and through our people as we embrace and apply the seven Mission Priorities of our territory.

A few years ago, our corps was reduced to a weekly attendance of seven to nine people. At times like this, you truly question your ability as an officer, especially in your first appointment.

But we now have a regular attendance of 25-30. I have to say that this is all because God moves when

we rely fully and focus on him.

Prayer and relationships are the main thing. Love God and love your people. Speak the truth and live the truth.

Our worship style has changed. Sunday morning worship is now a relaxed café style church. We sit at tables, sharing and building relationships as we open the Word together. Families share in worship.

We recently commenced a Kids Club (Sunday School) for the first time in a long while. We are so thankful to God. Children bring such a joy to the church and teach us so much. Through the week, we have small groups and CAMEO ladies fellowship, which has grown in number. There has been a real growth in hearts, as well.

The corps is not just about "us in a building". We are about a community of people who love and worship our Saviour and, along with many in our community, share God's love as we come alongside others who need to know that they are loved and worthy of our love.

We are One Army in the community and share God's love through our Family Stores (Leeton and Narrandera) Crisis and Welfare Centre, Salvation Army Emergency Services, Red Caps in Schools, Positive Lifestyle Programs, Teddy Bear Ministry, etc.

I love that verse in Scripture – 2 Corinthians 5:14 – The Love of Christ compels us ...

Many of these ministries would not take place if it were not for the dedicated staff and volunteers from our corps, other churches and community who come alongside us so that together we can be Christ in a hurting world.

For this we are truly thankful to God.

One lady started a ministry close to her heart. She knits Salvo Bears, which she distributes to doctors' surgeries, hospitals, dental centres – anywhere that some child may need comfort.



Leeton Corps honoured its emergency services team volunteers at a recent Volunteer Sunday. The group is (back row, left to right): Roy Pepper, Jan Pepper, Andrew Hopkins, Loretta Crawford-Rollo and Allen Smith. (Front row, left to right): Chris Skewes, Phyllis Tilker, Marie Jackson, Doreen Smith and Captain Phillip McCall.

Another lady with a strong faith and gentle heart was appointed chaplain to our Family Store in Leeton; to come alongside our staff with a caring heart, to encourage, give a listening ear and help with spiritual guidance.

It isn't rocket science; it is loving God and loving others – together.

Hopefully by the end of the year, we will have moved into the main mall area of Leeton, as the vision is to not only be One Army but to also have all this under one mission centre.

Over the last couple of years, we have been reaching out to Narrandera, a great community only 20 minutes away. We have a Family Store which has become a great expression of The Salvation Army.

We are in the process of commencing an Oasis Youth Pathways program for Leeton and Narrandera. The program will provide transitional housing for 16 to 19 year olds. A youth worker will work alongside youth in these communities, building relationships and helping to resource and mentor.

WOW! It even sounds exciting, humbling and a privilege as I write this to be a part of what God is doing out here ... and to also be ready for so much more that he can do.

I'm not saying it is perfect or easy. But as we fully rely and trust in God, he will equip us as we journey with him in his mission. ➤



Captain Phillip McCall and his wife Tuesday are Corps Officers at Leeton

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

Conference empowers Indigenous ministry

By ESTHER PINN

More than 60 Salvation Army leaders engaged in ministry with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, attended the first National Salvation Army Indigenous conference in Sydney from 8-10 June.

Bringing together Army personnel from all over Australia, the aim of the conference was to advance The Salvation Army's Indigenous ministry.

"About 20 to 25 percent [of attendees] were Aboriginal and 90 percent that led the presentations were Aboriginal people. We heard directly from Aboriginal people, their expertise and knowledge," said Adrian Kistan, Australia Eastern Territorial Indigenous Ministry Coordinator.

"The purpose was to firstly advance Indigenous ministry within The Salvation Army, secondly to inspire and encourage new expressions of Indigenous ministry, and thirdly an opportunity for those who sometimes feel isolated to connect with others and share the journey.

"There was a deep cry for Indigenous Christian leadership [at the conference]. We desire to see it to rise up and be identified, invest in, resource and empower Indigenous Christian leadership."

Aunty Jean Phillips, an Indigenous elder from Brisbane and a pioneer in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian ministry, was one of the first people to highlight this desire when she spoke.

"She shared the deep meaning for us to minister holistically to Aboriginal people in Australia," said Adrian. "The need for Indigenous Christian leadership to rise up, and she really endorsed The Salvation Army's work and challenged us to go deeper and do more."

Revered Graham Paulson, the first Aboriginal ordained minister in the Baptist church, shared from the Bible passages Philippians 2, 3 and 4 during three sessions.

"He focused on taking us on a cultural journey of understanding into cross-cultural ministry and explained the cultural values held by Western people as opposed to



Delegates to the first National Salvation Army Indigenous Ministry conference held in Sydney last month.

Aboriginal people," said Adrian. "But right at the heart of that is God's kingdom values and how we bring about God's kingdom values when understanding different cultural values."

Reverend Graham also gave a prophetic word to the conference guests. "The Salvation Army in Australia will have an Indigenous ministry in this country that will be second to none, if we take hold of God's purposes for us to be a holistic ministry," he shared.

Adrian believed the most powerful part of the conference occurred during question time. A panel of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander elders were asked many questions about culture and ministry.

"We created this safe environment where we're all under the grace of God and could ask questions and go a bit deeper," he said.

Uncle Vince Ross, a Salvationist from the Australia Southern Territory and the chairperson of The Salvation Army National Indigenous Reference Group, concluded the conference by providing some practical steps for developing ministry.

"It was an awesome gathering of people and we really believed God did a significant work amongst us," said Adrian.

Condoms lead at Lismore



At Lismore are (standing, left to right) Major Lindsay Reeves, Lieut Jennifer Reeves, Cindy Roberts, and Commissioners Jan and James Condon. Seated are Aunty Lola Roberts and Aunty Lynette Roberts.

The Salvation Army Australia Eastern territorial leaders, Commissioners James and Jan Condon, visited Lismore to conduct the meeting on Pentecost Sunday.

Lismore Corps has seen a change in culture and dynamics as new people are linking with the corps family.

A traditional welcome was organised for the Condoms which was warmly received by those present. Cindy, who organised the welcome, has recently joined the corps family and is involved in teaching aboriginal art to the women associated with the corps.

During an open sharing time, there was a readiness to be involved and, again, there was an acceptance and acclamation of those who told very personal stories.

Commissioner James Condon, in his message, compared living on the human level with living on the level of the Spirit. At the conclusion of the message people moved forward to the place of prayer.

On the Saturday evening, the Condoms had been guests at a dinner for all local clergy and those involved in ministry positions, as part of the National Day of Thanksgiving celebrations.

New level of care for residents at Macquarie Lodge

By Major CAROLYN HARMER

In response to an increasing demand for quality aged-care facilities, The Salvation Army Aged Care Plus recently opened the new Fairview wing at its Macquarie Lodge centre in Sydney's inner-west.

Even the bleak wintery weather couldn't keep supporters away as Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, officially opened the new wing which includes 49 residential-style suites.

Fairview has been designed with the security and comfort of residents in mind. There is airconditioning and built-in wardrobes in each room.

"The new wing is much more spacious," said Aged Care Plus Assistant Operations Manager, Major Annette West. "We have worked with designers and builders at the forefront of the aged-care industry to create this new home at Macquarie Lodge."

Psalm 147 was especially chosen by Commissioner Condon



One of the new rooms at Macquarie Lodge.

as he addressed the crowd of more than 60 guests, residents and staff. Focusing on the psalm, he spoke of the greatness and care of God. He also drew attention to the safety, security and peace mentioned in the psalm.

Commissioner Condon thanked God for the Aged Care Plus staff and the way they display his care through their dedicated lives. For the residents, it was the Commissioner's prayer that they would know they are really cared for, a point echoed by Major West.

"The Fairview wing is part of our commitment to provide our residents, new and old, with the highest level of care and utmost respect," she said.

The extension of Macquarie Lodge is part of an ongoing commitment by Aged Care Plus to rebuild, modernise and purpose-design its facilities.



Commissioner James Condon officially opens the new Fairview wing.

Army supporter receives rare honour

Australia Eastern Territorial Commander Commissioner James Condon has presented long-time Salvation Army supporter Don Fry, with the Order of Distinguished Auxiliary Service.

The recognition is reserved for volunteers who have rendered generous and long-time service to the Army. Don is one of just 24 recipients of this award in Australia.

Don was an inaugural member of the Army's Cairns Advisory Committee in 1974, and was subsequently appointed chairman. He held this position until 1995.

Ten years later, Don began another term of service as chairman of the committee, from which has just recently retired.

Dedicated to The Salvation Army, Don was also chairman of The Red Shield Appeal in Cairns from 1977 to 1990.

Through his company, Don supervised the construction of, and provided significant financial contribution to, the Army's new complex in Cairns. He also provided

professional advice and assistance in the establishment of the Army's Centennial Lodge for homeless men in 1990, and contributed to the construction of a community welfare centre in Cairns.



Don continues to support the Red Shield Appeal and other Salvation Army activities.

Salvation Army supporter Don Fry who has been awarded the Order of Distinguished Auxiliary Service.

Retirement tribute recognises life of exceptional service

By Major DESLEA MAXWELL

Friends and family of Major Heather Gill joined together in the Roy Bungay Memorial Hall, to pay tribute to a lady who gave 29 years of service to The Salvation Army in Papua New Guinea.

At the beginning of the service, as Major Gill was walked to the platform, flanked by her family, Pere Kalai, accompanied by the Koki Corps brass band, played a beautiful rendition of *Share My Yoke*. It was a piece of music that signified the service given by Major Gill to the Lord.

Territorial Commander Commissioner Andrew Kalai, in his opening comments, said the gathering was a "celebration of the life and work of Major Heather Gill in Papua New Guinea".

The Pathway of Duty, sung by the congregation, had indeed led Major Gill to many places both in PNG, Indonesia and Australia.

During the service, Venina Tinah remembered Major Gill as the one who taught the young people who resided at Koki about self-denial. Kelvin Gill spoke about his mother as one who had great faith in God, in the Army and the people of PNG. "This made the decision to stay in PNG after dad's death an easy one to make," he said.

Major Noho Pala recalled that Heather came to PNG in her 20s and that they worked together at the Provincial Headquarters.

"Heather is a real friend of PNG. She is humble, opens her home to anyone and is a real Papua New Guinean," she said.

"Thank you for your encouragement and friendship to me. 'Paia b'long mi', may the flame of your life keep burning in your retirement."

During the service, to the accompaniment of the Koki Corps brass band, the Koki Corps timbrel brigade presented a display to the delight of the congregation. Major Gill, in her early days in PNG, had led the timbrel brigade at Koki.

The Prophet Singers performed and then Commissioner Kalai read a tribute prepared by Majors Bev and Bill Mole, in which they spoke about Major Gill's love for people keeping her in PNG.

"There is something within Heather that made it so easy for her to cross over the cultural barriers," they wrote. "She is a friend to the friendless and her home was the home of the homeless."



Major Heather Gill (above) speaks at the service in PNG, and (below left) is presented with her retirement certificate by Commissioner Andrew Kalai.

Major Gill, in her reflection, spoke of her lineage in the Army and highlighted her work first as an employee and then as an officer. "I thank the Lord that my parents taught me from an early age to love the Lord," she said.

In her humble way, she thanked the Lord for using her to touch the lives of others. She expressed a delight in knowing that some of "her boys" from the John Irwin Lodge in Sydney became Salvationists, with one becoming an officer.

In her open style, she allowed the congregation a glimpse into one of the darkest times in her life when he spoke about the death of her husband, father and mother, all within a 13-month period. "But in the Lord's timing," she said, "He made all things possible."

She closed by saying, "I thank the Lord for his leading in my life, and for allowing me to serve him here in this country."

Commissioner Kalai then presented Major Gill with a Certificate of Exceptional Service for the 29 years given to the Papua New Guinea Territory, and then presented her with her Retirement Certificate.

Commissioner Kalai, in addressing the congregation, said that "Major Heather has been a sister to many of us here in PNG. She has been a servant in this territory and she is a saint. Major Heather is a true woman of God, whose heart has been purified by him."

Major Gill has moved from active service in PNG to retirement in Cairns.



Salvos release report into Queensland disaster response

By LAUREN MARTIN

The Salvation Army has released *Still Standing*, a report on its response to the 2011 flood and cyclone disasters in Queensland.

The report details how The Salvation Army has used the \$31 million raised through its disaster appeal to help thousands of affected families and individuals as they get back on their feet.

In his opening letter, Australia Eastern Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon, says the Army will continue to stand by those affected for many years to come.

"As our people on the ground stood alongside those in need when the crisis unfolded, we knew that this was the start of a long-term partnership with the people of Queensland," the Commissioner wrote.

"We have sown seeds of hope into disaster-stricken communities - setting up centres, programs and services that will operate well into the future."

One of the stories told in the report is that of Terri-Ann, whose home and belongings were destroyed in the floods. She,

her partner Steve and their three children, Tyrone, Ella-Maree and Marni, lived in a tiny 3m by 6m "donga" for eight months.

"Then The Salvation Army showed up and they found us more suitable accommodation," said Terri-Ann. "They helped me go through the motions with my landlord and made sure we had everything we needed."

Terri-Ann and her children started going to the local Salvation Army corps, and she said it helped keep her family together during those stressful months. "Just having that support really gave us hope, we knew that the Salvos had our back. It was lovely to know that we didn't have to do it all on our own. The Salvation Army has been so much a part of my life during the past year, I'm never going to forget it."

The *Still Standing* report states that The Salvation Army is committed to long-term involvement in flood and cyclone affected communities. Head of The Salvation Army's Queensland Disaster Response, Major Paul Moulds, says funding support has been committed until 2014 to ensure services are in place to assist the recovery of people and communities into the future.

A copy of the full report is available online at salvos.org.au.



South Queensland Outback Flying Chaplain, Captain Mark Bulow, features on the cover of the *Still Standing* report. Photo: Shairon Paterson



Terri-Ann with her partner Steve and children, Tyrone, Ella-Maree and Marni at their property in Fernvale, South Queensland, which was destroyed during the floods. Photo: Shane Holzberger

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

Around 16,000 Australians are left affected. **YOU can help.**

In less than an hour you can learn how to become aware of the warning signs that someone's in trouble and possibly considering suicide.

Everyone should learn - one day you might save a life.

To find out more go to suicideprevention.salvos.org.au



Beef Support Campaign assists Army's work in Queensland

By SIMONE WORTHING

Beef cattle and ear tags are not usually seen at Salvation Army fundraising events, but both were prominent at the launch of the Beef Support Campaign in the Central and North Queensland Division in May.

"The Beef Support Campaign is an opportunity for us to connect with rural Australia and connect graziers to assist others as well," said Major Glenn Whittaker, Divisional Secretary.

"A lot of the people on the land have been helped by The Salvation Army during natural disasters for decades and they want to give something back.

"The funds raised through this campaign will allow graziers, families and individuals to share in assisting The Salvation Army provide continued support to communities across Central and North Queensland."

The campaign allows graziers to select any number of Salvation Army-branded ear tags for the purpose of tagging a beast in their herd to raise them on behalf of The Salvation Army. When the beast(s) are sold, the proceeds from the sale are donated to The Salvation Army for its work in the division.

"We hope to give out 3000 ear tags over the next 18 months, and then put any funds raised back into the community," Major Whittaker said.

"The potential is there to raise \$3 million from this initiative."

Respected Queensland grazier, Sir Graham McCamley, is patron of the Beef Support Campaign. Sir Graham, from

Glenprairie Station, received the first ear tags and gave them to his daughters to put on their cattle. He is an active supporter of the Army.

"The Salvation Army do an awful lot of good and people don't realise what they do," Sir Graham said. "They help a lot of people on the land as well."



Sir Graham McCamley receives the Beef Support Campaign brochure and ear tags from Major Rodney Walters, Central and North Queensland Divisional Commander. Photo courtesy of Queensland Country Life



Sponsor a child for \$25 a month



Your sponsorship will provide food, education, clothing, basic medical care and spiritual support.

VIC | WA | SA | NT | TAS
Contact us: 03 8878 4543
childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org

NSW | QLD | ACT
Contact us: 02 9266 9775
child.sponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org

Curtis gives food wastage a serve



Photo: Shairon Paterson

Celebrity chef Curtis Stone officially launched the national fresh food donation program, pioneered by Coles Community Food and not-for-profit organisation SecondBite, at The Salvation Army Streetlevel in Sydney on 30 May.

With about four million tonnes of food being dumped nationally every year, Curtis (pictured serving up a meal at the launch) said he is particularly passionate about avoiding food wastage. Streetlevel is just one of the many charities

who will be receive nutritious fresh produce and bakery items from Coles stores around NSW. The program aims to provide more than 600,000 meals over the next 12 months to people who don't have access to regular fresh food.

"Food has made all my dreams come true. To be able to help people who don't get enough to eat ... if they can get it [the food] into the right hands, then people have the opportunity to eat good, wholesome nourishing food. I'll do whatever I can with as much time as I've got," said Curtis.

Jean celebrates 80 years of Home League

Jean Glover was taken to her first Home League meeting, held in a small shop under the Sydney Harbour Bridge, by her mother in 1932.

Eighty years later and Jean is still a dedicated home leaguer, among eight ladies recently enrolled as members of the group at The Salvation Army's Gold Coast Temple Corps.

Jean was only eight years old when she attended her first meeting, and Home League has continued to be a big part of her life for the past eight decades.

Jean also attended Sunbeams, and was enrolled as both a junior and senior soldier.

"I vividly remember my first Home League meeting," Jean said. "It was in Arthur St, under the Sydney Harbour Bridge, and we met at the back of a small shop there.

"I remember all the prams lined up outside the shop, and all the mums and toddlers going in to hear the message of Home League - how to build your house under the Word of God.

"The basic message of Home League is still the same as 80 years ago, although the world has changed since then. It's been a long journey from 1932!"



Jean Glover is enrolled as a home leaguer at Gold Coast Temple by Lieutenant Katie Harlem.

Book a booth for Kaffee and cake at Calamvale

Laughter, friendly chatter and the wafting scents of coffee and cake provide a warm welcome to Calamvale Corps' recently opened cafe - Kaffee Booth.

Using the German word for coffee to reflect the international make-up of the local community, and Booth to honour the founders of The Salvation Army, the cafe, in Brisbane's south, is open every Tuesday from 10am-2pm.

"We offer good food, good Fairtrade coffee and an atmosphere of love, acceptance and community," said Major Jo-Anne Brown, Calamvale Corps Officer.

The cafe features a book table, games table and also offers prayer, a listening ear and plenty of good conversation. English conversation classes and instruction in basic computer skills are both on the agenda for consideration in the future.

Corps members have been inviting friends, family and neighbours to Kaffee Booth, many of whom do not attend church. Recently, a number of people from a nearby retirement village also came for coffee and are returning regularly.

"We don't have definite plans for Kaffee Booth," said Major Brown. "We sense that God wants to do something and we want to leave the doors wide open for his direction and ideas for this place. We are also prepared for a wide range of opportunities and just want to connect with people and tap into the heart of God for this community."

A dedicated team of volunteers from the corps prepare the

food, set up the cafe and clean up afterwards. Others donate ingredients, make cakes and "yummies" and pray for those coming to the cafe.

"It's exciting to see what God is doing, and is going to do here," said Major Brown.



Kaffee Booth is proving popular in the Calamvale community.

SALT student initiative wins council volunteer award

By SIMONE WORTHING

A Macquarie University student-run food bank initiative, run in conjunction with The Salvation Army, has received the 2012 Group Volunteer Award from Ryde Council in Sydney.

The initiative, known as SALT (Seek Justice, Alleviate Hunger, Lift the Burden Today, Transforming Lives), is also supported by the university's Campus Experience. It is the only officially chartered Salvation Army university student association in Australia.

SALT was established two years ago and helps provide a better place to live for the residents of a nearby government housing estate. Students collect leftover food items donated by retail outlets on campus, which they distribute to the residents of the estate.

Ryde Council's annual Volunteer Recognition Awards acknowledge the contribution made by unsung heroes in the local government area. SALT was one of seven groups nominated for the Group Volunteer Award.

In late 2010, Andrew McCloud and Shane Fenwick, two Macquarie University students with links to The Salvation Army, felt challenged about how to live out the gospel and focus on Christian activism and advocacy.

After searching The Salvation Army website for a contact, they met Robyn Evans, the Australia Eastern Territorial Social Justice Coordinator, to discuss their vision and how to make it work in practical terms. They also spoke to Craig Stephens, leader at the Army's Macquarie Park Mission, about local Salvation Army needs and support.

"Not long after that, Macquarie University called Craig to let him know that the university had leftover food at the end of every day that they would like to give to people who needed it,

and SALT was started," said Andrew.

"All things came together so quickly. We just said that we were available and really, God did all the work to make this happen."

A third student, Daniel Bofinger, has since joined Andrew and Shane in leading the food bank initiative. Currently, mostly student volunteers collect the soups, pastries, sandwiches, rice and other dishes and take them to a distribution point organised by the Macquarie Park Mission.

"This initiative is about relationships, advocacy, fostering a community and doing all that in Christ's name," said Andrew.



Daniel Bofinger accepts the volunteer award on behalf of the SALT project. Photo courtesy Macquarie University

Age shall not weary Lieut-Colonel Young, to a degree

The Sydney College of Divinity, through The Salvation Army's Booth College in Sydney, recently awarded Lieutenant-Colonel Neil Young a Bachelor of Theology degree.

"I would not be the only retired officer to have been awarded a university degree, but I think I must be close to the oldest, at 84 this year," Lieut-Colonel Young said. "I am grateful to God for keeping me able to continue to work for him even at 84."

Lieut-Colonel Young also holds Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education degrees.

"My motivation [for studying] was to get to know what our soldiers and the people in the community were thinking so I could understand the world they lived and worked in, and address their questions," Lieut-Colonel Young explained. "So I studied economics, English language

and history.

"My conviction was that I was not only to minister in the Army but to go into the world. We shouldn't expect the world to come to us and fit into our programs, we should take the gospel and its implications into the world."

Lieut-Colonel Young retired in 1993, but continues to teach officers through the SALT College in Kenya, and mark assignments.

"Again in retirement I found myself getting out of date so I enrolled in Booth College and upgraded my Diploma of Theology to a Bachelor of Theology," he said.

Lieut-Colonel Young attributes his long hours of study over many years, his dedication to learning and conviction of his talents to being the best equipped officer he could be, and being used fully for Jesus.



Lieut-Colonel Neil Young who was recently awarded a Bachelor of Theology degree.

Study success

The following officers and employees of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory have also had degrees and diplomas conferred on them by the Sydney College of Divinity.

Master of Arts: Lieutenant Cara Brackstone; Lieut Kylie Hodges; Lieut Alana Reid; Lieut David Sutcliffe; Lieut Lara Sutcliffe.

Bachelor of Theology: Major Warren Parkinson; Captain Grant Kingston-Kerr; Captain Louanne Mitchell; Captain Jody Pethybridge; Captain Steven Smith; Rhonda Gregory.

Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice: Major Brian Unicomb.

Diploma of Theology: Captain Patricia Shadbolt; Lieut Ashley Barkmeyer; Lieut Aaron Reid; Lieut Ian Shelley; Lieut Tammy Shelley; Lieut Narelle Unicomb.

Also, Major Graham Harris has been awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D in Religious Studies) from Trinity College in Indiana, United States. The doctoral thesis was entitled Jesus - a lesser God?? which he had to defend.

'Stella Fellas' needed to combat trafficking

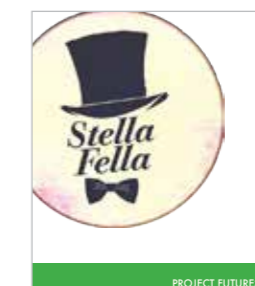
Project Futures, a non-profit organisation that raises awareness and funds to help combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation in Australia and South-East Asia, launched its "Stella Fella" campaign on 1 July.

"All monies raised from the Stella Fella campaign will go towards our partnership with The Salvation Army's anti-trafficking unit," said Stephanie Lorenzo, Founder of Project Futures.

"We support two of their current projects; the safe house for trafficked victims and the Freedom Advocates Project."

The safe house provides supported accommodation for both single and young women in Sydney. The women are offered crisis and long-term assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Freedom Advocates Project empowers survivors to engage in advocacy activities aimed at ending human trafficking and slavery.

The Stella Fella campaign is a three-month interactive campaign whereby people can nominate male friends,



colleagues or family members they believe encompass the ideals of what it means to be a "stella fella". A finalist will be chosen in September, and a winner named Stella Fella 2012.

"The winner will have the opportunity to work with our team over the next year to help raise awareness about our cause within the male community as well as receive

some fantastic prizes," Stephanie explained.

A new element to the campaign this year is National Bow Tie Friday on Friday, 7 September.

"By buying and wearing a bow tie on 7 September, you are setting a precedent of support for our cause with zero tolerance for behaviour which facilitates trafficking," Stephanie said.

For more information, and to purchase a bow tie, go to stellafella.com

General's Royal Albert Hall address calls on Salvationists to 'fight to the very end!'

One hundred years after William Booth, Founder of The Salvation Army, made his final public appearance in London's Royal Albert Hall, the venue hosted another great gathering of Salvationists at the I'll Fight congress.

The event on May 26-27, organised by the United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland, included moments of celebration, worship and prayer, and words of challenge from General Linda Bond, world leader of the Army.

On the Saturday evening, a capacity congregation enthusiastically greeted the General, who took the salute as territorial and divisional flags were brought into the arena. In moving moments that followed, the General quoted from the Founder's "I'll Fight!" speech, echoing the theme of the congress.

The General asked: "Where did the Founder get this fighting spirit? Where did he get this heart for souls?" She answered: "He got it from Jesus." She talked about what is happening in the worldwide Army, referring to help for trafficked people, those suffering from disease, poverty and persecution, and how the work continues to grow. The General declared: "The Salvation Army belongs in the dark places."

The focal point for Sunday meetings was a huge, cross-shaped mercy seat. Newly installed territorial leaders Commissioners André and Silvia Cox, and members of the massed youth chorus, led the way as scores of people moved to the cross in response to the General's appeal.

That the Sunday of congress was also Pentecost Sunday added a poignancy to the morning meeting as officers, soldiers, children and friends knelt to pray with those who had made their way to the cross in search of a fresh touch of power from the Holy Spirit.

The installation by the General of Commissioners André and Silvia Cox as Territorial Commander and Territorial President of Women's Ministries, respectively, was conducted with humour

and a note of gratitude to God for bringing the commissioners to the territory. The General preached with power and conviction, emphasising the message that God would bring revival to the Army if Salvationists sought Pentecostal empowering. Those present heard an inspiring word of encouragement that the infilling of the Holy Spirit is for everyone.

As the time came for the meeting to draw to a close, people continued to kneel at the cross. The meeting concluded with the impassioned singing of the final verse of the Founder's song, *O Boundless Salvation*, and *Eternal God*, as large screens on the platform displayed images of people still making their way forward to the mercy seat.

The underlying congress theme of fighting for social justice was touched upon by the General during the final meeting of the weekend. "There is something wrong with society when the rich are getting richer and richer and richer, and the poor are getting poorer and poorer and poorer," she said.

The General recited sections of the Founder's "I'll Fight!" speech, placing it in a modern setting and demonstrating its relevance 100 years on. Addressing the thousands present at the Royal Albert Hall and those around the world watching online, the General said: "Wherever you are ... say: 'Yes, Lord, I will fight. I will fight to the very end!'"

Her address prompted a huge response as hundreds flocked to the mercy seat in rededication. "I don't think there is a better sight in the world than The Salvation Army kneeling at the Cross of Jesus," commented the General.

The congress began on Friday at Regent Hall Corps with a social justice conference featuring Commissioner Christine MacMillan, director of The Salvation Army's International Social Justice Commission. Eleven workshops concentrated on different aspects of social justice.

- From reports by Claire Anderson, Laura Barker, Major Jane Kimberley and Major Stephen Poxon.



The General (above) installs Commissioners André and Sylvia Cox as territorial leaders; the cross (left) was the central focus of Sunday worship at the congress. Photos: Paul Harmer

FedEx makes special delivery to Army in San Francisco

The international distribution and logistics company FedEx Corporation has made a special delivery to The Salvation Army's Golden State Division in San Francisco.

The company donated a custom Disaster Response Unit - the first vehicle of its kind in San Francisco. Valued at \$100,000, it is one of 15 units that FedEx

has donated to The Salvation Army during the past five years. It is fitted with the latest equipment and technology to assist disaster response personnel in helping community members during and after emergencies such as fires, earthquakes and floods.

A fully functioning kitchen allows workers and volunteers to prepare meals

for approximately 2500 people per day. A GPS tracking device will enable Salvation Army leaders to know exactly where the unit is at any time. In addition to assisting during disaster situations, the vehicle will participate in a Salvation Army street outreach programme which serves approximately 750 unsheltered people per week.



Jim Harbaugh (head coach of the San Francisco 49ers American Football team) presents the keys to the new Disaster Response Unit to Major Wayne Froderberg (Emergency Disaster Services Coordinator, Golden State Division), watched by Steve Seymour (Managing Director, FedEx Express) and Lieut-Colonel Steve Smith (Divisional Commander, Golden State Division).

Swansons share faith and fun in Philippines

By Lieut-Colonel ROBYN CLINCH

The tourism slogan "It's more fun in The Philippines!" was appropriate for the 75th anniversary celebrations of The Salvation Army in the country last month, led by the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Barry Swanson, and Commissioner Sue Swanson, World President of Women's Ministries.

The celebrations commenced with a youth congress - set in lush, tropical surroundings about two hours from the capital city, Manila - attended by nearly 500 people. The delegates responded wholeheartedly to the messages of the international visitors that "now" is the time to engage in the fight for Jesus Christ. The mercy seat was lined time and time again, including 57 people who committed themselves to Salvation Army officership.

A similar energy marked the officers councils, which included enthusiastic singing, the presentation of long-service awards and stirring testimonies.

The Salvation Army invaded Manila's Luneta Park on a hot Saturday afternoon for a Pinoy Praise Party (Pinoy is a local word for Filipino). The gathering was richly Filipino flavoured - full of colour, joy and booming music. The Chief of the Staff and Commissioner Sue Swanson easily engaged the large crowd.

The Sunday morning meeting in the Cuneta Astrodome included the memorable enrolment of 150 senior soldiers.

The Chief, in his Bible message, spoke of the place of grace in sanctification as well as salvation. "Have more faith in God's grace!" he told the congregation. During a sacred time of prayer, hundreds of people flocked to the mercy seat. The afternoon meeting also witnessed many recommitments to God and the work of The Salvation Army following Commissioner Sue Swanson's powerful Bible message.

As the celebrations concluded, there was a sense of confidence in the future of The Salvation Army's mission in the Philippines. The anniversary slogan said it all - "From Strength to Strength We Grow!"

Salvos spread light at Olympic torch relay

By NATHAN BRIGHT

As the Olympic torch relay makes its way around the United Kingdom and across to Ireland ahead of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London, The Salvation Army is maintaining a prominent presence.

The flame was lit in Olympia, Greece, before being transported to Cornwall, in south-west England, in May for a 70-day trip around the UK and Ireland. The route will take the torch to within 10 miles of 95 per cent of the UK population.

The More Than Gold ministry team based at The Salvation Army's Territorial Headquarters (THQ) in London, is encouraging corps and centres to use the relay as a way to remind their communities of the Army's presence while demonstrating Christian love and hospitality. One way in which corps can do this is through the use of one of The Salvation Army's emergency vehicles, which THQ has committed to providing. The fair trade company Traidcraft is providing free tea and coffee.

Special issues of UK publications *The War Cry* and *Kids Alive!* have been produced to be handed out at torch relay events as well as at other outreach opportunities during the Games. The *Kids Alive!* special issue has proved so popular that the original print run was exhausted, leading to a reprint.

Some Salvationists have been chosen to carry the torch. Ryan Wileman, Divisional Youth Officer for the Yorkshire Division, took part in the relay on 26 June. Former Olympian Ian Richards, who attends Worthing Corps and is on the More Than Gold



Majors Andrew and Lori Richards and their daughter Ele get hold of an Olympic torch at a Salvation Army post in Plymouth.

Paralympic Board, will carry the torch on 16 July. Ian represented Great Britain in the 50km walk at the 1980 Moscow Games.

The territorial sports ministry section goes under the name Sport for Good. Updates on The Salvation Army's Olympic and Paralympic-related work can be found on the Sport for Good Facebook and Twitter pages: www.facebook.com/SASportforGood and www.twitter.com/SportforGood

Race well run



Lieutenant-Colonel Peggy Stephens was promoted to glory on 17 April, aged 86.

A large congregation of family, friends, comrades, officers and bandsmen attended the funeral and thanksgiving service in the newly opened citadel at Auburn in Sydney, conducted by Commissioner James Condon. This Celebration of Life had been prepared by Lieut-Colonel Stephens which typified her life and service.

There were several tributes brought by friends and family, including Commissioner Jan Condon (personal tribute), Lieut-Colonel Pamela Hodge (retired officers tribute), Major Chris Kistan (corps tribute), Aux-Captain Ron Stephens, brother Ken Stephens and nephew Craig Stephens (family tributes).

Jean Isberg read from Proverbs 3:1-6 and Commissioner James Condon brought a message based on that scripture.

After the benediction, the extended Stephens family formed a guard of honour while five Stephens brothers, as pallbearers, escorted Lieut-Colonel Stephens from the citadel for cremation.

Peggy was born at Wyuna Private Hospital, Manly, on 6 September 1925, to William and Emily Stephens and was the eldest of 11 children - Bill, Dorothy, Norma, Ron, Jean, Ken, Carolyn, Robert, Colleen and Alan.

Her early years were spent in Frenchs Forest in Sydney's north, where she was involved in the Four Square Gospel Church. She was converted at the age of eight and dedicated her life to God for full-time service.

After the family moved to Croydon and then Burwood in 1938, they came into contact with The Salvation Army through the ministry of Major Alex Tamina.

Peggy held various local officer positions at Burwood prior to entering The Salvation Army Training College in March 1946 as a member of the *Challengers* session.

She gave nine years valuable service as a field officer at Mt Morgan, Mullumbimby, Narrabri, Yass and Coffs Harbour.

Specialised service was given for two years at Deniliquin on the field unit before six years in divisional youth work in North NSW and Sydney West divisions.

During this period she was a delegate to the International College for Officers in London, attended the welcome for

General and Mrs Coutts, the opening of the new International Headquarters and was presented to the Queen Mother.

Following a one-year term in the Field Department at Territorial Headquarters in Sydney, she served as assistant territorial youth secretary and territorial guard and sunbeam organiser.

An appointment as chief side officer for women for four years at the training college preceded service as the court officer for women in Sydney. She returned to youth work as the territorial youth secretary in 1977, before becoming territorial social services secretary in January 1980.

Peggy retired from full-time ministry as an officer of The Salvation Army in September 1985 after more than 38 years service.

Her outgoing personality, happy disposition and infectious smile endeared her to many throughout the territory, far beyond the boundaries of her appointments.

Her wise counsel, ability to listen with real empathy and willingness to forgo her own private life in making herself available to others at all times was used in a wonderful way for the extension of the Kingdom.

Following retirement, Lieut-Colonel Stephens was actively involved in various roles within the Auburn Corps, including Home League, League of Mercy, Bible study and English speaking classes.

She was involved in Friends of the College, The Salvation Army Historical Society and the Retired Officers League.

Peggy received the RSL Anzac of the Year Award in 1989 in recognition of her work with women and girls, and in 1991 she received the OAM, Order of Australia Award for services to the community.

Life's race well run, life's work well done, life's crown well won, now comes rest.



Loving service

Vera Henry was promoted to glory on 12 November 2011, aged 89.

The crematorium was packed to capacity for her funeral service.

Captain Karen Saunders, Orange Corps Officer, who had worked beside Vera in the last few years of her life, led her life celebration.

Joy Anthony, a former guard, spoke of the fellowship and leadership given to the guards by this sincere leader.

Olive Griffin spoke of Vera's

friendship to her and her strong Christian standards.

She said Vera lived out daily the Life Saving Guard's prayer.

Some of her grandchildren sang and two others paid sincere tributes to their grandmother. Vera's two sons, Robert and John, and daughter Joan are remembered in prayer.

Vera Georgina Henry came into the Orange Corps after joining the Life Saving Guards as a young adult. This movement became her life's enjoyment and passionate interest.

She became the guard leader and influenced many young girls to adopt a well-balanced way of life, gaining their love and trust with her patience and kindness.

When Vera retired from guarding she continued helping by sewing guard and sunbeam uniforms.

Vera crocheted numerous rugs, which were sent by the Missionary Department to Africa; she worked at the Family Store sorting clothes; harvest festivals benefited from her sweets, cakes and fresh vegetables; and the hall was frequently adorned with the flowers from her garden.

When this remarkably talented woman joined the Home League, she took part in all its activities and took on the Thrift Club until it was closed down in the 1980s.

In 1998, Vera was presented with a certificate as the longest-serving home leaguer.

At the Orange Corps' 125th anniversary, Vera was presented with a beautiful inscribed bowl, recognising 74 years of loving service in The Salvation Army.

Reports

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



Salvos Stores offer great finds like one-off vintage pieces and incredible fabrics - and it's satisfying to know that every purchase helps your community by providing;

Meals for the hungry
Beds for the homeless
Assistance in finding employment
Refuge to victims of abuse

Visit www.salvos.org.au/stores for more information or call 13 SALVOS (13 72 58)



WARWICK CORPS
Celebrating 125 years
25-26 August 2012

SPECIAL GUESTS:
Territorial Mobile Mission Team

For more information or to register
email: warwick.corps@ae.salvationarmy.org
OR phone (07) 4661 3617

about people

Additional Appointment

Major Keith **Hampton**, Territorial Brass Ministry Development Coordinator, effective 31 May.

Appointments

Effective 1 August: Lieut-Colonel Rodney **Walters**, Chief Secretary, Eastern Europe Territory; Lieut-Colonel Wendy **Walters**, Territorial Secretary For Women's Ministries, Eastern Europe Territory; Major Kelvin **Pethybridge**, Divisional Commander, Central and North Queensland Division; Major Cheralynne **Pethybridge**, Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, Central and North Queensland Division.

Bereaved

Major Russell **Grice** of his mother, Evelyn **Grice** on 15 May; Major Pam **Robinson** of her brother and Captain Jacob **Robinson** of his Uncle, Reginald **Wheatley**; Captain Dale **Murray** of his uncle Les **Brennan** on 25 May.

International College for Officers (ICO)

The following officer has been accepted as an ICO delegate for Session 214 from July 11 - September 3: Major Melba **Crisostomo**.

Promoted to glory

Captain Winnie **Orme** on 10 June; Major Vic **Bailey** on 14 June.

Resignation

Lieutenant Tammy **Rees**.

SAGALA Awards

The following person has received the Commissioner's Challenge Award: Tekoah **Thompson**, Bundamba Corps.

Study Success

The following officers and employee had their degrees and diplomas conferred on them by the Sydney College of Divinity at their graduation on 12 May.

Master of Arts: Lieutenant Cara **Brackstone**, Lieutenant Kylie **Hodges**, Lieutenant Alana **Reid**, Lieutenant David **Sutcliffe**, Lieutenant Lara **Sutcliffe**.

Bachelor of Theology: Lieut-Colonel Neil **Young**, Major Warren **Parkinson**, Captain Grant **Kingston-Kerr**, Captain Louanne **Mitchell**, Captain Jody **Pethybridge**, Captain Steven **Smith**, Rhonda **Gregory**.

Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice: Major Brian **Unicomb**.

Diploma of Theology: Captain Patricia **Shadbolt**, Lieutenant Ashley **Barkmeyer**, Lieutenant Aaron **Reid**, Lieutenant Ian **Shelley**, Lieutenant Tammy **Shelley**, Lieutenant Narelle **Unicomb**.

The following person has received a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D in Religious Studies) from Trinity College in Indiana, America: Major Graham **Harris**.

Territorial Promotions

To Lieut-Colonel: Majors Rodney and Wendy **Walters**.

time to pray

1-7 July

Women's Ministries, THQ; Yeppoon Mission, Wynnum/Capalaba Community Welfare Centre, God's Sports Arena, all Qld; Glebe Corps, Faith Cottage, both NSW; QPAS (1-7); ACT and South NSW Snow Mission (2-21); World Wide Prayer Meeting (5).

8-14 July

Family Tracing, NSW and ACT; Warringah Place Retirement Village, Oasis Youth Support Network, Ryde Corps, Hannam Vale Corps, all NSW; Third year Officers Training Residential (8-13); World Wide Prayer Meeting (12).

15-21 July

Hopedale House Gunnedah, Rouse Hill Corps, Dural Corps, Bethany Residential Aged Care, all NSW; Tuggeranong Corps, ACT; Territorial Mission and Resources Team - Corps, THQ; World Wide Prayer Meeting (19).

22-28 July

Oasis Bridge Youth Family Drug and Alcohol Support Program Newcastle, West Wyalong Corps, Inverell Corps, Cowra Corps, all NSW; Calamvale Corps, Hervey Bay Corps, both Qld; Tri-territorial Planned Giving Conference, New Zealand (22-26); Central and North Queensland Division Officers Fellowship (23-26); Sydney East and Illawarra Division Women Officers Retreat (23-25); Candidates Board (26); Coutts Lecture, Sydney (26); World Wide Prayer Meeting (26); Just Men Conference (27-28).

29 July - 4 August

Young Cluster (Young, Grenfell and Cootamundra), NSW; Horton Village, Mackay Northern Beaches Mission, Bowen Corps, Southport Community Welfare Centre, all Qld; Finance Department, THQ; Annual Day of Prayer for Children (29); Coutts Lecture, Brisbane (29); South Queensland Division Women's Camp (30 July-2 August); ACT and South NSW Division Women's Refresh Weekend (3-5 August).

5-11 August

Colonels Hezekiel and Mirriam Mavundla, Tanzania Territory; Granville Corps, The Anchor Men's Crisis Centre, Moree Corps, Tuggerah Lakes Corps, all NSW; Ipswich Community Welfare Centre, Qld; Red Shield Defence Services Biennial Conference (6-10); Inter-territorial Leaders' Conference (7); Brengle for Officers (7-17); World Wide Prayer Meeting (9); Territorial Youth Ministry Conference (10-12).

engagement calendar

Commissioners James (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

Sun 8-Sun 15 July - International Conference for Leaders
*Collaroy: Fri 27-Sun 29 July - Just Men Conference
Sydney: Mon 30 July - Fellows Program presentation of awards
#Wollongong: Tues 31 July - Community Services Conference

*Commissioner James Condon only
#Commissioner Jan Condon only

Colonels Wayne (Chief Secretary) and Robyn Maxwell

Canberra: Sun 1 July - Memorial Service and Dedication of Montevideo Maru Memorial
Stanmore: Thu 5 July - Pre Retirement Seminar
#Hurstville: Mon 9 July - Women's Ministries
Stanmore: Tues 10 July - Three Year Review
Bundaberg: Fri 13-Sun 15 July - Corps Visit
*Hurstville: Sun 22 July - Meeting with National Secretariat
*Collaroy: Fri 27 July-Sun 29 July - Just Men Conference

*Colonel Wayne Maxwell only
Colonel Robyn Maxwell only