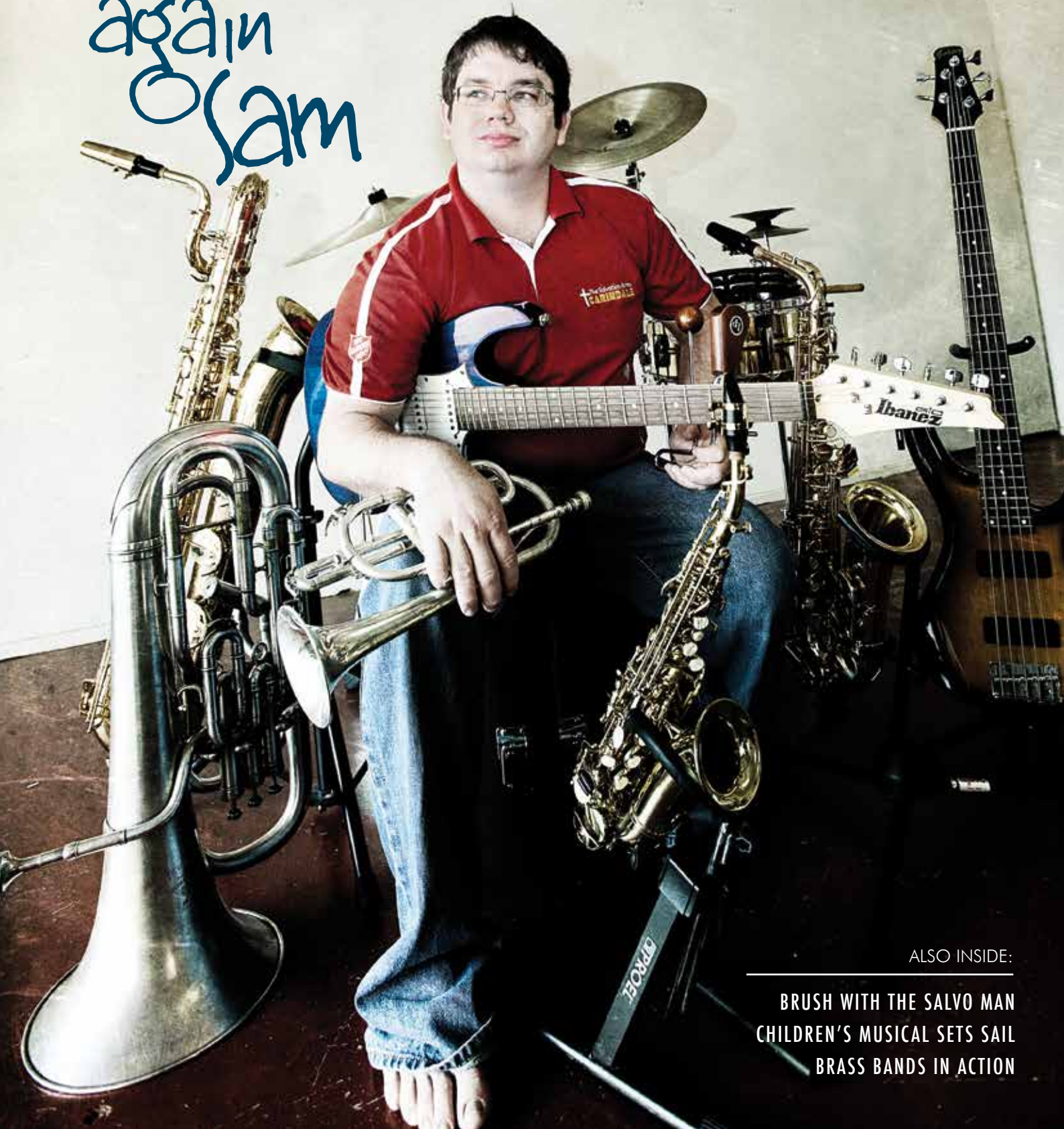


CREATIVE **MINISTRY** E

THE SALVATION ARMY AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY JULY 2013 | VOLUME 14 | ISSUE 3

Play it
again
Sam



ALSO INSIDE:

BRUSH WITH THE SALVO MAN
CHILDREN'S MUSICAL SETS SAIL
BRASS BANDS IN ACTION

PERFECT PITCH *with Major Keith Hampton*



ALL STARS WEEKEND SHINES BRIGHT

It was during lunch one day during the New York Staff Band's Future All Stars Weekend, that I met Lori Laidlow, a Salvation Army officer serving with her husband about two hours outside of New York City. I had spoken briefly to her son Caleb, who is the principal cornet of both the 2012 and 2013 All Stars but it was during this lunchtime conversation I realised the significance of his most recent achievement of being accepted into the 1st cornet section of the NYSB. At 14, Caleb was having education difficulties at school due to his dyslexia. Lori, who was the first woman to join the NYSB and sits on the solo cornet bench had decided to home school him. Two years later, through this committed parenting and a NYSB scholarship, Caleb has excelled both in his school work and as a musician. He has achieved so much!

The NYSB has a scholarship program that helps students like Caleb in their studies and to work within the Salvation Army in divisions, territorial headquarters and the like in all aspects of Army work, whether in accountancy, administration, property, publications or creative ministry while serving in the New York Staff Band.

What a fine tradition that could well be emulated in our own territory. You can read more about my trip to visit the New York Staff

Band in this Creative Ministry edition.

As I write, my mind moves around the territory to our own various musical groups and their members whether in a brass band, a worship band or a vocal/songster group or the timbrels or drama group. They come together faithfully each week to rehearse for their participation in their upcoming Sunday meetings. Their contributions differ from corps to corps, but all of us aiming at providing for all present a time of worship that is presentable to God as the best we can do, because it's for the Lord!

Our upcoming Freedom Celebration has some good news for Bands and Timbrel Brigades. On the Saturday of the weekend all bands and timbrel brigades are invited across the territory to come to Sydney and join in a March of Witness at 11.45 am. Your corps might not have sections large enough to march alone, so let us join with neighbouring corps to form various divisional or regional groups that can participate.

Various stages will be set up where your group can perform during the weekend, so please seriously consider coming with your musicians and making it a God-glorifying weekend of celebrating freedom that only Christ can bring!

Major Keith Hampton is Territorial Brass Ministry and Development Co-ordinator

The Solo Cornet bench of 2013 NYSB All Stars weekend features principal cornet player Caleb Laidlow (bottom centre). His mother Lori, is seated at the end of the row.

COVER STORY



06

**SAM CREAMER'S BAND
ARRANGEMENTS GO INTERNATIONAL**

FEATURES

09

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL SETS SAIL

10

STREET DREAMS

12

SALVO MAN'S BRUSH WITH FAME

14

BRASS BANDS IN ACTION



REGULARS

- 2 PERFECT PITCH
- 17 THE CUTTING EDGE
- 19 CD REVIEW
- 20 PICTORIAL



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CREATIVE MINISTRY The Salvation Army WILLIAM BOOTH Founder
INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS 101 Queen Victoria Street London EC4P 4EP
AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY 140 Elizabeth Street Sydney NSW 2000 JAMES CONDON Commissioner, Territorial Commander
BRUCE HARMER Major, Territorial Communications and Public Relations Secretary
EDITOR Anne Halliday GRAPHIC DESIGN Kem Pobjie COVER PHOTO Shairon Paterson
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EDITORIAL AND CORRESPONDENCE PO Box A435 Sydney South NSW 1235
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the **BIG**
picture

ALL ABOARD! SALVATIONISTS TOOK TO THE STREETS OF SYDNEY TO BRING ATTENTION TO THE VITAL WORK THE SALVATION ARMY DOES IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AROUND AUSTRALIA. THE BUS WAS PART OF THE ANNUAL RED SHIELD APPEAL WHICH RAISES MONEY FOR THE SALVATION ARMY'S SOCIAL WELFARE WORK.

PHOTO: SHAIRON PATERSON





God's composer



Photos: Shairon Paterson

“BEING A CHRISTIAN
COMPOSER IS
JUST LIKE BEING A
CHRISTIAN MUSICIAN
... YOU SURRENDER
YOUR TIME AND
TALENTS TO GOD
FOR HIM TO BE
ABLE TO USE YOU
IN WORSHIP.”

ON ANY GIVEN SUNDAY PERCUSSIONIST SAM CREAMER LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY SALVATIONIST WITH A PASSION FOR MUSIC. BUT AS **ANNE HALLIDAY** DISCOVERED, THIS MODEST MUSICIAN'S INSPIRING ARRANGEMENTS ARE GETTING NOTICED AROUND THE WORLD

Sam Creamer never knows just where in the world his musical arrangements will turn up. From humble beginnings writing musical arrangements for his corps in Toowoomba 10 years ago, Sam, 27, now finds his work sought after by some of the Salvation Army's most recognised composers and band leaders.

Interest in Sam's work started gathering momentum after his move to Carina Corps (now Carindale) five years ago when Brisbane City Temple Bandmaster Stuart Lang requested a big-band arrangement Sam wrote for the Queensland performing arts camp. "The next thing I knew the Melbourne Staff Band was contacting me," Sam says.

The Melbourne Staff Band took his arrangements to London for the ISB 120th celebrations in 2011.

"The MSB were keen on using Australian resources and composers so they took a few charts over with them and played them during their tour. A few weeks later I started getting calls," he says with a laugh.

Soon Amsterdam Staff Band had

joined the growing list of those who were discovering the talents of this young arranger, who has also had his arrangements published in the Southern Territory's Arthur Gullidge instrumental band series, Noel Jones series for ensembles, and Instrumental Praise series.

Last year internationally recognised British conductor and composer Martin Cordner named Sam as one of the emerging talents on his global watchlist of Salvation Army composers and he is included in Steef Klepke Jr's (Amsterdam Staff Band member) recently published *The Golden Pen*, which features Salvationist composers throughout history.

Sam is modest about his success.

He works nightshift at Woolworths, teaches music students and fits in his arranging around his commitments as songster pianist and band percussionist at Carindale Corps, in Brisbane's southern suburbs.

Most of his arranging is about providing resources for corps and doing custom arrangements for band concerts. But his ultimate satisfaction is deeply grounded in doing what he loves, for God.

"Arranging is a hobby and I am not ruling out the possibility that one day it might be my career," he says. "but I also want to see the music I write enhancing worship in different congregations. There is no greater reward than to see the effect of what

God does with what he's given you," he says.

One of Sam's greatest motivations is empowering worship in smaller corps.

"My family and I attend a big corps blessed to have so many musicians. It is so rewarding to see that God is using my writing to bless corps that may not be as fortunate."

"Being a Christian composer is just like being a Christian musician ... you surrender your time and talents to God for him to be able to use you in worship. I have no idea how my arrangements will get used or how effective they may be while writing them, but then receiving feedback from people who have played or >>>

listened to my arrangements reassures me that God is using me in this ministry.”

Sam’s parents date the start of his musical career at the age of three, when he constantly pulled out his mum’s pots and pans to play. By four, he had started music lessons.

While primarily a percussionist, Sam also plays piano and dabbles in brass, guitar and saxophone. He happily claims to be a jack of all instruments and master of one, using what is needed to compose and arrange for brass bands, choirs, big bands and jazz ensembles.

“I can’t exactly pinpoint where inspiration for arranging particular songs comes from. I guess a lot comes from just playing around and testing ideas in your head or on the piano, then if it feels good, putting it down on paper!”

Sam’s arranging influences stem from jazz, latin, funk and big-band swing, drawing inspiration from mainstream artists like James Morrison, The Cat Empire, Glenn Miller and Earth, Wind & Fire.

Equally influential have been the work of Salvation Army composers whose scores Sam has been studying for years, including Australian composers Noel Jones and Barrie Gott, British composer and musical director of the Salvation Army Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Andrew Mackereth, Leader of Britain’s Salvation Brass Dean Jones and Melbourne Staff Songster leader Brian Hogg.

“One of the beauties about being a writer and letting God use your gift, is that my music can be well received and



Sam Creamer with his wife Rhiannon and baby Esther Rose.

bless many others without me even being there.”

Sam can easily invest weeks and months into a single piece, particularly if it’s a large concert piece.

“It would not be uncommon for me to write an arrangement back to front, or with beginning and end but no middle. I wrote a band march (Carindale 2010) for my corps’ renaming after Carina merged with Mt Gravatt and the whole march was written but was missing an introduction for about six weeks!

“But if the inspiration is flowing it may only take a few days to write a piece! You need to take every idea as it comes and piece it together at the end – nearly like doing a jigsaw puzzle.” □

“ONE OF THE BEAUTIES ABOUT BEING A WRITER AND LETTING GOD USE YOUR GIFT, IS THAT MY MUSIC CAN BE WELL RECEIVED AND BLESS MANY OTHERS WITHOUT ME EVEN BEING THERE.”



Madeline Muir and Captain Roscoe Holland get into character for their roles in the musical production *Spend Awhile on the Nile*. Photo: Carolyn Hide

MADELINE SETS SAIL ON THE NILE

By ESTHER PINN and ANNE HALLIDAY

Fifteen-year-old Glenwood high school student Madeline Muir got the surprise of her life when asked to play a lead character in the upcoming musical *Spend Awhile on the Nile*. Despite being an accomplished singer and actor, Madeline was auditioning for a spot in the chorus section, but is delighted to have the chance to take on a lead role.

Madeline, who attends Parramatta Corps, is playing the character of Liza Cruise in the musical, which will open in August and feature at the Freedom Celebration in September.

Spend Awhile on the Nile follows the journey of a father and daughter who tell stories from the Bible on a boat on the Nile River.

However, Liza and her father, Mr Cruise, played by Captain Roscoe Holland don’t tell the stories accurately and it’s up to the

children from Ocean View Church on the cruise ship to set them straight.

Madeline, is looking forward to the upcoming performances.

“I like performing, she says. “I like inspiring people when I sing.”

Madeline made her musical theatre performance in year eight at high school. She was selected for a lead role in *Fame* and recently played the lead role as Belle in her high school’s production of *Beauty and the Beast*. In August last year Madeline received two first placings at the Penrith Eisteddfod and will be sitting her fourth grade singing exams in September.

For Madeline, who has an equal love for both acting and singing, it’s not all about the performance – it’s about enjoying the moment.

“It’s really fun. I like meeting new people. I like doing the combination (of singing and acting).”

Alongside her on stage will be the energetic Roscoe Holland, trading his role as Territorial Discipleship Resource Co-ordinator for Children, to sail the seas as her father. Roscoe describes his character as a “show tune-loving tour guide”.

Roscoe is no stranger to performing. He has been involved in local corps musicals and was one of the members of Salvo “boy band” Niche, which recorded several albums. In the 90s he performed in the musical Spirit

and at the annual Stable on the Strand, a live interactive nativity, during his more recent four-year ministry in Townsville.

“As a young teen, I was a soprano which was very embarrassing at the time but I remember sensing that God wanted me to use my talents for Him.”

Roscoe, whose daughters Isobel, 11, Tierney, 6 are also in the musical, is anticipating the musical’s ability to encourage a new generation to get involved in God’s mission.

“There’s no junior Holy Spirit. I’ve seen young kids leading worship and seen the Holy Spirit at work through them. There’s some amazing kids using their amazing talents for God.”

Spend Awhile on the Nile, will give more than 50 young people the opportunity to serve both on stage and behind the scenes.

“There is a real energy about musicals at the moment so it is a great vehicle for them to reach their friends. We are certainly praying that people will respond,” says Roscoe.

Performances for *Spend Awhile on the Nile* will occur from 29 August to 31 August and re-open from 5 September to the final performance on 7 September at Freedom Celebration. Visit salvos.org.au/sydneystaffsongsters and salvos.org.au/freedomcelebration for further information and ticket purchases.





Street Dreams participants Chloe (11), Sarah (10) and Josh (7) with their grandmother Mary, who has seen a dramatic improvement in the children's outlook on life through attending the dance program at Auburn Salvation Army. Photos: Shairon Paterson



DANCE HELPS KIDS REACH POTENTIAL

Street Dreams is more than just a dance program, according to MMAD Chief Executive Officer Dominic Brook, who explains that it's designed to encourage young people to achieve their full potential.

"Our vision is that everyone has someone who believes in their great potential. If you look at anyone who's done anything, they've always had someone to believe in them," he says.

Street Dreams has a different theme each term. Aside from dancing, the young people watch a motivational video about the theme which is followed by discussion.

At the end of class they finish with MMAD Props, where each participant will encourage another person in the group.

"At Street Dreams, they never get put down. In a circle they have to yell out something that they like about the other person. They just build each other up," says Dominic.

While anyone can attend the dance program, Street Dreams was designed as an early-intervention dance program to prevent young people from engaging with problematic behaviour.

Being free-of-charge, this means Street Dreams can engage with all socio-economic groups.

Before Street Dreams was instigated, a similar program was run by Justice Crew, the seven hip-hop dancers who won Channel Seven's, *Australia's Got Talent* in 2010.

After they won the talent show, Justice Crew was unable to fulfil their commitments to the program [now Street Dreams].

While the program stopped for about a year, a few mothers whose children and teenagers had been attending the classes decided to re-open the program at a few locations.

An initiative between Dominic and Major Paul Moulds, The Salvation Army's Territorial Social Mission and Resource Director, a year later Street Dreams opened and has never looked back.

For more information about Street Dreams, visit their website: www.streetdreamsaustralia.com

- Esther Pinn

street dreams come true at auburn

ESTHER PINN REVEALS A DANCE PROGRAM AT AUBURN SALVATION ARMY GIVING CHILDREN AN IDENTITY IN THEIR COMMUNITY

Bullying is no longer a problem for siblings Chloe (11), Sarah (10) and Josh (7). Over the past year, the children have been learning hip-hop dance through the Street Dreams program at Auburn Corps ... and their confidence has soared.

"I've learnt more and now I know how to dance and make new friends. When I first came I didn't have many friends and was getting teased a bit at school. Since I started dancing, all the kids started liking me [at school] and stopped teasing me," says Chloe.

Street Dreams is a hip-hop dance program that uses a creative outlet to help address issues that affect young people aged eight to 18.

For the past two years, The Salvation Army has partnered with the Australian Charity, Musicians Making A Difference (MMAD), who use music,

dance and mentoring to inspire young people to make positive lifestyle choices.

Held at 15 locations across Sydney, the NSW Central Coast and Brisbane, it is estimated the program enlists 4500 young people per term and about 24,000 over the course of the year through connecting with families at end-of-term concerts.

MMAD provide the highly skilled professional dance instructors at Street Dreams and the Salvos offer their local corps and centres to host the classes, along with mentors. The mentors are there to offer counselling and advice to Street Dreams participants.

The success of the Street Dreams program at Auburn has seen many children and teenagers come out of their shell, says program coordinator Krystle Walters.

"Street Dreams really pushes that - this is a safe space to be whoever you are without being picked on or ridiculed. There's an absolutely no bullying policy so the kids can dance however they want, be who they are and that's given them confidence to build friends at school," she says.

"It seems to be the common theme amongst all the families, they can see a change in the kids. The kids become confident."

For Chloe, Sarah and Josh this has been the case. Coming from a tough background, now living with their grandmother, Mary, the three children have overcome some of their battles at Street Dreams.

Many of the themes run at Street Dreams are based on biblical principles and while the program doesn't aim to force Christianity on the families attending, Krystle has seen the impact

of spiritual connection. Recently Chloe, Sarah and Josh all gave their lives to Christ. Their sister, Caitlin, also attends Friday night youth group after Street Dreams.

Since April last year, Krystle has seen an influx of children and teenagers come through their corps via the Street Dreams program. Currently running three dance classes, 23 primary school children attend the two junior classes on a Tuesday and 10 high schoolers are a part of the senior group on a Friday afternoon. The senior class fits neatly with Auburn's youth program as one flows into the other.

Captain Nesan Kistan, the Auburn Corps Officer, believes the Street Dreams program to be a fantastic example of mission and social elements of the Army working together.

street dreams



Brush

WITH THE SALVO MAN



WHEN ARTIST BARBARA VAN DER LINDEN NEEDED A “FACE OF CANBERRA” FOR HER EXHIBITION, THE FIRST PERSON SHE THOUGHT OF WAS ALAN JESSOP, A SALVATIONIST WHOSE STREET MINISTRY HAS EARNED HIM NOTORIETY IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL. **ANNE HALLIDAY** TELLS THE STORY FOR CREATIVE

H He might not be known by name, but Alan Jessop’s presence in his local community is legendary.

For the past 24 years, the 82-year-old Canberra City Salvationist has been known to many locals simply as The Salvo Man.

Now his street ministry has been immortalised by Canberra artist Barbara van der Linden for her Faces of Canberra exhibition, running as part of the city’s centenary celebrations.

The exhibition, which features 30 Canberra identities, has attracted a lot of attention. And Alan’s portrait, which features him with his Salvation Army collecting box and banner has proved a major attraction, gathering more than 3100 “likes” on the exhibition’s Facebook page.

One Facebook comment tells the story of a woman who remembers Alan

as the kind man who gave her a sticker as a child. Now she brings her own children and some loose change each week to support The Salvation Army’s work.

“I couldn’t do this exhibition without him,” says Barbara. “He’s the most well-known person in Canberra, along with scrubby the window-screen washer. It’s important to capture him. These people are touchstones. They are the people who tell us we are home. Everybody knows The Salvo Man.”

Million-dollar man

On the exhibition’s opening night, Barbara invited him to bring his collection box and stool and to take on the part he plays out every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. He raised \$300 on the night. It’s loose change compared with what he’s collected over the years – more than \$3 million.

These days he’s a little slower than

he used to be but Alan says he keeps on collecting for the same reason he started – simply to help.

He and wife Joy first started attending the Salvation Army in Wollongong.

When they moved to Canberra in the late 80s to be near their daughter and grandchildren, they started attending Canberra City Corps.

“The corps officer asked what I’d like to do to help and I thought I’d like to have a go at street ministry. I felt it didn’t need a great deal of skill but you need to be determined, have lots of time and lots of patience,” recalls Alan.

And so, he took up his post collecting mainly in Bunda St, Petrie Plaza and now The Canberra Centre.

“I used to do up to 15 hours a day on a Friday but these days I just do my eight hours.”

Local hero

In 2011, Alan was honoured as Canberra’s Australia Day “Local Hero”, an honour that gave him the opportunity to visit Parliament House and meet the Queen.

Being the subject of a portrait came as a surprise to Alan.

“My daughter heard about it and told me. I was very curious to see what it was like,” he says.

However, he is non-committal about whether he likes it. His wife, Joy, says it captures him “very well”.

For Barbara, it was about capturing a person who was part of so many locals’ “everyday life”.

“He often sits at the bottom of the escalators where people see him as they are going into the centre. I wanted to paint him how I see him, and in doing so, capture what everyone sees.”

The painting had its own opening in April ahead of the main exhibition opening at M16 gallery in Griffith. The exhibition will continue in the Tuggeranong Arts Centre in July.

A *Faces of Canberra* book and posters were also published. They are available for purchase at barbart.com.au/facesofcanberra

“I COULDN’T DO THIS EXHIBITION WITHOUT HIM, HE’S THE MOST WELL-KNOWN PERSON IN CANBERRA. EVERYBODY KNOWS THE SALVO MAN.”



(Facing page, top): Artist Barbara van der Linden immortalised Alan Jessop in The Salvo Man portrait (facing page, bottom) as part of her Faces of Canberra Exhibition. Top: Alan Jessop is known by many as simply the Salvo Man. (Left): Alan with his wife Joy near their home in Canberra. Photos: Shairon Paterson.

Newcastle bands join forces for Brass Spectacular

By ESTHER PINN

Newcastle Salvation Army Band and Waratah Brass, a local Newcastle brass band, performed together at Brass Spectacular on 4 May.

Held at Newcastle Corps, Brass Spectacular was instigated for lovers of brass music but also as an outreach event to share

the love of Christ through song. The event drew about 200 people from the community and surrounding areas including Kempsey, Orange, Sydney and the NSW Central Coast.

“The main focus of the event was to present the love of Christ through music and to reach people who would not normally hear music with a Christian message,” said Newcastle Corps bandmaster Robert McDonald.

The Newcastle Band comprises 30 players from three Salvation Army Corps that were closed seven years ago (Hamilton Corps, Lambton Corps and Mayfield Corps) and for the past seven years has been ministering to local corps and community.

“It’s first purpose and reason for our existence is to give God the glory and to support worship in its own corps,” said Bandmaster McDonald.

The concert opened in anthem style with the Newcastle Corps band playing the hymn, *Eternal God*. Performing for 40 minutes, their music numbers included Negro Spiritual gospel music, Mambo and traditional Salvation Army marches and arrangements. They concluded their section with the hymn called *Tyndal*.

Waratah Brass, led by Bandmaster Rowan Taylor, followed with their own separate segment which included pieces such as *I Know Thou Art Mine*, *Praise*, *Light* and *Walk*.

The two bands united at the end of the concert to perform three songs including *Joyful Joyful*, and *Goldcrest* under the baton of Bandmaster McDonald and *The Irish Blessing* led by Bandmaster Taylor.



Waratah Brass Bandmaster Rowan Taylor conducts during the Brass Spectacular concert in Newcastle on May 4.

Champion soloist entertains Blacktown

By ESTHER PINN

National Soloist Champion Ken Bradley was the guest musician at Blacktown Corps’ concert on 4 May.

Proficient in E flat bass and tenor horn, Ken delighted the audience of 120 with three solos, accompanied by the Blacktown Brass Band, led by Bandmaster Doug Hardy. This included Ken’s solo performance of a traditional Salvation Army piece called *Celestial Morn*.

“Ken really got into it and did a great job,” said Blacktown bandmaster Hardy.

For the past 16 years Blacktown Corps have held similar concerts and, according to bandmaster Hardy, they have a three-fold purpose.

Firstly, it is an opportunity to display high-quality brass music. Secondly, the corps raises funds through the concerts that go towards the development of their music ministry and to purchase instruments. And, thirdly, the concerts have an evangelistic purpose.

“It gives us a chance to invite our friends, some who are musicians, sometimes who will come and play and other times to watch; to build relationships and link up with other performers and there’s also an evangelistic aspect to it. About half of the audience at this concert wasn’t from the corps,” said Bandmaster Hardy.



National soloist champion Ken Bradley joined Blacktown Corps band as a guest musician for their annual fundraising concert.

Sunshine Coast bands unite for spirited fundraiser

By ESTHER PINN

The annual Spirited Brass concert was held on 28 April at Nambour High School to raise funds for The Salvation Army’s Red Shield Appeal.

Spirited Brass came about when two bands – Nambour Salvation Army Band and Sunshine Brass, a local Sunshine Coast brass band – united for a performance at the Nambour Civic Centre Flood Benefit Concert in 2011. About 800 people attended that concert and a large sum was donated to The Salvation Army to assist with flood recovery.

“The experience was so great for both the audience and bandsmen that we just wanted to repeat the performance,” said Kevin Brown, Sunshine Brass Bandmaster.

Continuing their tradition for the third time, Nambour Salvation Army Band and Sunshine Brass once again delighted an audience of close to 300 with arrangements including Christian hymns and marches such as *Shine on Us*, *Festival March: On Parade* and *The Whole World in His Hands*.

“The afternoon proved a resounding success with fellowship, music and social, of a town band combining with a Salvation Army band and attracting an audience that was

sensitive to the Red Shield Appeal and the effort of the musicians,” Kevin said.

Nambour Salvation Army Band Bandmaster, Graham Stringer, said the concert was also designed as an evangelistic event as 80 percent of the audience was from the community.

“It’s about sharing the gospel with the community through our music,” said Mr Stringer.

The two bands completed separate segments and then combined at the end of the evening to perform a few popular songs such as *You Raise Me Up* and *Hey Jude*.



The Red Shield Appeal got a boost from the annual Spirited Brass concert at Nambour High in April.

Big Apple experience inspires brass leader

By ANNE HALLIDAY

Territorial Brass Ministry and Development Co-ordinator Major Keith Hampton is finding it hard to contain his enthusiasm.

Fresh from visiting the New York Staff Band and the International Staff Band in London, he is overflowing with inspiration and ideas.

On his mind is the revitalisation of brass music through the mentoring of younger players.

Central to his trip, funded through The Salvation Army’s Fellows Program, was joining the New York Staff Band’s Future All Stars Weekend, the premier brass mentoring program in The Salvation Army worldwide. The weekend music camp which has been running for the past 10 years, handpicks about 65 of the best brass musicians between the ages of 13 and 18, and includes matching each junior player with an NYSB player for the weekend and with whom they will stay connected throughout the following year.

Keith said he was deeply moved by the holistic approach of the weekend, which not only had musical rehearsals but also encouraged spiritual development through bible-based discussion groups and prayer.

The weekend culminated in a Sunday

afternoon Festival at the Gracepoint Gospel Fellowship Church in New York City.

“It was a real honour to witness being with those young musicians who have such focus,” he says.

During his time in New York, Major Hampton also attended Spring Valley Corps, where the Future All Stars Administrator Derek Lance is bandmaster. This inner city corps runs a program much like the fledgling Just Brass program which has recently started in Australia.

Major Hampton also spent time in London with the International Staff Band, their Music Director Stephen Cobb and Derek Kane, Brass Development Director in the UK and Ireland Territory.

Major Hampton believes deeply that the day of The Salvation Army Brass band is not over.

“People in the Salvation Army have been saying for 40 years that there won’t be a brass band left but there is! The problem is we haven’t got an outlet for investing in future players and instead we are losing them, not just to community brass bands, but from their faith as well.

“People ask me all the time – is brass banding mission-focussed? I believe we have a mission to our own people as well as to those outside our corps. Not all mission is about

playing on a street corner.”

“Our territory has one of the best band heritages in the world and plenty of bands even now, but we are losing players to bands like the Melbourne Staff Band because we don’t have that opportunity here. Finding players isn’t a problem.”

Keith has already started to practise what he is preaching in his own band, Sydney Congress Hall. “We have moved six or seven youth players into our senior band to help them improve, nurture their confidence and encourage them,” he says.

One of the big ideas he has brought home with him is the divisional development days organised by Derek Kane, who is also the ISB development co-ordinator.

“Basically a few times a year you bring in a specialist musician and create the opportunity for musicians in a division to gain inspiration, vision and experience,” he says.

“It has been a major success story in the UK and I am looking to replicate that here both regionally and divisionally.”

“I want to create the opportunity for musicians who want to use their music for ministry to develop that at a local corps level, in their division and at a territorial level.

“It’s about sharing the gospel through music.”

ANNETTE'S CREATIVITY FLOWS FROM GOD

By ESTHER PINN

While Salvationist Annette Donovan describes herself as artistic, she says much of her creative inspiration is from God, who simply drops ideas into her head.

At The Salvation Army's Captivated women's conference in February this year, Annette shared her creativity with the territory by designing 16 prayer response stations which formed one prayer walk. Women wandered from one station to the next, discovering ways to connect with God.

After writing a confession in the sand at the volleyball courts, every woman could then wipe it clear. "That's what God does. He doesn't see our sins anymore," says Annette.

Amongst other prayer stations, Annette designed a lavish banquet table with a white table cloth, candles, silver and glassware.

"It was like a wedding banquet," she says. "The banquet table was to show God's abundance. There was a scripture of the abundance of God on the table and food they could eat as well."

Annette also found herself in awe of how God moved through her creative displays at Captivated. In particular, Annette was convinced only a small number would respond to the Scrabble Prayer station.

"I thought I would start off with a few words but I was having trouble finding God. When I came back, they nearly used every letter on the board. They had such amazing words of what God is to them or how they were feeling."

Godly influences

Aside from Captivated, for a number of years Annette has been designing creative displays for Unlimited Conference, WOW (Greater West Divisional women's camp), Youth Councils, Salvos Legal's conference, I'll Fight conference and at her corps in Auburn on Sundays.

Annette has also completed many themed displays for Christmas, Mothers' and Fathers' Days and Easter. In particular, she tries to use all five senses when she creates a display.

"It's to help people to come closer to God and in a way that's meaningful to them. So I try to use all five senses and make people realise it's not just one set way of doing that [connecting with God]," she says.

During Easter last year, Annette used all five senses when creating displays of the last supper, the Garden of Gethsemane, the



torture of Jesus and the crucifixion. Lastly Annette, encouraged the congregation to thank Jesus for dying by writing on the large cross positioned in the church hall.

While God is her main inspiration, Annette says she owes much of her growth to people such as Lieut-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, Chief Secretary of the Papua New Guinea Territory and Colonel Janet Munn, Australia Eastern Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministry.

Dabbling in flower-arranging, knitting and tapestries, Annette says she doesn't have any formal training in creative arts. Instead, she was encouraged by Lieut-Colonel Gluyas to explore her creativity by designing themed displays to match the Sunday sermons at Auburn Corps.

Then in 2009, Annette assisted Colonel Munn with creative displays for the Brengle CREATE conference. This was the moment when Annette understood the importance of using all five senses in her creative displays.

"She was doing one on experiential holiness and used the five senses deliberately and that's when I realised - I get it. That's what I've been trying to achieve without realising it."

Annette has been attending Auburn Corps for the past 20 years with her husband, Greg, her son Jarrad (22) and daughter, Zoe (19).

Annette Donovan loves to use her creative side for God and her displays are much appreciated at various events run by The Salvation Army.



Arts camp equipped with new name



The Salvation Army's two creative arts camps - Gospel Arts Camp and Queensland Performing Arts Camp (QPAS) - have been re-branded under a single identity as EQUIP.

After a trial run at the 2012 Gospel Arts Camp, the new name is designed to reflect the growing emphasis on ministry work.

"EQUIP, we see as the long-term name. EQUIP meaning equipping young people for acts of service and ministry in corps and community," said Nathaniel Brown, Territorial Youth Missions Consultant and Territorial Worship Resource and Development Coordinator.

At the end of 2011, Nathaniel was appointed to head up Gospel Arts Camp. With the task at hand, Nathaniel took on the Territorial Youth Team's vision and aligned the camp with the Army's Mission Priority Six which focuses on seeing youth trained and sent out for frontline mission.

"Seeing we [the Territorial Youth Team] were running this camp, we really wanted to re-vision this camp. We took a camp that was already missional in some ways and tried to enhance the mission aspect of that."

The aim is to change culture, explained Nathaniel. While having fun is an important part of these two camps, Nathaniel desires to see young people prepared for ministry back in their local corps and community.

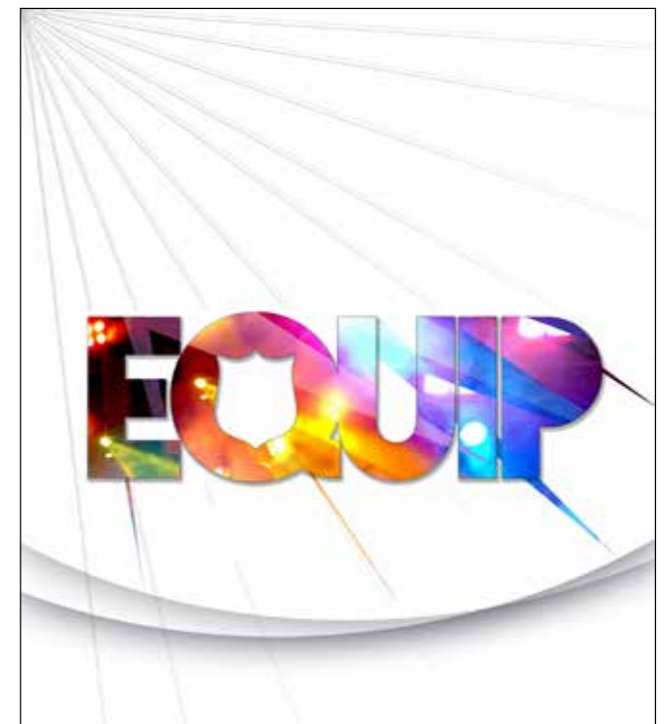
"The phrase we kept using at Gospel Arts Camp last year was, 'what does life look like for you next week?' The camp is the means to the end and the end is back home."

While the two camps will keep all their existing creative arts electives such as timbrels and drama, a few extra ministry electives have been added.

At EQUIP NSW (formerly Gospel Arts Camp) sports ministry, children's ministry, life group leadership and preaching bootcamp will be offered. For the delegates at EQUIP Qld (formerly QPAS), a ministry/leadership elective has been added to the list.

Nathaniel has only received positive feedback about the name change.

EQUIP (QLD) will be held from 30 June to 6 July at Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Queensland and EQUIP (NSW) is from 29 September to 5 October at The Collaroy Centre, along Sydney's Northern Beaches. For more details, visit salvos.org.au/more



Jordan O'Brien, from Sydney Congress Hall, one of the participants of the territory's creative arts camp, which has been renamed EQUIP.

Glebe choir on song with recovery

By ESTHER PINN

The Salvos Glebe Community Gospel Choir is continuing to give hope to individuals recovering from addictions.

Formed three years ago, the choir comprises people who are undertaking The Salvation Army's Bridge Program or have graduated from William Booth House Recovery Services Centre, as well as various other members of the community.

"It's lovely to have people in the choir who are in the Bridge Program, people who have graduated, and others who can talk positive life into those still in [the] program," said Franc Lipovic, founder of the Glebe Community Gospel Choir.

From a slow beginning, with only one person showing up some weeks, the choir now averages 25 at their fortnightly rehearsals. They are led by musical director Karen Lattouf, Salvo Care Line Manager, with Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Social Mission and Resource Director, Captain Robyn Black (who was the Glebe Corps Officer when the choir started), playing piano.

"Next to a trained choir, we might sound less rehearsed and refined," says Franc. "But it's not about that, and it never has been about that."

Franc says that while the singing is not always perfect, the passion and enthusiasm certainly is, and the aim is to create a family environment.

"The singing is just the vehicle," he says. "It's the communication, the sharing, and the spending time together that's important. Our excellence is not in our singing. Our excellence, I think, is in our ability to work together as a family."

The choir is also closely linked to Glebe Salvation Army as a few



The Glebe Community Gospel Choir were treated to a session with 2009 Australian Idol winner Stan Walker.

corps members attend the choir and offer friendship, support and skill. The Glebe corps officer, Lieutenant Christian White, explains that the choir has an evangelistic and discipleship purpose.

"It's a discipleship tool and great way to connect them into the corps," says Lieutenant White.

Karen adds: "The choir provides all its members with a warm space to be – a place to belong, a place to experience friendship, love and grace – the foundational aspects of effective relational discipleship."

The choir was recently part of this year's Red Shield Appeal Campaign and sang with the appeal's ambassador, 2009 Australian Idol winner Stan Walker. For choir members such as Aleisa Smith, this was an invaluable experience.

Aleisa joined the Glebe choir about 14 months ago when she was at William Booth House overcoming a drug addiction. When given the choice of going to a Monday night meeting, or going to choir, there was no hesitation.

"I've always loved singing. Singing just brings a whole other level of happiness," she says.

She graduated a couple of months ago, but still attends the choir and values it, acknowledging that many of the choir members are still on the road to recovery.

While a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to sing with Stan, it also gave the recovery choir members a chance to give back to the Army.

"With opportunities like that, it's almost impossible to put into words the impact it can have. When you're in addiction, you become self-focused. One of the things, I think, that is a part of recovery, is that you start to think of others," says Franc.



Entertainer Stan Walker sings with the Glebe Community Gospel Choir in a promotion for The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal.

Choral Grand Prix to raise funds for Salvos

The Auburn-2-Africa project will get a fundraising boost thanks to the Sydney Eisteddfod's inaugural Australia Choral Grand Prix on August 17.

A percentage of the ticket sales from the event, to be held at Sydney Congress Hall, will be donated to the project, which aims to build a local primary school in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

Well-known Salvation Army musician Dr Ron Smart will be adjudicating along with Lyn Williams, conductor of the Sydney Children's Choir and the Gondwana Voices, and Brett Weymark, director of the Sydney Philharmonia choirs.

Six choirs were chosen as finalists to compete at Choral Grand

Prix on June 2. Soulfood from Cammeray, Shine Chorus from Canada Bay, PLC Sydney Chamber Choir in Croydon, Fort Street High School Chamber Choir from Petersham, Waitara Voices Waitara Public School in Wahroonga and The Kings School Preparatory School Chamber Choir from Parramatta have been invited to compete.

The choirs will battle for the Grand Prix Winner 2013 title and the chance to win from a pool of \$25,000. Celebrating its 80th anniversary, the Sydney Eisteddfod has joined forces with the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, which is also celebrating its 25th anniversary, to launch the Choral Grand Prix.

Visit www.sydneyeisteddfod.com.au to book tickets.

CD REVIEW

International songsters hit the right spiritual note again

In the Name of the Lord

The latest recording from the International Staff Songsters joins a great list of CDs that have been released to provide encouragement and challenge to the listener.

For me, a songster with a passion for choral music, this is an opportunity to not only review a CD project, but to capture a glimpse and insight into the heart of ministry within the ISS.

My first impression was to immediately recognise the incredible sound and vocal blend of the group. The recording showcases an extremely high level of technical expertise and style in the song selection.

The music selected focuses on the varied experiences we face along the journey of life. The songs have been "positively influenced" by persons and moments. Songs such as *Jesus Himself Drew Near* and *I'll Not Turn Back* are examples of the life of the Christian who walks each day with the Lord by their side.

George Marshall's classic *Jesus Himself Drew Near* was one of the first songs that jumped out from the recording. I connected with the sentiment that Jesus would know the pain, doubt and fear that I face and bring to me "... an atmosphere of peace".

There are also some ol' favourites for songsters out there with the inclusion of *How Beautiful*, *Hear Me When I Pray* and the title track *In the Name of the Lord* which has been rearranged by Darren Bartlett.

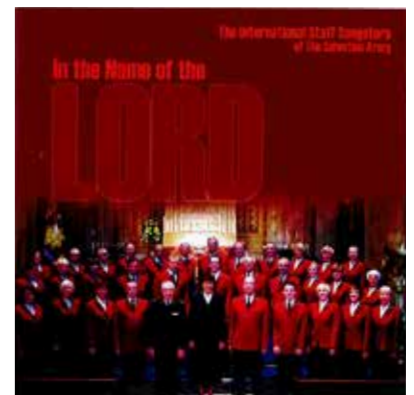
Staff Songster Kerry Sampson, who hails from Australia's

Southern Territory, is a featured soprano soloist on this recording. *All Rise*, written by Babbie Mason, describes the throne room in Heaven and the awesome presence of God.

The anticipation of God entering the throne room is reflected musically as it modulates through five keys with a continuing sense of majesty.

So as you decide to purchase this recording, do so knowing that the choral work is the usual remarkable standard expected from the International Staff Songsters, but then allow the music, that is meaningful in their ministry, to inspire and encourage you in your every day.

Graham Ainsworth
Sydney Staff Songster leader



PICTORIAL

FOXTEL STREET TV PREMIERE



The Foxtel Street TV Premiere on 30 May was a red carpet event in more ways than one. The event celebrated the program's 10th anniversary as well as showcasing three short films written, produced and performed by six young graduates of the eight-week intensive film production course. Two of the 2013 graduates plan to continue with a certificate IV in Film and Screen, moving them a step closer to entering the film industry. A partnership between Randwick TAFE, Foxtel and Oasis, the program aims to give a young person from a homeless or disadvantaged background the chance to work with industry professionals. The gala night saw the graduates mix with MC Matt Shirvington, Charlotte Dawson from *Australia's Next Top Model*, Billy Russell and Marty Smiley from Channel [V], and South Sydney Rabbitohs captain Michael Crocker, and Canterbury Bulldogs player Krisnan Inu.