Joyful Intercessors ready for officership adventure
100 Days of Shared Scripture is an invitation to hear the voice of God together through his word.

23 SEPTEMBER – 31 DECEMBER

100days.australiaone.info

The Salvation Army
WILLIAM BOOTH, Founder
International Headquarters, 101 Queen Victoria Street London EC4P 4EP
André Cox, General
Australia Eastern Territory, 261-265 Chalmers Street, Redfern, NSW 2016
Mark Campbell, Colonel, Chief Secretary-in-Charge
Managing Editor, Scott Simpson
Graphic Design, Cristina Baron
Cover Photo, Lena Pobjie

pipeline is a publication of the Communications Team
Editorial and correspondence:
Address: PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1235
Phone: (02) 9466 3000
Web: pipelineonline.org.au
Email: eastern.editorial@aue.salvationarmy.org

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Charles Finney was a man who understood the urgency of the call of God on the life of a Christian. Often referred to as the “Father of Modern Revivalism”, more than 500,000 people are believed to have come to faith through his preaching in the 1820s and ‘30s in the United States.

He was also famous for reportedly ushering new converts straight from the “altar call” to a side room, where they were expected to sign up for mission work. Finney, whose life had a significant influence on Salvation Army founder William Booth, was a man who believed that salvation in Christ demanded an immediate response to service.

In this issue of Pipeline, we turn the spotlight on the latest session of cadets to be commissioned as Salvation Army officers, focusing on a group of people who are responding in a very obvious way to the call placed upon them by God. The Joyful Intercessors have spent the past two years at the School for Officer Training at Bexley North in Sydney. It’s been a time of intensive training during which they have studied subjects as diverse as theology, pastoral care, community development, public relations, world religions and ethics, among others.

On 4 December, they will be commissioned as lieutenants and, a little over a month later, will scatter across the Army’s Australia Eastern Territory to take up their first appointments as officers. The cadets have made sacrifices to answer this call upon their lives, but they are by no means unique. Anyone who says they are a follower of Christ has a threefold call on their life.

We are called to know Jesus personally through faith. Responding to this call changes everything for us, but it’s only the first step. We are called to follow Christ. It’s a call to discipleship, and just as Christ’s disciples were able to walk and talk with their Lord, we, too, have the same opportunity to get to know our Saviour intimately. Finally, we are called to serve. It’s something we often struggle with and yet it is essential to experiencing the fullness of life that God promises (John 10:10).

Working for God, you see, is not an optional extra for Christians. Why? Because God wants to bless us. Just ask anyone who has dedicated their life to serving him and they will tell you about the abundant joy there is in working for God.

Where do you stand in relation to God’s call on your life? Do you know Christ? Have you obeyed the call to follow and serve him? It takes obedience in all three aspects to experience the abundant life Christ promises.

**ABUNDANT JOY IN OBEYING GOD’S CALL**

**WORDS SCOTT SIMPSON MANAGING EDITOR**

pipelineonline.org

**AN INVITATION TO MISSION**

**Australia One – it’s your choice to accept**

Commissioner Floyd Tidd is the National Commander, The Salvation Army, Australia

The well-remembered challenge laid out in the opening scene of each of the Mission Impossible episodes assumes clarity of mission and choice of acceptance. “Your mission should you choose to accept it…” Each time Mr Hunt is approached, the mission is clearly identified, unique to each engagement and the choice to accept it is presented.

God, in his sovereign love, has set his mission upon bringing the sinful world of his fallen creation into the reality of the redeemed world of his new creation. Christopher Wright, in The Mission of God’s People, notes that the mission of God is what bridges the gap between the curse on the earth of Genesis 3 and the end of the curse in the new creation of Revelation 22. It is into this over-arching mission that God invites his people to participate. In that invitation God raises up individuals and groups of people with specific mandates, missions or purposes in the fulfillment of his mission.

In these foundational months of the Australia One journey, as currently existing Salvation Army territories consider what the creation of a new single national body can mean, we must consider firstly the mission of God and the purpose he has in mind for The Salvation Army to play in this next chapter of the unfolding story of his mission. Understanding who we are and what we are here for in light of the mission of God is critical to respond to the invitation, “Your mission should you choose to accept it…”

Having a clearly stated and specific mission understanding is biblical. Throughout Scripture we see God inviting individuals and groups of people to specific expressions of his mission. The awareness of the mission God calls us to as a people, as his Army of Salvation, will serve to ensure we keep the main thing, the main thing. It further provides a measuring tool for policy and operational decisions, making possible the effective difference the movement has been raised by God to accomplish. The understanding and ownership of mission expressed through the articulation of a mission statement provides a reference point for building consensus as God’s people come together.

In recent weeks, a project has been undertaken in partnership between the two Australian territories to seek to understand and articulate a fresh statement of mission for The Salvation Army in Australia. Later this month, we will launch the new National Mission Statement for The Salvation Army in Australia. The question will lie before us all, at every level and expression of The Salvation Army – “What will it mean to accept the mission God has for The Salvation Army in Australia today?”

**PIPELINE IS NOW ONLINE**

**WITH DAILY NEWS UPDATES!**

Get all your Salvation Army news plus feature stories, opinion, comment and reviews from around our territory, Australia and the world, now updated daily at pipelineonline.org
Reseach shows that one in five Australians will experience a mental illness, and most of us will experience a mental health problem during our lifetime. A mental illness is an acute health problem that significantly affects how a person feels, thinks, behaves, and interacts with other people. It is diagnosable by medical professionals and can be treated like other health conditions in order for the person to lead a productive and healthy life. People with mental health issues engage in all aspects of life, including attending and participating in church life.

Sadly, the treatment that the mentally unwell experience in the wider community – exclusion, fearfulness, and withdrawal of social interaction – is often mirrored by their engagement in the Church. So how can we as a church family engage with the mentally unwell in a way that both supports and empowers those in our corps family suffering from mental illness?

The Territorial Social Justice team uses a model shaped around how Jesus interacted with people. It’s called “Jesus and Justice”, and this provides four principles that can help us guide our discussion on how to better support those in our church family who are experiencing mental health issues.

But first, a short note on respect and privacy. The following suggestions are provided in order to help individuals and corps support the mentally unwell. However, for any concept that involves interacting in a personal way, it is important to do so sensitively and ensuring that the person’s privacy is always respected. Those with mental illness are far more often than not happy to engage, but this has to be their choice. So always check first and never assume.

Including the excluded

People with mental illnesses are often isolated and excluded from social settings. A SANE Australia research report found that 69 per cent of people with mental illnesses felt isolated and lonely “often all the time”, yet the same report found that 88 per cent of sufferers saw social relationships as “important to very important” in managing their illness. We need to be like Jesus, who constantly included the excluded, such as lepers, tax collectors, women and children.

Here are some ways we can do that in our corps:

- Encourage those with mental illnesses to take part in mission work. Look to creatively adapt ministry opportunities to include them in the work of God’s kingdom.
- Visit, care for, and journey with those in your church family who have a mental illness – just as you would someone with any other illness. Pray for peace and healing, cook them a meal, support them by taking them to medical appointments, ask them how they are going and what you can do to help out – just as you would for someone with a broken leg or an eye infection or bad flu.
- Create genuine friendships with those who have a mental illness.

Challenging cultural practices

The mentally unwell have a certain stereotype within our society and it’s not an accurate or helpful one. Often they are placed in the “too-hard-to-handle” basket and left to their own devices to wade through a difficult illness. Jesus often challenged harmful cultural practices (like rejecting harmful stereotypes of Samaritans), and we as ambassadors for Jesus must do likewise.

We must redefine how our society views and treats the mentally unwell, and this can begin with these steps:

- We need to treat those who are unwell with respect and dignity. Too often people with mental illness are regarded as “different”. We need to remember that those with mental illness are people like you and me and are not just defined by their illness.
- We need to confront the various stereotypes imposed on people with mental illnesses and remove the stigma around mental health. Most people suffering from mental illness are not violent or unstable but are just trying to make it through the day keeping their health under control. In a similar category is the idea that mentally unwell people are not functional, which for the most part is completely untrue. They function well in society, often working extremely hard to ensure their illness doesn’t disrupt their responsibilities.
- Don’t assume that because someone is struggling with a mental illness that they don’t want to talk about it. Engage with them, ask them how they are going and offer support.

Confronting the powerful

The “powerful” is anyone who is not suffering from a mental illness. Having a mental illness automatically makes you vulnerable, differing from “the rest of us” who are healthy – we judge you, we talk about you but not to you, we can think clearly when perhaps you’re having trouble doing so, we can take advantage of your situation, and the list goes on. So, in regards to how we treat those with mental illness, we need to acknowledge the power is in our hands and then confront ourselves about our behaviour. Doing this will open up new and genuine ways in which we can support the mentally unwell.

Here are a few ways to help start that process:

- Get educated about mental health illnesses so that you are prepared. This includes talking openly about mental health within your corps, in a positive and constructive manner. Being educated and prepared means that when someone with a mental illness steps into your hall or centre, you will be ready to show love and support.
- Limit yourself to your skills. If you happen to be a medical professional with mental health expertise then great – provide advice about their condition. But if you’re a pastor then be a pastor to them. If you’re a prayer warrior, then fantastic – pray deeply for them. It is perfectly okay for you just to be a friend and not a counsellor or medical guru. In fact, it is preferable.

Advocating for the oppressed

As already highlighted, those suffering from mental illness are often treated poorly and without respect and dignity. We, as the Church, must forge a new way to engage with the mentally unwell, one based upon Jesus’ call to love one another.

We can express this love in these ways:

- Be patient and advocate for patience from your corps family. Those struggling with a mental illness often have trouble clarifying thoughts and need time and support to express themselves clearly.
- Mobilise your corps – we are an Army! So let’s be loud and affirming advocates for the mentally unwell in our community. So many times they are let down by our wider society, often stigmatised by the stereotypes mentioned above, so let us be a voice for those who cannot always express their needs. Let us advocate for the weary, oppressed, downtrodden and lonely.

Suffering from a mental illness can be frightening and isolating, and even more so when we feel judgment rather than support. We in the Church must change our thinking around mental health, engaging in positive ways when the world is so negative. We must follow the lead of Jesus.

“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10).
Joyfully serving Jesus.

Each year, men and women who have been drawn together from all walks of life are commissioned as officers of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory. It follows two years of intensive training, during which they study subjects as diverse as theology, pastoral care, community development, public relations, world religions and ethics, among others. They are also exposed to practical out-training and regular pastoral and public-speaking ministry. On Sunday 4 December, cadets of the Joyful Intercessors training session will be commissioned in Brisbane. Three of the cadets have shared with Pipeline, testimonies about their calling and time in training.
I know God as faithful and enduringly loving. Life has been immensely enriching, but not without challenge. My journey to this point has been transformative, loving, forgiving, powerful. I write this very testimony today because I, indeed, did have a life-giving way. I lived in deep fear, not of the world aside; that I would be deemed unworthy. Each time my life took a turn for the worst, I felt fearful that God would cast me away. I was removed from my eyes, I knew that the worst had claimed his life. Our family was in distress and all we could do was look to God for strength. My past had shown me God’s faithfulness, and it was this that strengthened me to trust Lloyd to God completely, whatever his will was.

This was my hardest prayer yet, knowing that it could mean losing my husband. Instantly, an enormous peace came over me and I knew that Lloyd would be all right. I have come to learn that we must put our whole trust in God. His promises are un-failing. Because of God’s great and love and faithfulness I am compelled to give the same, and I know the best is yet to come.

Entering the training college, negative thoughts of my past and worth invaded my mind and I was unable to see how God was going to use someone like me. As a consequence, I pushed myself to do better, unfortunately in all my own strength, resulting in a breakdown. But God is faithful. I resolved to focus only on him from that point and earnestly pursued him with all of my heart, mind and strength.

In April, my husband Lloyd became gravely ill. For many weeks we did not know what was wrong. Finally it was discovered that Lloyd had a rare form of meningitis, which almost claimed his life. Our family was in distress and all we could do was look to God for strength. My past had shown me God’s faithfulness, and it was this that strengthened me to trust Lloyd to God completely, whatever his will was.

This was my hardest prayer yet, knowing that it could mean losing my husband. Instantly, an enormous peace came over me and I knew that Lloyd would be all right. I have come to learn that we must put our whole trust in God. His promises are un-failing. Because of God’s great and love and faithfulness I am compelled to give the same, and I know the best is yet to come.

I am someone who has always had an awareness that God exists. The idea of God, along with practising the rhythms of Christian life, have been woven into the fabric of my life since birth. However, I wouldn’t say that I have always been someone who experienced the transformative and victorious power of Jesus in my life. God, to me, seemed a distant, cold, authoritative, punishing force. As life in my early adulthood became chaotic, God seemed a source of endless guilt and shame. Each time my life took a turn for the worst, I felt fearful that God would cast me aside; that I would be deemed unworthy. I lived in deep fear, not of the world around me, but the world inside of me.

I needed the intervention of God. Not the God I had constructed intellectually and from a distance, but the God who could and would touch my life in a sanctifying, transformative, loving, forgiving, peace-giving way. I write this very testimony today because, indeed, did have a life-giving encounter with God about 10 years ago.

The outward circumstances of my life may not have changed overnight, but the orientation of my heart had changed forever. God was no longer a distant force; rather, God became an ever-present, guiding, sustaining and comforting presence.

As I grew in faith and years, God began to develop within me a deep love for others. I developed a desire to offer myself in service to care for others. I became increasingly aware of people’s need to know that they were loved by God; that they had precious value and worth. I feel most alive, most fulfilled and most joy when I can share the love of God that I have experienced with those around me.

This year, I will complete my training to become an officer in The Salvation Army. My journey to this point has been immensely enriching, but not without challenge. Life can be messy and obstacle-filled! But I praise God that his presence is with me; that I know God as faithful and enduringly loving.
Tucked away unobtrusively in a tiny NSW Snowy Mountains township is a humble man who has endured more than most of us will in our lifetime. “Don’t make me out to be a hero,” Alan Marshall pleads with me. “I’m not a hero. I’m just a man doing what he has to do.” His very ill wife, Diane, disagrees. “Alan is a hero,” she says. “He is a hero to me because of what he has suffered and put up with without complaint.”

Alan, in his early 60s, is surviving, he says, because of the love and support of a “beautiful” Salvation Army officer and her small team of supporters, his wife and a few others – all of whom, he adds, have helped him regain his faith in God. In the last few years, Alan has lost his business, his home, a close family member and three grandchildren, and has anguished as his wife’s life has deteriorated alarmingly because of an incurable disease. Every morning he wakes to find her still beside him is a bonus, he says. There are no expectations beyond the day they have together.

Alan and Diane (pictured) – married for 43 years – rent a house at Adaminaby, 50km west of Cooma, with a population of just a couple of hundred. They lost their own home at Cooma after a family member caused their café business in the town to close owing many thousands of dollars. They also lost connection with the family member and their three grandchildren.

Diane has leukemia, a cancer of the blood or bone marrow. It could take her life at any time. She spends months at a time in hospital. When she does, Alan drives almost every day from Adaminaby to the hospital in Canberra to see her. It’s a round trip of 330km. “And he never complains,” Diane says.
Need financial counselling?

The Salvation Army’s Moneycare service provides free and confidential financial counselling. Whether you are in financial difficulty, in a financial crisis situation or wish to avoid financial difficulties, Moneycare can help.

Moneycare’s financial counsellors listen in a non-judgmental and caring manner. They analyse and assess your financial situation and give you information about credit and debt issues, working with you to develop a plan to improve your situation.

For more information, go to: salvos.org.au/moneycare

Desperate Times

Their marriage and early life together was happy and comfortable. They had three children and a home in Canberra. Alan worked with the Australian Army, then became IT manager for a Federal Government department. When the department’s IT work was outsourced to a private company, Alan became a truck driver.

Friends encouraged Alan and Diane to buy a café business in Cooma. That was nine years ago. It was hard, but rewarding, work. Other family got involved. After a few good years, the business started to struggle. At first, Alan and Diane didn’t understand why. They were working up to 15 hours a day to keep the business operating.

The strain was starting to show. Worse was to come. It was the discovery that a family member was responsible for large amounts of income disappearing. There were lots of tears. Talking to her made me feel better.

“Diane was very unwell. She spent nine months in hospital in 2012-13.” She didn’t realise how badly impacted Alan had become. “Alan is very good at hiding things about himself,” Diane says. Their two sons, who live a long distance from Alan and Diane, detected in phone calls, however, that Alan was not in a good state, mentally. Their concern was so great they notified police, who called at Alan’s home. There was concern, police said, that Alan was considering taking his life.

“I don’t know if I would have taken my life,” Alan tells me. “I just can’t say.” There are tears in his eyes as he talks. “I know that I was pretty low, but I just don’t know for sure how far I would have taken things.”

He closed his café. “I started drinking to cope with the stress, which, by now, was through the roof. The drinking helped for a while, but didn’t take it away. I found a counsellor, who is still helping.

Louise brought in a Salvation Army Moneycare lady from Canberra. She made many trips from Canberra to see me in Cooma. She tried everything to manage my financial problems. But we owed too much without any prospect of meeting our debts. As a result, our home was taken from us. We had to leave Cooma to find somewhere affordable and suitable to rent. Diane can’t be around too many people because of her illness. Adaminaby is much quieter than Cooma, so we came here (Adaminaby).”

Alan and Diane were declared bankrupt at the start of this year. As Diane’s health has deteriorated, Alan has become her full-time carer. “My job is to look after Diane now,” he says. “The rest of the world can buzz off for the time being. Nothing else is important right now.”

Finding Hope

Diane and Louise keep him going, he says, as well as a small group of people attached to the Cooma Corps of The Salvation Army and his counsellor. “Louise is my light. She regularly reminds me that there is light at the end of the tunnel. I can phone Louise any time of the day or night. She will always answer and she always has time just for me. She gives me confidence. She gives me hope.”

“With the others from The Salvation Army, well The Salvation Army is my second family now. I know them all at Cooma. When I am in Cooma, I call in to see them. Every one of them gives me a hug.

“Whenever I have to give my religion for something, I say that I am Salvation Army and I am very proud of that. I gave up my own church years ago. The Salvation Army makes me feel happy. I always say now, Thank God for the Salvos.” Alan and Diane are The Salvation Army’s official Red Shield Appeal collectors at Adaminaby as “a way of giving back”.

“We’re at a stage now where we just don’t know what the next day will bring.” Alan explains. Most days, Diane is too unwell for visitors. On her good days, a flag flies from a pole at the front of their home. It signals that Diane is well enough to visit. “If she can’t get out of bed – which is most days – the flag doesn’t fly and that is a signal to locals to stay away. The locals are good. They know not to come when the flag isn’t flying.”

The flag was flying the day of our visit. But Diane still struggled. It was important for them to tell their story. Alan and Diane know that Diane is not going to get better and, in fact, will get worse. She recently spent seven months in hospital. She has regular injections and other treatment that exhausts her. Alan does everything for her.

“I made a promise many years ago,” Alan reminds me. “I promised that for richer or poorer, for better or worse, in sickness and in health, I would love Diane for the rest of my life, so help me God. I made that promise to Diane – who is my life – and to God. And I will not break that promise.”

01 Cooma Corps Officer, Captain Louise Nicholson with Alan Marshall and the Australian flag which flies when Diane is well enough to accept visitors.

02 Diane with her full-time carer, her devoted husband of 43 years, Alan.
My job is high risk. We are the front-line workers. We are the early intervention, crisis workers for women and children who are victims of domestic violence resulting in homelessness, which basically go hand-in-hand. We support women and children when they’re coming in from broken relationships. They’ve been kicked out by the perpetrator the night before coming to our service.

At any given time these women may be suicidal, you have got to be able to recognise that. Or they might even want to do a “runner”. You’ve got to be able to recognise the changes in their behaviour; the changes in their communication with you. Are they getting depressed? Are they anxious? They’re a bit heightened – have we got an issue with drugs? What might they be using to deal with their emotions or traumas?

You’re dealing with mental health issues, and you’re also dealing with past histories or even current histories of drug and alcohol abuse. The women live communally – not everybody gets on with each other. So when mums want to punch on, you’ve got to get in the middle of that. So there are risks inside and there are risks outside as well. We might be out supporting one of the clients at our units and the perpetrator’s there. He might target us.

We’ve got to be on our guard all the time. There’s a multitude of stories. The best days are when children have been removed by another service and we fight and we get them returned. Clients moving into their new home where they know that they’re safe. That’s a great experience.

A male child came in and he’s had to leave everything behind. He’s got this soaked teddy that’s he’s been sucking on the ear. He has to enrol in school and he doesn’t want to go because he doesn’t know anyone. It’s all new and it’s daunting for him. But he comes home one day and says, “I got an award at school today!” That’s another great thing.

We had a lady in here who owned a number of houses. We went through property settlement with her and she got half of every single one of those houses. So she moved on to buy her own house and that was another smiley day for us.

We get women in here who don’t have any money because he (their ex) was the sole provider. They are like, “Family [Benefit] what? Who do I go to?” And we say, “Centrelink – for a parenting payment”. And they never knew that they were eligible for such a thing. Then all of a sudden they get a payment going into their bank account, and they come in and say, “I’ve

Standing up for women.

GAYNOR BUFFOLIN is the team leader of a Salvation Army refuge for women and children who are homeless due to domestic violence or other issues. Ahead of White Ribbon Day on 25 November, Gaynor offers a confronting insight into the reality of domestic violence.
got all this money in my account! We say, “Yep, and it’s yours,” and they’re like, “Really? I’ve never had this much money!”

Centrelink payments are not a great deal of money, unless you have never had your own money.

They talk about the “preparation” for leaving a domestic violence relationship. How can you prepare for something like that? You can build bank accounts, if you’ve got access to finances. You can pack your suitcase and put it where you can grab it on your way out the door or in your car. But the perpetrators, they’re not silly. They know when you’re making preparations to do something out of the ordinary because they’re watching your every move. They are so controlling. They know when you go to sleep and when you wake up. They know what you have for breakfast, because they are watching your every move.

If you are in a domestic violence situation I would urge you to seek help, get support. Tell someone. Even if it’s your children’s school teacher. Tell someone. Don’t live like that. There is hope.

There are people that are willing to help. It might be a complete stranger or a person who you would never think would assist. Try and get in contact with services like ours. Even if we can’t assist with accommodation we can guide you to where there is support and safety.

“My strength comes from the fact that I want to make a difference in the lives of women who are experiencing domestic violence. If I can make a change in one person’s life, then that’s one less person having to endure this. Maybe one less statistic.”

I love my job. I would love it if there were no victims, everybody living happily ever after, but unfortunately that’s only a dream. My strength comes from the fact that I want to make a difference in the lives of women who are experiencing domestic violence. If I can make a change in one person’s life, then that’s one less person having to endure this. Maybe one less statistic.

My waiting list is about 30 women at any given time. The service is completely funded through donations; we’re reliant on the generosity of Australians who support The Salvation Army. The tragedy is that I’ve got only half the cottage open because of a lack of funds – I’ve got four rooms sitting here vacant.

The Salvation Army needs your help to open up rooms for victims of domestic violence.

“Changing children’s lives by changing communities”

Salvos Sponsorship helps build sustainable communities where children can grow and develop holistically.
Global sanitation crisis prompts Salvos response

World Toilet Day is a United Nations (UN) observance, marked annually on 19 November. The thought of a World Toilet Day may bring a smile or a chuckle to many, especially in the Western world, but the day itself highlights a serious problem – 2.5 billion people globally do not have access to proper sanitation.

World Toilet Day is also about the almost 1 billion people around the world who have no option but to defecate in the open, and the millions of children whose health and futures are compromised by poor sanitation and related problems. Globally, more people have a mobile phone than a toilet.

According to the UN, the countries where open defecation is most widely practiced are the same countries with the highest numbers of child deaths under the age of five, high levels of under-nutrition and poverty, and large wealth disparities. Open defecation – a practice deemed “extremely harmful” to public health, as well as having significant impact on human dignity and security, the environment, and social and economic development – is due to lack of proper toilet facilities.

World Toilet Day focuses on making sanitation for all a global development priority. The day also intends to raise awareness of sanitation issues and encourage UN Member States and relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organisations, to promote behavioural change and the implementation of policies in order to increase access to sanitation among the poor and end the practice of open defecation.

The Salvation Army is working in many nations around the world to give communities access to clean water, good sanitation and hygiene education (see adjacent page). Let’s take a moment to think about life without access to a toilet, clean drinking water and good hygiene and do our part to help those who, together with their families and communities, have to face that reality and its terrifying consequences, every day.

For more information, go to unwater.org/campaigns/world-toilet-day/en/ and also check out worldtoiletday.info

A LIFE-CHANGING GIFT

On Christmas Day last year, Salvation Army corps and centres across the Australia Eastern Territory raised money for the “Give the Gift of Dignity” campaign. Organised by The Salvation Army International Development (SAID) office, the campaign raised AUD $21,238 to help build 21 community toilets for people with disabilities in the India Northern Territory.

“Our goal was to build disability-friendly toilets in Indian communities,” said Lieutenant-Colonel Simone Robertson, SAID Director. “We also wanted to provide 12 wheelchairs for people with disabilities who require a wheelchair to go to school or earn a living.”

Clinton, a project coordinator with SAID, was able to visit the project sites in July this year. “The ‘Community Toilets for the Disabled’ was initiated by local people with disabilities, many of who are affected by polio,” he explained. “The fact that local beneficiaries – Christians, Hindus and Muslims – became aware of the need and approached The Salvation Army themselves with those needs is a definite strength of the project.”

Salvation Army staff will also liaise with local groups and facilitate training on how to use the toilets, the dangers of open defecation and best sanitation processes. For more information, go to salvos.org.au/said

SAID PROJECTS MAKING AN IMPACT

The Salvation Army International Development team’s water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects are making a huge difference in some of Africa’s most impoverished communities.

Previous WASH activities in Malawi have enabled 37 communities to become open-defecation free through the use of the ‘Community Led Total Sanitation’ process,” said Rachael, SAID’s Project Coordinator – Africa. “Over 408 households now have improved pit latrines, and 100 composting toilets were established for community demonstration.”

The WASH project’s goals for current and future endeavours include:

- The construction of 54 toilet holes in 18 schools with access to improved sanitation and hand-washing facilities.
- 18,000 pupils to be educated on water hygiene and sanitation.
- 57 villages declared open-defecation free and have access to sanitation facilities.
- 14,250 beneficiaries are practising improved hygiene behaviours and have access to hand-washing facilities.

According to the World Bank, in 2011, 21 million Kenyans (almost half the population) use unsanitary or shared latrines. Every year, almost 20,000 people, among them more than 17,000 children, die from diarrhoea, with 90 per cent of deaths directly attributed to poor water sanitation and hygiene.

“Access to water and sanitation in schools is seen as a starting point for transformation and change within communities,” said Richard, Salvation Army project officer in Kenya. “Across 40 schools, the WASH project is aiming to give all students access to pit latrines and have facilities for hand-washing, including soap, available within 5m of the latrine.”

Additional goals include:

- Giving at least 80 per cent of girls access to sanitary products.
- Giving at least 80 per cent of community families access to their own pit latrines.
- Educating at least 80 per cent of students in hand-washing and the connection between water-borne diseases and lack of hygiene.

In Kenya, as part of a sanitation project funded in partnership with Miranda Corps, SAID is constructing a bathroom for The Salvation Army’s Joytown Primary School, which caters for children with physical and/or mental disabilities. “This project proposes to construct new toilets and wash facilities in the primary school, which are specifically fitted with facilities suitable for people with disabilities,” said Rachael.

For more information, go to unwater.org
focus on staff appointments to different social services, which are often not a true reflection of when the service itself was founded. Due to service name changes, address changes and building redevelopments, it can be difficult when delving through the historical records to get a firm grasp on which date is the correct opening date of a service or centre. Foundation stones, where we still have them, are invaluable.

While the Australia Southern Territory has at least a year-by-year listing of when its social institutions were opened, no such record exists within the Australia Eastern Territory (to this writer’s knowledge!) A seemingly straightforward project of collating opening dates for each of our services, in order to be able to celebrate anniversary milestones, quickly turned into a quagmire of research.

Our salvos.org.au website states in its “Key Moments in History” section that The Salvation Army’s Foster House, homeless men’s accommodation in Sydney opened in 1921. A document discovered at the Australia Eastern Territory Heritage Centre records July 1924 as its opening date. This is one of many such anomalies discovered.

With such a grassroots Army that was once described in the media as spreading “like a bushfire” across Australia, it’s not surprising that some details have been lost. Yet, it seems a shame that while corps history was meticulously recorded, with its history books detailing even the smallest event and every expense (down to the very last shilling), social service records do not seem as comprehensive.

A recent investigation into the opening dates of each of The Salvation Army’s social services revealed that while our corps opening and closing dates are meticulously documented, social centres are a different story. Many historical documents and books mention only the year of a service opening, or a month. Other records

**IS OUR SOCIAL SERVICES HISTORY, HISTORY?**

**WORDS LAUREN MARTIN**

A n organisation as large, as diverse and as old as The Salvation Army would be expected to have a rich history. And it does. A seasoned Salvationist knows the stories of “Fighting Mac” and his bullet-holed hat, and the link with Arnott’s and the fabled “Fighting Mac” and his bullet-holed hat, or “in the vault”, so to speak?

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So into the tangle we must tread if we want to preserve the historical facts, as well as reminisce over the romantic tales of hard work, heroism and souls saved. And who knows, in the process we may uncover new stories of forgotten heroes, new facts and new information to weave into the rich narrative of who we are.

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**BEING THE GOSPEL**

When actions speak louder than words

**WORDS BRON WILLIAMS**

I’m a product of the 1970s evangelical tradition. That time when the Four Spiritual Laws pamphlet was in my pocket, as I waited for the next opportunity to “share the gospel”. That time when I plastered stickers on school bags and lockers — “Seven days without the Lord makes one weak” — which was supposed to attract the questioning non-believer, but I secretly hoped no one would ask me. That time when the pressure to make converts was real and palpable. After all, it was all up to me.

Fast forward 30 years when I became a Salvo officer. In my first appointment I collected in pubs and clubs around Canberra. I loved hotels – loved the sense of community that existed there as people met at the end of the week for one, two or too many drinks.

I began to get to know a particular group of people in one of the clubs and would organise my collecting so that this club was the last stop. Over a soft drink I would sit and chat for half an hour or so. It was in this situation, where I had a “captive audience”, that God very clearly said to me, “Keep your mouth shut”.

Oh, what a challenge that was! For one who is a born communicator, whose heart was for people to come to know Jesus, to not be able to talk about my faith was very difficult. However, in the silence, I was challenged by a number of things. I was challenged to trust that, as a witness to Jesus, the Holy Spirit in me was enough. I was challenged to trust that God would work through me even if I did nothing but be a friend to these people. And as I trusted God more deeply in this way, it was amazing to see how the people in this group then turned the conversation to matters of faith and the Bible. None of them made declarations of faith, but I am convinced that God was at work (and is still at work) in these people’s lives.

This brings me to the question: What if we didn’t feel the need to “share” the gospel? What if all we needed to do was be “the gospel”? The gospel, in the New Testament sense, is the teachings or revelation of Christ – both what Jesus taught and what he showed in his life. In the Greek, gospel is the translation of the noun euangelio, meaning “good news” and occurs 76 times, and the verb euangelizo, which occurs 54 times and means “to bring or announce good news”.

Can we bring good news or announce good news if we don’t use words?

I like the verse in Isaiah 52:7 which combines both the oral bringing of good news and the physicality of the messenger: “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’” Here the Hebrew word basar combines both the telling and the showing in its meaning of to bear news, to bear tidings, to publish, to preach, and to show forth.

Sharing the gospel can be easy – it is easy to speak, either in written or oral form, the truths of the gospel. It is so much harder to “live” the gospel in the day-to-day with other people. I think “being” the gospel is the harder call because it means I must be intentional about my life becoming more and more as God would have it be.

I take my lead from Francis of Assisi, who is attributed as saying, “Preach the gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words.” I am convinced that unless I can “live” the gospel, “be” the gospel, then no amount of words about the gospel will make any sense at all.

* Bron Williams has a consultancy and coaching business based in Melbourne. For details see backstory.com.au
WE'RE NOT JUST VISITING THIS PLANET

Real living begins when we move into the neighbourhood

WORDS DANIELLE STRICKLAND

It’s amazing to engage with a cultural phenomenon without fully being part of it. This past 4th of July was my family’s first living in the United States, and we wanted to participate, even though we are Canadian. We went to the beach, used “party popper” fireworks with our kids, rented the movie Independence Day and felt proud to be “American” as the US saved the world from alien invasion. We even let our children stay up late to watch the fireworks in their pyjamas. It was fun. And odd. It felt like we were imposters. Celebrating something so essential to the American experience but not being an American. My six-year-old son, reciting the pledge of allegiance he had learned at school, was interrupted by his older brother who told him he can’t pledge allegiance because he isn’t an American. My six-year-old responded: “Well, I don’t mean it on the inside.” And I guess that’s the hammer hitting the nail on the head. It’s only an external experience.

I thought back to Christmas in Australia when we lived there. It was similar. We went to the beach for fish and chips, and ate way too much pavlova for dessert that night in the sweltering heat. We saw Santa Claus in a tank top and knew for sure we were only visiting this planet. This was not the snowy, cold, hot chocolate-by-the-fire Christmas we knew. It even made our homesickness go away because it felt so foreign – we found it hard to believe it really was Christmas! It became an external experience of spectating someone else’s reality.

A few days before the 4th of July, I participated in the SleepOutLA awareness/fundraiser to help combat homelessness in Los Angeles. It had a similar feel. Around 11pm, I went with a friend/cameraman to interview some people sleeping on the infamous Skid Row in downtown LA. We spoke to six people who were gracious and brave enough to share their story and offer their wisdom. One of them gave us a “night tour” of Skid Row to help us understand the realities of homelessness that very night.

Many hours later, I crawled into a nice warm bed and thought about the people I had met and their reality. But I did it at a distance. It was an external experience.

One of the guys I met on Skid Row is different from the others. His name is Eddie. He is there by choice. He heard God speak to him and he chased the invitation all the way to the notorious sidewalk of Skid Row. He felt God tell him to love people unconditionally from inside. His tent is always open. Literally. He has a daily Bible study and tries to speak love and life into people who have experienced such rejection and pain.

Eddie was telling us, that one night we were there to see, about how people need to feel and know they are not trash. While he was speaking to us, a young man made a line straight for Eddie. He gave him a big hug and thanked him for his powerful words and even more, his powerful life. I asked Eddie how he keeps hope alive in a place so dark and desperate. With tears in his eyes, he looked at me and said:

“Did you see that guy hug me?”

Eddie is not having an external experience. He has entered inside. Which is of course what Jesus invites us to do, not just by instruction but by example. Jesus literally put skin on and moved into the neighbourhood. He entered into our experience. He was not just visiting this planet. He was home here.

It made me think of the thousands of people like me who have external experiences but never really feel part of it. Imposters of a sort; never fully understanding the sacredness of every occasion to be at home with each other, we remain spectators at someone else’s show. Mother Teresa described herself at the end of her ministry like this: “My ethnicity is Albanian. My citizenship is Indian. My faith is Catholic. My calling is to the world. But my heart belongs to Jesus.” And because her heart belonged fully to Jesus, she was no longer a spectator of his friends. She entered in. Like Eddie, her tent was always open.

So, this 4th of July I learned to stop spectating. I want to make my “home” here. And by here I mean wherever I am. I want to enter in, to learn the Jesus way of being fully present in every moment. To live in such a way that people feel a part of it. No more imposters. My tent is always open. I’m not just visiting this planet.

Major Danielle Strickland is the Territorial Social Justice Secretary in The Salvation Army USA Western Territory.
Doctor Strange is the 20th film based on the Marvel Comics universe, and is directed by Scott Derrickson. Derrickson is best known for a slew of popular horror films directed by Scott Derrickson. Derrickson is best known for a slew of popular horror films and his newest addition is a series of eye-bending effects that are strongly reminiscent of 2010’s Inception. Yet the story itself is softened by the reassuring presence of mainstream actors like Rachel McAdams (Strange’s love-interest Christine Palmer), Tilda Swinton (the enigmatic Ancient One), and of course Benedict Cumberbatch as brilliant neurosurgeon Dr Stephen Strange himself.

Cumberbatch well captures the egotistical attitude of the original comic character created by artist Steve Ditko. Speeding along a winding road, making casual life-and-death decisions about patients forwarded by his “agent,” Strange is involved in a devastating accident. His crippling injuries take away his power to perform surgery and when conventional treatments fail to restore his hands, he takes a one-way trip to the mystical Tibetan kingdom of Kamar-Taj in the hope that the revered ‘Ancient One’ can heal him. However, he is totally unable to appreciate the venerable master’s offer of a spiritual solution to his physical struggle. As Strange’s vanity runs amok and he rages at the mystic’s wisdom, Cumberbatch reflects a common Western view: there is no gain in an answer that doesn’t offer complete restoration. Spiritual insights are nice, but the real world is a physical one. “There is no spirit!” the surgeon yells. “I don’t believe in fairytales about chakras or energy or the power of belief.” In that moment Strange stands in for the Richard Dawkins’ and Christopher Hitchens’ of this age. What can’t be quantified simply doesn’t exist.

However, popular stories tend to reflect the way the populace are really thinking. The twist in Marvel’s latest tale looks to indicate a dissatisfaction with an overly scientific view of the world.

Strange’s new teacher has no time for thinking that limits itself to three dimensions. “You’re a man looking at the world through a keyhole. You’ve spent your life trying to widen it,” she says. “What if I were to tell you that reality is one of many?” She then goes about providing undeniable proof, and Strange makes the only reasonable response at that point: “Teach me!” And strangely, there is more reality than fantasy about his story if we care to examine history.

When the world struggled under the weight of sin and suffered all kinds of physical pain, God offered undeniable proof of the spiritual dimension that undergirds our existence by sending his message in human form. Those who walked alongside Jesus had their eyes forcibly opened, like Strange, and their response was just as humble as Marvel’s new hero. The Apostle John the Evangelist said: “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

And the mystery that Jesus displayed over physical and spiritual forces certainly doesn’t fall short of what will feature on the big screen this month. But will audiences be prepared to learn?

Doctor Strange seems to indicate a swing back from the purely scientific, and a thirst for a new kind of superhero in movie-goers. Where the Avengers conjured themselves with physical threats, Strange becomes the world’s champion against magical and mystical ones. If audiences are already looking in this direction, there is at least an opportunity to show them that they don’t have to look to fantasy for that reality. – Mark Hadley

Dios is repelled by violence and attracted by the thought of saving lives. He enlists to be trained as an Army medic, but his refusal to carry a rifle throws him into conflict long before he reaches a transport ship.

Hacksaw Ridge is not just a story that involves a Christian; it is a story about the daily struggle to be a Christian. No one understands Dios’ conviction that he can love his God and his country, without wanting to kill its enemy. The persecution he then undergoes comes in a variety of extreme, but still sadly familiar forms. Most poignantly, Desmond’s father assures him that he will find no joy in following the path God has set before him.

“You think this world will fit in with your beliefs?” the broken man pleads. “If by some miracle you survive, you won’t be thanking God.” To this very day, Christians face the same challenges from the mouths of authorities, peers and parents. Yet Dios perseveres, not because he has an iron will, but because his faith is his identity.

Hacksaw Ridge delivers Dios’ baptism of fire on the shores of Okinawa, the island chain where American troops first set foot on the Japanese homeland. Gibson pulls no punches in conveying both the brutality and pointlessness of war. The hellish vision that unfolded is easily as disturbing as any war film I have ever viewed. But neither does the director indulge in elevating one viewpoint over another. The conflict is salted with non-Christians who behave valiantly, as well as Christians who are prepared to take up arms — and enough bravery, cruelty and futility to challenge and shame both sides. But it’s Dios’ moment of decision that the story turns on. Terrified and alone, confused and struggling, Desmond calls out to God: “What do you want from me? I can’t hear your voice!” Silence ensues, then he hears the desperate scream: “Medic! Help!”

When the lights came up on Hacksaw Ridge at the Venice Film Festival it received a 10-minute standing ovation. However, what I will remember the most is the three times it brought me to tears. The first, for the sheer horror that soldiers were asked to endure. The second, for the terrible choices mere men were asked to make. And finally, for the sheer beauty of one man’s realisation that God has set before him. Christians face the same challenges from the mouths of authorities, peers and parents. Yet Dios perseveres, not because he has an iron will, but because his faith is his identity.

Hacksaw Ridge is built around the life of Desmond T. Doss, an American Seventh Day Adventist who refused to carry a gun but still wanted to serve his country in the Pacific. Mel Gibson returns to the director’s chair to tell a story that is likely to take its place alongside Chariots Of Fire and The Passion Of The Christ as one of Christianity’s most stirring stories of belief.

Gibson uses rising star Andrew Garfield to introduce us to Doss long before he confronts the trials of the Pacific. In small-town Virginia, we’re made privy to the events that shaped his life. Rachel Griffiths plays Dios’ mother, a source of quiet, determined faith; Hugo Weaving his father, a troubled alcoholic shattered by the First World War. Dios is repelled by violence and attracted by the thought of saving lives. He enlists to be trained as an Army medic, but his refusal to carry a rifle throws him into conflict long before he reaches a transport ship.
Fire Another Folly

– Lindsay Cox and Gordon Main

Fire a Folly flew off the shelves last year and as a consequence its creators have decided to bring out a sequel in time for Christmas, simply called Fire Another Folly. Lindsay Cox (pictured right) and Gordon Main again bring their artistic and poetic talents to the fray, and, as if this wasn’t enough, is a host of generals, old songs, Red Shield, congress, women in uniform and, of course, the band and timbrels. As we sat over lunch discussing the topics I could see the creative juices begin to flow, as did one-liners. I am amazed at the quality of the witty verse by Gordon, “The Altar Call” comes to mind immediately. I am in awe that he is able to home in on the crux of a topic, cover it extensively and, as if this wasn’t enough, is able to add one line at the end that brings a deep message of faith. They say a picture paints a thousand words and this is certainly true of Lindsay’s caricatures – the king of innuendo. The little sideways glance of the bandsman in “The Open Air” at the very trim adjacent timbrelist brings back a few memories for all us I’m sure! Fire Another Folly will be in Salvationist Supplies by the beginning of December at a cost of $7. Be sure to grab yourself a copy, sit down and have a good chuckle.

– Captain June Knop National Assistant Editor-in-Chief and contributor to the production of Fire Another Folly

Brillante

– Derick and Stephen Kane

Brillante is the latest in a long list of fine instrumental CDs produced by The Salvation Army’s World of Sound in the United Kingdom. This album features the father-and-son euphonium duo of Derick and Stephen Kane, who both have impressive musical CVs – Derick with The Salvation Army International Staff Band, and Stephen with the Welsh Cory Band.

Their high level of musicianship is on display in every facet throughout this recording. Ably accompanied by piano, of particular note are the beautiful warm sounds produced by the Kanes in every register of the instrument in the slower tunes. The width of sound provided in The Old Rugged Cross and I Need Thee resonates through your sound system, proving that the euphonium really is the instrument best designed to handle slow melodies and hymns.

Naturally, there is some musical flair as well. Timepiece, by Norman Bearcroft, was one of the first “technically demanding” euphonium duets to be introduced into The Salvation Army. Brillante, by Peter Graham, is all skill and talent as Stephen and Derick take us through some classic English and Welsh tunes (and lots of semi-quavers!). This track would have been enhanced by the energy and colour of the full brass band accompaniment; however it is still worthy of being the title track for the album.

For this author, the highlight of the CD was the track I’ll Not Turn Back, the song written by General John Gowans, arranged here by Ivor Bosanko. It is a timely reminder that “I’ll not turn back, whatever it may cost, I’m called to live, to love and save the lost”. Throughout this we hear sensitive playing by both musicians, and a fine example of how to play a slow melody in a lyrical and singing style. The result is quite moving.

However, with Brillante, the album’s strength is also its weakness. As the instrumentation never varies from euphonium and piano, the CD can at times become one-dimensional as the listener’s attention fades in and out. Some alternate or added instrumentation, even for a track or two, would have greatly enhanced the overall listening.

Despite this, the collaboration results in an album of moving, inspirational and most importantly, blessed music, as Derick and Stephen offer up their talents for God’s glory and praise.

– Jared Proellocks

Brillante can be purchased for $24.95 at Salvationist Supplies. Go to thetrade.salvos.org.au or phone (02) 9466 3257.

Congratulations

Terence Parkin, of Townsville Faithworks Corps, has won our giveaway copy of The Heaton Collection: Volume 5 – Vocal Works by the Heaton Chorus and Soloists.

Win

Simply email your name and address to eastern.editorial@au.e.salvationarmy.org, with the words “Pipeline giveaway” in the subject line for your chance to win our giveaway copy of Brillante.

Level One inside the new Territorial Headquarters at 261-265 Chalmers St, Redfern.

Open 9am-4pm Monday to Friday
Fun, faith and fish a 'reel' highlight of Streetlevel trip.

Fishing is always a highlight of the Fraser Island weekend, and this year brought in a record haul!

Fishing, camping, four-wheel driving and building friendships were all part of the Brisbane Streetlevel Mission’s annual fishing trip to Fraser Island. Nine Streetlevel community members, plus staff, were part of the trip this year, which took place on 28 August-2 September.

In keeping with tradition, the group camped with another group of men, organised by Brisbane Christian leader and radio presenter, Peter Janetzki.

“The aims of this trip include spending some time together, allowing the guys to have a holiday and a good time – especially those struggling with addiction and mental health issues – evangelism, discipleship, and building relationships,” said Paul Maunder, Streetlevel Outreach Coordinator.

“We fished together – caught 98 between us this year. Some we ate there, others we brought home to cook for dinners at Streetlevel chapel. We went to some beautiful sites in the four-wheel drives, spent time sharing life stories, talking, laughing and just enjoying each other’s company. There were also lots of opportunities to work together as a team.”

For many of the Streetlevel community members, the fishing trip is the highlight of the year and something they look forward to. “It’s not free, it’s $200 per person, so the guys have to put in a real effort and commit to saving and putting the money aside to go,” said Paul.

“We also have a generous supporter who donated funds for the trip. The guys just loved the experience, both those who’ve been before and those who went for the first time.”

Major Phil Staines, Streetlevel Team Leader, said the highlight of the trip was “watching everyone have a go, and the way we all worked together. There was also plenty of time to reflect, share our faith and journey as men, but also have fun together. It’s such a beautiful spot and very isolated and removed from the everyday world we all function in.”

– Simone Worthing

Corps cadet congress delegates remember time of their lives.

Twenty-two delegates to the 1956 International Corps Cadet Congress in London, recently met for a 60-year reunion in Sydney.

For many people, 60 years is a lifetime. But for the 39 Australian and seven New Zealand delegates, The Salvation Army’s 1956 International Corps Cadet Congress in London was the journey of a lifetime. Most of these delegates had not previously “left home”, and the thought of travelling to the other side of the globe was literally “out of this world”.

It was a six-week sea journey from Sydney, on the way collecting other delegates in Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Colombo, Sri Lanka. Arriving at Southampton, England, we got our “land legs”. The 12-day congress was a memorable time of seeing the international Salvation Army, and of challenge and commitment. Many lifelong friendships and lifetime commitments were made during the congress, where the theme was “For Christ and Duty”.

Recently, at The Salvation Army’s Collaroy Centre on Sydney’s Northern Beaches, 22 delegates who made the trip to the congress met for a 60-year reunion. Margaret Robinson, who also assisted in organising the 40 and 50-year reunions, when delegates came from Norway, the United States, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, and Sri Lanka, co-ordinated the weekend. This time, people travelled from as far as Perth and Townsville in Australia, and also from New Zealand.

Over the weekend, as in 1956, we were again challenged by the faithful sharing of our friends, both privy and as well as in the public gatherings and meetings. Planning is already underway for our next reunion at Collaroy in 2018.

– Errol Duck-Chong

Just Men conference delegates rise to the challenge.

It was a weekend of spiritual and physical challenges for the 166 men who attended the Just Men conference in Sydney in September. Guest speaker Allan Meyer, author of Valiant Mans, called those attending to be “men of purity” in all parts of their lives.

Captain Darren Kingston, who coordinates The Salvation Army’s Just Men ministry, said almost a third of participants made an active response to the teaching. “It was a great weekend with 48 men coming out the front for an altar call to have their lives transformed, habits broken and be set on a new path,” he said.

The weekend also included the much-anticipated second annual Billy Cart Derby, which grew from last year’s starting line-up of four carts. This year, seven carts entered the competition, with Dosoralong Transformation Centre taking home the prize for the fastest cart. Long Jetty Corps scored the most crashes and Maroubra won the Spirit of the Hill award.

An expo showcasing ways they could be involved in their local communities saw 30 men committing to ministry in areas such as men’s groups, fathering, discipleship and chaplaincy.

The Just Men Conference in Queensland was held at Mapleton, Sunshine Coast, on 26-30 October. – Anne Halliday
SAGALA switch proves a hit at Capricorn Region Corps.

Faced with the challenge of attracting the families of SAGALA members to their church parade, a feature of the evening. Janelle Staines, SAGALA Queensland Divisional Youth Secretaries, led the church parade on a Wednesday evening, Bairnsdale. “It was great to get together, have a chat and discuss business and serve the corps,” he said. “We also had a couple of witnesses opportunities on the way up and back, which often happens at service stations. We make an effort to talk with people, they ask questions and we go from there.”

The SAGALA members travelled many ‘ministry miles’ to be a part of this fellowship and service,” said Captain Trevor Friend, who is the Queensland Executive Officer for the group.

The enrolment of new SAGALA members was a feature of the church parade. The Salvation Army’s Family Store in Merimbula has raised more than $900 for The Freedom Partnership, which campaigns to help victims of human trafficking and modern day slavery in Australia. The fundraising event, held on 23 August, was organised by the store’s co-managers, Sue Davidson and Carole Davis, who set up a sausage sizzle to the backdrop of an anti-slavery display window.

The Salvation Army is at the forefront of combating this scourge on society. “Like many others I found it hard to believe this happens in Australia.” Sue said. “I began thinking that perhaps our little store could help the people caught up in modern slavery!”

With the help of long-term volunteer Vicki Scott, Sue put together an anti-slavery window display, which they set up the week before the fundraising event. “It was a great talking point,” says Sue. “Many customers engaged us in discussion, many in disbelief that this does happen in Australia.”

The local radio station and newspaper helped promote the event, along with Facebook updates, and Sue was “over the moon” with the generosity and response of the public. “More importantly, I hope we have helped to share the plight of people caught up in human trafficking and the work of the wonderful people giving support, housing and encouragement to people in this situation,” she said.

The Salvation Army Motorcycle Ministry led the Sunday service at Rockhampton during their recent annual general meeting. (From left) Captain Phillip McCall, Major Garry Johnson, Captain Trevor Friend, and juni Deirdre Anthony Stevens.

Merimbula community backs Freedom Partnership.

Motorcycle Ministry members ride into Rocky for annual meeting.

The Salvation Army Motorcycle Ministry served at Capricorn Region Corps in Rockhampton last month, as part of its Annual General Meeting. “Ten of our members travelled many ‘ministry miles’ to be a part of this fellowship and service,” said Captain Trevor Friend, who is the Queensland Executive Officer for the group.

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The local radio station and newspaper helped promote the event, along with Facebook updates, and Sue was “over the moon” with the generosity and response of the public. “More importantly, I hope we have helped to share the plight of people caught up in human trafficking and the work of the wonderful people giving support, housing and encouragement to people in this situation,” she said.

The Salvation Army Motorcycle Ministry led the Sunday service at Rockhampton during their recent annual general meeting. (From left) Captain Phillip McCall, Major Garry Johnson, Captain Trevor Friend, and junior Deirdre Anthony Stevens.

The Salvation Army College Recovery Services (Fairhaven) celebrated its 25th anniversary on Saturday 8 October. Past and present Fairhaven staff and clients attended the event, which began with a tour of the Mt Tamborine property and transitioning the service to its new location. Current Fairhaven manager, Major David Rosgorden, completed the Fairhaven journey, explaining that the ministry of serving those in addiction is continuing, with growth and development in program and service delivery, but with the same goals of bringing hope, healing and wholeness to all clients, their families and significant others.

“We have a sign halfway down our driveway which says ‘Hope Starts Here’,” he said. “The Salvation Army was and is a giver of hope and we have a history of providing hope for people in great need. This is the testimony of many hundreds who have come through our gates over the years.”
A good cup of coffee, cushioned milk crates, peaceful gardens and caring people to talk to are behind the popularity of a new ministry at The Salvation Army’s Palm Beach Elanora Corps on Queensland’s Gold Coast. The Milk Crate Garden Café, now in its second month of operation, is providing a safe and welcoming place for Connect Centre and Family Store clients, volunteers, mums who attend “Cheeky Monkeys” (similar to Mainly Music), the lonely, and community groups.

Captain Jenny Hall, Palm Beach Elanora Corps Officer, with Captain Neville Hall, saw the need for Connect clients to have somewhere to go when they were distressed or upset, and she wasn’t available to talk to them because of other clients waiting. “It was a God thing,” she said. “I thought it would be good to have someone for them to chat to instead of just moving on to the next client. Our volunteer, Marie, is a bubbly and caring person who breaks through barriers and can chat with any client. She also makes coffees for other clients if I need to spend time with someone in particular.”

Importantly, the Palm Beach Elanora team always invites clients to come back for another coffee and a follow-up chat, and to let people know there is always somewhere safe and welcoming for them to come to. The corps purchased a “decent coffee machine” through a community grant and people are invited to donate a gold coin towards their coffee.

“The little café allows us to do what we’re passionate about – caring for people and embracing our local community,” said Captain Neville Hall. “It fits in with the missional concept of the Connect Centre. The space also allows others to get to know the people from the corps, see that fun things happen here, and needs can be met. We’re about Christ and salvation, but doing life together with people shows them that – whether it takes days, weeks or even years.”

– Simone Worthing

Milk Crate Café helps Salvos connect with Gold Coast community.

Casserole Club helping refugees meet new neighbours.

The Salvation Army’s Syrian and Iraqi refugee program, Inclusive Australia, has teamed with FutureGov to take part in the established Casserole Club initiative as a way to help new arrivals integrate into their local communities. The Casserole Club began in England in 2011 and expanded to Australia four years later with the assistance of FutureGov, a digital and design company for public services.

Introduced in the Liverpool area of western Sydney, volunteers cook a meal for a refugee family with the purpose of building friendships and offering cultural support. “Everyone bonds over food,” said Inclusive Australia team member, Taryn Somerville. “Internationally, food doesn’t have any borders, especially in Middle Eastern culture. They have a big culture around food and coming together to share food. We (Australians) also connect that way. We thought that this was an easy way to welcome a family.”

Taryn said the aim was also to break down barriers between neighbours in order to prevent refugees becoming isolated in their new communities. “We want to move away from isolation and not knowing your own neighbours,” she said. “We are encouraging people to be the first person to reach out and say ‘Hey, I’m here to help’.”

If you live in the Liverpool area and would like to take part in The Casserole Club, email casseroleclub@salvationarmy.org for more information. Organisers are hoping to expand the program to other areas in the near future.

– Esther Pinn
Ivanhoe estate celebrates 15 years of hope and transformation.

“For 15 years, The Salvation Army has had the incredible joy and privilege of journeying with and being a part of community transformation in this special neighbourhood,” said Nathan Moulds, Mission Leader at Macquarie Park Mission, Sydney. “There’s been much hard work and many challenges, but what there has always been is hope.”

Nathan was speaking at the recent 15th anniversary of the Army’s work at 47 Ivanhoe Place – a home in the long and winding street that is part of the unique, multicultural Ivanhoe estate in Macquarie Park that 500 residents from diverse cultures and backgrounds call home. Neighbours past and present, volunteers, members of the nearby Ryde Salvation Army, and representatives from the council, Macquarie University and local churches, attended the anniversary celebrations.

Nathan was emcee for the day and began the official proceedings by honouring Craig and Danni Stephens, now territorial envoys serving at the Army’s Dooralong Transformation Centre, who pioneered the ministry in Ivanhoe Place and remained there for 11 years. Three neighbours from Ivanhoe Place also shared including Jason Poutawa, now Salvos Youth Foundation Territorial Coordinator, who grew up in the estate. Jason spoke about the encouragement, leadership, and security he received from The Salvation Army. People loving, caring for and believing in him changed his life, led to a traineeship with the Army’s Oasis Youth Network and introduced him to faith.

“We all then enjoyed a multicultural lunch prepared by the neighbours,” said Nathan. “People stayed for hours and it was a beautiful time of sharing and catching up.”

Residents of Ivanhoe Estate are now in the process of relocation. The Salvation Army will be the last tenants to leave – at the beginning of 2018. “People have experienced a unique community, so now they can take that experience and be mini ‘47’s’ – communities of hope – wherever they go,” Nathan explained. “We would love to be involved with the new community of social housing and will have ongoing negotiations with the NSW Government in this regard.”

– Simone Worthing
Londoners grab opportunity to tour International Headquarters.

Several hundred people toured The Salvation Army’s International Headquarters (IHQ) in London as part of Open House London, a city-wide event that celebrates buildings and architecture.

Members of the public heard Commissioner Charles Swansbury and representatives from the building’s architects, Sheppard Robson, speak about the design of IHQ before being shown around one of the office floors, the General’s office, the International Chapel and the public café and gallery.

Tour groups led by IHQ staff were met at the International Chapel by Colonel Knud and Lisbeth Wekander, who explained the way in which the chapel extends beyond the rest of the building, into “the world” beyond IHQ.

Crews of people were attracted by music provided just outside the front door by Regent Hall band in the morning and a brass quintet after lunch.

Major Recently Fryn signed and gave out copies of The Salvation Army’s daily devotional publication, Words of Life, and Lieutenant-Colonel Sandy Morrice gave a talk on the history of a site that has been occupied by The Salvation Army since 1881.

“It was exciting to see members of the general public not only admiring the building but learning about and appreciating the international ministry of The Salvation Army,” said IHQ Chaplain, Major Peter Mylchreest.

~ IHQ Communications

General installs new Norway, Iceland and The Færøes territorial leader.

The Salvation Army’s world leaders, General André Cox and Commissioner Silvia Cox (World President of Women’s Ministries), have installed Commissioner William Cochrane as leader of the Norway, Iceland and The Færøes Territory. The installation took place during a Sunday morning meeting at Oslo Temple Corps.

The General gave the congregation a warm and personal presentation of Commissioner Cochrane, who he thanked for being a good colleague over many years. The congregation stood as the commissioner knelt to be formally installed as territorial leader by the General. The commissioner was met by sustained applause from the congregation.

In his Bible message, the new territorial commander urged his listeners not to put their trust in the General or the Salvation Army, but in God. “We must bring Christ to the people and people to Christ,” he said. There was a spontaneous response from the congregation, with many moving forward to the mercy seat or standing as a sign of commitment.

~ Andrew Hannewik

Salvation Army in the eye of hurricane emergency relief.

The Salvation Army has been mobilising emergency food and shelter services in Haiti, Dominican Republic and the southeastern states of the United States in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew, which ravaged the countries in October.

In Haiti, The Salvation Army is working with disaster relief agencies to help people who have been forced from their homes by the hurricane, the strongest storm to hit the Caribbean in a decade, which struck on 4 October. More than 1000 people in Haiti have been killed and tens of thousands have lost their homes and are without shelter.

The Salvation Army has been providing basic food items for people who are living in temporary shelters or “safety zones.” The main location is in the Croix-des-Bouquets region of the capital Port-au-Prince, where hundreds of people are being sheltered. Food is also being distributed throughout Port-au-Prince and in other southern towns, including Fonds-des-Negres, Aspin and Petit-Goâve.

In Port-au-Prince, The Salvation Army’s clinic has been offering treatment to people who have been injured. Repairs will be needed at a large number of Salvation Army schools and other buildings that have been damaged, with several losing their roofs.

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Matthew, Salvation Army disaster response teams set up dozens of mobile feeding units across the four states. It has also provided evacuation shelters and satellite communication units, while supporting state emergency operations and staffing numerous county emergency operations centres in the impacted states.

~ IHQ Communications

Army opens in Madagascar.

General André Cox has approved the official opening of Salvation Army operations on the island of Madagascar, off the east coast of Africa. This development will bring the total number of countries in which The Salvation Army is officially registered to 128.

Majors Jean and Flore Kialu, officers of the Democratic Republic of Congo Territory, have been appointed to lead the work, assisted by Madagascar Salvationists Andrémanonny and Annick Rasahoby. Sunday meetings have been taking place for some months, a Home League (women’s ministry) program is developing, making a great impact on the lives of women in Madagascar, and Salvation Army personnel are involved at a school. The work will develop under the supervision of the Zimbabwe Territory.

The Salvation Army’s new Madagascar team pictured with territorial leaders, and Chief of the Staff Commissioner Brian Peddle and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle.

Commissioner William Cochrane delivers a Bible message after being installed as territorial commander of the Norway, Iceland and The Færøes Territory by The Salvation Army’s world leaders, General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox (seated right).

HISTORY SNAPSHOT

Salvation Army founder William Booth’s controversial blueprint for the welfare system in 1890 is still influential in the United Kingdom’s delivery of government welfare today. Read all about it at salvos.org.au/boothwelfare
Quiet strength.

Max Hayes was promoted to glory on 21 September, aged 77, on the NSW Central Coast. Major Stan Evans led the Celebration Service of Max’s life at Gosford Corps. Max and his wife Dorothy had prepared the service, which included songs such as “Abide With Me” and Great is Thy Faithfulness, accompanied by the corps band. The bandmen also sang the chorus, “Give Any Rivers You Think Are Uncrossable.”

Tributes were brought by family members Malcolm Hayes and Karen McWilliams and friend Len Whitaker. Ngaire Callaghan offered a prayer and Al Clifton read from the Scriptures. Many friends gathered from the Glengara Retirement Village, the Forresters Beach Probus Club, and Old Newingtonian’s “70’s Club.” A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club.

Max was born on 7 November 1938. He was the son of Herb and Muriel Hayes and had a sister, Marjorie, and a brother, Bert. He was the grandson of Malcolm James in 1965. In 1971, Max and Dorothy built a house at Beverley Hills where they continued to raise their family. In 1984, the couple moved to St Huberts Island on the Central Coast. They began attending Gosford Corps, Max joining the band as a trombonist.

Max retired in 2003 and, after living on the island for 22 years, moved to Glengara Village in Tumbarumba. Here he enjoyed a more relaxed lifestyle and reclaimed his sporting drive by being a member of the Herberts Island Rowing Club. Max was a loving husband, a proud father and grandfather. He had four grandchildren – Ashlyn, Rowan, Kobe and Holly – whom he loved very much.

Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club. A slide presentation depicting Max’s life was supported by the Barbra Streisand & Veterans’ Outreach. Over 70s Club.

Promoted to glory on 21 September.

School For Officer Training

The following individuals have been accepted as School For Officer Training candidates for the 2017-2018 Messengers of Compassion session: Star Conliffe and Charlie Jung, Bekonnen Corps; Peter and Andrea Martin, North Lakes Corps; Ashley and Rita Biermann, Bayside Community Church; Hayley Cooke, Brisbane City Temple/Taree Corps.

Time to pray

25-29 October

Hervey Bay Corps, Maryborough Corps, SAILLS – Bundaberg Tom Quinn Centre, all Wide Bay Burnett Hub; Western Qld Area; Dalby Corps, South Qld Rural Hub.

30 October-5 November

Lockyer Valley Corps, SAILLS – Darling Downs, South Burnett Region Corps, Roma Corps, Toowoomba Corps, Toowoomba Crisis Accommodation, Warwick Corps, all South Qld Rural Hub.

6-12 November

Bundamba Corps, Passchendaele Corps, Forest Lake Community Church, Inala Corps, Ipswich Corps, South Brisbane Missional Communities & Centenary Corps, Soundpoint and Sony Foundation Youth & Community Centre, all South West Brisbane Hub.

13-19 November

Caloundra Corps, Coolum Mission, Maroochydore Corps, Nambour Corps, Noosa Corps Noosa Family Support, Salvo Housing, Sunshine Coast, all Sunshine Coast Hub, Brisbane Wide Area, Qld.

26-28 November

Family Supported Accommodation North Brisbane, Caboolture Corps, Caboolture Family Support, North Brisbane Corps, Pine Rivers Corps, Redcliffe City Corps, all Northern Brisbane Hub.

Engagement Calendar


Colonels Mark (Chief Secretary-in-Charge) and Julie Campbell Stanmore: Tue 1 Nov – Session and dinner, Stage 3 Officer Training Residential 1.

#Bexley North: Thu 3 Nov – School For Officer Training Retreat Day.

Brisbane: Fri 18 Nov – Qld Retired Officers Fellowship Christmas lunch, North Brisbane Corps.


Brisbane: Fri 4 Nov – Qld Retired Officers Fellowship Christmas lunch, North Brisbane Corps.

Brisbane: Sun 6 Nov – Conduct meeting at God’s Sports Arena, Brisbane City Temple.

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I grew up in Sydney. I didn’t feel like I fitted in with my family so, by age 13, I was living by myself at the horse-racing stables where I found work. That’s where my use of alcohol began. I got into nightclubs and started using marijuana at 16, and was also stealing alcohol from my parents’ cellar when I visited. I went to jail for two months when I was 18, for drug trafficking.

Soon afterwards, I met the girl who became my first wife. She smoked pot and dabbled in other drugs as well. I started taking speed and was drinking at least six schooners of beer per day. I split up with my wife after 18 months because of my alcohol abuse and aggression. I ended up depressed and moved to the Gold Coast. I was smoking pot and drinking spirits every day, and got into stealing and lots of fights. I was in and out of work. I was with another girl for seven years but we split up, again because of drugs and alcohol. I was sad most of the time. I just didn’t realise what I was doing to my life. My next relationship lasted six years, but my drinking and drugs continued. Sophie was the next girl and after 2½ years together we had a son, Lockie. I was still drinking heavily and pushing my feelings down, trying to escape reality. I tried to settle down but was always drunk and losing jobs. Sophie left when Lockie was seven months old.

I tried to commit suicide but they revived me and put me in the psych ward. I tried to kill myself a few more times after that. Lockie was just over a year old when I did detox at Fairhaven (The Salvation Army’s Recovery Services Centre on the Gold Coast) in 2004. I gave up everything for four months but then met a girl and got back on the drink. The relationship broke up and my drinking got worse.

One day Lockie saw me drunk and it broke his heart. He told his mum that I was going to die. I knew that I had to do something. A few days later, God came into my life. I was swimming in the dark, but then a light came on and I heard God’s voice. I knew God was around, and that nobody could hurt me. I could only hurt myself. I went to see Brian Surch at the Salvos. He pointed me to The Salvation Army’s Turning Point for detox. I then did the full program at Fairhaven and dealt with a lot of feelings and personal issues. The staff were supportive and inspiring.

There were times when I wanted to leave, but the Lord wasn’t letting me go. The day I went into detox, I picked up the Bible and didn’t stop reading it for eight weeks. I just wanted to know more about this higher power I knew I needed in my life.

I have a huge relationship with God. I wake up thinking about God and he’s showing me stuff every day. I still get counselling from AA and NA meetings, go to Turning Point for the After Care program, and church every week. Lockie came to my graduation from Fairhaven. He is proud of me and we have a strong relationship. I’m a Salvation Army soldier now and the church is very supportive. God is leading me into the church to help other people – addicts and seniors. This is where God wants me and I now live a life of peace and grace which I’ve never had before. I always worried about money but I don’t now. I am rich – I have Jesus.
Commissioning & Celebration

Sunday 4 December 2016
10am - Ordination & Commissioning
2.30pm - Celebration of Mission

Live streaming: mysalvos.org.au/commissioning

Edmund Rice Performing Arts Centre
82 Stephens Road, South Brisbane

Leaders: Commissioners Floyd & Tracey Tidd,
Colonels Mark and Julie Campbell

ADDITIONAL EVENTS:
Graduation Ceremony
Thursday 24 November 2016, 7pm
Earlwood Corps - 58 Earlwood Avenue, Earlwood

Covenant Day*
Wednesday 30 November 2016

Principal’s Reception and Silver Star Lunch*
Saturday 3 December 2016, 1.30pm

*BY PERSONAL INVITATION ONLY