

pipeline

The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory
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Getting a kick out of mission

Trevor heads for World Cup

ALSO INSIDE: Desperate flight to freedom, a Refugee Week feature

The greatest show on Earth

Most people who have anything more than a passing interest in football can recall their first childhood experience of a World Cup.

The tension, excitement and sheer wonder at the planet's best players gathering once every four years and serving up what seems an endless amount of matches to determine which is the best football nation on earth.

My "first" World Cup was 1978, in Argentina; Mario Kempes' two-goal final-winning performance for the hosts, Archie Gemmill's brilliant solo strike for Scotland against the Dutch ... the memories still readily flood back.

Those four weeks were heaven on Earth for a football-crazy 10-year-old, particularly one growing up in Australia where the sport at the time was the poor cousin to the "big" codes of rugby league and Australian football. I would race home from school to catch the highlights packages (live coverage was still some way into the future) on our new colour TV, before changing into my football boots and joining my mates down at the local park to re-create the matches we had just seen.

More than 30 years later and the World Cup still fills me with wonder. Already I'm beginning to plan my viewing schedule for the 2010 tournament which kicks off on 11 June.

For the first half of the tournament I'll be in the UK where the matches will be screened live from the host nation South Africa at much more respectable times of the day than here in Australia. And in contrast to my "debut" in '78, this time I'll have the Socceroos to cheer on.

Unsavory element

The World Cup is a phenomenal spectacle, on and off the pitch. Alongside the Olympic Games, it sits as one of the great sporting events on Earth.

South Africa is expecting 350,000 visitors to flood into the country over the month-long tournament. Among them will be 25 Salvos from Australia, split into four mission teams to run sports clinics and present the Gospel.

In this issue of *Pipeline*, we have a focus on these mission teams and highlight the challenges they will encounter as they endeavour to be the face of Jesus in this culturally sensitive country, none bigger than the scourge of human trafficking.

While hosting the World Cup will provide an enormous boost to the South African economy, human rights organisations have warned that the massive influx of people into the country will, sadly, bring with it an increased threat of human trafficking, particularly among the nation's children who have been granted school holidays for the duration of the event. It is in helping to protect these vulnerable members of society that the mission teams will have a special focus.

Exciting times lie ahead for the team members and the memories of their World Cup adventure will last a lifetime. It will also, however, be an emotionally draining and physically exhausting experience. They deserve our prayerful support.

Scott Simpson
Managing Editor

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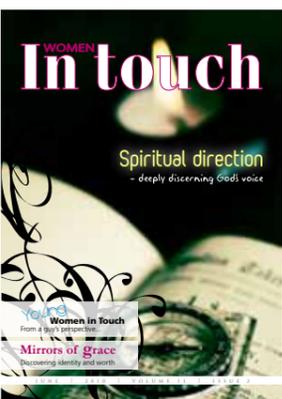
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IN THIS MONTH'S WOMEN IN TOUCH
Spiritual direction: Deeply discerning God's voice

Gender, justice and imagination

In the second instalment of a *Pipeline* series in which writers from around The Salvation Army world have been invited to submit an article on a subject of their choosing, Lieutenant-Colonel **JANET MUNN** says proper engagement with Scripture can bring about genuine liberation to individuals and communities

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is described as, “good news to the poor, healing for the broken-hearted, freedom for the captives, and release from darkness for the prisoners” (Isaiah 61: 1-2). Why, then, are there still so many who are poor, broken-hearted, held captive and in prison?

Consider these statistics:

A report compiled by the United Nations Development Fund for Women in 2000 states that more than one in five women (22 per cent) in the United States are victims of physical violence from an intimate partner. In Turkey, that figure is 58 per cent; in Kenya, 42 per cent.

Worldwide, domestic violence is the leading cause of death among females between the ages of 14 and 44. The United Nations Statistics Division has indicated that abortion based on gender – specifically because the fetus was female – has led to millions of “missing” girls in India and China, two cultures where males are preferred due to social and economic structures that devalue females. Globally, the number one reason for abortion is gender – that the baby is a girl.

In these instances females are the recipients of violence, neglect and abuse because of their sex. The implication is

that women are still not viewed as being fully human. Mistreatment and even violence can therefore be justified. These statistics illustrate pervasive norms and assumptions about the relative value of females throughout the world.

Struggle of powerless for justice

“In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary’” Luke 18:2-3.

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus tells a parable about a widow in need of justice, but the judge arbitrating her case was unjust. In Jesus’ day legal cases were always a matter of a judge deciding to vindicate one party. Such judges were usually appointed by Herod or the Romans and were notorious for their corrupt practices, in particular the expectation of a bribe.

The widow is without resources of any kind and has no hope of extracting justice from such a judge. This woman is a symbol of all who are poor and defenceless in the face of injustice.

This parable in microcosm describes the plight of many women in our world.

Sadly, in too many places within the Body of Christ unredemptive handling of biblical texts have infiltrated, thereby causing great harm to women and society. Contemporary African biblical scholars admit that “traditional African ideas do not always agree with [the] biblical concepts” of family relationships and in fact “they make a true union [of husband and wife] almost impossible” (Adeyemo 2006) thereby making explicit the need for a fresh approach to understanding the Bible so as to challenge such cultural assumptions.

Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite, in her essay *Every Two Minutes: Battered Women and Feminist Interpretation*, states that, “all women live with male violence”. From her work in shelters for battered women, Thistlethwaite has observed: “Frequently women with strong religious backgrounds have the most difficulty in accepting that the violence against them is wrong. They believe what they have been taught, that resistance to this injustice is unbiblical and unchristian. Christian women are supposed to be meek, and claiming rights for oneself is committing the sin of pride.”

Even in so-called developed nations some contemporary theologians interpret the Bible in ways that perpetuate the

oppression and suffering of women. This calls for another view, an alternative paradigm through which to read, interpret and live out the Scriptures – one reflecting the kingdom of God as taught by Jesus in the Gospels.

Jesus chooses widow to teach disciples

“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them ... ‘There was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea’” Luke 18:1,3.

This parable is one of many examples in the Gospel of Luke in which the contributions as well as needs of women are remembered. In his teaching, Jesus affirms women, particularly in his parables which are replete with female perspectives and experiences. The inclusion of these women in the Gospel of Luke emphasises their value to Jesus (Kopas 1986).

The parable of the persistent widow succeeds perhaps better than any other in uniting the themes of equality and oppression. This widow is virtually powerless in that she has no status compared to the judge and relative to others who would plead with him. This parable “shatters stereotypes and highlights the power of the seeming powerless” (Reid 1996).

Widows such as Ruth, Tamar and Anna join the woman in Luke 18 as women of action and persistence who are a vital part of the biblical story. This parable challenges assumptions of widows as poor and helpless, instead portraying them as people who demonstrate assertiveness in their willingness to take critical action for justice and salvation.

This paradox of strength and weakness is intrinsic to the Kingdom of God and manifest in the essential nature of Jesus Christ. The Kingdom of heaven, like a woman working with yeast (Luke 13:20-21), comes not in power and glory but in “hiddenness and insistent, gentle influence on people whether they know it or not, not in power and glory” (Kopas).

of corrupting justice, but in the sense of supreme power and authority.

This does affirm one aspect of the image of God but may be difficult for the oppressed or abused to identify with and to trust.

There are many places throughout church history including today, where women’s perspectives and insights have been and are excluded from theological study and then from teaching and preaching.

Their views and experiences have been marginalised or even excluded from the believing community for generations. This is a terrible loss not only to women but to the entire church and the world.

Theologian Barbara Reid sets Luke 18:1-7 in context of preceding parables in Luke, noting that in each of the previous two parables the woman represents God (the Kingdom likened to a woman with yeast in Luke 13:20-21 and to a woman searching for a lost coin in Luke 15:8-10).

Is it possible to consider that the image of God is seen in the widow?

“Here is an unexpected twist in the parable. That God would be relentlessly pursuing justice is not a new image of the divine. But that God is more akin to a victimised widow than a powerful judge is startling. [The widow] embodies godly power in the midst of apparent powerlessness. Followers of Jesus are invited to take up the same stance: to draw on the power of weakness to overcome death-dealing powers” (Reid 192).

This is surely our God, the God of compassion who brings good news to the poor, does not break the bruised reed or extinguish the smoking wick, and gives hope to those who wait in darkness (Kopas). >>>

“The parable of the persistent widow succeeds perhaps better than any other in uniting the themes of equality and oppression.”

Image of God – judge or vulnerable widow?

“Finally [the judge] said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’” Luke 18:4-5.

The traditional interpretation of the unjust judge of Luke 18 is that of the judge representing God, not in the sense

Perseverance fuelled by imagination

"There was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary'. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night?" Luke 18:3,7.

The powerlessness of the widow in this parable is beyond doubt. It seems unlikely she would have been able to offer a bribe to the judge, or that she had other human support or advocacy.

The woman's only asset was her persistence. And in the Kingdom of God, as illustrated by Jesus in this parable, her persistence was enough.

In teaching this parable Jesus not only demonstrates a concern for a widow, but even the implication that this woman's conduct – persistent, relentless, importune, annoying perhaps – was a model to the disciples of divinely affirmed behaviour, including for women.

It is difficult to imagine a stronger endorsement of the widow's persistence than that given by Jesus.

We, too, are called to persist in challenging the status quo because the way things are is not necessarily the way things are meant to be.

The status quo includes countless

issues of cultural practices that need to be challenged with the new thing that has happened, and continues to happen, through the entrance in the flesh of Jesus Christ into the human story. Relentless persistence in this regard is essential.

Jesus' practice of calling women to follow him was just such a challenge to the cultural status quo of his day. We identify with the widow persistently challenging injustice.

"Injustice is sin, systems, powers and authorities that damage the world. Injustice is greed, desire and harmful practices and beliefs that diminish people and society" (Roberts and Strickland). Clearly, this includes the oppression of women in any context and regardless of any surrounding cultural norms.

An imaginative hermeneutic

How is it possible to remain persistent in fighting against injustice, to continue to believe for something better?

Understanding how to rightly interpret the Scriptures has always been a dynamic process throughout centuries of church history. As peoples' understanding of God and of the world has developed so has our reading of Scripture.

Walter Brueggemann uses the metaphor of a compost pile in describing

how the Bible provides material for new life; "biodegradable material" always recycling and offering seeds and sprouts for further future growth.

He also describes within each person a "zone of imagination that stands between the input of the text and the outcome of attitude, belief and behaviour".

This, he argues, is an essential process in the human capacity to change through engagement with biblical texts. It is this sort of biblical imagination that is needed to face the oppressive and exploitive practices against females.

Roberts and Strickland leave a final word to us, particularly as applied to a determined commitment to a redemptive interpretation of Scripture for all but especially the vulnerable.

"Imagine that from this moment you are passionately committed to living a life that would help create the world as God wants it. Just imagine." □



Lieutenant-Colonel Janet Munn is International Secretary for Spiritual Life Development and Associate Principal of the International College for Officers.

TC@PIPELINE

Blue skies and umbrellas

Occasional storm clouds are inevitable in life but, as Commissioner **LINDA BOND** contends, it shouldn't prevent us from having a sunny outlook

It has been two years since I arrived in Australia and I have not had one boring day in that time. Anything but! However, some days are more interesting than others; days when you realise blessings come in wave upon wave. Recently, I had one of those days.

The morning started with a meeting with Roger Corbett at his office. Roger is chair of our Sydney Advisory Board. He was CEO of Woolworths, and is now Chairman of Fairfax Media and a member of the Reserve Bank board. Here was a man of considerable credentials, influence and means.

When I returned to my office, Captain Stuart Evans met me to share some feedback on his time in Haiti with the Army's emergency team. Here was a man of influence on a totally different level. Stuart told me how he struggled to come to terms with the poverty and disastrous circumstances of earthquake-devastated Haiti. We talked about how difficult it was to reconcile that with the wealth and resources of our country and our Army.

Afternoon tea was a special event. Major Robert Sneller brought six residents from our Montrose Residential Aged Care centre in Balmain to visit me at my office. Some of our team had prepared special treats, all presented in our boardroom.

Every one of those gentlemen brought joy to the 10th floor of Territorial Headquarters with their genuine appreciation. But one in particular reminded me of how people view life.

Grant was winsome in personality and practical in his daily routine. He was ready for anything. Here we were in the midst of a glorious sunny afternoon, with a clear blue sky, and there was Grant with his long umbrella sticking out of his kit bag.

I had to ask why he was carrying an umbrella on such a beautiful day. He replied, "you never know". I laughed and commented that it would be appropriate in England to expect rain, but in Australia, in Sydney on a day like this? No, he needed the umbrella; he refused to be taken by surprise.

I think metaphorically many of us carry our umbrellas on the sunniest days. If we think the worst, we won't be caught off guard when it happens. We view the past selectively, focusing on the pain, the hurts, the failures, the missed opportunities. Or we tread cautiously in the present, walking carefully lest we burn out, bomb out, dry up or mess up. Risk taking is an extreme sport which we avoid at all costs.

And the future? How many family deaths will we have to live through? Can we count on good health? Will the economic crises catch up with us sooner rather than later? We may not abandon hope but we sure don't embrace it because you never know. Grant set me thinking and made me wonder if blue skies and umbrellas are my approach to life.

And then the final visit of the day. My corps officers, Trevor and Sherrie Nicol, made a home visit to me as one of their soldiers. It had been such a long day for them and yet they took time to converse, read the Scriptures and pray with me.

You know, sometimes we can be umbrella carriers on sunny days when it comes to our officers, our Salvationists or the Army in general. Things aren't the way they used to be, we moan and even fear for our future. But that visit was a tonic for me, not just because of the personal ministry but because I saw corps officership at its best; people who journey with you, meet with you face to face, and are there for you on the sunny days and through the dismal patches.

So the day came to an end. Grant may need to keep his umbrella in his kit bag but I think I will save mine for a rainy day.



Commissioner Linda Bond is Territorial Commander of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory.

General Shaw Clifton 2010 and Commissioner Helen Clifton
Brisbane 10 December: 125 yrs Anniversary of The Salvation Army in QLD
Sydney 11-12 December: Commissioning weekend

PRAYER PRIORITY: JOIN A TERRITORY-WIDE PRAYER MEETING

Commissioner Linda Bond invites corps and individuals to join her in prayer for The Salvation Army's mission in the world every Thursday morning from 7.30am to 8.00am. Please pray for:

- Spiritual renewal and growth across The Salvation Army
- Transformation of people's lives through the Army's ministry
- The dynamic impact of The Salvation Army's mission initiatives and programs

DESPERATE FLIGHT TO FREEDOM



Thousands of refugees from around the world now call Australia home. This year, Refugee Week (20-26 June) will focus on their experience as they flee their homeland and build a new life in a new country. In this special Pipeline feature, **SIMONE WORTHING** provides an overview of Refugee Week, and speaks to three refugees who now attend the Auburn Corps of The Salvation Army

JOHARI'S STORY

My name is Johari and I am a mother of eight children: four boys and four girls. We come from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

When the war started in my country in November 1996, my family and I were living in a small town called Baraka. We were terrified of the soldiers who were carrying machine guns, killing people, and raping women and girls. We escaped to the island of Ubwari. After a year there we decided to return home.

The second Congo War started in 1998. Again the soldiers came shooting and raping, and we had to escape. We all just ran from wherever we were at the time the shooting began. I grabbed my three youngest children and yelled at the older ones to run away as fast as they could.

The next two years were dark and desperate ones for me. My husband died, also in 1998, and I didn't know where my older children had escaped to, or even if they were still alive.

In 2000, we left Congo for Tanzania and eventually arrived at Lugufu, a refugee camp where we lived for five years. Life was very difficult. We lived in a small tent without enough food, water or medical care. We only stayed there to save ourselves from being killed by the rebels.

Through a miracle from God, I got a job in the camp with World Vision as a Christian outreach worker. With my very small salary I could buy food and clothes for my children, and also help other children whose parents were lost in the war. I prayed that someone would be helping my kids too, wherever they were.

God continued to work miracles in my life and in March 2005, I was granted a visa to come to Australia. I arrived on 5 May, 2005. I just thanked the mighty Lord for bringing me from Africa to Australia in one piece.

My case worker helped me get set up in Australia. Life was changing, there was hope. I could see that life in Australia was good. The first two years were very hard for me, though. I thought constantly about my children back in Congo, worried about them, and had flashbacks all the time about what we'd seen and experienced in Africa.

My case worker, through his contacts, was helping me try to find my children. We have also been working with Luke Geary through Courtyard Legal (now



Salvos Legal) to bring my children to Australia and he has been a wonderful help to me.

God worked more miracles in my life in 2007- they found one of my missing sons and he came to Australia in July of that year. Four months later, we found out that the other children were alive and in Uganda. I can't explain the incredible joy, the sheer relief that flooded me. Now I had peace, and the energy to start studying English.

This year, three more children will join me in Australia, and then there is only one left - my eldest son who is living in South Africa and is married with two sons of his own. I am a grandmother!

I would like to thank Lord and all those who prayed for my reunion with my children. People at The Salvation Army have been especially good to me. They help and encourage me so much.

We really like Australia. It is a good country and offers so many opportunities to help us build our future. My children and I are all studying. I am studying child care, working part time and trying to improve my English. I pray that one day we will all find jobs here.

My source of strength is expressing my gratitude to the Lord and walking in his steps. He is the only one who leads me. I hold onto Ephesians 3:20: "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever."

Australians have been celebrating Refugee Week since the 1980s. This special week aims not only to help create a culture of welcome in Australia, but also to foster better understanding between different communities and to encourage refugees to continue making a unique and valuable contribution to their new home.

Refugee Week 2010 runs from Sunday 20 June (World Refugee Day) to Saturday 26 June. It's a wonderful opportunity to experience and celebrate the rich diversity of refugee communities through theatre, sport, music, dance, film and other events which take place all over Australia.

For 2010, the Refugee Council Of Australia has chosen to retain the 2009 Refugee Week theme - Freedom From Fear - in the lead-up to next year's

60th anniversary of the UN Refugee Convention. The council hopes that by retaining this theme over three years, it will draw attention not just to the fear that compels refugees to flee their homeland, but the relief they feel when they are welcomed into another country and given the opportunity to rebuild their lives.

According to the council, the quest for freedom from fear is at the heart of a refugee's flight from danger. This is acknowledged in the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees which defines a refugee as:

"Any person who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable, or owing

to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of that country."

The importance of freedom from fear is also affirmed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the preamble of which describes "the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want" as the "highest aspiration of the common people".

When refugees flee they are forced to abandon everything they know and love. They are separated from family members, lose belongings and are left with little or no money. Some are traumatised by their experiences. Many spend years in camps, lost in no-man's land while their fate is decided. Most have no idea what kind of future awaits them.

In seeking refuge in another country,

refugees are hoping to find freedom from fear and the opportunity to lead a normal life, as part of a community, where they can live in safety and security, find work and send their children to school.

For more information and resources relating to Refugee Week, go to www.refugeeweek.org.au

The Auburn Corps (Sydney) of The Salvation Army is home to people from more than 23 different nations including many refugees. Many of the corps' ministries are designed to assist refugees including spiritually, emotionally, materially and legally.

In this special Pipeline feature, Johari, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Edward and Phillip, from Sierra Leone, share their stories.

PHILIP'S STORY

Sierra Leone is so rich in natural resources, but it's been ripped apart by people trying to get wealthy illegally, and by years of war, terrible violence and bloodshed.

People came to Sierra Leone in 1990 and 1991 to mine our valuable diamonds illegally and take the money out of our country. Then rebels started coming in and attacking people. They killed so many and it was very bad.

The government soldiers didn't help; they were fighting for themselves to get rich. They did many terrible things, and allowed other violence to happen. They cut off people's hands, cut babies from their mothers' wombs ... they would take babies and pound them to death the same way they pounded flour. Most of my family died during the war.

“The day we left for Australia was the best day of my life.”

The non-government organisations (NGO) were trying to stop the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) which is a deeply ingrained part of our culture. My wife was working with an NGO trying to stop FGM which had, at the time, become an election issue.

The government was trying to secure re-election and was backing national culture, and so backing FGM. They were stirring up strong national feeling and anti-Western sentiment.

Attacks against anti-FGM workers were increasing.

My wife was attacked with a group of others, including her cousin, and they were all taken into the bush and violently assaulted.

Some of them died, bleeding to death. I tried to rescue my wife but was stabbed in the hands and arms.



We gave the women what first aid we could that night, and then early the next morning we crossed into Guinea. We could no longer stay in Sierra Leone.

In Guinea, we lived in the camps for nine years. Because we couldn't speak their language, French, we were mistreated.

As refugees we couldn't get work, so we were just given rations of wheat and oil. I tried to do whatever odd jobs I could, just to survive.

It was a miracle when we found out that our relatives in Australia were looking for us. We thought they were dead!

I remember the interviewer telling us that we were going to Australia; I was just crying and could hardly speak for all the emotions running through me.

The day we left for Australia was just the best day of my life. It is so good here; it

has brought us life and peace.

It is hard here, though, for me to find a job. I face racism sometimes in applying for work - people see my name, know I am from Africa and won't give me a chance.

We want to build a life here and be good citizens of Australia. We are ready and want to work. My wife is pregnant and I want to support my family. I just need to stay positive - one day I will get a job.

Racism can be a problem here. When I get on a bus, sometimes people try to take up a whole seat or put their bags on spare seats so they don't have to sit next to me.

We are very thankful though, for all the support, love and encouragement we have been given.

We are so thankful that we have found people like those we meet at The Salvation Army. We thank God for you people.



Photos: Shairon Paterson

EDWARD'S STORY

By nationality, I am from Sierra Leone, although I came to Australia from the Republic of Guinea.

The civil war in Sierra Leone began in 1991 and was officially over in January 2002, although fighting still continues today.

My wife, Beola, had been actively campaigning against the custom of female genital mutilation (FGM) which is an ingrained part of the culture in Sierra

Leone. This is a highly divisive and emotive issue in Sierra Leone, with many wanting the practice to continue.

My wife was at home when a group of youths forced their way in and attacked her. They took her, and some other women who were also campaigning against FGM, into the bush. They beat them, performed FGM and other tortures on them, and left them severely injured. I finally found my wife and even though she had terrible injuries, we had to flee that same night over the border to Guinea.

We went there to get help. We didn't know anyone and we didn't speak the local language, French, so we couldn't get work. I applied for jobs, but it was very difficult. We lived in the refugee camps, were given rice and oil, and existed there for nearly nine years.

The conditions were terrible and crime

and corruption was rife. My wife couldn't get into hospital or get adequate medical help. Sometimes we just lived on boiled water and were both so skinny.

People there treated us as foreigners and outcasts. Even our own people abused us. Rebel fighters would frequently come into the camp where they looted, murdered, raped and destroyed. We had to hide from them all the time.

Everywhere we went, we were always afraid, always looking over our shoulders and around corners. We couldn't even talk much to each other because people would recognise our language and come after us. Despite all this, we had God's peace inside. We knew that he was with us and wouldn't abandon us.

Through what we know now was a miracle from God, we found out that my wife's aunt was living in Australia and was looking for her. We found out later that she was attending The Salvation Army in Auburn, Sydney.

Through further miracles, God enabled us to come to Australia. When we arrived in Sydney it was just incredible. It was like we'd been locked in a stinking cage, forgotten for so long and suddenly the cage just opened, a breeze came in and the smell and the danger disappeared. It was lovely and I just thanked God for it.

The Salvation Army embraced us with such warmth and generosity. They helped us settle, gave us food, furniture, and household items. They were so kind, loving, accepting, and so concerned for us. I am so happy to say that I was enrolled as a senior soldier on Sunday, 9 May this year.

My main concerns now are for my wife, who needs ongoing medical care, and for work. I need to work and I want to work. I have experience in printing technology, logistics and transport.

Sometimes I get discouraged and ask myself, 'Can I not get work because I am a refugee?' Sadly, it seems like racism is often the reason.

I still have terrible memories that won't go away. They return every day and at night they wake me up. I think about my relatives and friends back in Guinea. Whenever my wife is in pain, it takes me back to what happened.

But I thank God for The Salvation Army which is doing its best to encourage us. We have to keep trying and not give up. We pray that we will not lose hope.

I often think about the passage of Scripture in Ezekiel 37 which talks about the dry bones which started to rattle and praise God. The Lord has brought us so far and we must have faith that the dry bones will rise again. As children of God, we must keep the faith.

Having a **ball** with mission

The Socceroots won't be the only Australian team at the football World Cup next month with, as **DEAN SIMPSON** reports, a squad of 25 Aussie Salvos taking to the mission field in South Africa

Major Trevor Nicol is a self-confessed sports fanatic with a passion for evangelism. So when he gets the chance to combine the two he is, as he puts it, "in heaven".

One of his favourite sports is football and he even confesses to keeping a round ball in his office at Hurstville Salvation Army, in Sydney's south-west, where he is the corps officer.

"I love sport. No doubt about it. And using sport as a tool to bringing people to Jesus is a wonderful thing," he says.

Major Nicol will embark on a "sports ministry tour" this month when he leads a team of 25 young Salvationists to South Africa where the FIFA World Cup will be staged between 11 June and 11 July.

The group will be split into four mission teams to run sports clinics and present the Gospel. It is a simple formula but one which can make a significant impact on the lives of young people.

"The World Cup is the most important competition in international soccer, which presents a wonderful opportunity for mission," said Major Nicol (pictured right), who led a similar mission to Germany for the 2006 World Cup.

"Over the period of a month each team will spend two weeks with a local corps doing ministry amongst the community. Part of the mission will be conducting

sports clinics where the teams will teach the young people the basics of sports and throughout this time present the Gospel to them.

"The World Cup is the most important competition in international soccer, which presents a wonderful opportunity for mission"

"Although the clinics will be the main part of the trip the teams will also be serving in different ministries with the local Salvationists.

"Other projects included in this will be anti-human trafficking initiatives, fan festivals, manual work and preaching."



Photos: Shairon Paterson

The four teams will be headed by Major Nicol, Lincoln Hawkins, Mark Soper and Major Stuart Reid.

They will face a number of challenges as they endeavour to be the face of Jesus in the culturally sensitive country. One of the biggest challenges will be combating the problem of human trafficking.

"South Africa is expecting 350,000 visitors for the World Cup. This will generate thousands of jobs and boost the country's economy," Major Nicol says.

"On the downside, schools will cease activities for the entire month of the World Cup, and with so many visitors, there will be a much greater risk for children to be trafficked.

"The Salvation Army Southern Africa Territory has identified the World Cup as a great opportunity for prevention of human traffic which is, sadly, a growing issue not only in South Africa but around the world."

Major Nicol has a heart for young

people and was the Army's Greater West Divisional Youth Secretary for eight years before taking up his role at Hurstville in January.

He says he is looking forward to many opportunities on the mission trip to present the Gospel, which he expects to be well-received in South Africa.

"At the 2006 World Cup in Germany we were based in the old East Germany and we found the people quite hardened to the Gospel," Major Nicol says.

"And there was also the language barrier to overcome.

"But South Africans are generally a more open people and more open to the Gospel so we are expecting good things to happen. It will be an exciting time."

Major Nicol has been doing sports tours since 1996, when he made his "mission trip debut" at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, United States.

The 2010 Sports Ministry Team is part of the Salvation Army's >>>

THE LINE-UP

The Salvation Army mission teams for football World Cup in South Africa from 11 June to 11 July:



TEAM 1 under the leadership of Lincoln Hawkins will serve in Johannesburg from 8-22 June:

Lincoln Hawkins, Janelle Hawkins, Jahda Swanborough, Amanda Swanborough, Steve Michaux, Amanda Hart.

TEAM 2 under the leadership of Major Trevor Nicol will also serve in Johannesburg from 15-29 June:

Trevor Nicol, Leigh Turner, Doug Walker, Tim Wainwright (1 week).

TEAM 3 under the leadership of Mark Soper will serve in Vryheid from 22 June-4 July:

Mark Soper, Daryl Lambert, Josh Lambert, Andrew McComb, Matt Godkin, Josh Kinder, Blake Cugley, Matt Lucas.

TEAM 4 under the leadership of Major Stuart Reid will serve in Durban from 28 June-12 July:

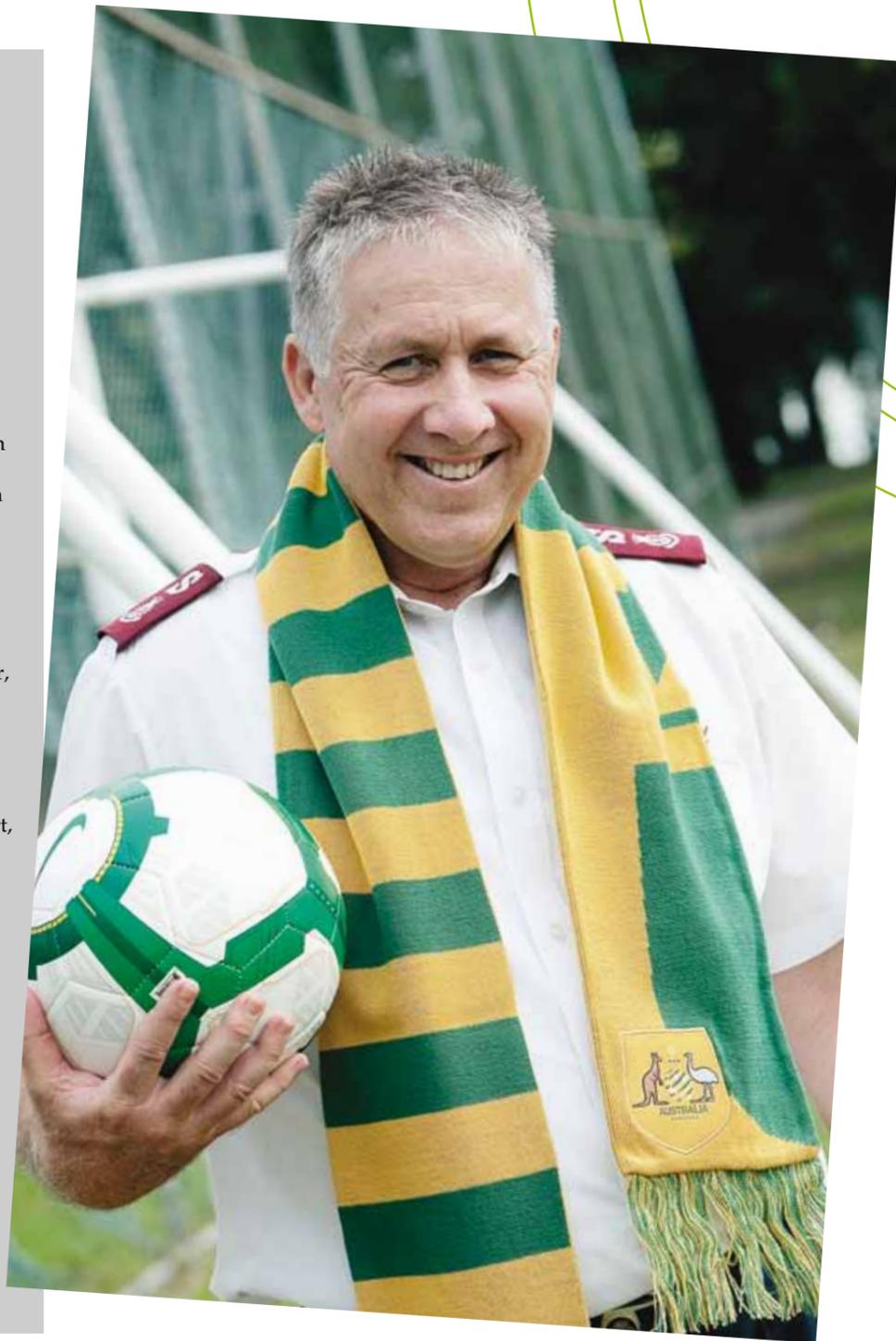
Stuart Reid, Nathan Baker, Cameron McLaren, Tim Wainwright.

Mission objectives:

- * To fight human trafficking
- * To protect minors
- * To evangelise visitors and locals

Key strategies:

- * Kids clubs (run like Sunday school)
- * Football clinics
- * Assisting with community projects



Project 1:8, an initiative which was set up in 2001 to equip Salvationists for mission and ministry. Mission teams are sent out all over the world to spread the Gospel. Schoolies Week on the Gold Coast each year is a regular mission field, while teams have also fulfilled ministry needs in countries like India, The Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Fiji.

Project 1:8, which is based on Acts 1:8 ("But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea, and in all Samaria and to the ends of the earth"),

is open to people 18 years or older, who are committed to and serving in their local church.

Mission objectives

According to the Project 1:8 website the objectives for all Project 1:8 trips are to:

- Encourage the local Christians of the area we visit;
- Learn to pray intelligently for the people we meet and the places we go;
- Learn the issues associated with poverty.

The website continues: "We believe by allowing these three simple things to happen the lives of those who participate

and the lives of those we witness to will be radically changed. At the core of all we do on Project 1:8 trips is the practice of the words Jesus spoke to his disciples in Mark 10:43-45; we come to serve and not to be served. Mission Team desires that Project 1:8 will equip people who are at the leading edge of mission in their local church. It is our intent that every applicant for Project 1:8 will become more effective in their local church and community."

Applications for the South Africa trip are now closed but if you would like to contribute financially towards this project, contact the Salvation Army International Development office on (02) 9226 9773. □

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God's glory

revealed in the heavens

As science advances and technology improves, so does our understanding of the universe and, according to Australian scientist **DR RAYMOND SMARTT**, irrefutable growing evidence of a creator God

It is amazing to think that just 400 years ago little was understood about the world around us and certainly not the universe beyond. Now astronauts in the International Space Station orbit the Earth every 90 minutes and almost every day we hear about the latest scientific discoveries and technology breakthroughs.

In the early 1600s, Galileo, a famous scientist living in the great Italian city of Florence, used one of the recently invented telescopes, a very simple instrument, to look at the heavens.

He found that the Moon's surface was covered in craters, that the large planet Jupiter had four small moons crossing its surface and he observed small black spots on the surface of the Sun, what we now refer to as sunspots.

He concluded that the Earth orbited around the Sun in one year (a fact known to Greek scholars centuries before) and that the faint band of light stretching across the sky, which ancient observers called the Milky Way, actually had stars in it. Later, studies revealed that the Milky Way contained billions of stars, our Sun just an undistinguished member of this enormous concentration of stars.

Early last century, larger telescopes revealed that some peculiar objects in the Milky Way were not stars, but other galaxies beyond, each comprising a myriad of stars.

Further improved observations later revealed that there are billions of galaxies.

So galaxies of billions of stars make

Dr Raymond Smartt began his career in Australia in the Division of Applied Physics of the CSIRO.

A highlight of his time there was the construction of the first laser in Australia, as a junior member of a team of three.

Dr Smartt (pictured) then made the first hologram in Australia. Subsequently, he received a PhD from the University of Massachusetts, United States in the area of solar physics (study of the physics of the Sun), and in the field of optics (studies of the properties of light and optical instrumentation, including space systems).

Most of his career was spent at the National Solar Observatory (NSO), Sacramento Peak in southern New Mexico, US where he was the Deputy



Director of the NSO and Site Director of the NSO/Sac Peak for a number of years.

Dr Smartt has published well over 100 scientific

papers and holds the position of scientist emeritus of NSO. He was adjunct professor of New Mexico State University from 1985-2000, and returned to Australia in 2001.

The son of well-known Salvation Army officers Brigadiers Samuel and Catherine (Kitty) Smartt, he has been a Christian since his commitment as a young boy. He attends The Salvation Army at Port Stephens on the Mid North Coast of NSW.

up the observed universe, which brings the realisation that the universe of galaxies is enormous beyond our comprehension, telling us of the majesty and mystery of God's creation - "The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19).

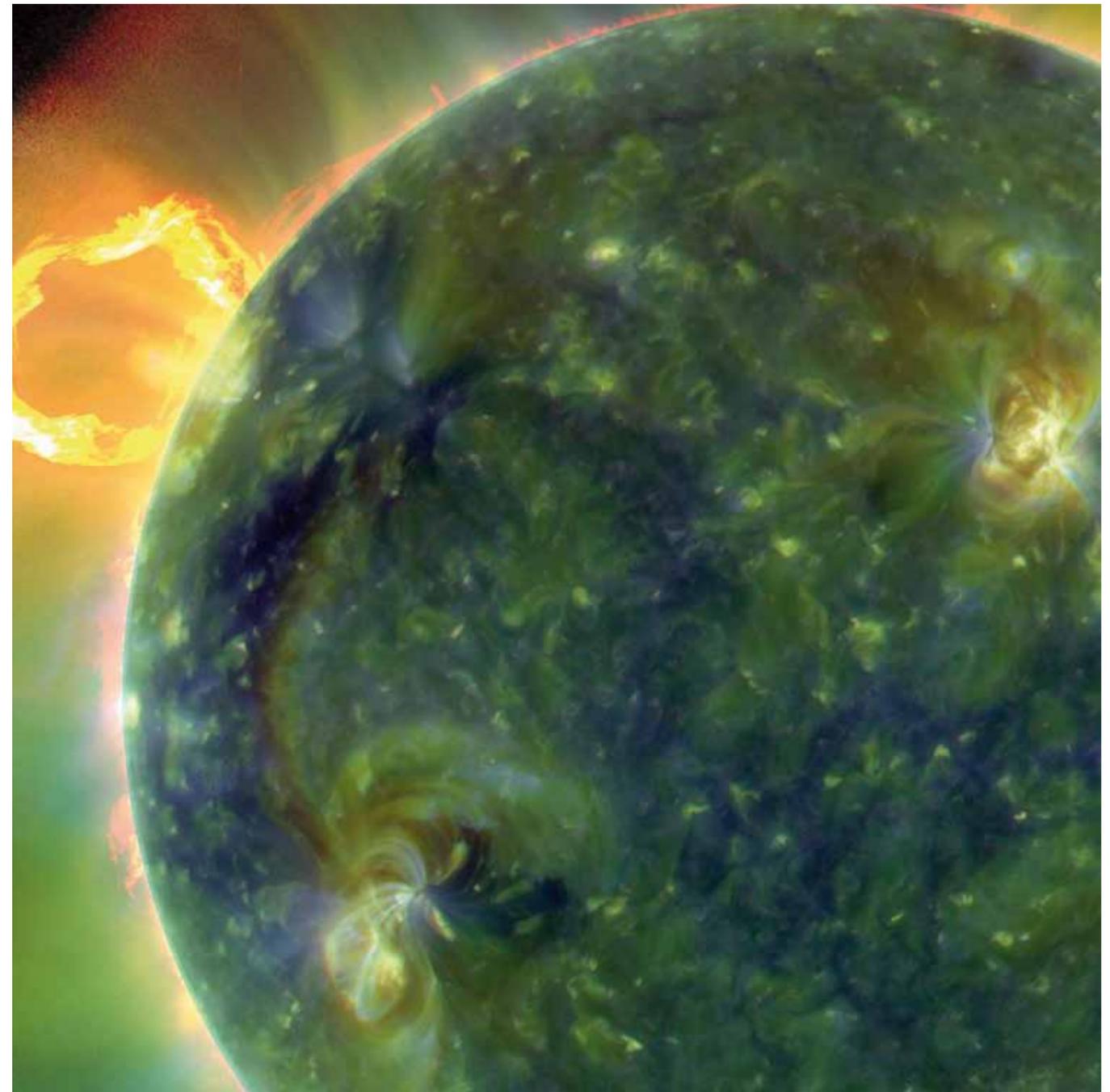
Universe in miniature

From the largest things in the universe, early last century science revealed the structure of the smallest things.

All the elements in the Periodic Table

are made of atoms, the building blocks of all matter. It was found that each atom is like a sort of miniature solar system, with a nucleus and tiny particles called electrons moving around the nucleus. And there are even smaller and smaller particles, predicted and confirmed by using giant atomic-particle accelerators, such as the new Large Hadron Collider.

These studies in "particle physics" have greatly advanced our understanding of the world of sub-atomic particles of matter, and knowledge of how all



these small things work is fundamental to our global digital world. Certainly the discoveries of science are truly remarkable. Humans are very clever!

What do we know about the Sun? The Sun has been described as the Rosetta stone of astrophysics. It provides a close-up view of a star, which in turn provides critical information about astrophysical processes in general. The flow of heat and light from the Sun sustains life on the Earth, and its interactions with the Earth's atmosphere generate weather and climate.

Much has been learned about the Sun, but mysteries remain. The Sun is simply a ball of high temperature gas, hydrogen the most abundant element with about 92 per cent of the total number of atoms, and the rest mainly helium. The temperature in the middle of the Sun is estimated to be about 15 million degrees K (Kelvin).

Light of life

The amount of matter in the Sun, or its mass, is almost 99.9 per cent of the mass of the total solar system, that is, the Sun

and the planets. The mass of the Earth is only about three millionths of the total! The intensity of the radiation from the Sun produces about 1000 watts of power over a square metre at the distance of the Earth and principally determines the Earth's climate.

But what produces the light and heat from the Sun? Hydrogen is the fuel for the Sun's furnace, but it is not a process of burning as in a fire, rather a process of nuclear fusion, as happens instantaneously in a hydrogen bomb. >>>



Basic to a fusion process is Einstein's famous, and very simple, equation, namely $E = mc^2$, where E is energy, m is mass, and c is the speed of light.

The speed of light, multiplied by itself, is a very large, but fixed, number. So this equation says that energy and mass are interchangeable; that is, a small amount of mass (think of atoms) can disappear and become an enormous amount of energy – and vice versa.

In the extremely high temperatures and densities in the middle of the Sun, a fusion process takes place where hydrogen is converted in helium, but the mass of a helium atom is a little less than four hydrogen atoms involved in each fusion process. That difference in mass then is converted into a huge amount of energy.

Given the brightness of the Sun and applying Einstein's equation, it is found that the Sun is consuming hydrogen fuel at a rate of about 65 million tonnes every second, and converting about 4.5 million tonnes of matter into energy every second!

Sun in cycle

Like many, if not most stars, the Sun is classed as a variable star. It has an 11-year "activity cycle". The number of features evident on the face of the Sun day by day, such as sunspots, flares, which suddenly produce an enormous amount of energy for a few minutes on the solar surface, and prominences, which are high sheets of gas suspended above the solar surface, reach a maximum every 11 years.

Halfway through this magnetic cycle, features like sunspots are rarely evident and the Sun becomes very quiet. The current cycle is just coming out of a low minimum and is predicted to reach the next (low) maximum around 2013-2014. Satellite observations reveal that the amount of solar radiation currently reaching the Earth does increase during a solar maximum period, but by only around 0.1 per cent. There is also a 22-year, and longer cycles as well, and there is evidence that larger changes can occur over periods of one or more centuries.

It has also been found that the Sun's magnetic field has doubled since around 1900. This increase in magnetic field might lead to an increase in water vapour in the Earth's atmosphere.

Since water vapour has by far the greatest greenhouse effect, these studies suggest that long-term solar behaviour cannot be disregarded in studies of variations over time of the terrestrial climate.

Certainly much more needs to be understood about the Sun and the Earth's atmosphere before we can fully

2 W O E 1 D O

World Environment Day Celebrates
The International Year of
Biodiversity

Many Species. One Planet. One Future.

World Environment Day, coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is the biggest global celebration for positive environmental action.

Since 1972, the event has been annually commemorated on 5 June with the purpose of stimulating worldwide awareness of the

environment, and encouraging political attention and action.

Rwanda has been named the host country for World Environment Day 2010. Despite the challenges of poverty, Rwanda is developing renewable energy sources, has already introduced a ban on plastic bags, and is active in restoring degraded rainforests. Go to: www.unep.org/wed/2010/english

understand the nature of contemporary changes in climate.

Perfection at creation

More recently there has been a major upsurge in the biological sciences, especially in the study of genes.

Unraveling the double-helix structure of the DNA molecule, which contains all of our genes, provided a major stepping-stone in the study of genes to allow the extremely complex form of the human genome to be set out.

All such studies have given an enormous boost especially to studies of diseases, and we hear more and more on the news about the latest gene therapy, stem cell research, and so on.

It is interesting to note that the very complex DNA replicating system, required for the appearance of life, must have been perfect "from the start". It has been

calculated to be mathematically impossible to have occurred spontaneously. About 150 years ago, around the time of English naturalist Charles Darwin, it used to be thought that living cells were simple things that might just spontaneously bubble up from a primordial ooze. Now we know that cells are very, very complex.

Newsweek, an American weekly news magazine, had the following description of a cell's activities: "Each of these 100,000 billion cells in our bodies functions like a walled city. Power plants generate the cell's energy. Factories produce proteins, vital units of chemical commerce. Complex transportation systems guide specific chemicals within the cell and beyond, via sort of little "molecular trucks" that carry supplies from one side of the cell to the other, with tiny molecular signposts that tell these trucks to turn left or right! Sentries at the barricades control the

Army committee formed to consider environmental issues

As Christians, Salvationists are encouraged to take practical steps to conserve God's creation.

In response to this, The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory has established a subcommittee under the Territorial Social Action Advisory Team (TSAAT) to focus specifically on social injustices related to the environment.

The subcommittee will advocate for the environment, encourage and educate individuals, corps and centres in their efforts to protect and sustain the environment, as well as work to prevent further harm or displacement of disadvantaged communities as a result of environmental damage.

Robyn Evans, the territory's Social Justice and Community Development Coordinator, is responsible for the wider TSAAT, and said the reason the environmental subcommittee exists is because Christians have a responsibility to not just take from the world, but to also give to it.

The TSAAT environment subcommittee is led by Major Rick Hoffmann, South Queensland



Major Rick Hoffmann heads up the Army's environment subcommittee.

Divisional Mission and Resource Director – Social, and has as its members: Len Matthews, Manager of Salvo Care Line Brisbane; Simeon Hoffmann, Youth Development Worker for North Ipswich Indigenous Ministries; Julia Hosking, journalist with the territory's Communications Department; and Gareth Rees, environmental scientist.

To read the new Guidelines for Salvationists on Climate Change go to: <http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/about-the-salvation-army/positional-statements-and-guidelines/>

export and import markets, and monitor the outside world for signs of danger. Disciplined biological armies stand ready to grapple with invaders. A centralised genetic government maintains order."

But a cell is only about 25 microns in size! This detailed insight into cell behaviour is yet another example of how the mysteries of the world around us fall away as science reveals more and more about everything.

Filling the gap

The ABC's Sunday night television program *Compass* recently featured a series called, "The Story of God", spread over three Sundays. The last of the series was titled, "The God of Gaps". This term is an old idea that says that humans have always tended to ascribe divine qualities to mysteries that surround them, to things that they don't fully understand.

The idea behind The God of Gaps is that as more is known about everything, especially through revelations of science, the "gap" in our knowledge allows for belief in God to become ever smaller.

In fact, it is just the opposite! It's no longer a matter of what we don't know, but what we do know! The more that is discovered about everything, the less room there is for everything to have happened simply by blind chance – that all that is discovered could have possibly occurred without a creator. So, instead, "The atheist gap" gets ever smaller, and smaller.

For example, theoretical studies of the forces within atoms and other fixed forces such as the force of gravity have very special values and there is no reason in physics why these forces should have such particular values. That's just what they are. Amazingly, it has been found that if

these forces were different by an almost infinitesimally small amount, stars, and therefore the universe, would not exist. The same conclusion follows from studies of the very special rate of expansion of the universe. And there are countless similar examples.

Fine tuning

Professor Sir John Polkinghorne, eminent scientist and theologian, was a former Professor of Mathematical Physics at the University of Cambridge.

He remains associated with the university, but also became a minister in the Church of England. Dr Polkinghorne describes the universe as being "fine tuned", meaning everything is "just right".

"Fine tuned" might suggest that if the numbers were just a little different, things would still work, but not well, but example after example reveals how these are all *exactly* right for a viable world to exist.

What does the Bible say? In Hebrews 11:3 we have: "By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible." (NIV)

But "faith" that everything that is seen in the vast universe "was not made out of what was visible" might seem a real challenge to accept and believe – a challenge to one's faith.

After all, a mere grain of salt contains about a thousand billion billion atoms, and physics used to say that atoms could not be created or destroyed. And that's just one grain of salt. The whole Earth is only three-millionths the mass of the Sun, while the Sun is only one of about 200 billion stars in our Milky Way galaxy. And there are billions of galaxies. But our little equation mentioned earlier tells us energy, which cannot be seen, can, under special circumstances materialise as matter that can be seen, consistent with both the spiritual realm and our daily life on Earth.

Yes, mysteries remain in our understanding of the world, of the universe, as reflected in the words of 1 Corinthians 13 (*Living Bible*): "It's like this. When I was a child I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child does. But when I became a man my thoughts grew far beyond those of my childhood, and now I have put away the childish things. In the same way, we can see and understand only a little about God now, as if we were peering at his reflection in a poor mirror; but someday we are going to see him in his completeness, face to face. Now all that I know is hazy and blurred, but then I will see everything clearly, just as clearly as God sees into my heart right now." □

The debt corrector

Bradley Wigginton is a financial counsellor who, as **JULIA HOSKING** reports, will go the extra mile to help people with money problems

Joe*, a mining contractor, had debts totalling \$170,000 when a heart condition rendered him unable to work. The debt, made up of loans and credit card debts, suddenly seemed like a mountain to Joe and, with no trauma cover or income protection, he could not see a way out.

Then he met Bradley Wigginton. Bradley is a consultant for Moneycare, a Salvation Army financial counselling service which gives free and confidential advice. Softly spoken, Bradley, who clocks up 35,000km in his car each year as the Central and North Queensland Divisional Financial Counsellor, was able to negotiate with Joe's creditors for a three-month moratorium on interest, fees and loan repayments so he could recover from his illness.

Throughout the three-month recovery process, Bradley kept the creditors informed with doctor's reports until Joe was able to recommence work and start paying off his debts.

A desire to help people facing situations similar to that of Joe's led to Bradley resigning from his job at the ANZ Bank more than seven years ago. In September 2002, he started work at The Salvation Army's newly established Moneycare office in Rockhampton.

"I wanted to make a difference and help people that were struggling to make ends meet," the Capricorn Region Corps adherent says. "And [I wanted to] put something back into the community."

Salvation Army financial counsellors

such as Bradley work with clients to understand and assess their situations and then develop plans for a sustainable future. Bradley finds that his role with Moneycare can be compared to his previous position with the ANZ Bank, in that he reviews a client's financial situation. However, the use of the information obtained differs.

"[At the bank] they were looking to borrow money," Bradley says. "[Here], you're saying okay, what options does this person have to try and move forward, strengthen their financial position and work their way out of debt."

Bradley's work regularly takes him out of his Rockhampton office and around the Central Highlands and Bowen Basin area - 275km west to Emerald, 425km north-west to Moranbah, and Capella, Clermont and Dysart in between.

"We work with people who are experiencing financial difficulty due to many different factors," he says. "It could be loss of employment, sickness, marital breakdown, that sort of thing."

Increase in demand

The Moneycare program in Rockhampton started in September 2002, and since then Bradley has seen an increased demand for assistance from low-income earners, single parents and miners whose contracts were put on hold.

However, he also has been receiving many calls from people whose financial difficulties are directly linked to the global financial crisis. Bradley, for Moneycare, is able to offer financial counselling



thanks to BMA (BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance). BMA's sponsorship was offered in July 2002 when it asked The Salvation Army to submit three proposals that outlined programs it would commence if funds were available.

Australia's largest coalminer and exporter, BMA, as part of its newly introduced community partnership program, selected Moneycare - an appropriate choice given the fact that Rockhampton's branch of Moneycare would be operating in towns largely populated by miners.

The sponsorship, which covers 90 per cent of costs (the remaining 10 per cent is covered by The Salvation Army), was initially for a 12-month period, though this was extended to three years at the official launch.

A further three years was granted in 2005, and again in 2008, therefore Moneycare in Central Queensland is guaranteed to continue until 30 June 2011. Bradley hopes that BMA will continue its sponsorship beyond this date.

When asked why BMA selected The

Salvation Army and the Moneycare program, Bradley reflects on the long-term positive reputation of the Army.

"They saw us as an organisation that could actually make a difference to the community ... by providing a service to people in the area of financial counselling," he says.

Positive feedback

Since the commencement of Moneycare in Central Queensland, the feedback from BMA has only been positive.

This is because Bradley and other Moneycare financial counsellors can assist people like Joe who are buried in financial debt, but also because they can offer a holistic approach to the various problems people encounter.

"We can transform lives on the financial front and bring Jesus' love ... at the same time," he says, smiling. "[We can show] Christ's compassion while we try and alleviate their financial suffering."

Additionally, to assist with non-financial issues, Bradley often links people into other Salvation Army or community

programs, such as Employment Plus. However, as he reflects on "One Army One Mission", he admits there is more work to be done in enhancing the connection with the employment service.

Conducting community education sessions is one of Bradley's highlights, and something he hopes he can tie in with the job seekers at Employment Plus in the future. Many of these sessions are for Year 12 students in local high schools.

"It's good to be able to plant the seed and help the next generation from making some of the mistakes that our generation and the previous generation have made [in regards to money]," he says.

"Even though you sometimes don't see that you are making a difference, you are actually making a difference," he said.

For more information on Moneycare or to find your nearest centre go to: <http://salvos.org.au/need-help/financial-troubles/financial-counselling.php> or phone 02 9266 9587.

* Name has been changed for privacy purposes.



Salvation Army money man Bradley Wigginton is financial saviour to many people in debt. Photos: Shairon Paterson

Real-life stories highlight Red Shield Appeal launch

By JULIA HOSKING

Two women with vastly different reasons for reaching out to The Salvation Army provided the emotional highlights of the Red Shield Appeal launch in Sydney.

Jemima Richards and Tracey Austin told their stories of desperation and gratefulness to a packed luncheon of about 500 community and business leaders at the Four Seasons Hotel on 28 April.

Jemima and her family never had need of The Salvation Army before 7 February 2009, but one day of bushfire carnage in Victoria changed all that when their Kinglake home was destroyed in what has become known as Black Saturday. Jemima spoke of her appreciation for The Salvation Army as it helped her overcome the natural disaster, and worked alongside her to restore hope into her community.

"[The Salvation Army's] doors were open to people that had never had a need to use them before," Jemima said.

"Their arms were open - very wide - in a very dignified and very respectful manner.

"So many of you sitting here today would have been like [my husband and me] in years past ... but you never would realise that the resource that you all give to, The Salvation Army, provided a resource to people like us. [A resource] that we never thought we would need."

At the other end of the spectrum is Tracey, a mother of three who had struggled with drug addiction and crime for many years, leading to the Department of Community Services removing her children on more than one occasion.

Through the help of The Salvation Army's Catherine Booth Recovery Program, Tracey said she had recovered from her addictions.

She went on to explain how she found stable accommodation, had her children returned to her care, and is now a case worker at The Salvation Army's Shekinah, the centre which once helped her.

"By the grace of God, the Salvos were there for me and my kids, and they really did change our lives," she said.

"So today, my kids are no longer ashamed of me. Thank you very much for The Salvation Army; I love you so much."

The appeal's target of \$75 million, \$2 million up from last year, was kicked off by some generous donations, including cheques of \$200,000 from the NSW Government and Westpac.

Gail Kelly, Chief Executive Officer of The Westpac Group, delivered the keynote address, noting Westpac's almost 40-year commitment to The Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal and the 125-year relationship with the Army itself.

She said part of Westpac's commitment included having more than 200 branches open to accept deposits on Red Shield Sunday, while an additional 1000 staff committed to doorknocking.

Following this, Melissa Doyle from the Seven Network's *Sunrise* program spoke about the newly formed partnership between *Sunrise* and the Red Shield Appeal where the program committed to running a campaign to recruit doorknockers.

The appeal was officially launched by Roger Massey-Greene (City of Sydney Appeal Chairman) and his wife Belinda Hutchinson (a member of The Salvation Army's Territorial Advisory Board).

"You know when you donate to The Salvation Army, that your money will reach the people who really need it," Mr Massey-Greene said.

To commence the appeal, the couple personally donated \$50,000, with an additional \$50,000 from their family foundation.

Territorial Commander Commissioner Linda Bond closed the launch by expressing her thanks to the government, businesses and individuals on behalf of The Salvation Army for their contribution to the Red Shield Appeal.



At the Red Shield Appeal launch were (from left) Commissioner Linda Bond, Gail Kelly, Tracey Austin, Sunrise presenter Melissa Doyle, Jemima Richards and Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas. Photos: Shairon Paterson



Sunrise presenter Melissa Doyle addresses the packed auditorium at the Red Shield Appeal launch.

Travel agency giving \$100,000 to mission

Australia's premier Christian travel agency is giving away \$100,000 in grants to Christian organisations, churches and individuals.

Mission Travel Group co-founder, Lisa Scerri, said God had prompted the agency to help more people live out their God-given dreams. It is funding 13 individual grants to help Australians make a difference locally and overseas.

"My husband Frank and I started Mission Travel Group four years ago as a travel agency that could help facilitate the global movement of God's people - people with a heart to serve those who are poor, persecuted, refugees, or in need," Lisa said.

"In that time, God has blessed us with some amazing relationships and opportunities. We are giving back \$100,000 this month [June] because as a Christian business, we believe it's important to invest a substantial amount of our profits back into the Christian community.

"We want to hear from people and ministries around Australia about what God is calling them to do and how a grant could make that happen. We then get the fun part of funding those dreams and seeing the Kingdom of God extended!"

Grants of \$5000 and \$10,000 are available in the following categories:

Holy Land Experience: Giving a minister the opportunity to visit the Holy Land through a 16-day pilgrimage tour. All flights, food, sightseeing and accommodation are covered;

Bible College Scholarship: Study at the Bible college of your choice with a scholarship covering tuition up to \$10,000. Scholarship open to individuals interested in theological training;

Compassion Sponsor Child Visit: A once-in-a-lifetime experience for up to four people to visit their sponsor child and their family. Visit to be arranged by Mission Travel Group in partnership with Compassion, valued at \$10,000.

Volunteer Africa: Choose from one-month placements in Zambia, Kenya, Mozambique, Zanzibar or Cape Town, with all flights, travel, food and accommodation included, valued at \$5000.

Cash Grants: What's your dream for God's Kingdom? How could a grant enable you to make a real difference in Australia or overseas? There are \$5000 and \$10,000 cash grants available to Christian individuals, churches, ministries and not-for-profit organisations.

A simple application can be completed online at www.missiontravel.com.au, which also includes further information on all categories. Applications will be received up until midnight (AEST) on 30 June. They will be judged by an independent panel, with winners announced at a special event in Melbourne in August.

For more information, please contact Allison Brown on 0400 984 288.

Territorial Headquarters hosts international visitors

The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory Planned Giving Department recently hosted three Salvation Army officers from Africa.

Captains Garth and Patti Niemand, from the Southern Africa Territory, and Captain Julius Omukonyi, from the Kenya West Territory, spent two weeks at Territorial Headquarters in Sydney in May on a fact-finding trip.

They were here primarily to learn about the operations of the Planned Giving Department and in particular the wider

Communications and Public Relations team at THQ.

Captain Garth Niemand is the Southern Africa Territory's Public Relations Secretary while his wife, Captain Patti Niemand, is Territorial Planned Giving and Legacy Director. Captain Omukonyi is the Kenya West Territory's Public Relations Secretary and is also Editor of its *Warcry* magazine.

Captain Patti Niemand also spent a week in the Brisbane office of the Planned Giving Department working alongside Captain Alice Fean.



Australia Eastern Territory Planned Giving Department Director Steve Burfield (left) with international visitors Captains Garth and Patti Niemand and Captain Julius Omukonyi. Photo: Shairon Paterson

Salvos unite in single focus to mission

All Illawarra (NSW South Coast) Salvation Army corps and centres closed their doors on Sunday 2 May, to combine for a four-hour lakeside community celebration they called Salvos Out There.

Hundreds of people from the corps, centres and community took advantage of a beautiful sunny day to share in the event on the shores of Lake Illawarra in Shellharbour municipality.

Among groups participating were the Woonona, Tarrawanna, Wollongong, Berkeley and Shellharbour corps; Illawarra Community Welfare Centre; Carinya Cottage (domestic violence centre); Salvos Stores; Employment Plus and the Illawarra Communications and Public Relations Office.

In addition to each group displaying their services for the public, brass and contemporary bands from the Wollongong and Shellharbour corps as well as Wollongong Timbrel Brigade provided music; clowns amused the crowds; emergency services vehicles provided food; a jumping castle, farmyard animals, face painting and magic tricks kept children involved; and a prayer and hand massage tent helped everybody to relax.

Illawarra Christian radio station 94.1 broadcast from the event and a police rescue squad vehicle was on site for inspection.

Specially printed Salvos Out There T-shirts were produced for the day. Organisers plan to repeat the event in central Wollongong and Wollongong's northern suburbs later this year.

Salvos Out There is an initiative of an Illawarra Integration group representing all corps and centres to increase participation between Salvation Army expressions in the area.

Sydney East and Illawarra Divisional Commander Major John Rees and Mission and Resources Director Major Diane Maxwell were among a group of divisional representatives who shared in the day.

Major Rees said: "In response to the [Australia Eastern] territory proclaiming One Army One Mission the Illawarra has responded with Salvos Out There - not an event nor a program, but rather an attitude of heart and mind that says NO to disease and dysfunction [a cloister mentality] and YES to effective mission and single-hearted devotion to Christ."

Major Maxwell said: "The energy of all the corps and centres, stores and Employment Plus being in the one area was brilliant."

A more detailed report of the Illawarra Integration initiative will appear in the July issue of *Pipeline*.



(From top) Samantha Searle from Wollongong Corps spent much of the day face-painting; Elisha Hudson (left) and Emma Mather from Tarrawanna Corps clown around at the Salvos Out There event; Wollongong and Shellharbour bands combine to entertain the crowd on the shores of Lake Illawarra. Photos: Lloyd Price

Register now for Territorial Seniors Assembly

In response to the International Year of the Older Person in 1999, The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory held its first Seniors Assembly.

It was planned as a one-off event as a contribution to the year of celebration. The response to the assembly, however, was overwhelming.

"This is the best event I have ever attended in all my years as a Salvationist," one delegate said at the conclusion of that first assembly.

As a group, the intention was clear. "This is too good to be only held once, we've got to go it again," was the message that rang loud and clear.

And so the annual Territorial Seniors Assembly was born. Eleven years later, in 2010, the Territorial Seniors Assembly

will be held at Forresters Beach Resort on the Central Coast of NSW, from 25-29 October.

The special guest speaker this year will be the Territorial Commander, Commissioner Linda Bond. The Sydney Staff Songsters will also perform during the assembly, while other speakers have been invited to lead four workshops over the course of the week.

Spaces are limited so register now. The all-inclusive cost of \$500 per person includes accommodation and all meals. The cost for a day delegate is \$240 which includes lunch and dinner, and morning and afternoon tea.

For more information about the assembly, please contact Major Lyn Daines on: lyn.daines@aue.salvationarmy.org or phone 02 9266 9598.

New \$20 million development opened at Macquarie Lodge

Three residents each aged over 100 years assisted The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territorial Commander to officially open a new 90-bed wing at Macquarie Lodge nursing home in Sydney's south on 24 April.

Brigadier Hazel Woodbury and Nellie Cato are both 105 and Lieutenant-Colonel Coral Duck-Chong is 101. They were the first to officially enter the new three-storey building at Arncliffe with Commissioner Linda Bond.

The extension complements 82 units of independent living on the site.

In a message read at the opening, Federal Minister for Ageing Justine Elliott said the extension recognised and celebrated the ongoing commitment of The Salvation Army's Aged Care Plus in providing quality aged care services for older Australians.

"This new multimillion-dollar home incorporates The Salvation Army's core beliefs that every person deserves the utmost in dignity, choice, respect and understanding in every facet of its construction and operation," she said.

"These values are reflected in the naming of the floors after the founders of The Salvation Army, William and Catherine Booth."

The Opposition spokesperson for Ageing Senator Connie Fierravanti-Wells was at the opening and complimented the Army for its work with the elderly "not just with bricks and mortar, but with love, care, understanding and a Christian approach".

She said she first became aware of The Salvation Army's mission as a young girl growing up near the former Port Kembla Citadel (near Wollongong).

In her official opening address, Commissioner Bond said it was important that the community understood that The Salvation Army was not a humanitarian organisation, but "a Christian church committed to the grace of God through how we care for people".

"This is a place that belongs to the community," Commissioner Bond said.

"It is not just a building, but a beacon of light that says we care about the community."

"We care that people have respect, dignity and compassion and that this is their home. It is a meeting place ... not just for residents and staff; we want families to feel that they belong to this place."

"We want the presence of Jesus to be obvious in this place." Project manager Paul Campbell said the building had cost \$20 million and was under budget.

The building included three levels and a basement. A chapel was constructed on the ground floor.

Mr Campbell said a feature of construction was the inclusion of three huge rainwater harvesting tanks. The water was used for the laundry before passing through purifiers and then being sent back to the laundry.

"This means we are not using any community water," he said.



(From left) Commissioner Linda Bond and Aged Care Plus Chief Executive Officer Sharon Callister cut the ribbon to officially open the new wing at Macquarie Lodge; part of the new development at Macquarie Lodge; Brigadier Hazel Woodbury, with her son Major Errol Woodbury, and Nellie Cato, with Macquarie Lodge Chaplain Major Joanne Slater, are wheeled into the new complex at Macquarie Lodge.

Local officers online survey

Booth College has commissioned a survey seeking feedback from people who have held local officer positions within corps in The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory.

Major Ian Channell, Assistant Director of The School For Leadership Training which is part of Booth College, said the 10-question survey could be filled out online and would take about 10 minutes.

"I'd like feedback particularly from past and present local officers whether or not they held commissions or warrants; people who have held local corps leadership positions," Major Channell said.

"They can be people who have held formal positions like Home League secretary, corps secretary, corps treasurer, corps

sergeant-major, bandmaster, young people's sergeant-majors; and less formal positions like those "acting" in a position, worship group leaders, small group leaders, youth group leaders, children's ministry leaders."

Booth College has undertaken this initiative as part of a desire to equip and train leaders within the territory in their leadership roles and as spiritual leaders.

The survey will close on 30 June. A paper version is available for anyone without access to the internet. A copy can be requested from the School for Leadership Training on 02 9557 1105.

The survey is located on the following website: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JQTZPMG>

Aboriginal flag ceremony at Territorial Headquarters

In a symbolic gesture to acknowledge the progress made by The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory towards Indigenous reconciliation, Territorial Commander Commissioner Linda Bond recently presented Envoy Judith Nuriyn-Yumba with an Aboriginal flag during a special ceremony at Territorial Headquarters in Sydney.

The Aboriginal flag will now be flown at THQ alongside the Australian and Salvation Army flags.

"For the Aboriginal people, to fly the flag means that you're welcome so when a Salvation Army corps or centre flies the

Aboriginal flag, it actually is saying there is a place here for you," said Commissioner Bond as she handed the flag to Envoy Nuriyn-Yumba, the Army's Indigenous Ministries Coordinator at North Ipswich in Queensland, during the ceremony on 30 April.

In accepting the flag, Envoy Nuriyn-Yumba expressed her thanks to The Salvation Army and Commissioner Bond.

Glen Doyle, of Mura-Wuri descent, performed a traditional Aboriginal dance and the service ended with a prayer from the territory's Chief Secretary Colonel James Condon.



At the flag ceremony are (from left) the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council's Michael West, Territorial Indigenous Ministry Coordinator Adrian Kistan, Vince Ross, "Uncle Ernie", Commissioner Linda Bond, Colonel James Condon, Envoy Judith Nuriyn-Yumba, Territorial Program Secretary Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas, and Glen Doyle (front). Photo: Shairon Paterson

Passionate about social justice?

Last year, The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory formed a Territorial Social Action and Advisory Team.

Its purpose is to develop the cause of social justice in the Army and the wider Australian community and will focus on what it believes are eight key issues: human trafficking and prostitution; child soldiers; the environment; youth homelessness; Indigenous Australia; fair trade; refugees and migrants; and domestic violence.

While the advisory team is made up of individuals passionate about social justice, it needs your help. One of the greatest assets The Salvation Army has is its people and the team is calling on you to get involved.

Whether it is helping to raise awareness in your local community and corps or getting involved through advocacy or event organisation, the team wants to tap into the skills and passion that is out there.

If this sounds like you, then the team wants to hear from you. Please send your name, postal and email address, phone number and name of the corps you attend, and also nominate which of the above-mentioned issues you'd like to get involved in, to: Territorial Social Action and Advisory Team, PO Box A435, Sydney South, NSW 1235.

Alternatively, you can email this information to: justice@ae.salvationarmy.org

Musical resource hits right note

Worship leaders and musicians take note - a new musical resource coming out of the Australia Eastern Territorial Music and Creative Arts Department will soon be available to all Salvation Army corps.

Infuse and Ignite is a resource that is being created to provide quality worship music that can assist corps across the territory, particularly smaller corps that do not have the wealth of musicians and musical resources some larger corps enjoy.

Recording has commenced for the CD, which is a collection of original music written by Salvationists. Several versions of the album will be created: one for youth (Infuse), one tailored for the main congregation (Ignite) and a version containing just backing tracks specifically created to assist churches which do not have musicians.

The CD will be complemented by a resource pack containing PowerPoint files and sheet music for all the songs. Additionally,

an internet site will be launched as a central place for storage of further resources such as videos, devotions and tips for worship leaders. The website will also be the place to find any new songs released by the Infuse and Ignite team.

A worship training day has been organised to coincide with the album launch and a worship evening on 4 September. The purpose of the day is to have officers, soldiers and worship leaders meet and receive teaching about leading worship, with particular attention on how they can effectively use Infuse and Ignite.

Simon Gough, the visionary behind the project, says it is not about just writing songs for the sake of producing a CD.

"This, I hope and pray," he says, "is the start of developing an easily accessible, constantly updatable, practical, high-quality resource for music ministry and worship."

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

Mums enjoy morning of pampering

(Lieutenants David Northcott and Belinda Atherton-Northcott)

In the week leading up to Mother's Day, the Inala Corps of The Salvation Army held a pampering morning tea for mums in the community, focusing particularly on those who are doing it tough.

The corps, through its welfare officer, regularly has women coming who are struggling to make ends meet. They are putting the needs of their family before their own and rarely have the time or finances to care for their own needs.

God has inspired Inala Corps to reach out in love to these women and, subsequently, the first Inala "Mothers Morning Tea" was held.

With generous sponsorship from a local councillor and the Army's Brisbane Streetlevel Mission, and with help from corps volunteers, a scrumptious morning tea was enjoyed. There were also pamper tables set up around the corps hall while a lovely gift was provided for each of the 14 women who attended.

Every one of the women enjoyed themselves so much that many of them said they would like to get together on a regular basis. The Mothers Morning Tea could yet be the beginning of a new expression of women's ministry in Inala.



Lieutenant David Northcott enjoys the morning tea with some mums in Inala.

Students shown reality of life on the streets

Students from seven Sydney high schools visited The Salvation Army's Oasis Youth Support Network centre in Sydney's Surry Hills in May, to find out more about youth homelessness and also to be educated about the importance of raising funds for the Army during the Red Shield Appeal.

Captain Robin Moulds, Manager of the Army's Inner City (Streetlevel) Community Welfare Centre, told the students from Years 11 and 12 some of the stories behind several young people who had been helped by the Oasis centre and how the service has helped to transform their lives.

Captain Moulds said people often saw the behaviours associated with homelessness, addiction and mental health issues, but did not stop to look at the underlying causes.

She explained that the Red Shield Appeal doorknock was an opportunity to make a one-degree move towards helping, and that volunteering for three hours could raise around \$200 - money that could provide a homeless young person with accommodation for a week.

"For us at Oasis, we are called to be on the front line," Captain Moulds said.

"But not all are called to be there and we need our supporters who back us so we can continue this work. Making a difference is what we are all about."



A student signs up at Oasis to help with the Red Shield Appeal.

Salvos rub shoulders with stars on red carpet

The world premiere of the movie *Beneath Hill 60* was held in Townsville on 14 April, and The Salvation Army was a high-profile participant at the event.

The Army was contacted early in the planning of the premiere with a request that it be involved. It was a terrific night that provided The Salvation Army with a wonderful evangelism opportunity of which it took full advantage.

The *Beneath Hill 60* story is one of courage, heroism, sacrifice and mateship against the background of the trench warfare on the Western Front in 1916, the site of some of the bloodiest battles of World War 1.

The occasion provided an opportunity for some of the Army's own "stars" to mix with the cast of the movie.

Actor Brendan Cowell, one of the stars of *Beneath Hill 60*, took a moment to meet Major Carolyn Harmer and Captains Bev Kingston and Carole Smith on the red carpet outside the theatre just minutes before the start of the premiere.

Others to have their photo taken with Major Carolyn and Captains Bev and Carole included the movie's director Jeremy Sims and actor Gyton Grantley.



Major Carolyn Harmer and Captains Bev Kingston and Carole Smith with actor Gyton Grantley (right) and with a vehicle used in the movie (above).



ENROLMENTS

Campsie Corps

God continues to do a wonderful work at Campsie Corps where nine new senior soldiers were recently enrolled.

Among them were Rachel Sutton, a young lady who is wheelchair-bound and has grown up attending the corps with her family, and Helen Bouquet who works at the RSL club next door to the corps.

Every week a group of people from Campsie Corps would sit in the park across the road from the RSL and pray for Helen. They invited her to attend a meeting at the corps. She eventually accepted the invitation and has been coming ever since.

The other seven new soldiers are all originally from Sierra Leone and are: Alice Bangura, Finda Musa, Mary Fonah, Kadiatu Koroma, Christiana Kargbo, James Kargbo and Bintu Sesay.



The nine new senior soldiers at Campsie with Corps Officers Majors Bruce and Glenys Domrow (back row), Recruiting Sergeant Des Pearse (far right) and Assistant Recruiting Sergeant Major Margaret Redmond (far left).



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Conference inspires youth leaders

Salvation Army youth ministry leaders from Cairns to Deniliquin gathered recently for a weekend of training and encouragement at the inaugural Australia Eastern Territorial Youth Ministry Conference in Sydney.

Almost 150 delegates attended the conference at Camp Kedron on Sydney's Northern Beaches from Friday 23 April to Monday 26 April.

While the Youth Ministry Conference was territorial and largely organised by the Territorial Youth Team, all Divisional Youth Secretaries, the School for Youth Leadership and the Edify team contributed to the success of the weekend.

The weekend included teaching sessions, workshops and plenty of free time to allow youth leaders the opportunity to be refreshed and recharged.

Six main teaching sessions covered spiritual elements of being a youth leader and helped to provide leaders with vision and direction.

The speaker line-up was: Andrew Palmer (Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Baptist Churches in NSW and ACT), Dave Reardon (Youth Alive in Western Australia), Thomas Hansen (Young Adults Pastor at Hillsong Church), Darren Cox (who was Youth and Young Adults Pastor at Cherrybrook Baptist Church for several years), Lieutenant-Colonel Miriam Gluyas (Territorial Secretary for Program) and Major Gary Baker (Divisional Commander of The Greater West Division).

Four workshop sessions with 17 possible topics were also held to offer delegates practical advice. They included young

adult's ministry, youth at risk, high school ministry, using technology and creative arts in youth ministry, making disciples, physical health and nutrition, and working with your corps officer.

The workshops and sessions trained and equipped youth leaders of all ages and experiences for now and the future. Some youth leaders brought 10 years of youth leadership experience with them to the conference, while others were young teenagers with leadership potential.

The conference received a lot of positive feedback. "I have loved hearing from youth leaders about the new plans/goals they have for their youth ministry," shared Claire Hill, Territorial Youth Consultant. "One division is dreaming of 100 life groups across the division in the next two to three years. This is an exciting journey. Can't wait to see what God does."

However, as Shandri Brown, Territorial Youth Leadership Co-ordinator, noted: "We'll see the real fruit and value of the weekend in the stories that are yet to come."

Shandri was the visionary and driving force behind the conference.

"Shandri has long dreamed of a weekend like this," Claire said, "where the best of the best youth ministry teachers and leaders from across our nation are brought in, where youth leaders are shown incredible value, where we're all able to network, and where individuals are trained to plant new youth ministries."

"God is really doing something fresh and exciting in youth ministries across the territory."



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Retirement salute to first woman Chief of the Staff

By Major LAURIE ROBERTSON

During a colourful, vibrant, emotional and dignified retirement salute to Commissioner Robin Dunster, The Salvation Army's first woman Chief of the Staff, General Shaw Clifton said he was conducting the retirement of a close colleague in Christ and a much-valued prayer partner.

The salute, at Staines Corps (UK Territory) on Saturday 24 April, attracted people from many parts of the world and the main hall was filled to overflowing.

The General said the appointment in 2006 of a woman as Chief of the Staff (the international Army's second-in-command) was historic and that "Commissioner Dunster has graced that high appointment in every way. It is fitting that we honour her today. She has been an outstanding Chief of the Staff and will be most sorely missed".

General Clifton commented that hardly anyone expected a woman to be appointed as Chief of the Staff when he was elected General in 2006, however he knew the commissioner was ideally suited for the role. He believed her wide range of leadership service, her deep commitment to God in the Army, her strength and determination "in the right ways", and that

she would always be open and honest with the General, were essential qualities for a Chief of the Staff.

Prior to presenting Commissioner Dunster, who entered officership from Dulwich Hill Corps in the Australia Eastern Territory, with her retirement certificate the General outlined many of her outstanding characteristics including: her love and understanding of the Army while not being blind to its weaknesses; her belief that God still uses the Army to fulfil his purposes; her loyalty; ability to bring out the talents in others; fascination with the cultural variety that is the modern Army and wide knowledge of Army personalities and officers.

The General said the commissioner "is astute and gifted intellectually. She has a clear mind that thinks consequentially on matters". General Clifton also stated that he has been grateful for Commissioner Dunster's close and capable attention to the business matters of the Army.

He has been especially pleased to have her support in advancing women leaders within the Army and thankful for her excellent role-modelling of female ministry.

The Chief opened her response by saying: "I wish everyone here really knew everyone here. If you did you would know stories of great fortitude amidst political strife, lootings, liberation struggles and wars; real determination in times of personal and family crises; beautiful courage in the face of grief and loss and the confronting and overcoming failures and disappointments.

"You would also know stories of faithful service in every corner of The Salvation Army world; compassionate ministry at home and abroad; amazing endeavours of unsung heroes and extraordinary exploits never reported."

The commissioner said she was grateful for the trust in her that led the General to appoint her as Chief of the Staff.

She especially thanked her support officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Edna Williams, for her friendship, loyalty and encouragement.

Commissioner Dunster said she was grateful to all who had influenced her life and specifically mentioned her godly officer parents, "whose spirit of creativity and adventure mixed with good practical sense and sacrifice prepared me for a lifetime of service".

She continued: "I am grateful for the insights gained through these years of service; the beautiful and inspiring people that I have met, in many parts of the Army world, who are serving without pretension in all manner of circumstances and are living their lives to the glory of God; the growing appreciation for this Army that God 'raised up' for his own good purposes and lessons learned through difficult experiences and even my mistakes.

"All of these influences prepared me to forever bear the name of our training session - *Victorious*."

At this point, in a moving and celebratory moment, a session mate stood and commenced singing the sessional song. She was soon joined by 21 others from Commissioner Dunster's training days at the International Training College, Denmark Hill, London.

In her Bible message (translated into French by Lieut-Colonel Williams) based on Romans 8 the Chief urged all present to be



The Chief of the Staff, in front of a cross, addresses the congregation. Photos: Paul Harmer

conquerors in Christ. "In every situation we know that nothing can separate us from the risen Christ who intercedes for us."

The commissioner spoke powerfully about the Christian's connection to God, "who motivates us in every aspect of living". She then invited anyone who had not experienced the love of Jesus or who wanted to go deeper with him to come forward to pray. Two men accepted the invitation.

Another significant portion of the salute was the music contributions from parts of the world where Commissioner Dunster has served - Africa, The Philippines, UK and Australia.

In colourful African Salvation Army clothing, matching the vibrancy of their singing and movement, Congolese Salvationists from Boulogne-Billancourt Corps in France passionately brought the message of victory in Jesus through their singing in Kikongo.

And in national dress the Salcedo family, with Filipino friends, transported the congregation to The Philippines while singing about being hand in hand with God.

Australian Salvationist Errol Duck-Chong superbly played a medley of Army songs on the piano while photos covering the years of service of the commissioner were shown.

Regent Hall Band (UK) provided excellent support to songs



General Shaw Clifton pays tribute to the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Robin Dunster.

as well as being featured in the playing of *Lightwalk*, composed by Australian Barrie Gott, and Staines Young People's Singing Company delightfully sang two songs.

In her prayer to conclude the event Commissioner Helen Clifton (World President of Women's Ministries) thanked God for the lives of Commissioner Dunster and Lieut-Colonel Williams and for the influence they have had in the lives of many people. She asked that more and more people would give themselves totally to God.

Peru last stop for Commissioner Dunster

In her last major international trip as Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Robin Dunster led celebrations as The Salvation Army in Peru offered thanks to God for 100 years of work in the South American country.

The Salvation Army's Peru Division is today part of the South America West Territory, and territorial leaders Commissioners Jorge and Adelina Ferreira supported the Chief throughout her visit. The Chief was accompanied in Peru by her support officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Edna Williams.

Commissioner Dunster represented The Salvation Army at civic ceremonies in which its centenary of work in Peru was recognised. A medal and diploma were presented on behalf of the Peruvian Congress; the Mayor of the Peruvian capital Lima, Dr Luis Castaneda Lossio, presented awards from the city in recognition of 100 years of offering social and spiritual help; and further recognition of The Salvation Army's work in Peru was given at the Ministry of Women and Social Development.

The centennial congress celebration itself took place at Huampani Convention Centre in Lima and began with a meeting themed "Thanksgiving for Our Past". A highlight of the gathering was the recognition of the opening of Ate, Ica and Pisco corps'. This was followed by a youth praise concert.

More than 500 people attended a women's rally the next morning, led by Commissioner Dunster. At the same time, rallies for men, youth and children were also taking place.

Workshops later in the day covered a variety of subjects and provided for a wide age range of delegates.

A music festival in the evening included the presentation of the musical *Glory!* by young Salvationists from Lima.

During the final meeting of the congress on Sunday morning,

Commissioner Jorge Ferreira enrolled 80 soldiers. After the enrolment the Chief of the Staff offered words of challenge to the new soldiers.

A march entitled *Peru 100* was played by the congress's guest musicians, a brass group from the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division of the USA Central Territory. The new march is adapted from music written for Peru's 70th anniversary celebrations by Retired General John Larsson, who was then Chief Secretary for the South America West Territory. Support was also given by musicians from USA Southern Territorial Headquarters.

Commissioner Dunster, in her Bible address, encouraged the congregation to trust God in the future and to obey him whatever the cost.



The Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Robin Dunster (right), and her support officer Lieutenant-Colonel Edna Williams in Peru.

Commissioner Pearce honoured as woman of prayer

By Major LAURIE ROBERTSON

The retirement service for Commissioner Lyn Pearce (World Secretary for Women's Ministries and World President Salvation Army, Scouts, Guides and Guards) at the Army's International Headquarters in London on 22 April, was filled with references to her prayerful, purposeful and personable attributes.

In her testimony the commissioner, a officer of the Australia Eastern Territory, said that as a child she never imagined she would become a Salvation Army officer because her immediate family was not involved with the Army. Growing up on a farm near the country town of Parkes in NSW she attended a small church that hosted Presbyterian, Methodist and Anglican services.

However, on moving to live with her grandparents so that she could attend high school Commissioner Pearce began to be influenced by her grandmother who had commenced attending The Salvation Army in her 70s.

The commissioner said she gradually grew in her faith. At around 16 years of age she committed her life to God for service in some capacity and 12 months later sensed that God was calling her into The Salvation Army. This naturally meant a calling to officership.

"Many times I told the Lord he had made a mistake in calling me. But the journey in discovering God was wonderful - and is wonderful. It is a journey that will never end," she said.

"Somewhere on the journey there grew an incredible interest in prayer, spirituality and a desire to walk with people in their journey. I offered myself to God for this kind of ministry and have been overwhelmed with the opportunities that have come."

During his leadership of the retirement meeting the International Secretary for South Pacific and East Asia, Commissioner Robert Street, said that Commissioner Pearce always loves to point people to Jesus and not herself.

He revealed that the Junior Soldier Prayer Partner concept used in many Salvation Army territories around the world came from Commissioner Pearce.

"She has led prayer conferences, seminars, written a book about prayer and prayed with countless numbers of people individually. Commissioner Pearce is an Army jewel who models what it means to be a Salvation Army officer," Commissioner Street said.

In presenting the commissioner with her retirement certificate Commissioner Raemor Pobjie (Zonal Secretary for Women's Ministries, Europe Zone), who trained as an officer with Commissioner Pearce, said her session mate "has always inspired and challenged me to be a better person. She has a gift to inspire people to engage in a more meaningful spiritual life."

General Shaw Clifton said the presence of those at the retirement service "is an eloquent tribute to the commissioner".

The General thanked her especially for her extra months of service.



Commissioner Lyn Pearce (centre) with General Shaw Clifton and her session mate Commissioner Raemor Pobjie, at her retirement service. Photo: Berni Georges.

Army provides care for tornado victims in US

By MARK JONES

The Salvation Army in the United States has been providing help and hope to thousands of people in the aftermath of tornadoes that brought devastation in a number of states in late April.

Many homes were severely damaged and at least 12 people were killed in Mississippi and Alabama.

One place that was particularly hard hit was Yazoo City, Mississippi, where Salvation Army teams served more than 4500

hot meals and prayed with many storm-weary residents.

"The Salvation Army responded immediately after the storm," said Trey Jones, Incident Commander for The Salvation Army Disaster Response in Yazoo City, "and it will remain in Yazoo City providing recovery support to help bring healing to the many lives shattered by the tornado."

As power was restored to Yazoo City The Salvation Army began the transition from relief to recovery. It has now shifted its focus to providing disaster recovery assistance and case management at its disaster recovery centre in Yazoo City.

Exhaustive response to Brazil mudslide

By Major TEOFILO CHAGAS

Salvation Army emergency service workers and volunteers in Brazil worked around the clock for almost two weeks at the scene of a mudslide which swept through Morro do Bumba in the city of Niteroi, near the capital, Rio de Janeiro in April. More than 225 people are known to have lost their lives in the disaster.

Within 12 hours of the mudslide Salvation Army teams were in place, providing support 24 hours a day for 10 days then for 10 hours a day over the final three days of the emergency response.

Thousands of meals and drinks were served to firemen, civil defence personnel, military police and general disaster workers who had been removing earth in their search for bodies. More than 5000 people were assisted at the main site and over 2000 members of the local community were helped.

Colonel José Paulo, commander of the fire brigade, praised the consistently excellent quality of food and assistance provided by The Salvation Army. Another fire brigade leader told one Salvation Army officer that in his 35 years as a fireman he had never received support as good as that provided by the Army during this response. He urged the Salvation Army teams to continue their work at the front line, saying: "The way you

treat us is so calm and courteous. Your smiles mean that you not only feed our bodies but also feed our spirits and souls."

The Salvation Army emergency teams were mainly comprised of personnel from territorial headquarters and the officer training college in Sao Paulo. Soldiers from Niteroi Corps were also involved, as were many volunteers.

Clothes, cleaning kits, school packs, mattresses, hygiene items and food were distributed to people in eight communities.

While The Salvation Army had to purchase much of the supplies the community also donated a considerable amount, with one Presbyterian church in Sao Paulo donating more than \$1500 and providing six volunteer workers.



A Salvation Army officer provides food for a rescue worker at the site of the mudslide in Brazil.

Army flag flies in United Arab Emirates

General Shaw Clifton has given approval for the work of The Salvation Army to be officially commenced in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as of 1 June 2010. This will bring the number of countries where the Army operates to 121.

It is less than two years since The Salvation Army's work started officially in neighbouring Kuwait, under the leadership of Majors Mike and Teresa Hawley, officers of the USA Southern Territory. It was known, however, that there has been a long-standing fellowship of Salvationists from a number of countries resident and working in Dubai, in the UAE.

Majors Hawley were joined in 2009 by Lieutenants Robert and Glenis Viera, also from the USA Southern Territory, and the work continued to develop in Kuwait. In the same year, exploration started with regard to the possibility of extending the Army's ministry into the UAE. An invitation was extended for the Army to plan a Christmas carol service in Dubai and this was attended by hundreds of people. Meetings then commenced in rented property in Sharjah.

Working in cooperation with other churches, The Salvation Army's legal presence in the UAE is growing. Residency permits have been obtained for Majors Hawley and rented premises have been secured for regular meetings in both Sharjah and Abu Dhabi, where significant groups of Tamil-speaking Salvationists live.

The Salvation Army is also developing its relationships with prominent members of the government, diplomatic and legal communities in the UAE. Together with the formation of an advisory board, these steps will help ensure that The Salvation Army becomes part of daily life in the Middle East.

Online access makes World Youth Convention global event

Organisers of The Salvation Army's World Youth Convention to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, are hoping and praying that thousands of young people around the world will make time to view the convention online.

The convention will run from 15-18 July with 1200 invited delegates from most parts of the world in attendance. However, through live streaming of all events via the internet, anyone with online access can be involved.

If people don't know very much about The Salvation Army then viewing this convention will provide them with a mountain of information through world-class speakers from all continents, including the Army's international leaders, General Shaw Clifton and Commissioner Helen Clifton.

Complementing the speaking sessions will be musicians, singers, actors and dancers from Brazil, Norway, United Kingdom, India, Zambia, Italy, Korea, Sweden, United States and Australia.

"This will be an inspiring event," said convention coordinator Colonel Birgitte Brekke who has urged young people around the world to gather with friends to watch the live sessions wherever they have access to a computer, large screen and data projector.

"In this way there could be mini-youth conventions right around the world," she added.

To find out more about this global event, go to www.raisedup.org

The Lord's missionary



Mrs Major Catherine Ayers was promoted to glory on 20 March from Redcliffe Hospital, aged 92.

A funeral service was held on 25 March at the Mount Thompson Crematorium in Holland

Park, Queensland. It was conducted by Major Denise Parkinson, Corps Officer at Bundamba.

Catherine's four children, Kevin, Keith, Coral and Christopher (Kit) all attended, as did her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The tributes shared by Catherine's children and grandchildren all spoke of her quiet and yet determined character, her delight in nature and her love for the Lord.

Psalm 121 and Psalm 73:25-26 were read by grandson Matthew Palmer, Commissioner Amy Osborn shared a prayer, Lauren Ayers (granddaughter) read "Don't be afraid to laugh", and Major Denice Strong read the tributes on behalf of fellow Salvation Army officers.

Catherine's favourite song, *Morning Has Broken* was sung, along with *As The Deer* and *For The Beauty Of The Earth*. Major Parkinson offered reflections on Psalm 23, and the closing prayer and committal.

Catherine Mary Burr was born on 21 September 1917 to Tom and Charlotte Vernon Burr in Calgary, Canada.

The Burrs were appointed as Salvation Army missionaries to India when Catherine was three. Tragedy struck the Burr family when Charlotte died giving birth to her second daughter, Vernon.

In 1924, Tom married Mildred Makins, a Salvation Army missionary from Bundaberg. Catherine (also known as Cathie) lived with her parents in Poona (Pune) and then Bombay (Mumbai).

While living in India, Cathie's school was visited by an evangelist speaking about the second coming of Christ. Following this visit, Cathie had a vivid dream that led her to believe that God wanted her to be a missionary in India to teach children about God.

Cathie returned to England with Tom, Mildred and her younger brother Charlie after her school graduation while her other siblings, Vernon and John, remained in boarding school in India.

In 1935, Catherine witnessed the commissioning of 500 Salvation Army cadets at the Royal Albert Hall. At that point, she was prepared to offer herself up for Salvation Army service but was unable to gain access to the platform.

After some time in Canada with her aunt, uncle and cousins, Cathie graduated

from teacher training college and accepted a posting to a remote one-teacher school. It was there that she made a decision to follow in her parents' footsteps and become a missionary.

In late 1938, she arrived in England and soon entered the International Training College in Denmark Hill, London as part of the *Dauntless Evangelist* session, with commissioning in 1939. With the advent of World War Two, Cathie was appointed to Paddington slums while awaiting passage to India.

Lieutenant Catherine Burr left England for India in November 1939. She took up her appointment at an Indian Girls' Boarding School at Anand and it was here that she adopted the Indian name, Namrita Bai, meaning sister of humility.

Two years later, Captain Burr was appointed as the corps officer at the English-speaking corps at Byculla in Bombay.

In 1942, she met Pilot Officer Bernard Ayers who had felt compelled to join the Royal Air Force and had resigned officership. He became the Corps Sergeant Major and they married on 1 April 1944.

Cathie gave birth to her first child, Kevin, in Bombay in 1945. The following year they were reaccepted into officership and repatriated to England where they were appointed to Salvation Army institutions: MSW Walsal and MSW Coventry. While in Coventry, Keith was born.

In 1947, Captains Ayers were transferred to the West Indies Territory. They held appointments in Belize, the Bahamas, Trinidad and Suriname. Cathie's only daughter, Coral, was born while in Trinidad.

Cathie and Bernard moved to Brisbane in late 1953 for some homeland furlough, where their fourth child, Christopher (Kit) was born. Due to the increased size of their family, they could not return to the mission fields. From 1954 they were corps officers at Ballina, Lithgow, Kurri Kurri, Warwick and Wolloongabba corps', respectively.

In 1962, Catherine was promoted to the rank of major and held a position in the North NSW Division. Bernard was Public Relations Officer, and Catherine was League of Mercy Secretary, coordinating visitation of the sick, elderly and imprisoned.

From 1970, the majors were appointed to Auburn, Wynnum, Albion, Mount Gravatt, Nambour and Toowong corps', respectively.

In April 1978, Mrs Major Catherine Ayers retired from her service to The Salvation Army. Cathie and Bernard settled into their small retirement home in

Zillmere where Cathie tended her garden, held a weekly neighbourhood Bible study and taught English as a second language to a Russian neighbour.

In 1992, they moved to The Salvation Army Retirement Village at Riverview Gardens where, in April 1994, they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

In late December 1995, Bernard was promoted to glory.

Even in retirement, Cathie helped others and maintained her involvement with The Salvation Army and in the community. In 2005, Cathie left Riverview to move closer to her daughter Coral, but in September 2006 she moved into an aged care home near Sandgate.

With her promotion to glory on 20 March, Cathie leaves behind four children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Wise, loving, faithful and generous



Dorothy Hutley was promoted to glory on 7 January from Riverview Gardens, Queensland, aged 91.

The long and fruitful life of Dorothy was celebrated in the Riverview Gardens

chapel on 11 January, led by Major Denice Strong (Senior Chaplain and Director of Mission).

The thanksgiving began with the singing of "Dorothy's Song of Praise", written by her at a 1997 women's fellowship camp and sung to the tune *Solid Rock*.

Selected verses underlined in her Bible were read by four grand-daughters, Kath and Nicky Brown, Kylie Vanderwolf and Ruth Palombo.

The only grandchild unable to attend, Robyn White, sent a tribute which was read by Major Strong.

Colonels Bert and Iris Hill, former corps officers, told of their experiences and evaluation of the character and ministry of Dorothy Hutley, who was the Home League Secretary. She was always on time for every engagement and was loyal, trustworthy, faithful and generous. She was a deeply spiritual person who knew her Lord and was very familiar with the Bible, which was her handbook for living.

The family tribute, presented jointly by Majors Bill Hutley and Joy Harvey (son and daughter), expressed gratitude for the privilege to have had godly parents, who were a mighty team and great examples of Christian living and ministry to others and who laid good foundations for future

decisions and life skills.

Family events were celebrated; family life was loving with much laughter and lively discussions, often around the meal table. Children were encouraged to try things – to take turns with various jobs around the house according to age and not because of gender. Correction was appropriate, private, consistent and fair.

Following Major Denice Strong's Bible message, Dorothy's grandsons were pall bearers, before the cremation service at Centenary Memorial Gardens, led by Major Strong.

Dorothy May was born on 24 June 1918, to Ernie and Lilly Allen in Rozelle, Sydney. Not long after, the family moved to Campsie, where they lived for 90 years.

Before she was 12 years old, Dorothy suffered the loss of her mother. Dorothy had four older brothers: Ernie, Alf, Bill, Fred, a younger sister Marie and younger brother George. All her family was involved in The Salvation Army at Campsie. Very early she found the Lord Jesus as her Saviour and friend, a discovery that shaped and motivated her whole life.

Dorothy was a delightful student at school. She loved the English language and enjoyed reading.

At 14, her first job was as home help for Mrs Fern who, though not well, taught her good housekeeping. Dorothy and Mrs Fern became lifelong friends.

Later, the request to become the guardian of her nephew Donald was an answer to prayer, so she moved back home to care for him. In 1942, due to the possible evacuation of children to the country (in response to the discovery of Japanese forces in Sydney Harbour), Dorothy and Don moved to Duri, near Tamworth, to stay on a farm with her aunt.

They worshipped at the Duri Methodist Church where Jack Hutley was one of the lay preachers. He took a fancy to Dorothy, the relationship developed and they were married at The Salvation Army, Campsie on 8 May 1943.

Dorothy and Jack settled into married life on his farm, "Apple Flat", in Duri, with Donald who remained with them for more than two years.

Dorothy, the city girl, had a steep learning curve for life on the farm, but she quickly settled in as a farmer's wife and supported Jack well.

Her open and fun-loving personality endeared her to others.

Jack and Dorothy had five children – Hazel, Bill, Arthur, Joy and Rosemary – and life was very busy, but filled with love, fun, hard work and ministry.

They were heavily involved in the local church and Sunday schools, conducting

the Currabubula Sunday school for 25 years.

Dorothy she was active in Know Your Bible studies and Christian Women Convention International. She also supported a wide variety of missions.

About 1953, for family reasons, they began to attend The Salvation Army Tamworth Corps where Dorothy put on her uniform and served in several leadership positions including Home League Secretary, for many years.

At age 59, Dorothy became a widow, and at age 70, she retired to Sydney and enjoyed the company of two brothers and their wives and the "old" corps. In 2007, she moved to Riverview Gardens to be closer to family and her only surviving sibling.

Dorothy was a great wife and friend and her Christian commitment was lived out every day.

Though reserved in nature, she was generous with her love, time, skill and money. She was always welcoming and glad to have visitors. Home was open as a sanctuary. Dorothy supported Christian missions extensively.

Dorothy is remembered with fondness and gratitude for her Christian character, wisdom, humour and love.

Faith in action



Edwin Jones (known as Ed) was promoted to glory on 22 February, aged 80.

A celebration of the life of Edwin was conducted at Leeton Corps Citadel by Corps Officers Captains

Phil and Tuesday McCall on 26 February.

Tributes were given by Captain Phil, Major Rodney Ainsworth (Divisional Commander of the ACT and South NSW Division), his wife Jeanette, children Victoria and Evan, and friend George Walters.

Ed's most important life event was his Christian conversion. He had decided as a child that there was no God and refused to go to church from the age of 12, much to his parents' sorrow. He studied science at university, which he believed proved no God. He remained this way until his own personal encounter with God occurred in 1979, right after a crisis which involved his diabetes condition.

From being totally and vocally atheistic for so many years, he then had to decide where he would go to church to worship. As it happened, a fellow employee gave him a cheque made out to The Salvation Army and asked him to pass it on. This he did, and when he met the officers, he told

them of his newfound faith and they asked him to come along to the Army.

Ed started going to meetings and soon decided to become a full member of the church. This required him to wear a uniform, a very public announcement of a change of heart. He always said that God had a wonderful sense of humour!

Ed did the pub rounds, distributed the *Warcry*, and helped with the emergency trailer in natural disasters. He spoke to those who needed help, led some to Christ, prayed with those who needed prayer, and helped quite a few over the years to find the assistance they needed to beat the addiction of alcohol.

He was on call at any time of the day or night to help others. He was a tremendous example of faith in action – of God working through his people. He was a faithful in prayer.

Ed loved God's Word and could quote chapter and verse when required. He also loved The Salvation Army song book which was for him was also an aid in his personal devotions.

In the last months of his life (suffering from diabetes type 1, Parkinsons disease and blindness), it was very difficult for Ed, but he bore his illnesses with grace.

Ed was in every way a "gentle" gentleman and a living testimony that God can change anyone, anytime, anywhere, and when and where he chooses.

Beautiful, prayerful woman



Kalbar Corps lost one of its saints and prayer warriors in the promotion to glory of Auxiliary-Captain Vera Parker on 14 March at the age of 84.

A celebration and thanksgiving service was held at Kalbar Corps on 18 March following a private committal service at Kalbar Cemetery. A large crowd attended the thanksgiving service, conducted by Major Bert George, a former corps officer.

Vera had chosen songs and readings which testified to her deep and joyous spiritual journey: *I Stand Amazed In The Presence, I Know That My Redeemer Lives, His Name Is Higher Than Any Other and He Is My Everything, He Is My All*. Psalms 84 and 91 were read by family members.

Tributes were paid by Major Rodney Strong and Tony Barnes, Major Lionel Parker read a message from the Chief Secretary Colonel James Condon and Majors Dennis and Genne Bryant, former corps officers.

Son-in-law John Jenkinson represented the family in tribute to their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who,

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he said, was an excellent provider even when finances were tight, a wise guide and great example of Christian character, someone who were disciplined in daily prayerful living and compassionate service.

Vida Vera Hurst was born on 21 September 1925 in Bathurst. She went to school there before finding work in a cafe. She married Archibald (known as Joe) Parker on 22 October 1942, and later, with children Lionel and Roslyn, moved to Armidale district where they lived in a tent for a short time near a creek at Puddledock.

The family made their home in various places before they moved to Bingara, NSW, where Lynette, Pamela, Christopher and Jeffrey were born.

Just before Lynette's birth, Joe became a Christian through the encouragement of Lieutenant (later Major) Ron Weaver.

Vera came to Christ as she saw the miraculous change in her husband's life and wanted what he had.

They became Salvation Army soldiers and the family became heavily involved in Bingara Corps.

As the Home League Secretary, Vera's skills and Christian influence extended. Her home was open to hospitality and many people visited. She was a selfless person, always thinking of others and ready to do what the Lord wanted.

Vera was effective in the stewardship of her possessions and sharing God's love and the Gospel with others. She ably assisted and supported Joe in his various leadership roles, including outpost leader and corps officer.

After a time the Lord called them into full-time service in The Salvation Army and they trained in Sydney from where they emerged as auxiliary captains.

Their appointments were Moree, Miranda and Kalbar corps', respectively. Due to Joe's ill-health, they retired in 1984 and lived in Kalbar.

After Joe's promotion to glory in 1986, Vera continued to live in her home until recent weeks.

She was very faithful in prayer, financial support, and attendance at Home League and meetings.

Vera led Know Your Bible classes ably and sensitively and was a great encouragement to many people. Her home was always open for a chat, counsel and prayer, with many people dropping in for a cup of tea coupled with her famous baking.

For a number of years Vera was a volunteer at the Blue Care Respite centre in Boonah where she ministered with gentle and compassionate care.

She was a wonderful mother of six,

grandmother of 17 and great-grandmother to 21.

She was promoted to glory on 14 March after a short period of ill health.

A devoted wife and mother



Valmai Beatrice Smith was promoted to glory on 27 March, aged 74.

A service was held at Brisbane City Temple on 1 April. Lieutenant-Colonel Don Woodland opened the service which was followed

by a prayer offered by Lieut-Colonel Bernice Woodland.

Tributes were read by Neville Ball (on behalf of friends), Commissioner Ivan Lang (on behalf of Valmai's husband, Bram), and Major Dean Smith (on behalf of family).

Jenny Smith read John 14:1-6 and Lieut-Colonel Don Woodland presented a message, the committal and benediction.

Valmai Beatrice Saunders was born in Ipswich on 6 May 1935, to Wentworth and Beatrice Saunders. She spent her childhood and teenage years actively involved in the Ipswich Corps. Together with her younger sister Margaret, Val attended Ipswich Central Girls School and Ipswich Girls Grammar School. Upon leaving high school, she was employed in a clerical role at McKenzie and Jackson where she remained until she was married.

On 24 August 1957, Val married Bram Smith at the Ipswich Citadel. Early in their marriage Val and Bram felt a call to full-time ministry and in January 1959 they entered The Salvation Army Officer Training College in Sydney.

Their first appointment, in 1960, was to Five Dock where, on 3 August, their first child, Dean, was born. An appointment to Canowindra followed, where Jenny was born in September 1962. Subsequent appointments followed at Tingha, Glen Innes and Shortland.

After a serious bout of hepatitis, it became necessary for Val and Bram to resign from officership and they returned to Brisbane. Lynelle was born in May 1966.

Val and Bram soldiered at West End Corps before transferring to the Brisbane City Temple Corps in 1970. Val participated in the corps as a member of the songster brigade and women's ministries. For many years she saw her role as a support to Bram in his ministry.

In support of Bram and the family, Val was employed in a number of clerical positions including a number of years spent with Queensland Marriage Guidance Council and Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters.

Val was diagnosed with cancer in December 2009 and had surgery in January 2010. She demonstrated enormous courage and strength and maintained a positive attitude during subsequent treatment. She passed away in the early hours of Saturday 27 March 2010.

Dean, Jenny and Lynelle want to pay tribute to Mum for her special care of, and devotion to Dad, especially in recent years. They honour her memory and want to say thankyou for all the expressions of love for Mum and the family.

Committed to God

Grace Annabell Hession was promoted to glory on 8 March, aged 102.

The funeral service was conducted by Major Christine Ivers, on 15 March at Brisbane City Temple.

Stephen Pillinger-Burns shared a tribute on behalf of family and Anne Hutton read Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16. *What a Friend and Need Thee* were sung. Major Ivers gave the message, committal and benediction.

Grace Annabell was born to Arden and Annabella Tully (nee Klump) on 2 December 1907. She, with her older sisters, Elsie and May, and her younger brother, Arden, attended the Mt Gravatt State School. Their home was located behind the shop which the family owned and ran at the corner of Broadwater and Logan roads. All three girls loved handicraft and entered their work in the local show. Music was also an important part of their family life.

After moving to Woolloongabba, the family listened to a Salvation Army open-air meeting and responded to an invitation to attend church services. This began Grace's life-long commitment of service to God in The Salvation Army.

At the Army Hall in Trafalgar St, Grace met Stanley Roy Pillinger and they were married in 1930. Five children were born of this union - Keith (deceased), Joy, Kenneth, Coral and Estelle. There are also 14 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren that are proud to call Grace their grandmother.

The main family home was situated in Annerley and for most of their life together, Stan was a milk vendor. Following his sudden death in 1953, Grace took over running the family business, with the help of her eldest son Keith. Many marvelled at the strength of Grace who was left with the responsibility of raising five children between the ages of 16 and four. She was a seamstress by trade and made most of the children's clothes.

Grace and Stan worshipped with their family at the Brisbane City Temple Corps.

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Grace supported Stan as a bandsman and served as Home League Secretary for many years. Under her leadership, the Home League won many awards and it was recognised for its excellence in service to the church and community.

Grace loved to sing and for many years was a valued member of the alto section of both the songster brigade and the women's voices. *The Holy City* was one of her favourite pieces and even at 101 she would join in singing it.

In the late 1960s Grace married Joe Hession and moved to Coorparoo where she lived until going to Warrina Hostel at Chelmer in 2001. The last few years of her life were spent in the nursing home and the family expresses its gratitude to those who cared for her during this time.

"Her children rise up and call her blessed" (Proverbs 31:28).

Caring, devoted and loving



Olive Harris of Nambour Corps was promoted to glory on 24 October 2009, aged 94.

A brief graveside committal service at Nambour cemetery was conducted on 29 October by Major Chris Witts (son-in-law) who afterwards led a service of celebration at Gregson and Weight funeral chapel.

Nambour Corps Band gave music support and Thelma Smith represented

Nambour Corps in a moving tribute, referring to Olive as "Aunty" Olive.

Merilyn Spring (niece) sang the vocal solo *At Peace With God* and Donna Angell (grand-daughter) gave a tribute on behalf of the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Envoy Christine McLachlan (daughter) represented Olive's immediate family in a personal tribute.

Olive Mary Dumschat was born to Salvation Army officer parents Gustav and Lily Dumschat on 5 April 1915 at Singleton, NSW.

Due to ill health, the family moved to the Bundaberg/Childers area, and five years later relocated to a farm at Dulong in the ranges beyond Nambour.

Because of her love for The Salvation Army, Olive walked many miles to Nambour to attend Corps Cadets and play the timbrel. She also rode on horseback to attend Sunday meetings.

On 26 November 1931, Olive was sworn in as a senior soldier. When Home League meetings first began at the corps, 16-year-old Olive attended with her mother and she continued to attend throughout her lifetime.

Olive worked for a while in domestic duties in Nambour and married Ron Harris on 13 April 1938. In those early years they lived on a farm at Diddillibah. The family eventually moved to Nambour in 1942, when Ron enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force. During Ron's absence, Olive did a magnificent job raising three children - Olwin, Rhonda

and Grenville - on her own, ably supported by family and friends.

On Ron's return from war service in 1946, they built a house in Mapleton Rd, Nambour. The family was extended with the birth of two more daughters, Laurel and Christine.

As a committed Salvationist, Olive attended Home League, sang in the songsters and regularly visited patients in hospital as a League of Mercy worker over many years. She became a regular attendee of Home League camps and enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones.

In her early years, she assisted with Girls Legion where many young people were influenced for good. She loved gardening and shopping and often provided a meal and accommodation to anyone who needed help.

In 1995, Olive and Ron moved in retirement to Sundale Garden Village-Nicklin Court and then the following year to Sunvilla Court where Olive lived for 11 years following Ron's sudden promotion to glory in 1996.

She transferred to hostel accommodation in Nicklin Lodge in 2007, and then spent her last five weeks in the James Grimes care centre.

Olive took great delight in her 15 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. Right to the end of her life, her greatest wish was that her family would love God and serve him. Olive will be remembered as a caring, devoted, loving wife, mother and grandmother.



about people

Appointments

Effective 27 April: Major John **Wiseman**, Chaplain Weeroona Village, Aged Care Plus, Program Administration; Major Edith **Kardell**, Administrative Assistant, THQ Personnel Team, Personnel Administration.

Effective 17 May: Major Lyn **Prince**, Chaplain, Downing Centre Sydney, Sydney East and Illawarra Division.

Effective 3 June: Major Mavis **Stevens**, Associate Officer, Long Jetty Corps, Newcastle and Central NSW Division.

Bereaved

Captain Neroli **Radburn** of her aunt, June **Macaulay** on 25 April; Major Peter **Farthing** of his mother, and Cadet Philip **Farthing** of his grandmother, Elsie **Farthing** on 28 April.

Out of appointment

Captains Peter and Leanne **Bennett**, effective 10 May.

Officer training acceptance

Rodney and Debra **Parsons** from Cooma Corps have been accepted for full-time training at The Salvation Army Officer Training College in Sydney, as part of the 2011-2012 *Proclaimers of the Resurrection* session.

SAGALA Awards

The following person has received the General's Award: Laurina **Luxford**, Campsie Corps.

time to pray

30 May - 5 June

India Northern Territory; Ipswich Corps, Kalbar Corps, Lake Community Church, all Qld; Job Link, Kempsey Corps, Lake Cargellico Rural Mission, all NSW; Programme Team leader's conference (3-4).

6-12 June

Captain Elizabeth Garland, Zimbabwe Territory; Leeton Corps, Lismore Corps, Lithgow Corps, all NSW; Legal Department, THQ; Life Community Church Mission, Lockyer Valley Corps, both Qld; Sydney East and Illawarra Division 'Define' young leader's weekend (11-14); North NSW Division youth councils (12-14); territorial officers' kid's weekend (12-14).

13-19 June

India Central Territory; Logan City Community Welfare Centre, Longreach / Rural Chaplaincy Base, Mackay Corps, Mackay Northern Beaches Plant, all Qld; Long Jetty Corps, Maclean Corps, both NSW; Booth College association lecture (17); Sydney East and Illawarra Division officer's day apart (17); Children Matter Conference (18-20).

20-26 June

Captain Peter Godkin, UK and Rep. of Ireland Territory; Macquarie Fields Child Care and Community Centre, Macquarie Fields Mission, Macquarie Lodge Aged Care, Maitland City Corps, Manly Corps, Maroubra Corps, all NSW; Maroochydyore Corps, Qld; Sydney Youth Band tour (25-27).

27 June - 3 July

Bangladesh Command; Maryborough Corps, Qld; Menai Corps, Miranda Corps, Montrose Residential Aged Care, all NSW; Moneycare, THQ; five year review (28-1); Sydney East and Illawarra Division chaplains conference (1); Queensland Performing Arts Camp (3-10); interstate basketball competition (3-11).

4-10 July

Lieutenant-Colonel Geanette Seymour, International Headquarters; Mountain View/Burrangiri Aged Care Services, ACT; Nambucca River Corps, Narellan Corps, Mudgee Corps, all NSW; Mount Isa Corps, Nambour Corps, both Qld; Founder's Day (5); Newcastle and Central NSW Division kid's mission (5-9); 'Prepare' Conference, Geelong (5-14).

engagement calendar

Commissioner Linda Bond (Territorial Commander)

Blacktown: Tues 1 June - Blacktown Rotary Club - guest speaker

Campsie: Wed 2 June - Campsie welfare centre visit

Sydney: Mon 7-Thu 10 June - social forum

Townsville: Fri 11-Sun 13 June - Unlimited, Central and North Queensland Division

Ballina: Sun 20 June - corps visit

Bexley North: Thu 24 June - Booth College vocational training conference

Brisbane: Fri 25-Sun 27 June - rural consultation conference

Collaroy: Tues 29 June - officer five-year review

Colonel James (Chief Secretary) and Jan Condon

Collaroy: Sun 20 June - Children Matter Now conference

Brisbane: Fri 25-Sun 27 June - rural consultation conference

Collaroy: Tue 29 June - officer five-year review

Sydney: Sun 4 July - chapel service Weeroona Village

Sydney: Thur 8-Fri 9 July - Sydney East and Illawarra divisional review

Fairfield: Sun 11 July - corps visit

*Brisbane: Wed 14-Thur 15 July: South Queensland divisional review

*Ipswich: Thur 15 July - women's rally

Ipswich: Sat 17-Sun 18 July - corps 125th anniversary celebrations

*Bexley North: Thur 22 July - women's ministry seminar, School For Officer Training

#Collaroy: Fri 30 July-Sun 1 Aug - men's Bible convention

*** Colonel Jan Condon only**

Colonel James Condon only

24-7 Prayer Roster

31 May-6 June: Wollongong Corps; Pacific Lodge

7-13 June: Belmore Corps

14-20 June: Glebe Corps; Miranda Corps

21-27 June: Menai Corps; Foster House

28 June-4 July: Chatswood Corps; Rockdale Corps; Campsie Corps

