

pipeline



The Salvation Army
Australia Eastern Territory
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Hanging on by a thread

Salvos counselling services offer a lifeline

ARTICLES BY

Commissioner James Condon | Major Christina Tyson | Major Frank Duracher | Robyn Evans | Major Kevin Unicomb

God at work in the suffering

For most of us, embracing suffering is a challenge. Enduring seasons of trial in our lives can make us doubt if God really knows what we are going through, or if he even cares. We are tempted to ask, "How can God allow this to happen?"

The theme of suffering runs through this issue of Pipeline. In our Integrity column, starting on page 6, Major Christina Tyson presents a thought-provoking article which asks, "Where is God among all the suffering?", while we also provide you with "10 reasons to believe in a God who allows suffering" (pages 8-9). Our cover story (pages 10-13) continues this theme as we offer an insight into the many and varied counselling services which The Salvation Army offers to a world that is hurting.

The truth is, God has told us not to be surprised when suffering comes ("Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you," 1 Peter 4:12 NIV). We only have to look at the life of Jesus and the suffering that God ordained for his own Son, to understand that it is the path that anyone who desires to call themselves a genuine follow of Christ must take ("To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps," 1 Peter 2:21 NIV).

These verses of Scripture clearly illustrate that suffering is part of biblical Christianity. We must accept that if we have embraced Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, then we have also embraced suffering. So why does God ask us to walk this road? It is the road of human existence but we discover that even when our walk is through a valley, he is with us (Psalm 23:4).

It must be stressed, however, that not all trials we endure are from God. The reality is that, because of our sinful nature,

we are very capable of bringing hard times upon ourselves. The North American preacher James MacDonald (www.jamesmacdonald.com) regularly warns his congregation, "choose to sin, choose to suffer". What MacDonald is teaching, in effect, is that when God says "don't", what he means is "don't hurt yourself". In these instances, when we make a decision contrary to what God would have us do, we are inviting suffering upon ourselves - and others.

Testing times

Perhaps right at this moment you are enduring a painful experience and wondering why God is allowing it to happen. Be assured that there will come a day when you will look back and see how God's sovereign hand was at work. He is right there in the middle of the situation that is weighing heavily upon your heart.

When trials come we are given the option of two paths to journey on. There are people who may have suffered the same thing you're experiencing right now and have used it to allow God to shape them for his purpose. They have come through the furnace of suffering and are now so much more on fire for him. Other people refuse to see God in their suffering and become hard and angry for the rest of their life.

The choice is ours.

Don't be surprised when suffering comes. In fact, we should expect it and plan for it. It's at these times that God wants us to trust him, for he is at work in us.

Scott Simpson
Managing Editor



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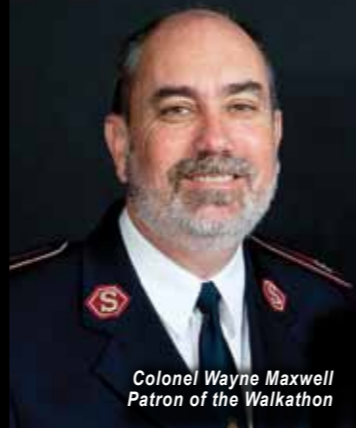


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Contents

COVER STORY

10-13 HANGING ON BY A THREAD

The Salvation Army's counselling services offering hope to people in desperate need. By Esther Pinn

FEATURES

15 RESCUING SOULS ALL AT SEA

Recalling a time when The Salvation Navy was in full steam

16-17 HEART, MIND AND SOUL FOR GOD

A promise to God is taking new soldier Mimi Lim on overseas service

18-19 CELEBRATING OUR INDIGENOUS CULTURE

NAIDOC Week and the Army's inaugural Indigenous Community Appeal

20-21 TAXING TIMES

Salvos encouraged to give serious consideration to the carbon tax

23 UNLOCKING THE ARMY'S ARCHIVES

A new column which reveals unfamiliar stories from Salvation Army history

REGULARS

3 EDITORIAL

5 TC@PIPELINE

6-7 INTEGRITY

14 HOLY HABITS

22 HOW TO DO JUSTICE

24-25 WHAT WOULD JESUS VIEW?

26-27 MISSION PRIORITIES UPDATE

28-37 COALFACE NEWS

38 PROMOTED TO GLORY



Beautiful tribute

After the recent promotion to glory of our husband and father Major Karl Banks, a close family friend Errol Duck-Chong prepared a beautiful tribute which we thought worthy of sharing with a wider audience:

"Karl ... *what a man!*

I first met Karl *last century!*

Soon I discovered that it wasn't only Elva who provided music in his life. Believe it or not, *I also did!* I must have been a mere child when I played for their wedding!

Though there wasn't a lot of regular contact through the years, the quality of the friendship was never in doubt.

I met Karl ... *this century!*

Five years ago there was another wedding, this time a golden anniversary! Certainly there were a few extra lines, Karl was thinner, and his breathing was heavier, *but Karl hadn't grown old!* Neither had their love for each other grown old. It was new every day - their love was so evident to all who met them. One could not fail to be touched and encompassed in their love.

Over the past few months there has been regular contact with my friend. Whoever said visiting the sick is a chore, a burden? Those people certainly had not visited Karl and Elva during these last months.

How blessed and privileged was I as I called in to see Karl and Elva both in their home and in hospital. They were God-planned and God-directed visits. There was plenty of laughter, reminiscing, recounting old and precious memories. And yes, there was always a special sharing of prayers as we left. One left feeling they had been in the presence of Jesus. It wasn't just a *'feeling'*, it was *real!* Karl was a true Christian gentleman ... *A Christ In gentleman!*

These memories of a beautiful and special man and friend will remain indelibly imprinted on my mind.

Like *Jesus* and like *you*, I am truly blessed in being privileged to call Karl *'my friend'*."

Thank you, Errol, for you kind and beautiful words.

**Major Elva Banks and family,
Glenmore Park.**

Great article

I've just finished reading Mal Davies' piece on the meeting visit (July Pipeline).

It is so good that you have put this in for open discussion. Let's hope that the outcome will make us wake up and be more like Jesus.

I can still remember my first days of going to church at the Salvos on the Gold Coast. It was a lot like your story, but a group of supportive people allowed me to belong, grow and begin to develop my faith in Christ by being warm, accepting, loving, caring, open, and Jesus-led.

Since becoming a Christian who is

now a Salvationist, I have had mixed experiences both working for the Army and attending Salvation Army meetings. Sometimes it is just so wonderful, at other times ... well, I just don't understand the thinking behind the "inner-club mentality", "we'll build a world that no-one else can share" type of behaviour.

I don't want to single out any one corps, but rather work towards a better outcome for "others". It's not that hard, just let go and let God (Proverbs 3:5-8). I pray we get it, real good!

Steve Dunn

Wrong priorities

I would like to comment on your article in Pipeline entitled "Missing the Mark on Core Issue".

Man's purpose on earth is to worship God. In Matthew 22:35-39 we read: "Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked Him a question, tempting Him, and saying 'Master, which is the great commandment in the law?' Jesus said unto him, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself'."

You, and many modern-day officers, seem to have reversed the priorities in this scripture. You have placed the importance of reaching the unsaved before the worship of God. All are welcome to attend our services, but it is the faithful preaching of the Gospel with boldness and the work of the Holy Spirit that brings about conversion, not the style of the service.

John 12:32 says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me". It is the faithful preaching of Christ that is important, not the style of service.

There was a comment in your article asking why God allowed the Christchurch earthquake to happen. If the visitor had asked someone to explain, it would have been an opportunity to explain that this was prophesied by Jesus in Luke 21:11 as a sign of the end times.

We have been told to take the Gospel to all the world, but not at the expense of placing our worship of God in jeopardy. It is God's will that we make worship of him our number one priority.

Matthew 22:35-39 says, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name and in thy name cast out devils and in thy name done many wonderful works? And I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity".

There is a lot said these days regarding traditional and contemporary styles of meetings. These are not important issues. The important issues are our relationship with God, our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ and the faithful preaching of the Gospel.

**Sonny Coughlan,
Coffs Harbour Corps.**



TC@PIPELINE

Sombre occasion a channel for divine communion

Commissioner JAMES CONDON reflects on a moment when he experienced the intimacy of God through the music of an Australian composer who was lost at sea in World War II

My wife Jan and I recently attended an ecumenical service at the Royal Military College Chapel Duntroon in Canberra. This was a special Sunday service to mark the 69th anniversary of the sinking of the Montevideo Maru.

The sinking of this Japanese auxiliary ship by the submarine USS Sturgeon on 1 July, 1942, saw the greatest loss of life in a single instance in Australia's wartime history. The vessel was crammed with prisoners of war - soldiers and civilians - following the fall of Rabaul. Estimates put the number of people who died at more than 1000, many of them Australians.

On the vessel were Salvationist members of the 2/22 Band with Bandmaster Arthur Gullidge.

Arthur became a Christian as a young boy and grew up with Jesus as his hero. He was an accomplished conductor and composer of band music, who had his first work published at the age of 17.

He had won two ABC national music competitions and two international competitions for composers of music for brass. His sister Judith was at the anniversary service in Canberra along with other relatives of those who lost their lives.

Tuggeranong Salvation Army Band provided music for the service and the band message, played about halfway through the service, was a most moving moment. They played Gullidge's composition *Divine Communion* and one could sense real divine communion as they played.

Some of the songs in this composition are *All There Is Of Me*, *Sweet Will Of God* and *Holy Spirit, Faithful God*. The playing of this piece of music was very special for all attending, but more poignant because of its author whose life was lost at sea. He was just 33 years of age.

Meeting with God

I reflected as the band played *All There Is Of Me* and in these moments I experienced divine communion. I thank God for my 61 years of a blessed life and I offered afresh all there is of me. The band moved on to *Sweet Will Of God* and the words came to mind, "I delight to do thy will O my God".

Next year is the 70th anniversary of this event and arrangements are being made to celebrate with a plaque to honour those who lost their lives.

Gullidge also wrote *Praise Him With Melody* along with other notable pieces of music. However, *Divine Communion* became more special to me on that day because of the circumstances and reason for us being there.

We do not have to wait until a special occasion to have divine communion with our Lord. Every day he waits to meet with us and commune with us, but often our lives are so full and busy that we miss the intimacy of such a "meeting with God".

May we experience moments of divine communion in our own personal prayer time, in our Sunday meetings and may we make our own appropriate response to divine communion with him - "take all there is of me".



Commissioner James Condon is Territorial Commander of the Australia Eastern Territory

Where is God among all the suffering?

Human suffering and God's governance of the world has posed questions to people of faith throughout history, writes **Major CHRISTINA TYSON**

Salvationists believe in a God who is "infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things". But how well does the image of God providentially ruling and sustaining the world sit alongside natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and other catastrophes? No wonder *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine* says suffering is "an intellectual problem and an experiential challenge to faith".

God stands at the beginning of all things. "In the beginning God created ..." is the Bible's opening declaration. The conviction that this God didn't abandon his creation but remains actively involved in its existence is a core Christian belief.

Christians accept as truth the Genesis pronouncement that *everything* God created "was good". All of creation - every aspect and all of it together - was good because God made it. Creation conformed to God's eternally good nature.

But we also believe that this world is now in bondage and decay, marred by original sin (Genesis 3) and humanity's ongoing selfishness (Romans 8:20-22). Dr Alister McGrath writes (in *Christian Theology*): "[The world] has become deflected from its original course. It has fallen from the glory in which it was created. The world as we see it is not the world as it was intended to be."

The Christian feels the same frustration at the catastrophes that befall our planet as those outside our faith. But we refute the implication that God has a direct causal involvement, just as we attest with equal strength that the destructive influence of sin is not present in our world at God's design.

This does not mean, however, that Christians are immune to questions about God and suffering. But we approach them

from a position of humility, recognising that our limited human understanding means we are in no position to call God to task. It is egotism to place ourselves, the creation, in judgment over the Creator. 1 Corinthians 13:12 says, "For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

We can't expect to understand all that there is about the cosmos or God's rule over it this side of Heaven. This is about faith - the "confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1). And, as a hospitalised patient observed in a recent episode of the TV series *House*, "Faith is not an argument".

We do recognise, though, that God has blessed us with the capacity to reason, and that we live, work and study among people who pose meaningful questions from outside our faith. We do these people a disservice if we do not offer answers where we can. We also know that those whose stories and writings are recorded in the Bible were bold - and wise - enough to direct their questions about suffering and the divine purpose to their Creator. And so we respectfully inquire of God, as they did.

Age-old question

The dilemma that some would say confronts those who believe in a perfect, all-powerful God is the existence of evil and undeserved suffering in the world. This isn't a new problem; the Christian tradition has explored it to various degrees throughout church history. It's certainly not a debate from which the Church has hidden or retreated.

Various theories have been put

forward to help people understand how the existence of evil and suffering in the world is reconcilable with the Christian affirmation of the goodness of our Creator-God. These theories are interesting - although they are best considered in the context of what was happening in the world at the time they were proposed - but each is limited in scope. And, in proposing solutions for a specific theological issue, they introduce inconsistencies that do not fit with the full revelation of God in the Bible.

For instance, to suggest that God is all-loving but limited in what he has been able to do in the world is to imply that God is either less than all-powerful, or

"When it comes to suffering, humanity is in denial if we attempt to lay the blame for some of history's darkest days at God's feet"

that he is perhaps still in the process of becoming all-powerful. To foreground God's love while sidelining his holiness and wrath against sin (perhaps to stress God's compassion for those who suffer) is to present a compartmentalised God to the world. To suggest that the experience of suffering is a necessary refining process through which we reach our human potential implies God is complicit in human suffering. At its extreme, this might lead us to see God as co-conspirator with the Hitlers of this world, when in truth

God is abjectly opposed to the oppression and victimisation of people.

However, it is also true that a utopian world where suffering and struggle are impossible is also a world where no growth can occur. Recognition of the "soul-strengthening" nature of suffering has a respected place in the Christian tradition.

We don't have to delve into deep theological thinking to understand that, when it comes to suffering, humanity is in denial if we attempt to lay the blame for some of history's darkest days at God's feet. Any half-decent prosecutor could assemble a strong case to implicate humankind in a great deal of this world's misery. There are benefits *and* responsibilities to living on this planet, and a great deal of the suffering that has occurred through history has come at the hands of human agents (with some operating under the misappropriated cloak of God's blessing). The providence of God does not relieve us of our responsibility to make good and wise choices.

The horrors of the Holocaust came through the deliberate wrongful acts of the Nazis under Hitler's direction, for instance. And we know that some natural disasters are worsened by the choices humans make: everything from where and how we build our communities, to the degree of care we extend to our environment.

When considering the relationship between God and natural disasters, God's defence team includes some unlikely advocates. United States-based atheist Christopher Hitchens, author of *God Is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*, is scathing of those who use disasters as object lessons to motivate repentance as well as those who use them to prove God

does not exist (or if he does, that he's not worth knowing).

Writing after last year's Haiti earthquake, Hitchens said: "You might think that, by now, people would have become accustomed to the idea of natural catastrophes. We live on a planet that is still cooling and which has fissures and faults in its crust; this much is accepted even by those who think that the globe is only 6000 years old, as well as by those who believe that the earth was 'designed' to be this way. Even in such a case, it is to be expected that earthquakes will occur and that, if they occur under the seabed, tidal waves will occur also. Yet two sorts of error are still absolutely commonplace. The first of these is the idiotic belief that seismic events are somehow 'timed' to express the will of God. Thus, reasoning back from the effect, people will seriously attempt to guess what sin or which profanity led to the verdict of the tectonic plates. The second error, common even among humanists, is to borrow the same fallacy for satirical purposes and to employ it to disprove a benign deity."

Dr McGrath suggests that our objection to suffering is that it forces us to face up to the hard facts of life: the delusion that we are in control, and that we therefore need the grace of God to survive and thrive. Westerners - who enjoy high living standards and, through excellent medical services, suffer less than anyone else - make suffering into a bigger theological problem than it needs to be, he says.

"Suffering causes offence by pricking this bubble of optimism," writes Dr McGrath. "It is a painful reminder of the limitations of human nature and human culture ... at least some of the theological fuss about suffering reflects this sense

Continued page 14

10 reasons to believe in a God who allows suffering



1. Suffering Comes With The Freedom To Choose

Loving parents long to protect their children from unnecessary pain. But wise parents know the danger of over-protection. They know that the freedom to choose is at the heart of what it means to be human, and that a world without choice would be worse than a world without pain. Worse yet would be a world populated by people who could make wrong choices without feeling any pain. No-one is more dangerous than the liar, thief, or killer who doesn't feel the harm he is doing to himself and to others (Genesis 2:15-17).

2. Pain Can Warn Us Of Danger

We hate pain, especially in those we love. Yet without discomfort, the sick wouldn't go to a doctor. Worn-out bodies would get no rest. Criminals wouldn't fear the law. Children would laugh at correction. Without pangs of conscience, the daily dissatisfaction of boredom, or the empty longing for significance, people who are made to find satisfaction in an eternal Father would settle for far less. The example of Solomon, lured by pleasure and taught by his pain, shows us that even the wisest among us tend to drift from good and from God until arrested by the resulting pain of their own short-sighted choices (Ecclesiastes 1-12; Psalms 78:34-35; Romans 3:10-18).

3. Suffering Reveals What Is In Our Hearts

Suffering often occurs at the hand of others. But it has a way of revealing what is in our own hearts. Capacities for love, mercy, anger, envy, and pride can lie dormant until awakened by circumstances. Strength and weakness of heart is found not when everything is going our way, but when flames of suffering and temptation test the mettle of our character. As gold and silver are refined by fire, and as coal needs time and pressure to become a diamond, the human heart is revealed and developed by enduring the pressure and heat of time and circumstance. Strength of character is shown not when all is well with our world, but in the presence of human pain and suffering (Job 42:1-17; Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-5; 1 Peter 1:6-8).

4. Suffering Takes Us To The Edge Of Eternity

If death is the end of everything, then a life filled with suffering isn't fair. But if the end of this life brings us to the threshold of eternity, then the most fortunate people in the universe are those who discover, through suffering, that this life is not all we have to live for. Those who find themselves and their eternal God through suffering have not wasted their pain. They have let their poverty, grief, and hunger drive them to the Lord of eternity. They are

the ones who will discover to their own unending joy why Jesus said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven," (Matthew 5:1-12; Romans 8:18-19).

5. Pain Loosens Our Grip On This Life

In time, our work and our opinions are sought less and less. Our bodies become increasingly worse for the wear. Gradually they succumb to inevitable obsolescence. Joints stiffen and ache. Eyes grow dim. Digestion slows. Sleep becomes difficult. Problems loom larger and larger while options narrow. Yet, if death is not the end but the threshold of a new day, then the curse of old age is also a blessing. Each new pain makes this world less inviting and the next life more appealing. In its own way, pain paves the way for a graceful departure (Ecclesiastes 12:1-14).

6. Suffering Gives Opportunity To Trust God

The most famous sufferer of all time was a man named Job. According to the Bible, Job lost his family to "a mighty wind," his wealth to war and fire, and his health to painful boils. Through it all, God never told Job why it was happening. As Job endured the accusations of his friends, heaven remained silent. When God finally did speak, he did not reveal

that his arch enemy Satan had challenged Job's motives for serving God. Neither did the Lord apologise for allowing Satan to test Job's devotion to God. Instead, God talked about mountain goats giving birth, young lions on the hunt, and ravens in the nest. He cited the behaviour of the ostrich, the strength of the ox, and the stride of the horse. He cited the wonders of the heavens, the marvels of the sea, and the cycle of the seasons. Job was left to conclude that if God had the power and wisdom to create this physical universe, there was reason to trust that same God in times of suffering (Job 1-42).

7. God Suffers With Us In Our Suffering

No-one has suffered more than our Father in heaven. No-one has paid more dearly for the allowance of sin into the world. No-one has so continuously grieved over the pain of a race gone bad. No-one has suffered like the One who paid for our sin in the crucified body of his own Son. No-one has suffered more than the One who, when he stretched out his arms and died, showed us how much he loved us. It is this God who, in drawing us to himself, asks us to trust him when we are suffering and when our own loved ones cry out in our presence. "This suffering is all part of what God has called you to. Christ, who suffered for you, is your example. Follow in his steps," (1 Peter 2:21).

8. God's Comfort Is Greater Than Our Suffering

The apostle Paul pleaded with the Lord to take away an unidentified source of suffering. But the Lord declined saying, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness". "Therefore," said Paul, "most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). Paul learned that he would rather be with Christ in suffering than without Christ in good health and pleasant circumstances.

9. In Times Of Crisis, We Find One Another

No-one would choose pain and suffering. But when there is no choice, there remains some consolation. Natural disasters and times of crisis have a way of bringing us together. Hurricanes, fires, earthquakes, riots, illnesses, and accidents all have a way of bringing us to our senses. Suddenly we remember our own mortality and that people are more important than things. We remember that we do need one another and that, above all, we need God. Each time we discover God's comfort in our own suffering, our capacity to help others is increased. This is what the apostle Paul had in mind

when he wrote: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).

10. God Can Turn Suffering Around For Our Good

This truth is best seen in the many examples of the Bible. Through Job's suffering we see a man who not only came to a deeper understanding of God, but who also became a source of encouragement for people in every generation to follow. Through the rejection, betrayal, enslavement, and wrongful imprisonment of a man named Joseph, we see someone who eventually was able to say to those who had hurt him, "You meant evil against me; but God meant it for good" (Genesis 50:20). When everything in us screams at the heavens for allowing suffering, we have reason to look at the eternal outcome and joy of Jesus who in his own suffering on an executioner's cross cried: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46).

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Wise counsel offers hope

The Salvation Army is best known for offering hope to people who are suffering emotionally, mentally or spiritually. **ESTHER PINN** spoke to Major Robyn Smartt about her role as the head of the Australia Eastern Territory's counselling services



Major Robyn Smartt (opposite page and above) in her role as the director of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory's Counselling Services. Photos: Shairon Paterson

Dealing with depression, anxiety, anger management, divorce, domestic violence or sexual abuse is all in a day's work for Major Robyn Smartt.

As the director of The Salvation Army's 13 counselling offices throughout its territory, Major Smartt knows all too well the scale of her job. It is huge, but, at the end of the day, her objective is simple.

"We want to bring hope," she says. "We want to help people have more capacity to manage whatever life brings them."

"And our vision is to provide access to counselling and relational support that is characterised by excellence and distinguished by Christian love and grace in the lives of our staff."

Major Smartt's staff operate counselling centres throughout Sydney, the Central Coast, Canberra and Brisbane, with two mobile vans in Queensland servicing the needs of rural people, particularly those affected by the recent flood crisis throughout the state.

The Salvation Army Counselling Services reach a variety of clients from all different walks of life: 79 per cent are non-Salvationists, 21 per cent have a connection with the Army; 72 per cent are Christian clients and 28 per cent are non-Christian.

Major Smartt had spent six years as a counsellor out of the Penrith office before taking on the director's role in January this year.

"This is my first managerial role. It's a learning curve but I'm enjoying doing it," she says.

The Salvation Army's counsellors are all well-trained and experienced in dealing with the many scenarios thrown at them each day.

Part of the counsellors' role is to also equip Salvation Army officers, cadets, and other employees with pastoral counselling skills. Major Smartt and her staff teach the Diploma of Pastoral Counselling at the School for Officer Training over two weekend intensives each year.

Major Smartt and her team also work closely with corps and ministry units who offer pastoral counselling services to the community.

"We are focused on networking. So we provide them with policies, standards for staffing and supervision in some instances. We just dialogue and support them and partner with them," she says.

Major Smartt says there are many benefits of counselling and encourages people in need of support to seek out their services.

"I think the first benefit would be that they feel heard - that they've had the opportunity for someone to deeply listen to them, to understand what life is like for them and to feel their experience is validated."

"It's the listening process that helps



identify what the key issues are. Then it's figuring out some strategies to manage their stress or their depression.

"The counselling process helps them externalise their thoughts and feelings, increase their coping skills, provide space for emotional healing, encourage spiritual wholeness, help develop individual potential and also experience God's grace, truth and love."

"Particularly for our Christian clients, it's helping them in the sense of understanding, where is God in all of this?"

Counselling is often viewed as a expensive service but Major Smartt is eager to remove this stereotype.

"Our fees are income tested," she says. "So we charge a fee for counselling on a sliding scale in line with income."

Salvation Army counselling centres

NSW

Sydney & Gosford
(02) 9743 2831

Penrith & Campbelltown
(02) 4731 1554

ACT

Canberra & Tuggeranong
(02) 6248 5504

Queensland

Brisbane & North Brisbane
(02) 3349 5046

Counselling Service

Personal, relationship and family counselling

Caring for the community

The Salvation Army Counselling Service provides counselling and support to individuals, couples, families and children.



The Salvation Army Counselling Service Professional Development Seminar

Topic: GRIEF & LOSS in ADULTS

Presented by: Margaret Welch M.Couns, B.Couns, Dip Rel Couns, Cert Supervision

Date: Thursday 25 August 2011

Time: 1:30pm—3:30pm

Location: 15-17 Blaxland Road, Rhodes

Attendance is free and equates to 2.0 hrs of professional development

Certificates of Attendance will be available on request
Light refreshments will be served

Brenda: (02) 9743 2831

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RSVP by Friday 19 August 2011

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Mobile Flood Relief Services

Phone (07) 3349 5046

NSW Sydney | Gosford

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Penrith | Campbelltown

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Easing the stress of trauma

Stress is considered to be a normal part of everyday life. However, when individuals encounter extra amounts of stress due to a traumatic incident, it can potentially be destructive, according to the World Health Organisation, Australia.

Pipeline sat down with The Salvation Army Counselling Service's debriefing trauma specialist Kerry McGibbon to discover what debriefing trauma is all about and why it is necessary.

"Debriefing isn't counselling. It's simply helping people to tell a story of a traumatic incident," Kerry says.

"The studies show that trauma needs to be articulated and they've found that if people talk about an incident after it's happened it helps them to diffuse the stress which it has caused.

"And the studies also show that if people are able to talk about it afterwards, there's less of a chance of people having post-traumatic stress and ongoing medical issues."

Kerry explains that there are two types of debriefing trauma: Critical Incident Debriefing and Mission Debriefing. She asserts that both are equally important.

"Critical Incident Debriefing is for people who have been affected by any type of traumatic incident such as an assault. Most of my work is around people who attend an emergency to help, such as earthquakes and floods.

"Mission Debriefing is when people come back from serving on the mission field. They have a different sort of stress – a cultural stress.

"Re-entry back into Australia after being away for a couple of years can be quite difficult. Particularly if they've been somewhere like a developing country where there's not much available. A supermarket can be an overwhelming place when they come back home."

Kerry believes debriefing trauma to be important because if not dealt with immediately, it can have a snowball effect.

"We've learnt that no reaction is a reaction. What we know is that trauma is layered. If they experience something else later down the track and they haven't really dealt with the first one – kind of like a layered cake – one builds upon the other."

The debriefing trauma process begins with checking for any medical symptoms

The Salvation Army Counselling Service's Kerry McGibbon is a specialist in the field of trauma debriefing which can help in the prevention of stress overload.

Picture: Shairon Paterson.



that need to be attended to quickly; secondly they are given the opportunity to share their story and finally the debriefing consultant ensures they have access to relevant resources and ongoing support.

Usually, people will only need one debriefing trauma session, but some will need further counselling if their problems continue to resurface.

"Statistics show that a debrief session will support the normal recovery processes for most people. If they've had a normal reaction, most people will recover. It's when they have ongoing issues, for example they might have flashbacks, physical issues, panic attacks, depression –

that's when they would need counselling," explains Kerry.

For the past seven years, Kerry has been working at the Army's Counselling Services and says she finds it both rewarding and a privilege to help people through their traumatic experience.



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

Holy Habits

with Major Barbara Sampson



Habit 8 The discipline of reticence

James 3:1-12

"No man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison" (v8, New International Version).

The spiritual discipline of reticence is simply the control of the tongue. It is the habit of thinking before we speak, listening more than we talk (remember – two ears, one mouth) and restraining ourselves from speaking our minds whenever silence would be more appropriate.

For all the flak that Job's friends have encountered over the years for their insensitive remarks to their poor suffering friend, at least they did one thing right. So shocked were they by Job's terrible state, so moved by his multiple losses that "they

sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights [and] no-one said a word," (Job 2:13).

The apostle James devotes almost a whole chapter of his letter to the importance of controlling the tongue. It is a small part of the body, he says, but it makes great boasts. It is like a spark that can set a whole forest ablaze with devastating results. James calls it "a restless evil, full of deadly poison" (NIV), "a wanton killer" (*The Message*).

With such a dangerous weapon in our mouths, the need for discipline is clear. A young man who had a hard time controlling his speech was told by a wise old man to empty out a bag of chaff on a windy day. Once the chaff had blown and scattered, the youth was told to gather

it all up again. "But that's impossible," objected the young man. "And so it is with careless words," replied the old man, "once they are spoken."

Someone wisely asked: "How can we guard our heart if our tongue leaves the door of the fortress open?" The spiritual discipline of reticence helps us to guard our mouth and thus guard our heart (Proverbs 4:23). It is a discipline many of us could profitably practise in a regular "silent retreat" of a day or even an hour, and by learning to say less and listen more each time we are in conversation.

To reflect on ...

"Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips," (Psalm 141:3).

Where is God among all the suffering?

From page 7

of outrage and offence." Suffering is threatening because it is a reminder of our powerlessness to control the world, he continues. "We need to accept these limitations and realise that, on account of them, suffering will be an inevitable part of the human existence. It is the price we pay for being human."

Why, God?

Australian author John Dickson confesses that his own faith is not untroubled by the question: "Why, God?"

In 1976, Dickson was nine years old when his father was one of 89 passengers killed when an Indian Airlines plane crashed after take-off. His was a stable and loving home, but a home without God. Yet Dickson says he still felt a strong conviction "that the Creator was meant to be responsible for keeping the world together, and on this occasion he had mucked up".

In his book, *If I Were God, I'd End All the Pain*, Dickson says the most painful effects of losing his father came when he was about 18. As he watched some of his

friends becoming "mates" with their dads, Dickson realised how much he had lost with his father's untimely death. He was a Christian now, so his doubts became those of a believer struggling to fit together his feelings and his faith.

Dickson turned to God and asked: "God, where are you in all of this? What could you know about my pain? When have you ever experienced loss?"

It was then, he says, that he learned the Bible's "extraordinary contribution" to the problem of human pain: that God himself had wounds: "Just think of the Bible's storyline for a moment. It reads like a classic tragedy: the Creator designs the world to have independent relationship with himself; that independence is turned by us into autonomy as we neglect and reject him; he enters that world in the person of Christ and, once again, is rejected, mocked and brutally executed on a cross; and yet, even still, after such a dramatic display of commitment to the world, men and women refuse the advances of the Almighty. As strange as it sounds, we could well ask, 'Who has experienced misery more than the

suffering God revealed in the pages of the biblical narrative?"

Today, while Dickson doesn't think the Bible presents a "complete and final explanation for all evil and suffering", he firmly believes it offers the "least incoherent" explanation. He observes, "It appears to be the only perspective which is not itself knocked out by the force of this age-old question. It seems to be the last one standing".

It's one thing to have solid doctrinal principles around God's governance of the world, but these will always be tested in the crucible of real-life suffering. That we are willing to confront and work through these questions - taking them to God instead of allowing them to turn us from him - is a mark of God's place in our lives and of our hope in his divine purposes.



Major Christina Tyson is Editor of the *War Cry* in The Salvation Army's New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga Territory.

Rescuing souls all at sea

Army historians **FRED CROWHURST** and **Lieut-Colonel MAXWELL RYAN** recall a time when Salvationists sought to evangelise sailors and fishermen under the banner of The Salvation Navy

There seemed no limits to the evangelical enterprise shown by early-day Salvationists as General William Booth's Army took the world by storm.

It was the early 1880s and The Salvation Army was spreading like wildfire throughout the land ... and sea.

Within seven years of the name change to The Salvation Army, another new name had appeared - The Salvation Navy - the idea coming to General Booth after his son Bramwell informed him that a wealthy Welsh businessman had donated a 100-foot steam yacht to the Army.

By 1885 The Salvation Navy was at full steam with a report in the *War Cry* of 29 July that year stating that "there were 13 vessels in England flying the Army flag, lashed together so their crews could take part in meetings in which eight people were converted." The story's headline was "North Sea Corps".

The flagship of The Salvation Navy was a vessel called the SS Iole. The mission

of the crew included boarding vessels to distribute Bibles and other religious books and to preach Christ.

From the ship's masts floated the colours of The Salvation Army; one flag bearing in bold letters the words, "Are you saved?" while on the sails was "SN" (Salvation Navy).

In early 1886 a memorable event took place at Plymouth when General Booth stepped aboard the SS Iole to present Army colours to the crews of The Salvation Navy fleet of a dozen vessels that were at anchor in the Sound.

The *War Cry* reported: "Hundreds of waving Salvationists lined the two decks of the steamer Smeaton, which followed the Founder as he reviewed his fleet. Brass bands were also on board to witness the historic event and enthusiastic crowds lined the shores of the famous Hoe."

A few months later, the SS Iole was wrecked on a sandbank, the crew barely escaping with their lives. Despite this setback, the work of naval brigades continued under regulations stating that the work of The Salvation Navy was "to do for those who go to sea what the Army does for those attending no place of worship on land."

The Salvation Navy quickly spread to other European shores with reports of

Salvation Army waterway ministries in Sweden, Norway and Holland.

Across the Atlantic, in 1894, the good ship Glad Tidings plied the Canadian coast of Labrador, its Salvationist crew holding meetings with Newfoundland fishermen at every opportunity. In the same year, the SS William Booth carried the message of salvation to ports on the Great Lakes. Similar stories are told of Salvationists in Australia in the late 19th century using boats to proclaim the gospel. In South Australia in 1889 a boat called the Yammalaitye, under the banner of The Salvation Navy, was used to travel up and down the Murray River and on the Coorong lakes to work among Aborigines. And in Victoria in the 1890s a boat named the Ivanhoe was under the command of Salvationists - who went by the name of "Special" and Mrs Allen - with their intention to visit the scattered fishing and farming settlements along the Gippsland lakes and proclaim the gospel. The Salvation Navy name slowly faded away, but the concept lived on, with many waterways around the world being used for the purposes of advancing Salvation Army ministry.

In France, for example, a barge moored along the river Seine, and operated by The Salvation Army, housed thousands of homeless Frenchmen over many years. It operated until the early 1990s.

During the late 1940s and 50s a 60-foot vessel named William Booth carried out vital transport work for the Army in remote areas of Alaska.

In Bangladesh in 1971, after a cyclone hit the country, a steamer bearing the Red Shield logo travelled the treacherous waters between Dacca and the southern islands, bringing relief to thousands of desperate people.



The Salvationist crew of the SS Iole (above), which is depicted in a painting (below).



Heart, mind and soul for 'THE REAL GOD'

A promise to God is literally taking Salvationist Mimi Lim to the ends of the earth in his service. **BILL SIMPSON** spoke to Mimi about her journey from atheism to obedience

Raised a doubting Buddhist then a self-appointed atheist by her early 20s, Mimi Lim looked destined for a life that wouldn't qualify her for mention in this magazine.

Neither God nor any religion had any place in her world.

But, she now concedes, God always had a place for her in his world even before she was born.

Early last month, Mimi Lim left Sydney for overseas, "sent" by The Salvation Army on full-time service.

We can't tell you where Mimi has gone. That could put her at risk. But we can tell you that it's a place where she believes God has called her to be "the heart of Christ".

Mimi's remarkable story starts almost 40 years ago in a regional city about an hour's drive from Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian capital.

She was born the ninth of 10 children to parents she always knew loved her and wanted the best for their girl.

It was a happy childhood. She was content and secure in a Buddhist home. The family moved to the capital when she was a teenager.

She was a bright student. Her ambition was to be a professional accountant. England, she discovered, had top-class courses to qualify her as a chartered management accountant.

Mimi spent five years in England studying for a career that would give her "the most satisfaction".

After her studies in England, she returned to Malaysia, worked in a bank and graduated with a Master of Business Administration (finance) degree.

"I was doing well," Mimi told *Pipeline*. "But there was something inside me telling me I should go to Australia. People said I would be silly to go to Australia because of my position in Malaysia.

"It's funny, because even though I was an atheist by this time, I still felt something spiritual around me. But I tried not to believe in anything.

"When I was younger, my



Mimi Lim recently became a Senior Soldier of The Salvation Army.



Mimi Lim has found a spiritual home at the Korean Salvation Army at Belmore in Sydney, under the leadership of Captain Han-Sang Lee and Captain Seong-eun Heo. Photos: Heidi Steep

grandmother would take me to the [Buddhist] temple. I saw a big statue of Buddha, but it made me feel uncomfortable. I didn't think [Buddhism] was right for me.

"I didn't want to pursue Buddhism. So, I decided that I wouldn't believe in anything [religious], at all. Actually, I thought then that Christians were insecure people; that they always had to have something to hold on to. Ever being a Christian was never in my brain."

Clever invitation

By her early 30s, she was in Sydney with a permanent resident visa. It took time to get a full-time job. She applied for an assistant accountant position, well below her qualifications and experience. But it was a start.

Work colleagues invited her to church. "Actually, a woman wanted to know if I could drive her to the church. So, I did. She invited me in.

"I got a terrible shock. I thought of a church as stained-glass windows and quiet hymns. This church was like an entertainment centre with lots of loud music. I wasn't comfortable there, so I didn't go back.

"After a while, I was invited to join a tennis group. I love tennis. It turned out to be to a cell group - like a Bible study group - who played tennis together. A very clever invitation, now that I think about it.

"But what impressed me the most

about these people was that they were very friendly and caring. They were interested in me; they wanted to know me. I was surprised by the intimacy of this group of people."

Mimi attended their Bible study meetings, which included an Alpha course. Her background, however, made her defensive.

"I am not an easily trusting person. I was usually the one in the group being nasty and challenging everything and everyone.

"One of them gave me a Bible. It looked nice with a leather cover. I kept it in my room for about three months. I got home early from work one day and picked up the Bible to read.

"I started to read Genesis. I thought: 'Wow'. This was incredible. Then I went to the New Testament and read in Matthew chapter 5 about Jesus and the Beatitudes and him saying things like: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit'.

"When I read Matthew 5:44, Jesus said: 'But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you and pray for those who spitefully use you or persecute you'.

"I wondered how you could be like that. I said: 'Teach me to do that and I will follow you to the ends of the world'. This was such profound stuff and nobody had ever told me about it."

At the time - about 10 years ago - Mimi was attending an inner-city church associated with her tennis friends. She

committed her life to Christ, was baptised and soon began study part-time for a degree in theology.

As God began to teach her, Mimi kept her promise about going to the ends of the earth. Each work holiday for the past seven years, she has, through a mission organisation, spent time overseas helping Christian groups with their business management.

Again, it is best not to identify the countries.

Three-and-a-half years ago, she asked God to help her find a job he would like her to have. It was divisional accountant for The Salvation Army Sydney East and Illawarra Division.

Two years later, she was the Divisional Finance Secretary. She decided that because she was now working for The Salvation Army, she should attend an Army corps. She moved from her church to the Korean Corps at Belmore.

Sacrificial service

Early this year, while overseas on her annual holiday assistance project at an orphanage, she sensed God calling her to greater commitment.

"He spoke to me about obedience, faith and sacrificial service. I was an accountant! I asked God what I could offer. He said I could offer the love of Christ. He said the starting point was to have the heart of Christ to reach out to people."

Two months ago, Mimi was enrolled as a Salvation Army soldier.

"God said that if I was prepared to serve him with a pure heart of knowing that Jesus loves the people, then he would help me and provide all that I needed to fulfil his calling to me."

Mimi knew that her place was at the orphanage, working with children who had cerebral palsy. There are plans for children with HIV/AIDS to also be cared for at the orphanage.

"And, so, now I know the reason for me coming to Australia," Mimi says. "It was to hear about him [God]. He knew that his child would come to him. As [Old Testament prophet] Jeremiah said, God knew me before I was born. He knew me when I was in my mother's womb.

"Now I know why I wasn't comfortable in the [Buddhist] temple; why even when I was an atheist that there was something spiritual around me.

"I always had a desire to find the real God."



Bill Simpson is a writer for *Pipeline* and supplements.

Celebrating our Indigenous culture

The Salvation Army observed NAIDOC (National Aborigines and Islander Day Observance Committee) Week at many of its corps and centres across the Australia Eastern Territory last month. Significantly, the Army used the week to launch its Indigenous Community Appeal, held on Sunday, 3 July. NAIDOC Week is an annual celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and *Pipeline* brings you just a small selection of the many activities Salvos were involved in

Upper Blue Mountains Corps

NAIDOC Week celebrations and the launch of the Indigenous Community Appeal began with a Welcome to Country (traditional custodians formally welcome people to their land) from Aboriginal elder "Aunty" Carol Cooper at our morning on Sunday, 3 July.

"It was special having Aunty Cooper as she represents the Darug people on her father's side and Gundungurra people on her mother's side – two significant peoples in the Blue Mountains," said Corps Officer Lieutenant Jon Belmonte.

The themes of the meeting came from Genesis 1: We are

all created in the image of God; we are appointed custodians and stewards of the earth; and unity. Local Indigenous elder, teacher and performer, Turtle Tamwoy, played the didgeridoo and danced ceremonially as young Indigenous corps members brought in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

"Aunty Cooper explained the meaning of the Aboriginal flag, Turtle explained the Torres Strait Islander flag and I talked about The Salvation Army flag," said Captain Belmonte.

"We then showed, via DVD, the testimony of a young Indigenous man, Arnold, from Mt Isa. There wasn't a dry eye left in the building!"

One person was saved during the meeting and another made a recommitment to Christ.

Townsville Riverway Recovery Mission

A family worship service focusing on embracing the Indigenous cultures which make up much of the local community began NAIDOC week at Townsville Riverway Recovery Mission (TRRM) on 3 July.

"The worship crew were inspiring, leading us into the Lord's presence with songs like *The Great Southland*," said Major Bruce Harmer, TRRM Manager.

"During kids time we explored what the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags represented, and we also introduced the 'Reconciliation' painting and what it means to our mission."

Senior Soldier Shirli



Congoo acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

"After the Indigenous Community Appeal launch and DVD, Arnold Fewquandie shared more of his story with us," said Major Harmer.

"Shirli, Arnold and their family have been such an encouragement to have as part of our church and our church community is much richer for their contribution.

"Our 'Unity' message from Ephesians 4:3 reminded us to 'Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace'."

As part of community-based NAIDOC activities in Townsville, the Townsville Community Church invited The Salvation Army to their youth conference with the theme 'Building Bridges of Reconciliation – Community Engagement Celebration'.

"We hosted the concert and it was a great night to share in worship with young Indigenous Christians from Papua New Guinea, Mareeba, Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville," said Major Harmer.

"We hope to join with the local Indigenous church to plan future combined church services on a regular basis and have also made our venue available for next year's youth conference.

"This NAIDOC week has also shown us so many opportunities for building bridges with our Indigenous community.

"With God's love and power we are sure to see big things grow."

Moree Corps

A Sunday service featuring a Welcome to Country and a local didgeridoo player performing a traditional song began Moree Corps' week-long NAIDOC activities on 3 July.

Adrian Kistan, Territorial Indigenous Program Coordinator, spoke about the significance of the day and celebrated the local Gamilaroi elders and youth for their contributions to life in the region.

Many visitors attended the service and the hall was full.

"We held a week of kids' activities including sport, dance, art, drama, music and games, with 134 children attending over five days," said Captain Lyn Cathcart, Corps Officer.

"We served over 700 sandwiches, provided 300 breakfasts, handed out over 500 pieces of fruit and saw 42 children ask Jesus into their lives."



Moree children loved the kids holiday program that ran through NAIDOC Week.

Ipswich Corps

The Ipswich Corps and North Ipswich Outpost held a combined meeting to celebrate NAIDOC Week on Sunday, 3 July.

Senior members and children from both centres performed songs based on the theme of change. Major Rick Hoffmann, Divisional Secretary, South Queensland Division, opened in prayer.

Major Margaret Dobbie, Corps Officer, spoke on the metaphor of meeting at the city's River Link Bridge to symbolise both centres coming together in pursuit of the Army ethos of "One Army, One Mission".

Envoy Judith McAvoy reinforced the need to be united in mission by respecting those elements of every culture that are congruent with the Word of God.

"The prevailing desire was that all the centres in the Ipswich area, including Bundamba Corps, would meet at the bridge for reconciliation and continue to serve our great Saviour with one heart, one spirit, one voice," said Dr Christopher Wong, Indigenous Services Coordinator.

After the service, Major Bruce Dobbie and The Salvation Army Emergency Services team extended the cross-cultural fellowship with a meal consisting of kangaroo meat.



Envoy Judith McAvoy spoke about unity at the combined Ipswich meeting.

Shoalhaven Corps

On Sunday, 26 June, Shoalhaven Corps began its NAIDOC Week celebrations early with a "Welcome to All People" service. More than 250 people joined the welcoming and blessing of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

Nowra East Primary School Koori Dance Troupe performed their welcome dance, the Sing for the King choir led the singing and the Shoalhaven Corps Band entertained the crowd with help from a troupe of clowns.

Adrian Kistan, Territorial Indigenous Program Coordinator, spoke about The Salvation Army's commitment to reconciliation.

The service provided an opportunity for the corps to celebrate with its Indigenous brothers and sisters and to connect with the wider community.

Central Coast Recovery Services Centre (SELAH)

Two graduates, two staff and five Indigenous participants from the Central Coast Recovery Services Centre (SELAH) attended NAIDOC Day at Gosford Showground on 5 July.

Although residents of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island descent have regularly attended NAIDOC Day, this was the first year that SELAH was invited to staff a stall providing information on The Salvation Army and Recovery Services.

"Passers-by showed considerable interest in our stall," said Captain Vanessa Garven, SELAH Manager.

"There was also much positive feedback on the painting we displayed by Victorian artist Cindy Alsop.

"Cindy's painting demonstrates the journey of Indigenous and white Australians, with both coming to the cross of Jesus Christ and being transformed into a harmonious union from that point on.

"It was a good day of networking with other services and celebrating the coming together of different Australian cultures."

TAXING TIMES



The Salvation Army encourages serious consideration of a carbon tax, provided it does not indiscriminately impact on low-income households. It suggests Salvationists should “welcome and embrace” incentives that encourage the use of less carbon-intensive fuel sources. The logical extension of that is “we should welcome and embrace disincentives that make the use of carbon-intensive fuel sources unattractive socially and financially”. A carbon tax, it says, is a disincentive strategy intended to discourage reliance on carbon-intensive fuel sources. A second document: Responsibility for the Environment – a Positional Paper, was approved by the General and issued in 1992. Both documents make it clear that Salvationists – indeed, all Christians – have a responsibility to respect and maintain what God has created. With the Australian Government’s proposal for a carbon tax causing substantial debate in the community, *Pipeline* has decided to remind all Salvationists of their organisation’s views on our responsibility for the environment.

Responsibility for the environment and the carbon footprint

The following statement has been approved by the leadership of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern and Australia Southern territories to provide guidelines for Salvationists as they seek to apply the values of God’s kingdom to the way they view and treat God’s creation.

GUIDELINES FOR SALVATIONISTS: CLIMATE CHANGE

With the coming of the Industrial Revolution, humanity has received enormous benefits. It is now becoming apparent that there are significant degradations of creation which have accompanied this growth: deforestation, species extinction, water degradation, the alteration of atmosphere, increase in toxic chemicals, loss of fertile soil.

Global warming - an explanation

“By absorbing infra-red or ‘heat’ radiation from the earth’s surface, ‘greenhouse gases’ present in the atmosphere, such as water vapour and carbon dioxide, act as blankets over the earth’s surface, keeping it warmer than it otherwise would be. Since ... around 1750, one of these greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide, has increased by over 30 per cent ... largely due to the burning of fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas.”¹

Misuse of creation

Most of the climate change problem is human induced and represents a misuse of God’s creation: a distorted stewardship of God’s earth. The result has been a patchwork mixture of apparent abundance alongside of wasteland, but with the waste increasing. There has been a degradation of creation as well as an unjust denial of God’s bountiful resources to many people, especially in developing countries.

The Salvation Army affirms the

Christian position that every part of creation is God’s; that God created it good; and that God’s ultimate intention is its redemption through Christ (Romans 8:22; Colossians 1:20).

International responses

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of the United Nations (IPCC) provides regular reports which analyse the scientific research pertaining to climate change and offer policy response recommendations.²

The 1992 Earth Summit resulted in the 160 participating countries giving their commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Agreement by the parties to the framework included to “take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent or minimise the causes of climate change and mitigate its adverse effects. Where there are threats of irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for

postponing such measures”.³

These principles became the basis for the Kyoto Protocol which has since been ratified by 176 countries. Australia has been a signatory to all of these documents but did not ratify the Kyoto Protocol until 2008.⁴

With projections that the global average temperature could rise by between 2 and 6C by 2100 and that, by 2050, sea level rises and changes in water availability could result in 150 million extra refugees⁵, The Salvation Army advocates global participation by all nations in response to this situation.

National responses

Based on the principle: “From the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked” (Luke 12:48), The Salvation Army believes that those nations which have both benefited from two centuries of industrialisation and have most contributed to such emissions ought to set the example in implementing policies and practices which reduce such emissions. We advocate improvements such as the efficiency of energy generation, development of non-fossil fuel sources of energy, and sequestering carbon that would otherwise enter the atmosphere.⁶ We support government policies that provide incentives to individuals, and organisations, such as tax concessions or rebate programs, to encourage reduced emissions, energy-efficient household appliances and carbon-free energy practices, provided that these policies do not indiscriminately impact on low-income households.

Organisational responses

Organisations (including The Salvation Army) need to engage in a process of actively reviewing strategic and operational decisions for their impact upon greenhouse gas emissions. Organisations as a consumer of products and energy derived from burning fossil fuels should develop policies and practices that reduce the demand for fossil fuels. Such practices should, for example, include intelligent building design, responsible energy use, a reappraisal of product sourcing, motor vehicle usage,

and green energy sources.⁷ The minimal ultimate organisational benchmark is for operations to be at least carbon-neutral. Decisions will acknowledge the potential to merely “export” the problem to elsewhere with a consequent degradation of lifestyle and/or environment in another part of God’s creation.

Personal responses

On a personal level, Salvationists will take heed of the word of Jesus that our lives do not consist in the abundance of possessions.⁸ Salvationist responses will include:

- Confession and repentance for attitudes which devalue creation and misuse that of which we have been called to be stewards;
- Acknowledging the Creator’s concern for all creatures. God saw all he created as “good” and “approved it completely”;⁹
- Supporting the development of just and free economies which empower the poor, recognising that in many situations poverty forces people to degrade creation in order to survive;
- Supporting investment, business and government actions that redeem the environment for future generations;
- Aiming for a simplicity of lifestyle rather than over-consumption and greed;
- Considered use of resources in places where we live, work and relax. These include energy-efficient vehicles and appliances, recyclable goods and how we dispose of refuse;
- Advocating for, and supporting the use of, renewable energy sources as well as ensuring that our homes are energy efficient;
- Supporting organisational policies and practices which enhance the qualities of our rivers, land, sea and air.

By our responses we attempt to be proactive rather than reactive. We accept that at all times we, as God’s people, can directly contribute to the solution by making personal decisions which have consequences within the context of both the local community and the world in which we and future generations will live.

1. Houghton J. “Climate Change: A Christian Challenge and Opportunity”. Address to National Association of Evangelicals, USA. March 2005 at www.creationcare.org/resources/climate/houghton
2. www.ipcc.ch
3. Houghton J. “Climate Change: A Christian Challenge and Opportunity”. Address to National Association of Evangelicals, USA. March 2005 at www.creationcare.org/resources/climate/houghton -
4. www.dfat.gov.au/environment/climate; www.teachingclimatechange.com.au
5. Houghton J. “Climate Change: A Christian Challenge and Opportunity”. Address to National Association of Evangelicals, USA. March 2005 at www.creationcare.org/resources/climate/houghton
6. *ibid*
7. Refer to Positional Statement: “Responsibility for the Environment”
8. Matthew 16:26; Luke 12:22-31
9. Genesis 1:31 (Amplified Bible)

OUR RESPONSE

This positional statement is complemented by an overview statement “Responsibility for the Environment” which was approved by the General in 1992 as an official Positional Statement for the Army in Australia (the Positional Statement is on the Australia Eastern Territory website - salvos.org.au).

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CORE MESSAGES OF THESE TWO STATEMENTS?

1. This world is God’s creation.
2. We are charged to nurture and make wise use of its provisions.
3. We have the capacity to plunder it to the detriment of the whole planet.

WHAT IS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THOSE CORE MESSAGES AND THE CARBON FOOTPRINT?

Consider these two connections:

1. Humankind’s carbon footprint is having an adverse impact on the planet. Although the extent of the impact and what activities or what nations are having the greatest adverse impact can be debated, the weight of scientific evidence indicates there is an adverse impact.
2. This is an issue for all humanity. We are not excluded from the effects or as contributors to the problem.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO HELP REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT WE CREATE AS INDIVIDUALS, AS EMPLOYEES, AS ORGANISATIONS?

These guidelines provides some ways. There are many more which can be found on creation care-type websites.

At its most basic level, there have to be changes in behaviour. Such changes need to move in positive forward directions as well as leaving behind some of the practices of the past couple of centuries (or longer). The guideline suggest that we should welcome and embrace incentives that encourage the use of less carbon-intensive fuel sources. Equally, we should welcome and embrace disincentives that make the use of carbon-intensive fuel sources unattractive socially and financially.

A carbon tax is a disincentive strategy intended to discourage reliance on carbon-intensive fuel sources. It effectively imposes a penalty on activities which are detrimental to the planet, its flora, its fauna, its land and water, its people. What the world needs now - what God calls us to - are activities which nurture sustainable ecosystems and the magnificent array of life forms which God has brought into being.

- Major Cecil Woodward



People of other religions can be our friends too

By ROBYN EVANS

Sometimes engaging with other religious groups seems daunting, as we have such different beliefs about who God is.

But most religious groups want to be a positive influence in the community and want to see social change occur.

Do you know what other religious groups are in your area? What work are they doing? Is there anything you can do to partner with them? (You might need a memorandum of understanding).

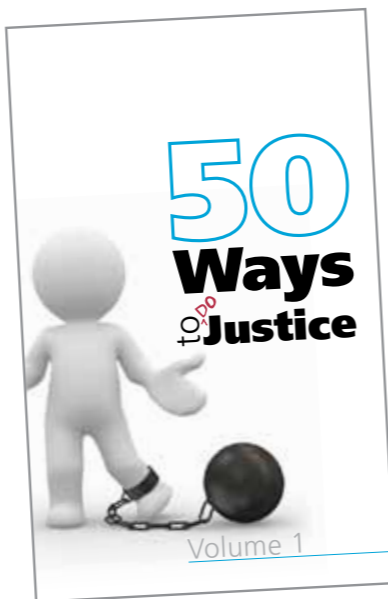
Many religious groups want to support various types of community projects. Is there a way that they can support something you are doing with time, resources or even space? Do you

know people from other religions? Getting to know someone who is from another faith can be a great way to understand the religion and also a great way to build friendships and relationships outside of the Christian community; it can also be a great evangelical action.

So don't be scared of people of other religions. Try to understand them and respect what they bring to the community, and maybe you could be great friends.



Robyn Evans is Social Justice and Community Development Co-ordinator for The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory.



This article is taken from the book *50 Ways To Do Justice* which is published by Carpenter Media and available from Salvationist Supplies in Sydney (www.salvosupplieasyd.com) or The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory's Justice Unit (www.justiceunit.com.au) for \$7.50.

The Founder's mentor

Salvationists usually think of our Founder, William Booth, as almost saint-like; outspoken, extremely hard to please and tenacious, especially when it came to soul-winning. Nothing else mattered.

So it's hard to think of such a person as ever being young, inexperienced and very impressionable. Is it even possible that such a revered Salvation Army icon as General William Booth was at one time, early in life, in need of a mentor? Alas, Booth was human; and God provided for young William a spiritual father-figure in James Caughey.



In the mid-19th century, Caughey was a well-known revivalist. One of several European crusades took Caughey to Nottingham, England, in 1846, where William Booth heard him preach for the first time. Later, in 1857, William and Catherine met Caughey in Sheffield. So influenced were the young couple by this bold preacher, the Booths had their second son, Ballington, baptised by him. And so it was, long before Booth had an Army over which to be General, the Founder was a Caughey disciple.

What a pleasant surprise, then, in December 1886, for Booth to pay a visit to his mentor's home in Albany, New York. The General was in Albany as part of his first tour of America.

Booth's preaching engagements were quite the media sensation and Caughey planned to attend at least one of Booth's meetings in Albany. Failing health prevented him, so Caughey sent an invitation for tea to his protégé. Booth happily accepted, despite his hectic schedule.

From the apartment door, Caughey led the General into his room. He turned the towering Booth round to the light, saying with a voice trembling with emotion, "Let me have a look at you!" There was a long pause; after which Caughey's eyes filled with tears. Caughey finally spoke: "Yes,

As Salvationists, we know what our story is.

We know how our movement began on Mile End Waste in London – how Reverend William Booth found "his destiny" and told his beloved "Kate".

We know how we got our name – the stroke of an editing pen changing the word "Volunteer" to "Salvation".

We know about our flag, our crest, and how our Generals are chosen. We even know what a "cartridge" is.

But there must be thousands of stories behind the story.

This collection of nearly forgotten incidents is more a labour of love than an attempt to place a footnote on history.

The fabric of our beloved Salvation Army is woven with the blood, sweat, and tears of its officers, soldiers, and volunteers.

The lifeblood that courses through our organisation's veins is comprised of people like you and me – willing participants in "this Great Salvation War".

Over coming issues of *Pipeline* we will uncover incidents from church history, knowing full well that its struggle is also ours.

We will even mine nuggets from Scripture – little-known events from the gospel that are as much a part of who we are than anything else.

So we owe it to ourselves to share with each other these lessons.

More than anything else, this is a look at ourselves. Our most poignant moments. Some victorious, some on the brink of disaster, many of them amusing, but all a part of our involvement in this story we call The Salvation Army.

the same dear face. The same look. Blessed be God for this meeting!"

The two men of God sat down facing each other and telling of God's wonderful dealings with them since they last met. After a while, the General rose to go.

"Are you leaving?" Caughey asked.

"I must," the General replied. "We have a public meeting waiting for us."

"Too short; too short," the grand old warrior said.

Caughey walked the General to the door, looked up at his protegee, and ordered: "Take off your hat – I am an older man than you, you know!"

And the General, reverently obeying, removed his hat and received the old preacher's blessing.

I don't suppose the Founder took too many orders in his later years as international leader of a worldwide ministry. But we can understand this exception, now that we know the rest of the Army's story.



Major Frank Duracher is the editor of *Warcy* in Australia.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PASTOR

(FULL-TIME)

An exciting **NEW** ministry opportunity is available at **Box Hill Corps; Children and Families Pastor**.

Our Corps has a thriving Children's Ministry with much potential for outreach and impact into the wider community. This new employed position of Children and Families Pastor represents a significant step in the development of mission and ministry to children and families.

We are located in a diverse and vibrant multicultural community situated in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne in a busy educational, health, shopping and transport hub.

The position is full-time, but we are open to consider part-time options for the right applicant.

The successful applicants will need a range of skills and competencies including:

- Willingness to work in accordance with The Salvation Army's mission and values
- Qualification at Diploma or Degree level (Education, Ministry, Theology or related field) and proven practical experience
- Passion and spiritual gifting to work in ministry and mission
- The ability to influence and encourage young people in their faith development
- Ability to use initiative and work as a leader with minimal supervision
- Excellent interpersonal, networking and team skills.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5:00PM FRIDAY 26TH AUGUST, 2011.
For a Position Description please contact Tania Griffiths on (03) 9890 2993 or email: tania.griffiths@aus.salvationarmy.org

Applications must address the Key Result Areas and Job Competencies Outlined in the Position Description.

Completed applications should be sent to:
Major Gregory Morgan, The Salvation Army,
PO Box 1097, Box Hill 3128 or
email: tania.griffiths@aus.salvationarmy.org

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What would Jesus view?

With Pipeline culture writer Mark Hadley



POM Wonderful presents: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold

RATING: TBC
RELEASE DATE: 11 August

You may remember director/presenter Morgan Spurlock from his off-the-wall investigation of the fast food industry, *Supersize Me*, in which he commits to eating nothing but McDonalds for a month - with disastrous results. Now Spurlock is applying his acumen to examining the hold the advertising industry exercises over the movie business in *POM Wonderful: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold*.

The guiding principle is pretty simple: attempt to make a film through sponsorship alone, and consider the limitations imposed as the production goes along. Spurlock explains from the outset that "co-promotion" or brand-placement is, "... the holy grail of advertising". Through its use companies channel billions of dollars into Hollywood productions for the privilege of associating their brand with the biggest names. James Bond's Aston Martin and Omega watch are examples of the principle at work, but

only the tip of the iceberg. The real money flows in when the heroes feature in the brand's own promotions.

Spurlock reveals that *Iron Man 2* had 12 separate advertising partners that involved the metal-clad superhero appearing in restaurant ads while Robert Downey jr drove his way through Audi commercials. If he's going to produce the next "doc-buster" he'll have to understand every step that leads towards that river of gold. And so the quest for sponsors begins...

It only takes a look at the film's title to realise that one big fish Spurlock manages to land is POM, the pomegranate juice drink with the signature bulbous bottle. POM pays \$1 million for the naming rights to the film, but the deal seems to provide them with plenty of security: no images of any other drinks anywhere in the film, at least 600,000 impressions of their label in advertising and \$10 million at the box office before they hand over a single cent. Oh, and of course there are the three 30-second ads for POM presented by Spurlock that must be included before the credits roll. Watching how he fits them

in is reason enough to pay the admission price.

But what's the cost of all this integration? How much space can a producer rent before the integrity of his message also goes up for sale? It's a question that has implications for more than just members of the movie industry.

Consumer expert Ralph Nader suggests the liaison between advertising and movie messages can be a dangerous association. Advertising promises fulfilment but the products seldom delivers. What actually makes us happy is not the product but what the advertising is pointing to. And so advertising has the potential to corrupt whatever positive lessons a film might impart by inserting a soft drink can in the hands of those lovers or a fast food meal between mother and son.

Spurlock: "Is there any truth in advertising?"

Nader: "Yes, advertising is telling the truth when it says it's lying."

And that's where the moral behind *POM Wonderful: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold* should hit home for Christians. The title alone is a deliberate parody of *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, the 1965 classic about a sacrifice that should be front and centre in our minds. So often the signposts to happiness can be substituted for happiness itself. It can be obvious like the desire for a leather-bound Bible or "just the right translation" looming larger than regularly reading the Scriptures. At other times it's more subtle, like emphasis on a type of worship that makes the form more important than the focus. And when we begin to insert advertising into our evangelism, like the benefits Jesus can have for your finances or even how happy he can make you, we dilute the real good news: that God has provided a payment for our sins.

Every proclamation of the Gospel has to be considered in the light of how much it adds to or detracts from the great work God has done through Christ. And I'm contractually obliged to mention at this point that he is one storyteller who takes the integrity of his work very seriously. □

The Beaver

RATING: M
RELEASE DATE: August 4

A family on the point of collapse ... A wife who can no longer cope with her husband's volatility ... A man who has slid from the heights of success into the depths of emotional instability ... Could Mel Gibson have chosen a project that was closer to home? But *The Beaver* might actually be his way back to public acceptance after a colossal fall from grace. Through it we not only glimpse his acting brilliance but honest truths about the darkness of depression.

Gibson plays Walter Black, a father and businessman trapped in the jaws of that "black dog". He's so despondent he finds it almost impossible to get out of bed. Both his company and his family are suffering from his emotional absence. As the narrator puts it: "Walter's depression is an ink that stains everything it touches, a black hole that swallows everything that comes close."

After years of failed treatments his wife Meredith (Jodie Foster) is at her wits end. Their two sons can no longer relate to their father and she has begun to withdraw inside her work. It's no surprise this story begins with the end of a marriage. But as Walter sorts through the detritus of his life and prepares to move into a hotel room, he comes across a bedraggled animal puppet. Call it psychotic break or mental miracle, this beaver provides Walter with a voice for all the things he cannot say. Walter begins to rebuild his business, his family and his marriage. But will his furry friend prove to be a shield against a cruel world or the cage in which he hides?

Christians are in the business of asking people to undertake a thorough renovation of their habits, their relationships, their essential character. *The Beaver* illustrates just how difficult transforming change can be. Walter's puppet tells him: "You've seen too many home improvement shows. You think you can splash up some paint, rearrange the furniture and everything will be OK. If you want real change you have to blow up the whole building."

Now in this tale the beaver's advice



Mel Gibson with the central character of *The Beaver*, a movie which explores the impact of depression.

turns out to be catastrophic. Walter ultimately discovers that the puppet is a voice for the darkest side of his character that wants to "... snatch life back from that blood-sucking rabble," who are actually his family. But the advice sounds true because the principle is sound.

Meredith wants her husband to return to the way he was, but Walter knows he has to let go of the past when the past is part of the problem. This is what Jesus referred to as being born again. We can't hope to keep our old life unchanged if it's also responsible for bringing us to the point of death.

However, the best blessing to emerge from *The Beaver* doesn't come from a hand puppet. Porter, Walter's estranged

son, exposes the six-word lie that sits at the heart of many movies: "Everything is going to be OK."

Whether it's depression or spiritual death, healing can only begin when we accept that life is full of problems that are beyond us.

"But one thing I know is true," Porter concludes. "You do not have to be alone." And the same can be said for those who find themselves without a family like Walter's. King David learned that truth when he had even fewer friends: "The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you" Psalm 9:9,10 (NIV). □



Morgan Spurlock promotes his new film, *POM Wonderful: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold*, which highlights the influence of advertising on the movie industry.

Christmas scene shines light on Jesus story

BY MAJOR KEVIN UNICOMB

In January 2010, my wife Heather and I moved from Wollongong to inner west Sydney to take up appointments in children's and family ministry.

Our new home was in a pleasant street of federation-style houses, a short distance from the railway station. It suited us fine – a brisk walk to the station each morning, a train trip to territorial headquarters in the city and very little driving in Sydney. Excellent!

However, the officers vacating the house told us there was a proud tradition – and expectation – of every house in the street displaying coloured lights at Christmas.

Well, those who know me well will be aware that I am so energy conscious that I do not replace blown light bulbs. I turn down the hot water temperature. I turn it off if I go away for a couple of days.

Each time the electricity bill arrives, I work hard to get the next one lower. Christmas lights and I are not compatible! How was I to cope with this expectation?

A 'street letter' arrived in July from the Christmas lights organiser. The lights were to go on at 8pm on 28 November. They were to be on for two hours every night after that and then 2.5 hours each night during the week before Christmas. The pressure was mounting.

By September, I had devised a low power plan for my Christmas contribution. I would build a nativity scene for the front yard. The owl and rooster on this page were part of the show.

Work was slow – neighbours don't appreciate power tools being used after dark! By the 28 November deadline, I had most of the scene completed. The wise guys on their camels turned up a few days late, but that seemed theologically OK.

There was, however, a bigger problem. I didn't have a baby Jesus to go into the cattle trough! How could I have a nativity scene without a baby Jesus?

The solution dawned about 4.30 pm that day – only hours before switch-on. Taking an off-cut of plywood from my garage and a thick black permanent marker, I wrote in letters big enough to be seen from the street:

" We heard parents – many parents – tell their children the story of Jesus. They told them the story on our front footpath. "

The sign was intended to stay until I found a suitable Jesus. But it stayed until Christmas Eve.

Every night as hundreds of people walked our street, we heard kids ask their parents if my sign was really about Christmas, if it was a joke and what did it mean.

We heard parents – many parents – tell their children the story of Jesus. They told them the story on

our front footpath.

I wondered who these families were. Here were parents who know the Jesus story, yet probably never told it to their children until they read our sign. I think there were two types of families telling the stories.

There were adults whose parents sent them to Sunday school when they were kids, but there was no other connection with church. They learned the stories, but never became disciples of Jesus.

When they had families of their own, they saw no reason to send their kids to Sunday school, nor tell the story of Jesus.

Then, there were adults raised in the church, but, at some stage, left. They probably decided at a young age not to follow in the footsteps of their parents and they could not see that the Jesus story was important for their family. But they knew the story very well and shared it with their kids on our footpath.

Dr Mark Griffiths, an Anglican priest in England, did his theological thesis on children's ministry and wrote the book *One Generation from Extinction*.

Mark was recently guest speaker at the Kidsreach Conference in Sydney. He spoke about 200 years of Sunday school and how, in that time, it had completed two waves of growth and decline.

He sees Sunday school attendance at the bottom of a decline, at the moment, in many western countries.

In Australia, he says, children are now spiritually a 'blank page'. They are spiritual beings largely unaffected by the church issues their parents struggle with and are ready to hear and accept the gospel message.

That is what I saw and heard on my footpath at Christmas 2010. That's what I see happening in our corps.

We are, in the words of Mark Griffiths, one generation from extinction. That is why Heather and I are passionate about bringing children to Jesus. ➤



Major Kevin Unicomb is Territorial Youth and Children's Secretary for the Australia Eastern Territory.

Family fun day eases community tensions

When a street murder close to The Salvation Army Westlakes Community Church near Newcastle kept frightened families indoors, the corps held a fun day to ease tensions.

Now, four months later, children from the street have started attending Sunday school and families are turning up to church.

"Getting the people to our church wasn't the intention of the fun day; it was just to show them that The Salvation Army cared," says Corps Officer Major Beth Twivey.

"But it is nice that they feel comfortable enough with us to come. There is one man who told us he would never darken the doors of a church, but his two children are now attending Sunday school.

"We're just taking it a step at a time with this family."

The murder in March sent fear through the street, according to Major Twivey. There was a lot of police activity. Families were afraid to let their children out of the house to play.

"We had a call from the Housing Department asking if it would be a good idea for them to refer people to us for counselling. We had a meeting in the corps and decided it would be better if we went to the people."

The corps arranged a fun day in the street. A doorknock was held to advise families and also to let them know The Salvation Army was there if people wanted to talk.

Entertainment, food and drinks were set up as part of the fun day. Bags advising of Salvation Army assistance services were handed out as well as distributed door to door.

"It was great," says Major Twivey. "Families came out of their homes to enjoy the day and children were playing in the street for the first time in a long time. It was lovely to see. We had many meaningful conversations that day.

"Although we didn't do it to get people to church, children started coming and then their families. So, it has been exciting to see this development."

Major Twivey said the corps recently enrolled 12 new Junior Soldiers, had trebled the number of children attending church and started a Bible study for children too old for the Junior Soldiers program. ➤



7 MISSION PRIORITIES

1. A territory marked by prayer and holiness
2. Our whole territory – in every place – involved in evangelism
3. Corps – healthy and multiplying
4. Our people equipped and empowered to serve the world
5. The territory passionate about bringing children to Jesus
6. Youth trained and sent out to frontline mission
7. Significant increase of new soldiers and officers

Father's passion influences son's vision for children

It's unlikely there is a single soul on this planet more passionate about children's ministry than Major Kevin Unicomb (see story opposite page).

Just one question to the major about children can result in hours of animated response, stacked with supporting statistics.

It is no surprise, then, that a son of the ministry's biggest supporter has been imprisoned by the impact of the father's influence to involve himself in children's work.

Stephen Unicomb has been youth and children's coordinator at North Brisbane Corps for almost 10 years – since he was 19. Before that, he was involved, anyway, in youth and Sunday school ministries.

As part of his North Brisbane role, Stephen is one of four mentors from the corps who work each week with children at a local primary school.

They are part of a national program called Kids Hope Aus, run by World Vision. Kids Hope Aus partners with a local church and local school to provide the mentoring program.

World Vision provides the ideas and resources. The local church provides the mentors and the local school supplies the child.

North Brisbane Corps has been involved for the past six years, assisting a total of 15 children in that time.

Each mentor spends one hour a week with a child selected by the school. Stephen says the idea is to "be a friend" to the child. Each mentor may work with the same child throughout their entire primary school days.

"We help our child with reading and other educational needs. We might just have a chat about some issues at school or home. It might be just having some fun. But it's to show them they have a friend," Stephen says.

"We have to be careful not to make it religious. But, really, we are Jesus to these kids. And we can pray for them."

Stephen is also part-time chaplain at the school, increasing his contact and opportunities with children in need of support and encouragement. ➤

New website opens doors to mission for youth

The Salvation Army has launched a new website aimed at inspiring young adults to get involved with different parts of the Army's mission.

The website, findyourmission.com.au, was unveiled to coincide with this year's Red Shield Appeal, strategically targeting this year's volunteer collectors. But it will also play an ongoing role as one of the foundations of youth engagement across the territory.

The website combines information and opportunities from a broad range of Salvation Army programs and ministries. Website coordinator Jarrod Newton believes it signifies a new era in the way the Army engages with young people.

"Every year we have thousands of young people show up on Red Shield Sunday who generously give of their time and their energy, and many of those young people are keen to find out other ways to get involved with what we're doing," Jarrod said.

"But on a broad scale we probably haven't done a great job of communicating the different opportunities that are available.

"Findyourmission.com.au gathers a whole range of excellent, relevant opportunities in one place and so gives us a really powerful tool for helping people make that next step.

"One of the things that I think we forget sometimes is how complex and diverse The Salvation Army actually is. There's so much information and so many different teams and departments that from the outside I'm sure it can be pretty difficult to find the right doorway.

"We wanted to think about this from the perspective of a young person who just wants to make a difference. What makes it easiest for them? We didn't want them to have to visit a bunch of different websites and make a whole pile of phone calls, and maybe get frustrated and give up along the way. We created a one-stop-shop that helps them get the right information and ultimately make a decision about what they'd like to do."

If you think findyourmission.com.au could be a useful tool in your local area then write to more.team@aue.salvationarmy.org and ask for some promotional cards.

Party on

Another new youth initiative centring on the doorknock appeal is the emergence of Red Shield After Parties.

Pioneered in 2010 by Ryde Salvos as a way of building ongoing relationships with high-school collectors, this year the After Party craze extended to include more centres including Grafton in north NSW and Menai in southern Sydney.

Matt Godkin, youth pastor at Menai, was excited about the impact of their After Party.



The new findyourmission.com.au website

"A lot of effort went into the night by our amazing youth team and supportive corps and corps officers, but proved to be worth every second," Matt said.

"The night was a huge success. We had over 80 young people enter the doors that night, 40 of whom had no previous connection to the church whatsoever. God had his hand over the night and blessed it abundantly. From the night, we have had several additions to Friday Night Youth and life groups. We praise God for his hand which is at work in these young lives."

Proof that the Red Shield Appeal is also an opportunity for people to come to Christ was no more evident than in the small community of Harrington, near Taree on the NSW Mid-North Coast, where a teenager found the Lord on Doorknock Sunday.

A member of the Harrington team recounted the story for *Pipeline*.

"On Red Shield Sunday morning a young teenager who is a trainee with the SES turned up to help collect. She saw that church was on and asked if she could sit in before she went out to collect.

"She came in after the sermon had started and sat in the back row. We offered people to come for prayer after the service and this girl came out seeking Jesus. She prayed and gave her life to Christ and then went out to collect.

"Then the following week she came back to church and brought her 11-year-old cousin with her. At the appeal at the end of church her young cousin put up her hand. As the church stood around she prayed and asked Jesus into her life."

Sony's \$2 million boost to Salvos flood relief

By ESTHER PINN

The Sony Foundation Australia presented a cheque for \$2 million to The Salvation Army on the Nine Network's *Today* show last month, to assist people who are still suffering the effects of the floods which devastated much of Queensland earlier this year.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sony Music Entertainment Australia-New Zealand, Denis Handlin, said it gave him great pleasure to present Major Paul Moulds, the Army's Australia Eastern Territorial Mission Resource Director - Social, with the cheque.

"We hope our donation will go a long way in assisting the communities affected by the floods, particularly the young people in these areas," Mr Handlin said.

The funds have been allocated for building a "Doorway Hub" in Goodna, near Ipswich, one of the areas damaged by the floods.

"This is an amazing result," said Major Moulds. "What we know is that disaster recovery doesn't stop when people go back into their homes.

"This means long-term support is needed and the generous donation from Sony Foundation Australia will enable us to continue our presence in the flood-affected community of Goodna and the region of Ipswich for many years to come."

A planned youth and community centre will offer a range of services that are tailored to community needs.

"In one of the most devastated communities just down the road from Ipswich we're actually going to put a community hub in there with counsellors, workers, youth workers in particular, community space, cafe and it's going to be a long-term legacy to that community that will help people recover," explained Major Moulds.

Ipswich Mayor Paul Pisasale was also on the *Today* show when the cheque was presented to Major Moulds and said how grateful he was for the generosity of the Sony Foundation and The Salvation Army.

"With all of the pressure on families and young kids down there - because there's a lot of suicide attempts - to have a meeting place down there in Goodna where it was hardest hit is fantastic," he said.

The money raised has been the result of a music benefit compilation album produced by Sony Music Australia called *Flood Relief - Artists For The Flood Appeal* which was released shortly after the floods.

"Usually these compilations take weeks to put together," said Mr Handlin. "We turned it around literally in days and I'm pleased to say, and thanks to the great support of the Australian public, we've sold over 110,000 units of the CD."

The album is still available for purchase at all leading retail music outlets.



Major Paul Moulds (from left) holds the \$2 million cheque with Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sony Music Entertainment Denis Handlin and *Today* show co-host Karl Stefanovic.

Positive response to Self Denial Appeal

The Salvation Army's annual Self Denial Appeal has seen a rise in giving this year.

The appeal has raised a pre-interest figure of \$2,097,680 in 2011, an increase of about \$90,000 on the previous year.

There was also an increase in the number of people who donated to the 2011 appeal. There were 6725 individual donations compared to 6275 last year.

"It's great to see the figures up from last year and to see more going into the evangelical work," said Steve Burfield, the Army's Australia Eastern Territorial Appeals (Internal) Operations Manager.

"I would really like to thank all those who have given. It's

been a successful appeal and I'm looking forward to working towards 2012."

Next year's Self Denial Appeal will feature the work of The Salvation Army in the Philippines, Suriname, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Nepal.

The film coverage of The Philippines will follow the story of a family which was devastated by floods in 2009 while in Suriname the focus will be on the work of the Ramoth children's home.

The Self Denial Appeal will also follow the work of a shelter project in the Democratic Republic of Congo and report upon a sewing program in Nepal.

Conference inspires youth leaders

By ESTHER PINN

More than 260 youth leaders from The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory went home inspired for ministry within their local corps after the Territorial Youth Ministry Conference weekend in June.

"There was a real sense of excitement about the future at the conference," said Shandri Brown, Territorial Mission Consultant - Youth Leadership.

"So many people I talked to were looking forward to going home and putting new things into place.

After the success of last year's conference, the Territorial Youth Leadership team was excited about what this year's conference would bring.

"The conference is a great opportunity to show love and support to all of our youth leaders gathered in one spot," said Shandri.

"We have such a huge territory that it can be hard to connect with them, let alone meet all of the youth leaders that are out there. So the conference is a valuable time for us having them all in one spot.

"And we just want to honour them, resource them and hopefully refresh them. We want them to come away feeling really valued, really inspired and equipped for the ministry they are called to."

The conference was held over three days at the Youthworks Conference Centre in Port Hacking, Sydney, and featured many guests. They included 2009 *Australian Idol* winner Stan Walker who sang a couple of songs and shared his heart with the youth leaders.

"It was such a blessing to have Stan come out and be raw with our leaders," said Shandri.

"He shared some of his testimony with our leaders. He

talked very openly about his faith and being in constant worship with God. The real blessing was that he was approachable."

Among the standout guest speakers was Fulton Hawk, a youth program specialist from the Army's Western Del Oro Division in Northern California.

"Fulton was a main highlight," said Shandri. "He spoke from Philippians chapter four and his messages were really powerful. He talked about the things that hold us back in ministry."

Other inspiring guests included Dave Reardon, Young Adults Pastor at Shirelive; Sanga Samways, NSW YouthAlive Director; Tim Biassetto, Youth Pastor at Shirelive; and Sid Tapia, pro skater and evangelist. They all gave moving messages at the scheduled workshops.

"From what I heard, many people said they really loved the workshops and the variety of workshops we had on offer," said Shandri.

"As well as challenging the young people with the word of God, the youth leaders were resourced with fresh ideas for youth games and worship.

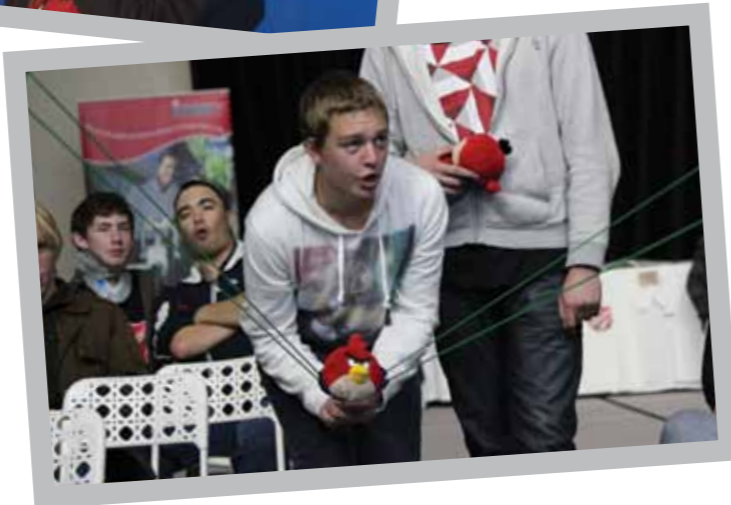
"We role-modelled some different ways to do a worship service. We had a guitar orchestra in one of the sessions - people with acoustic guitars were positioned all around the room.

"We also played a live game of Angry Birds. We had a monster slingshot and we got the official Angry Bird toys and launched them at [toy] pigs. It was really fun."

The Territorial Youth Leadership team was also grateful to have the support of Commissioners James and Jan Condon and other territorial leaders who visited the conference to speak to youth leaders.

"It was a huge encouragement for the youth leaders to have them there to support them," said Shandri.

Stan Walker (left) was a popular performer at the conference, while Fulton Hawk (far left) presented some challenging talks. A game of Angry Birds (below) proved a big hit with conference delegates, including Mitchell Sando from Menai Corps.



Outreach on wheels hits the streets

Ourspace, the new IT mobile classroom developed by The Salvation Army's Oasis Youth Network Hunter program and the NSW Department of Education and Training, officially opened its doors last month.

Ourspace is based at the Oasis Hunter Youth Network office, also recognised for the Olive Branch Cafe and Nourish Cafe. The first of the outreach programs was held in Bonnells Bay, on NSW's Central Coast, in partnership with the Bonnells Bay Youth and Community Service.

The program uses a Mitsubishi Fuso Deluxe bus converted into a mobile classroom fitted with 10 seats, desks, laptops, a printer-scanner, PA system, data projector, high-speed internet, refrigerator, air-conditioning and a generator.

"Not only do we offer accredited training to those in isolated areas, but we also offer community activities and events," said James Cameron, Youth Support, Training and Outreach worker.

"This allows us to become an integral party to the early intervention strategy for young people, which we are doing in collaboration with the Port Stephens and Lake Macquarie City councils.

"We are a youth service taking what we do to the streets. We're not relying on young people to come to us, we are going out to them."



The new laptops provide high-speed internet and are a popular feature of Ourspace.



Ourspace, the new IT mobile classroom, is taking youth ministry to the streets with a specially converted bus.

Ourspace offers a nationally accredited Certificate Two in information technology, hospitality and asset maintenance. The program also offers courses for over 45s.

"We're not just for youth, we're focusing on the whole community which is really the best way to support young people," said James.

"We all need it to be one community where everyone belongs."

Ourspace is also planning a "Big Day Out" later in the year called "Day at the Bay", complete with bands, stalls and information kiosks and amusements for the Bonnells Bay community.

"We want to link young people in with local churches, drug and alcohol services and counselling centres," said James.

"Again, we want to show people what's out there - a church, Christian mission, local support services, and to link them in with the rest of the community."

The ultimate aim of Ourspace is evening Christian outreach that will be known as "Dark Places". The program will work closely with Salvation Army corps and centres all over the Hunter region.

"The response from the corps has been great, we really are working towards One Army One Mission," said James.

Ourspace would like to thank I&D Industries who fitted the mobile classroom to a high professional standard and supported them in their goals.

For more information, see www.salvos.org.au/oasishunter

Zane embarks on new adventure

Captain Zane Haupt (pictured) has taken a giant leap of faith by moving to Singapore to become The Salvation Army Territorial Candidates Secretary for the Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar Territory.

Previously working in a dual-appointment as the Vocational Training Officer and the Spiritual Formation Officer at the School for Officer Training College in North Bexley, Captain Haupt said he was looking forward to entering a whole new line of work.

"I don't know much about the role yet - all I know is that they're struggling to get candidates. But I know that they have a fairly good youth gathering each week," explained Captain Haupt.

"It's going to be a challenge but an exciting one.

"I'm looking forward to journeying with a different culture and just seeing how God works."

Captain Haupt left Australia on 28 June to start his new role.



Lockyer stars at Moonyah church service

Rugby league star Darren Lockyer was the special guest at The Salvation Army's Moonyah Recovery Church in Brisbane recently.

Lockyer, who plays for the Brisbane Broncos, was interviewed by the club's chaplain, Bill Hunter, a Salvationist. He asked Lockyer about his rugby league career and his love for the game.

Bill then gave a message in which he related playing rugby league to the game of life, which was well received by residents at the Moonyah Recovery Services Centre.

The church service also featured the Harmony in Song group from Carindale Corps who presented a number of songs.

A Certificate of Appreciation was also presented to Moonyah Recovery Services Manager Major Graham Tamsett during the evening.



Darren Lockyer presents Moonyah Recovery Services Manager Major Graham Tamsett with his certificate.

ENROLMENTS

Brisbane Streetlevel Mission

Brisbane Streetlevel Mission enrolled its second Senior Soldier on Thursday, 30 June, when nearly 100 people witnessed Trevor Warren sign his *Articles of War*.

Trevor shared an inspiring testimony and the atmosphere and energy of the night will long be remembered as people praised God with passion and joy and celebrated the work of God in Trevor's life.

Before the service the Streetlevel team fed more than 100 people from the Fortitude Valley area.

"Many are wandering in from the street for a free feed and discovering the love and hope of this community," Mission Team Leader Paul Maunder said.

"They very often stay around and become part of the Streetlevel family. Praise God!"



New soldier Trevor Warren (second from left) with Brisbane Streetlevel Mission Team Leader Paul Maunder (left), Marilyn Whitfield (Streetlevel's first soldier) and fellow team leaders Majors Bryce and Sue Davies.

Salvos Stores on world stage at Oracle retail awards

Salvos Stores in The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory has reached the finals of the Oracle World Retail Awards, in the category of Responsible Retailer of the Year.

"This is most prestigious as some of the world's leading retail icons such as Woolworths, Walmart, Marks & Spencer and Harrods have also been nominated," said Salvos Stores General Manager, Neville Barrett.

The winner will be announced at the awards presentation evening on 27 September in Berlin, Germany.

At the Oracle Retail Awards Australia finalists' dinner on 27 June, Salvos Stores in the Army's Australia Southern Territory was third in the category of large retailer of the year and received an honourable mention.

The October 2010 campaign "Buy nothing new" was also a finalist in the Marketing Campaign of the Year category.

"We are honoured to come third out of 200 entries," said Allen Dewhirst, CEO of Salvos Stores in the Australia Southern Territory.

"It also shows that we are not 'op shops' but rather retail recyclers that focus on industry standard marketing, merchandising and customer satisfaction."

The Oracle World Retail Awards recognise global excellence across all the key areas that are essential in delivering great retail performance.

The Responsible Retailer of the Year category, in which the Australia Eastern Territory is a finalist, honours the retailer who the judges feel demonstrates that they are outstanding corporate citizens who have significantly impacted their key stakeholders, including employees, suppliers, customers and local community.

"This nomination is so good for our team as it's been a tough six to eight years," said Mr Barrett. "Even if we don't win we're delighted to get this far. It's a privilege to work on the mission of Jesus and then to be recognised in this way is just a bonus."

Divisional youth camp experiences Pentecost

The Salvation Army ACT and South NSW Divisional Kids Camp took place over the June long weekend at "Birrigai", near Canberra.

"We were out to get the 'scoop' on the events surrounding Pentecost with a newspaper reporter's stylistic theme," said Karen Connors, Divisional Youth and Children's Secretary.

On the opening night, when asked, only one child had heard about Pentecost but didn't know what it was all about. On Monday, the same question about Pentecost resulted in a flurry of hands from excited children eager to share what they had come to know and experience over the weekend.



Enjoying the natural beauty of the bush was a popular activity at the ACT and South NSW Divisional Kids Camp.

Special guests added to the learning during the camp. Sharon Jones, of Wagga Corps, taught the group to "sing" *Jesus Loves Me* in Auslan (Australian Sign Language); Alex Craig, of Canberra City Corps, taught the song in Vietnamese and Major Sandra Lesar, of Young Cluster, in Afrikaans.

"We learnt to say 'Jesus loves you' in many languages so that when everyone spoke together we could feel and hear what it was like at Pentecost," explained Karen.

Kelly Powell, *Kidzone* graphic designer and illustrator from the Army's Australia Southern Territory, helped the group produce a camp newspaper. Kids and staff were able to choose which "department" of the newspaper to specialise in - editorial, art or photography - with each working together to produce a professional publication.

Song leaders Elise Paull and Taylah Fox, of Tuggeranong Corps, focused the group on being tuned into the Spirit, living to the "max" and having the Spirit "on our side".

"We discovered the power of the Holy Spirit in six teaching sessions full of games, activities, video clips and discussions," said Karen.

"We were 'super sleuths' looking for and memorising the Lord's Prayer. We were 'superheroes' on our fun night, untangling a giant web. We were bushwalkers.

"We found rewards in Pinatas. We discovered the fruits of the Spirit and what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. We did devotions in our cabins every night and some children accepted Jesus as their friend and Saviour for the first time."

ROCKDALE

125 Years

Celebrating The Past - Looking To The Future

Celebrating 125 years of The Salvation Army in Rockdale.

Past - Present - Future

Saturday 24 September from 2pm
- Family Fun Day... kids & family activities, BBQ dinner.

Sunday 25 September 9:30am
- Café Church: Greater Things

Worship-Sports-Conference
432 West Botany Street
ROCKDALE NSW

For more information:
ph | 02 9597 3866
e | rockdale.corps@aus.salvationarmy.org

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS PASTOR (FULL-TIME)

An exciting ministry opportunity is available at **Box Hill Corps; Youth and Young Adults Pastor**. This is a replacement position.

We are located in a diverse and vibrant multicultural community situated in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne in a busy educational, health, shopping and transport hub.

The position is full-time, but we are open to consider part-time options for the right applicant.

The successful applicants will need a range of skills and competencies including:

- Willingness to work in accordance with The Salvation Army's mission and values
- Qualification at Diploma or Degree level (Education, Ministry, Theology or related field) and proven practical experience
- Passion and spiritual gifting to work in ministry and mission
- The ability to influence and encourage young people in their faith development
- Ability to use initiative and work as a leader with minimal supervision
- Excellent interpersonal, networking and team skills.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5:00PM FRIDAY 26TH AUGUST, 2011.
For a Position Description please contact Tania Griffiths on (03) 9890 2993 or email: tania.griffiths@aus.salvationarmy.org

Applications must address the Key Result Areas and Job Competencies Outlined in the Position Description.

Completed applications should be sent to:
Major Gregory Morgan, The Salvation Army, PO Box 1097, Box Hill 3128 or email: tania.griffiths@aus.salvationarmy.org

Salvos light up Crystal's day



Five-year-old Crystal Bourdantonakis loves Friday mornings because that's when she bumps into Salvation Army Captain Han-Sang Lee and his collection box at Belmore Railway Station. Crystal, who is in kindergarten, has made it her weekly ritual to put money into the box as she walks to school with her mother, Kathy. In return, Captain Lee, who is the officer at Belmore Corps, hands Crystal a copy of the Salvation Army's magazine *Warcry*. "I'm very proud of Crystal," her mother said.

Lismore's big morning tea

Lismore Corps has raised more than \$500 for cancer research by staging an Australia's Biggest Morning Tea event.

The morning, which was well-attended, was organised by Nerida Auld, a soldier at the corps, whose canvass of local business houses resulted in donations of goods which were auctioned off during the event.

A local Cancer Council spokesperson, Art Beavis, attended the function to bring everyone up to date on cancer research work, and to answer several questions on the subject.



Event organiser Nerida Auld with Cancer Council representative Art Beavis at Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in Lismore.

New hope for children exposed to family violence

By SIMONE WORTHING

Safe From The Start is an innovative, Australia-first project initiated by The Salvation Army in Tasmania.

Its goal is to educate the community on the devastating impact that exposure to family violence has on children aged from birth to five.

"This is a collaborative project developed with two universities which has attracted national and international attention," said Nell Kuilenburg, Development Manager for The Salvation Army in Tasmania.

It is Nell's passion for social justice, her background in domestic violence, and her experience working with children in women's refuges, which has formed the catalyst for the project.

"In 2006, Dr Erica Bell from the University of Tasmania released a research study, *States of Mind*, which considered the specific needs of children aged 0-5 who had witnessed family violence," Nell explained.

"I knew we had to do more than provide lovely toys and caring workers for these children - we had to work therapeutically with them to help prevent further violence, addictive behaviours and mental health issues in the future.

"This program is also good for any child who has witnessed trauma, abuse, natural disasters, death in the family or divorce."

In collaboration with Dr Angela Spinney from Swinburne University (Victoria), the Safe From The Start action research project was developed. The project includes: resource kit (this includes books, workbook, puppets, CD, DVD and cards); research reports (by Dr Erica Bell and Dr Angela Spinney); brochures and posters; and Train the Trainer (a one-day program to train co-workers and educate the community on how to use the kit's resources).

"We are giving workers the skills and resources to work therapeutically with children," Nell explained.

"Corps and centres are also telling us about some amazing

discussions with children that the resources are generating, which is just wonderful."

Safe From The Start has also received funding to develop a kit for the Indigenous community and for those from a culturally and linguistically diverse background.

The program has been used widely throughout Tasmania and in 2010 received the Tasmanian Child Protection award.

"The Safe From The Start program is also being used in all Australian states including Salvation Army corps and social programs, and interest has been expressed from New Zealand and Canada," said Nell.

"Kits are also being used by The Salvation Army and the Family Court in Singapore.

"It's very exciting. God is using us to make a difference in the lives of children and we are promoting The Salvation Army out there in a powerful way."



Delegates at Safe From The Start training in Geelong showcase books included in the resource kit.

Salvos rabbit on about new book

Salvo Publishing, The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory's publishing house, has launched its latest children's book *Emmaline Rabbit* with a reading at a suburban Melbourne primary school.

Emmaline Rabbit is about a family of rabbits forced out of the forest by a pack of cruel dogs before finding uneasy refuge in the jungle - an allegory helping children understand the suffering of refugees.

"It is good to start education fairly early to help kids gain awareness of the issue," said the Army's National Editor-in-Chief Captain Mal Davies.

"We want to teach children to have empathy for kids that come into the school from another country. Everyone needs friends and to feel safe, secure and protected."

Captain Davies introduced the book to an assembly of children before author Captain Rachael Castle and Southern



Captain Mal Davies flat out reading with some primary school students.

Territory Social Justice Director Captain Genevieve Peterson performed a reading.

Captain Davies then interviewed *Emmaline Rabbit* illustrator Nicholas Wight, who presented a live drawing demonstration.

The kids each received a copy of the

book to take home and share with their families.

Emmaline Rabbit is the first of a Salvo Publishing series of social-justice themed books for children. A follow-up, *Walter Wants Wings*, is planned, focusing on the sexualisation of children.

Life of dedicated service remembered

By Major LEANNE RUTHVEN
and Major STEPHEN POXON

The service of thanksgiving for Commissioner Helen Clifton, held in the assembly hall at William Booth College, London, was a fitting tribute to a woman of God. Countless examples were given of how she did so much for others throughout her Salvation Army officership, from early days as a corps officer through to her last appointment as World President of Women's Ministries, supporting her husband, General Shaw Clifton (now retired). The congregation of family, friends and Salvationists filled the newly refurbished assembly hall.

Following a presentation showing snapshots of the commissioner's life, and the entry of The Salvation Army flag adorned with white ribbons, the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Barry Swanson, took the lead of the meeting, saying: "We meet to remember the life and influence of Commissioner Helen Clifton. We are not the same for having met her."

The Chief acknowledged the presence of General John Larsson (Ret.), former world presidents of women's ministries Commissioner Freda Larsson and Commissioner Gisèle Gowans, and former Chief of the Staff Commissioner Robin Dunster. He then led the large congregation in a song before Captain Lynne Clifton (Commissioner Clifton's daughter-in-law) and Cadet Naomi Shakespeare (soon to be daughter-in-law) prayed.

"Thank you for Commissioner Helen's life of dedicated service," prayed Captain Clifton. "Thank you that she's safe and at peace in your everlasting arms."

Cadet Shakespeare gave thanks that Commissioner Helen lived all of her life for God, and asked that he would teach all present to do the same.

Captain Marcus Collings (son-in-law) read from Hebrews 13 and Bromley Temple Songsters sang *It Is Well With My Soul* before Commissioner Sue Swanson, World President of Women's Ministries, read a tribute from General Linda Bond. The General said that all her life Commissioner Helen Clifton had responded to God's call. "We thank God for her beautiful, powerful life," wrote the General. "She was a catalyst for change, a woman of prayer."

Commissioner Helen's three children each paid his or her own tribute. Captain Matt Clifton drew comparisons between his mother and "Solomon's perfect woman" of Proverbs 31. He told how, despite her busy schedule, she visited her sick grandson in hospital every day and would sometimes arrive at their home - 100km from London - to do their ironing before heading into the office.

Captain Jenny Collings spoke of her mother's wisdom, beauty and gentle yet determined nature. "She always encouraged me to be myself

and empowered me to find my wings." However, the greatest impact, she said, was seeing her mother caring for others in practical ways while also caring for her own family.

Cadet John Clifton said that over the next few weeks his mother will continue to inspire him as some of the most important occasions of his life take place. The following day he would sign his officer's covenant, then on the weekend he would be commissioned as a Salvation Army officer, and two weeks later he would be married.

Enfield Citadel Band played *Song of the Eternal* before Commissioner Sue Swanson brought verses from Revelation and the Chief of the Staff gave the Bible message. Not only had a classic girl-meets-boy love story been remembered during the service, he told the congregation, but another love story as well - that of God's deep love for humankind. "No matter how we feel, we are never alone," said the Chief. "God has not abandoned us."

He concluded with a challenge for those present to think about what they are doing with the life God has given them: "Perfection has come for Commissioner Helen; the divine love story is complete for her. We celebrate eternal life for her."

Major Brian Slinn (Corps Officer, Bromley, where the Cliftons were soldiers) offered prayer and a benediction, asking God that the memories of Commissioner Helen Clifton would remain precious and that her example would encourage others to follow him the way she did.

Earlier in the day, the chapel at Beckenham Crematorium was full to overflowing with people wishing to pay their respects to Commissioner Clifton. Officers, Salvationists and friends representing Salvation Army work all over the world united in their deep appreciation of the commissioner's life and influence.

Majors Brian and Liv Slinn offered prayers and readings, thanking God for the selfless ministry of the commissioner and asking him to strengthen and support her loved ones. Psalms 23 and 24 were shared; pointing to the love and sovereignty of the Heavenly Father whom Commissioner Helen Clifton knew and served over many decades.



The large congregation at Commissioner Helen Clifton's thanksgiving service, held in the assembly hall of William Booth College, Denmark Hill, London.

Army reinforces its humanitarian work relationship with Iraq

By Major RAELTON GIBBS

Representatives from The Salvation Army's International Headquarters (IHQ) travelled to Erbil in Iraq to formalise the ongoing relationship between the Army and the Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organisation (ISHO).

Commissioner Robin Forsyth (International Secretary for Programme Resources, IHQ) and Muntajab Ibraheem (Chairman, ISHO) signed a new Memorandum of Understanding, ensuring the continued close working relationship between the two organisations.

Between 2003 and 2006, The Salvation Army's International Emergency Services operated an extensive community recovery programme in Iraq. In delivery of this programme it used a combination of international staff and Iraqi employees who worked alongside each other to ensure the achievement of common goals.

When The Salvation Army formally concluded its work in Iraq some of its Iraqi workers formed and subsequently managed ISHO as an independent humanitarian organisation. Today ISHO is a flourishing non-governmental organisation with offices in Baghdad, Basra and Babylon.

It supports a number of important projects, working in local Iraqi communities and with internally displaced people who are returning home, providing housing, health education and school equipment.

The Memorandum of Understanding envisages that The Salvation Army will continue to provide organisational and project support to ISHO and - where necessary - training and publicity. Similarly ISHO will assist The Salvation Army where it can within the region.

Iconic building reopened in Paris

By PIERRE-BAPTISTE CORDIER

The Palais de la Femme in Paris - one of The Salvation Army's best-known buildings - has reopened after significant refurbishment.

The centre, which provides accommodation to women in need and their children, was reopened by Colonel Massimo Paone, Territorial Commander of The Salvation Army's France and Belgium Territory, in the presence of various local and regional dignitaries.

Eighty-five years ago, Commissioners Albin and Blanche Peyron had the idea to use this huge building in Paris - a former convent, hotel and military hospital - as a centre for women in precarious situations.

When the Palais de la Femme was inaugurated as such in June 1926 it was believed to be the largest social centre in Europe, with 750 rooms. Today it has 350 rooms, each with an en-suite, and kitchen facilities on every floor. The original idea, however, remains the same - to offer the women and children welcomed within its walls a more peaceful and certain future.



The impressive entrance to the refurbished Palais de la Femme in the French capital.

Photo competition

Budding Salvation Army photographers have a unique opportunity to reach an international audience by entering the first *All the World* photography competition.

The winning image and a selection of other entries will feature in a photo spread in the October-December issue of *All the World*, the Army's international magazine, and will also be shown in a special exhibition, titled "This is The Salvation Army", held at the Army's International Headquarters in London.

"We want people around the world to show us what The Salvation Army is where they live," said Kevin Sims, Editor of *All the World*.

"It [the photo] may be an open-air meeting in Africa,

a soup run in Europe, a Salvation Army school in Asia, emergency response in Australasia or worship in the Americas. Feel free to be as creative as you want ..."

Please send digital photographs to IHQ-alltheworld@salvationarmy.org and printed copies to: All the World Photographic Competition, The Salvation Army, 101 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4EH, United Kingdom.

Entries should include the name of the photographer and his or her location. For files larger than 10MB please send a smaller version and you will be contacted if a full-size image is needed.

Unfortunately it will not be possible to return printed photos. The closing date to receive entries is 15 August 2011.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Undiminished faith



Major Janice Lois Hansen was promoted to glory on 27 May from the Cairns Aged Care Centre in Chapel Hill, Brisbane, aged 71, following a period of declining health.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Johnson conducted a Committal Service at the Lakeside Chapel of the Albany Creek Crematorium on June 1. Major Marie Hambleton brought a tribute on behalf of the *Servants of Christ* session.

Later that same day a Service of Thanksgiving was conducted by Lieut-Colonel Johnson in the Redcliffe City Citadel. Until her transfer to The Cairns Aged Care Centre, Janice, in her retirement, had soldiered at Redcliffe City Corps.

Corps Officer Major William Hutley participated in the Thanksgiving Service as did some Janice's fellow *Servants of Christ*. Lieut-Colonel Val Johnson read the Scripture and Sister Mrs Verna Gittins brought a solo, *Of All In Earth and Heaven*. Brother Lex Ellis prayed while Sister Bub Ellis and Major Bruce Buckmaster led a song. A composite band supported the singing.

A tribute on behalf of the family was brought by Anne Ingram and Marlene Burns spoke on behalf of Janice's friends. Lieut-Colonel Ed Dawkins spoke on behalf of the officers before Major Hutley read a tribute on behalf of the Territorial Commander, Commissioner James Condon.

Janice Lois Hansen was born in Rockhampton on 11 March, 1940. After birth, she was adopted by her grandparents Isabella and Edward Hansen. She moved to Hughenden and then Ayr and attended the local schools. She worked as a tailor with Darker and Byers.

Janice attended The Salvation Army at Ayr where she committed herself to the Lord Jesus Christ and became actively

involved in the corps there.

She believed that God wanted her to become a Salvation Army officer, so she entered The Officer Training College in 1962.

Major Janice Hansen served with dedication and love for her people at Mount Gravatt, Caboolture, Inverell, Bankstown, Burwood, Kurri Kurri, Enfield, Queanbeyan, Cabramatta/Fairfield and Griffith corps'.

She also served as matron of the Cairns and Brisbane Peoples Palaces and Salvation Army social centres at Chelmer, La Perouse, Bexley Boys Home, and Kalimna, as well as the Koki New Guinea hostel and welfare centre.

In November 1994, Janice was seriously injured in a car accident which took the life of the driver of the car. During the next 12 years she underwent dozens of medical operations. She was in constant pain for the remaining 16 years of her life, but rarely complained.

After her retirement, she served as Home League Secretary and as president of the local women's convention.

Her faith in Christ remained unshaken and undiminished until the end.

Caring soul



Lorna May Birch (nee Rule) was promoted to glory on 30 March from Riverview Gardens Nursing Home, aged 88.

A funeral and committal service on 5 April was conducted in the Ipswich Citadel by Majors Don and Eva Hill (then-Bundamba Corps Officers). Commencing with a male quartet singing *Lean On Me*, the service included songs chosen by Lorna, one being led by Major Denice Strong (Riverview Gardens Chaplain), Scripture readings from Lorna's Bible by Major Margaret Dobbie (Ipswich Corps Officer) and Tammy Stewart (step-granddaughter).

A corps tribute was given by Barry

Rule (nephew) followed by family tributes from Craig Smith (grandson) and Graham Birch (son).

Major Don Hill's message entitled "The God of the 'After'" gave comfort and challenge to the capacity congregation. As the casket moved from the citadel, David Wilson sang *I'm In His Hands*.

In January 1944, Lorna married Gordon Birch who was promoted to glory in 1975. She had two children - Graham and Lorelle - five grandsons, two step-granddaughters, four great-grandchildren and five step-great-grandchildren.

Born on 17 September, 1922, she lived in Bundamba for 82 years prior to entering care at Riverview Gardens in 2004. Her schooling was at Bundamba State School and Ipswich Technical College prior to gaining work at the North Ipswich Woollen Mill.

A third-generation Salvationist, she became a Junior Soldier in 1934 and a Senior Soldier in 1938. Her service to God was through the Bundamba Corps where she was No. 2 on the Soldier's Roll.

A lover of music and having a fine soprano voice she was heavily involved in the songster brigade and often used as a soloist. Other service included being a timbrelist, playing mandolin in the string band, Home Leaguer, Silver Service (over 50s group), Riverview Gardens Auxiliary and "Friends of the College" representative.

For many years, on behalf of the corps, she sent cards offering condolence and support to bereaved families in the corps district. Lorna was also a Meals on Wheels volunteer.

Children's ministry was her most notable area of service. She taught in Sunday school from her teenage years, becoming primary leader and cradle roll sergeant in 1951, serving in these positions for 22 and 34 years respectively.

As a wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, daughter, sister, sister-in law, cousin or friend, she was always supportive and caring in her own quiet way.

about people

Additional Appointment

Effective 7 July: Envoys Randall and Glenda Brown, Territorial Discipleship Trainers, Program Administration.

Appointments

Effective 23 June: Major Maurie Clarke-Pearce, Business Support Officer, Business Administration.

Effective 15 July: Captain Peter Godkin, Vocational Training Officer, Booth College (Pro Tem).

Effective 1 August: Major Peter Sutcliffe, Divisional Public Relations Secretary and Business Appeal Director, Sydney East and Illawarra Division; Major Elwyn Grigg, Assistant Secretary for Business Administration, Territorial Headquarters.

Effective 15 August: Envoys Marcus and Lois Young, Assistant Officers, Gold Coast Recovery Services Centre (Fairhaven), South Queensland Division; Captians Lincoln and Leanne Stevens, Assistant Territorial Emergency Services Coordinator Queensland and Flood Relief Officer South Queensland.

Bereaved

Captain Joanne Smith of her sister Vanessa Batcheldor on 25 June; Majors Keith and Ruth Hampton of their father and father-in-law Danny Hampton on 1 July; Major Eva Phillips of her mother on 1 July; Major Margaret Clarke of her brother-in-law Robert Lumley on 6 July.

Births

To Captains Chad and Jodie Pethybridge a girl Erin Joy on 14 May; Lieutenants Dean and Rhonda Clutterbuck a girl Paetyn Ashleigh on 31 May; Lieutenants David Northcott and Belinda Atherton-Northcott a boy Noah Kenneth Peter on 31 May; Majors David and Kim Hawke a girl Themviso Lily on 27 June.

Promoted to glory

Mrs Brigadier Alice Wight on 5 July.

SAGALA Awards

The following people have received the General's Award: Rachel Sutton, Katherine Brown, both Campsie Corps.

time to pray

31 July - 6 August

Noosa Corps, Noosa Shire Housing Program, North Brisbane Corps, North Ipswich Indigenous Ministries, all Qld; North New South Wales Division Rural Mission, North New South Wales Divisional Headquarters, both NSW; Newcastle and Central NSW Division Mission Forum (1-2); Divisional Youth Secretary's Consultative Forum (3-4); South Queensland Division Children Matter Conference (5-7); Suicide Prevention Week, Children and Youth Decision Week (7-14).

7-13 August

India Northern Territory; Northlakes Corps, Oasis Youth Centre Wyong, Oasis Youth Network Hunter, all NSW; Northside Corps, Oasis Youth Residential Service, both ACT; Officers Brengle (2-11); 15 year Review (8-11); South Queensland Division Healthy Mission Training (12); Junior Soldier Renewal Day (14).

14-20 August

Kenya East Territory; Oasis Youth Support Network, Orange Corps, Pacific Lodge Aged Care Hostel, all NSW; Outblack Flying Service, Qld; Overseas Service Office, THQ; Ministry Workers Residential (15-21); Newcastle and Central NSW Division Youth Councils (20-21).

21-27 August

Lieut-Colonels Laurie and Simone Robertson; Palm Beach Elanora Corps, Qld; Panania Corps, Parramatta Corps, Penrith Corps, all NSW; Pastoral Care and Officer Well-Being Team, THQ; Delve Weekend (26-28).

28 August - 3 September

Personnel Administration, THQ; Petersham Corps, Port Macquarie Corps, both NSW; Pindari Men's Hostel, Pindari Women's Accommodation, Pine Rivers Corps, all Qld; Seniors Assembly, Grafton (29 Aug - 2 Sep); Father's Day (4); Tri-territorial Theological Forum (2-4 Sept).

4-10 September

India Central Territory; Port Stephens, Indigenous Ministry, Queanbeyan Corps, all NSW; Program Administration, mySalvos Coordinator, Social Justice, Property Department, all THQ; South Queensland Division Women's Camp (5-8); 2020 Leadership Summit (each division to hold separate events).

engagement calendar

Commissioners James Condon (Territorial Commander) and Jan Condon

Wollongong: Mon 1-Wed 3 Aug - THQ Retreat
Geelong: Tues 2 Aug - Officer's Brengle
Minchinbury: Thu 4-Fri 5 Aug - Salvo Stores Review
#Sydney: Wed 10 Aug - Women in Leadership
Collaroy: Wed 10 Aug - 12 to 15 year Review
Hurstville: Sun 14 Aug - Sunday meetings
Bundamba: Sat 20-Sun 21 Aug - 125th Anniversary
#THQ: Mon 22 Aug - Recovery Services and Samis Strategy day
Brisbane: Thu 25-Fri 26 Aug - Divisional Review
Collaroy: Sat 27-Sun 28 Aug - Delve weekend

#Commissioner Jan Condon only

Colonels Wayne (Chief Secretary) and Robyn Maxwell

Wollongong: Mon 1-Wed 3 Aug - THQ retreat
Sydney: Thu 4-Fri 5 Aug - Salvo Stores Review
Caboolture: Sun 7 Aug - Corps visit
*Brisbane: Mon 8 Aug - Strategic Planning Day RSDS
Collaroy: Wed 10 Aug - 15 Year Review
#Auburn: Sat 13 Aug - Auburn ANYA Women's Day
Rouse Hill: Sun 14 Aug - Corps visit
North Bexley: Fri 26 Aug - Retreat Day
Ballina: Sun 28 Aug - Corps visit
Byron Bay: Mon 29 Aug - Streetlevel Mission visit
Grafton: Mon 29-Tues 30 Aug - Seniors Assembly

Colonel Robyn Maxwell only

* Colonel Wayne Maxwell only



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