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guys
and
God



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The Salvation Army
Australia Southern Territory
WILLIAM BOOTH, *Founder*



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International Headquarters:
101 Queen Victoria St,
London EC4P 4EP
André Cox, General
Australia Southern Territory
(NT, SA, Tas., WA, Vic.):
95–99 Railway Rd,
Blackburn, Vic.
Floyd J. Tidd, commissioner,
territorial commander

Editorial

National editor-in-chief
Captain June Knop
Editor David Goodwin
Editorial assistant
Captain Bron Williams
Designer Richard Lewis
Proofreader Dawn Volz

phone: (03) 8878 2303;
fax: (03) 8878 4816;
mail: *On Fire*, PO Box 479,
Blackburn, Vic. 3130; email:
onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org

All correspondence
should be addressed to
the Editor, *On Fire*, at the
above addresses

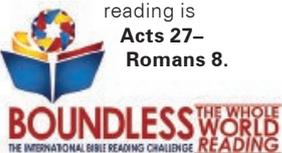
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Sue Allensby, email:
sue.allensby@aus.salvationarmy.org

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For the fortnight starting
15 June, the required
reading is
**Acts 27–
Romans 8.**



WELCOME

Time to man up

Men’s Health Week, 15–21 June, is an initiative that started in the United States and is now being given increasing prominence in Australia with a number of men’s health groups using it as a chance to raise the profile of issues affecting men. While the main focus for many will be men’s *physical* health, in this issue we are going a bit deeper and setting aside some time to look at their *spiritual* health.

In The Salvation Army we do a wonderful job of ensuring that our ministries cater to a number of different groups, often with local officers dedicated to specific roles in running seniors, children’s, youth and women’s ministries. Here at THQ we have departments that resource and take a bigger-picture look at these demographics. Historically, though, one area where we have sometimes fallen down is in men’s ministries. Today, at many of our corps, men make up a smaller proportion of congregations than women do and we sometimes struggle to work out the best way to attract men to the Army.

In a culture that is wrestling with the very idea of what it means to be a man, and with many boys growing up in households with no male role model to look up to, it is more important than ever that the Church provides a home for men, and guidance in living a godly life. But how do we do this? How do we overcome the idea some men have that church isn’t for them?

In this issue, Captain Colin Lane shares some of his thoughts about what we can do to create an environment that welcomes and equips men, and break the ‘man drought’ that many corps are experiencing. We also hear about the ongoing success of the annual Men’s Retreat held here in Victoria, and the impact it is making on men’s lives every year.

From these articles, we hope that you take away some fresh insights into how you can reach out to the men in your community, but we would also love to hear from you about the men’s ministries in your corps, and the great work you are *already* doing.

At the same time as we consider Men’s Health Week, we are aware of the approach of World Refugee Week (15–21 June), and turning our thoughts to the pressing needs the Army is addressing in this area. You will find some coverage in this issue of *Red*, but the next issue of *On Fire* will be dedicated to this vital theme. Stay tuned!

**David
Goodwin**
editor



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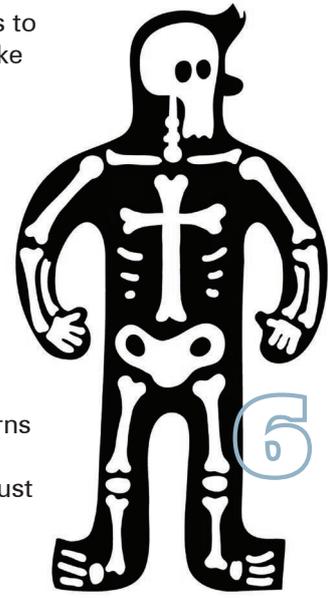
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Bound-Less—Unrestricted, liberated, released

During the 150th anniversary congress, Boundless—The Whole World Redeeming, Salvation Army women from across the world will have the opportunity to celebrate and worship together as they consider these three themes: ‘Unrestricted’, ‘Liberated’ and ‘Released’.

On Friday 3 July, London’s O2 arena will be the place to acknowledge and applaud the impact of women’s contributions to The Salvation Army’s worldwide mission. The gathering—

Bound-Less—will include upbeat, enthusiastic singing, musical presentations, and also showcase some of the most effective women’s ministries programs from around the globe.

Commissioner Rosalie Peddle (Zonal Secretary for Women’s Ministries, Americas and Caribbean) explains: ‘Bound-Less aims to inspire the living of transformed and holy lives, enabling the women of The Salvation Army to be people of compassion, justice and action.’

Theological Council

The International Theological Council (formerly known as the International Doctrine Council) met for the first time under its new name and charter earlier this year, at Sunbury Court, near London.

Chair of the Council, Lieut-Colonel Dr Karen Shakespeare, welcomed new members to their first meeting—Commissioner Denise Swansbury (International Headquarters), Colonel Grace Chepkurui (Kenya West Territory) and Major Donna Evans (The Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory). The fourth new member, Major Arif Masih (Pakistan Territory), was unable to be present due to visa difficulties.

The principal purpose of the International Theological Council (ITC) remains as before—to serve the General and the global Salvation Army by being faithful custodians of the Army’s doctrinal positions.

Inter-church dialogue is an important feature of the ITC, as was recognised when the Chair presented each ITC member with a copy of *Conversations with the Catholic Church*—a record of papers presented, and recommendations made, during informal dialogues between the Catholic Church and The Salvation Army between 2007 and 2012.

Such conversations provide the opportunity for improved communication and mutual understanding between the two churches.

The ITC also spent time working on a response to the World Council of Churches’ Commission on Faith and Order document, *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*.

Further preparations were also made for the seminar the council will lead at the 2015 Boundless Congress—‘Boundless Grace: Salvationist Theology for Today’.

Delegates and others are invited to join in the forum discussion online at www.salvationarmy.org/doctrine/discussboundlessgrace

Family and Domestic Violence Reference Group

A territorial Family and Domestic Violence Reference Group (FDVRG) has been formed in the Australia Southern Territory.

Since the beginning of the year, 39 women have been killed across Australia by their partners or ex-partners; however the Federal Government is largely de-funding the programs that have been set up by various organisations to address domestic violence.

Family and domestic violence is a growing problem statistically, as well as being an indicator of disadvantage that can lead to homelessness and poverty.

The FDVRG is comprised of members from around the territory, bringing together officers, staff and Salvationists from areas of expertise such as development and research, family and domestic violence services, program departments, crisis services, women’s services and social programs.

The reference group will provide advocacy, share information and skills, give advice and guidance, and promote capacity building for those on the front-lines.

*It's raining men, Hallelujah, it's raining men, Amen...
It's raining men, every specimen...Tall, blonde,
dark and lean; rough and tough and strong and mean...'*

—Gerri Halliwell, after The Weather Girls



Well, if it's raining men somewhere, the Christian Church is in a drought.

Recent estimates have the average ratio of church attenders in Western countries at about 70% female (which, for the non-mathematicians, leaves 30% male). And the average age of males in church is higher than that of our female counterparts.

Anecdotally, figures in many Salvation Army corps would be similar, especially in corps without a large brass band.

We put a lot of resources behind children's ministry, youth ministry and women's ministry—but the men tend to be forgotten. Yet getting men saved and into church in the 21st century is our biggest challenge, and will provide us with the biggest pay-off.

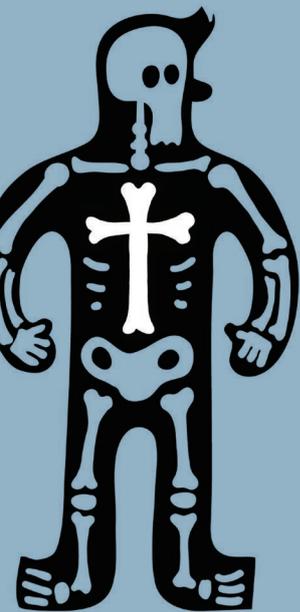
Research cited by Focus on the Family shows that if a child comes to Christ, 6% of the time the whole family will follow. If the mother comes, there's an 18% chance the family will. But if the husband/father comes to Christ, 94% of the time the whole family will come into the kingdom.

Perhaps you've heard this stuff before, but we need to understand it and

Colin Lane takes a look at the dwindling numbers of men in our churches,

THE MAN DROUGHT

and shares his opinion on what we can do to man up.



get a grip on the urgency here. Men are disappearing from churches, predominantly younger men, and are proving mighty hard to engage with in matters of faith. And I would go so far as to suggest that the decline of the Church is directly related to the lack of men in church.

The Church needs men. And not just men warming pews, but men leading—men being involved, practising and living out their faith.

Men are not a nicety, they're vital.

George Gallup Jr (American pollster and writer) says, 'Women may be the backbone of the congregation, but the presence of a significant number of men is often a clear indicator of spiritual health.'

So how do we address this imbalance? How do we go about getting men, keeping men and growing men?

There is no simple answer—it's not just a matter of creating a THQ department to issue resources. Rather it requires a multi-faceted approach at corps level.

It's important to recognise also that men's ministry is not just men's work. It needs to be a whole of corps approach, and mindset. Women have an important role to play in the process. If they are armed with an understanding of the things that will attract men and those that will turn them away—together with a realisation that more men equals a healthy church—their actions can aid the cause.

There are three levels on which to tackle the problem—the first is making our corps environment, worship and facilities more man-friendly, the second is to revisit our strategies for men's groups, and the third is to rethink and invigorate our efforts in evangelism to men. In this article I'll tackle the first two.

Here are a few suggestions, some ways to make your corps more man-friendly and to help create an environment that ticks men's boxes:

THINGS MEN GENERALLY LIKE

- ▶ Visuals—such as media clips, videos and photos. Particularly if they can make us laugh.
- ▶ Songs with a bit of life in them. The types of songs you could swing a beer stein to, or you'd listen to driving down a long highway. The types of songs you'd have if Jimmy Barnes was lead singer of the worship band.
- ▶ Prayers with a bit of power in them. Men respond well to big, bold, forceful prayers, prayed with earnestness and fervour, especially by other men.
- ▶ Shouting and noise. Parents of young boys will know that they love loud noise. So do big boys. We shout at sporting events, but when we come to church we're expected to be quiet. Invite some shouted responsive readings or prayers.
- ▶ Something to do. A task, a job, a responsibility. For every man who is happy to just sit in a pew and do nothing, I could find you 20 who would much prefer to participate in some way. Either before, during or after.
- ▶ Decent food. I imagine that in 99.9% of churches around the world it is the ladies who do the morning teas, lunches etc. Ladies, you do a great job, but it would look so much different if the men were organising the food. There would be no tea cakes, no plain biscuits, no sandwiches cut into quarters. Instead there would be donuts, bacon and egg rolls, big bits of boston bun, pies and hot dogs.
- ▶ Cans. Soft drink cans, that is. You can buy them for less than 50c, which isn't much more than the cost of coffee with milk and sugar. Men would rather stand around with can in hand than a little tea cup. If they prefer tea or coffee, mugs please.



THINGS MEN GENERALLY DON'T LIKE

Most non-churched men think of church as 'soft', so we need to limit things that might reinforce that pre-conceived image:

- ▶ Flowers—ease up on the flowers, or replace them with either nothing, or trees, or something green.
- ▶ Doilies and tablecloths and pretty paint schemes. Go plain, go neutral.
- ▶ Boxes of tissues everywhere.
- ▶ Singing—I can sing, and do sing occasionally, but I'm not a big fan of singing when other men might hear me. A non-churched man is going to feel very self-conscious about singing out loud, particularly songs he doesn't know well or at all, so let your congregation know that it's OK not to sing if they don't want to.
- ▶ Song words that talk about loving Jesus. Now I do—but I still have difficulty singing 'Hold me close, let your love surround me'.
- ▶ Holding hands. And most men aren't big on hugging either.
- ▶ You want to see an environment created that you can invite any man to—young or old. It's about mindset...what sort of environment and atmosphere would my best non-Christian buddy be comfortable in?

Some other ideas I've heard of and/or used:

- ▶ A themed Sunday specifically for men. I organised a 'Motor Mania' Sunday, because some of our guys were into cars. Racing cars, big trucks and vintage cars lined the car park, the God Squad rode Harleys into the hall, which we had decorated with car parts, and after the meeting the guys got a Harley ride around the block. All the guys we hardly ever saw, the fringe guys, all came, and the young boys still talk about that Sunday years later.
- ▶ We recently did a Football Sunday to coincide with the Grand Final. People wore footy colours, we had a siren, a half-time break complete with oranges, and a handball competition for the kids.
- ▶ Men's Huddles. At the end of the meeting, all the men get together in a 'huddle' for an extra word of encouragement from the officer or a prayer together. These are really powerful.
- ▶ Two separate sermons at the same time—my wife addressed the women in the hall, while I addressed the men outdoors. We had swords and clubs and spears and looked at some Old Testament stories—and had a ball.
- ▶ After-church activities such as table tennis, or arcade game machines, or simply a basketball ring. Men converse better while engaged in an activity, and many of us want to burn off a bit of energy after sitting for an hour. Create some options for an activity before they drift off home.

DON'T FORGET THE BOYS

And when we're thinking 'men's ministry', please don't forget about the boys. It breaks my heart how many boys get to the 11–13 mark and start saying church is boring or 'girlie' and fall away. Some of the strategies above may help, but the most important way we can address this is to get men involved in children's ministry. The bulk of church Sunday schools are run by mothers and grandmothers. Our boys get little interaction with males during the week as it is. If they can get taught Bible stories and faith issues from a male perspective, it can make a big difference. It may require a separate Kids Church for boys and girls, or a split off into separate groups. But the most important thing is to get our men teaching, mentoring and guiding our boys—especially when an increasing number have no male role model at home.

WHY MEN'S BREAKFASTS ARE OLD HAT

There are a few corps who actually put some effort into creating a men's ministry, but in many cases the extent of this is the men's breakfast. While it's a good start, and certainly better than nothing at all, the problem is that they are not quite so appealing to younger men. The food part is, but the early start and the sitting around isn't.

Younger men are after something based around an activity. Something with purpose, that has an outcome—and that they can input some physical energy into.

Have you got two or three men in your corps with a similar interest? Form a men's ministry or men's group from that.

If you're going to operate a men's group of any sort, you'll have more success if you build it around a theme. I heard of one church where a couple of guys liked flying model airplanes. They got a few others from their church interested in it, and from there it was easy to find a bunch of non-Christian guys who were into it as well. The interaction between the church guys and the others in the group led quite a few to faith.

In your corps it may be fishing, golf, motorbike riding, bushwalking, camping, woodwork, welding—anything!

What about sports teams? Good examples are volleyball and basketball; but how about a darts club that joins the local pub competition? Get a pool table and run a pool competition. Organise a weekly bike ride if you like cycling. Rebuild a car if you and a mate or two are into that. It can be anything—stamp collecting, gardening, croquet! The possibilities are endless. If you have any recently retired tradesman, get them teaching young guys in the community various handyman skills, then utilise them in your community for those in need.

But don't leave it up to the officer. Often they are not the most appropriate guy to drive your men's ministry, or to start up a group.

And don't stop at one group.

THE NEED FOR MULTIPLE GROUPS

I am a firm believer that there is a need in every church, in every corps, for multiple men's groups.

We have it in our mind that we have just one men's group, and that our goal is to grow that as big as possible. But from my experience, you just end up with a bunch of guys who have differing likes, dislikes, passions and skills, and it can lack cohesion and depth of relationship.

I wonder whether our mindset should be more along the lines of a small group model just for men. So you may have two or three—or more—smaller groups that engage in activities or mission that suits them, and then you can always bring the groups together periodically for larger, combined gatherings.

As I said earlier, the nature of the men's ministry activity doesn't matter. Just start with a purpose—whether it's ministry-based or socially based or based around a common interest. Make sure it involves hands-on activity, and/or something physical or risky or that stretches the men.

...continues over

If you're organising a men's camp or outing, make it activity-based. A little less conversation, a little more action, please. Let guys race each other, play against each other, out-dare each other! Offer prizes—we love competition. It doesn't necessarily have to be physical; sometimes we're happy to watch other men compete against each other.

Whether it's worship or a group or a camp, men don't want boring, they don't want 'girlie', they don't want wishy-washy. They'll connect better with the concept of Jesus the carpenter who went on a three-year camping excursion with 12 of his best mates, risking his life and having a massive adventure, than they will with Gentle Jesus, meek and mild, let's all hold hands and sing and cry together.

So let's get serious about ministry to and with men. Let's end the man-drought.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? *What should we be doing to attract more men to our corps?* On Fire welcomes comment from our readers. Write to the editor at onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org or On Fire editor, PO Box 479, Blackburn, Vic. 3130. You can also visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Onfiremagazine). Not all letters will be printed, and are subject to editing for space and clarity. Letters printed do not necessarily reflect the position of The Salvation Army.

Captain Colin Lane is a team leader/corps officer of the Nepean Hub (Vic.)



EVENT

TIME FOR MEN TO RETREAT

David Parker invites men from across Victoria to join in this year's Men's Retreat.

Every August, groups of men from all over Victoria travel to Phillip Island. It's not just an excuse to leave the lawnmower in the garden shed for another weekend, these men—aged from 18 to their 80s—have chosen to attend The Salvation Army Victoria Men's Retreat. Last year saw the largest gathering in the history of this event, with nearly 200 registrations. So, what is a men's retreat, and why is it becoming so popular?

Firstly, it is not a Bible conference or theology forum for men. We do listen to an inspiring speaker who brings relevant messages based on Scripture and Christian teaching, but there is also plenty of free time for men to enjoy making new friends over a cup of coffee, while sharing a meal or during informal leisure activities throughout the weekend. Participants come from different walks of life but are connected in some way with Salvo corps and centres across the four Victorian divisions.

Most of Saturday afternoon is free time, and many men choose to go sightseeing around the beautiful coastline and tourist spots of Phillip Island, including Cowes, the Nobbies, Churchill Island and Cape Woolamai. One corps organises a fishing group, while others opt for the giant swings and other recreational activities on site at the Phillip Island Adventure Resort. Then that evening everyone gets back together

for a time of crazy fun and fellowship.

The guest speaker for 2015 is Lieut-Colonel Rod Carey from New Zealand. Rod is a dedicated Salvation Army leader who will speak into the hearts and minds of men in a powerful and passionate way—and his theme for this year is 'Rise Up!'. The Saturday and Sunday morning sessions also

ship journey of seasoned Christian men, and life-changing for younger men who are just beginning their encounter with God.

If you have never attended before, make this your year. Many return every August with new anticipation that God will bless and refresh them in the challenges of life that we all face. Perhaps you know a man on

the fringe of your corps or community who could benefit from this experience. Be challenged to invite them to attend with you. Even help sponsor someone if the registration cost could prohibit their involvement. This retreat weekend provides opportunity for men of all ages to encourage each other to be better men for God, which then impacts on their families, friends and worship communities in amazing ways.

It is time for Christian men to rise up and stand as God's encouragers and mentors to those we share the

faith journey with. Put the date in your calendar: Friday 21–Sunday 23 August. Registration information and applications are now available at www.sarmy.org.au/men2015.

Please visit and 'Like' us on Facebook: 'The Salvation Army Victoria Mens Retreat'

David Parker works in education and attends Mornington Corps (Vic.)



include time for uplifting music, singing and worship.

Whether you are from a large traditional corps, a small country town or a contemporary Salvo church, the Victoria Men's Retreat will be both an enjoyable and enriching experience. Personal stories from previous years reveal how this event has impacted the lives and spiritual growth of men across our movement. Open sharing and prayer during the Sunday morning session have become significant moments in the disciple-



Manningham Salvos—a church without walls

At Manningham City Corps there's no distinction drawn between corps and community.

In May, Doncaster Salvation Army changed its name to Manningham City—to reflect its focus on the wider community,

In this continuing reboot of the corps, Captains Anne and Railton Hill have asserted that all that happens at the corps centre in Taunton Street is not to serve to the community, but rather to be an expression of community—'We don't serve the community. We are the community.'

This shift in outlook and focus began five years ago when Anne and Railton were called out of regular employment and asked by Salvation Army leadership to 'do something' with the then Doncaster Corps.

That 'something' began with an investment by the local community in refurbishing the property. Around \$100,000 worth of work and materials were used to update the corps buildings—almost none of which came from Army funds.

It was this involvement and investment by the community that set the tone for what is now a thriving hub of cross-cultural and intercultural suburban mission. The community functionally runs all the activities—including worship—under the guidance and leadership of the Hills and other Salvationists.

The City of Manningham has its own share of problems and issues. Rather than coming in as the ones with all the answers, the Hills are empowering the local community to identify and address their own unique issues.

The Hills' working background has been vital in this process. Anne has a background in community development, with a focus on health and parenting, while Railton is skilled in education and academia, management and marketing (in which he has a PhD).

When the Hills first came to Doncaster in 2010, 17 people attended their first 'solo' meeting. In their first 15 months, Anne and Railton undertook the refurbishment of the corps buildings in tandem with intensive pastoral ministry, so that both the physical and pastoral aspects of then Doncaster Salvos were attended to.

After that initial period, a full corps meeting was held—attended by around 25 corps people. At this meeting the corps community decided that Doncaster Salvos would reinvent itself. A replant was decided upon—in the very same place.

A 'community development' model, that integrates both corps and community in the redevelopment of Doncaster—now Manningham City—Salvos, is being used. Such a model could be successfully used in other suburban areas where corps are struggling and attendance is dwindling, because the community is invited to actively participate in the full life of the corps—not just as the recipients of aid and programs.

At 'the happiest little church in Melbourne' local people are being empowered to do local things.

Sunday meetings fall into two formats. Every fortnight there is a traditional 'Sunday worship' meeting. On the alternate fortnights Familyzone operates in 'The Hub', a multi-purpose space.

Familyzone is all age, whole of family activity—a little like Messy Church but not entirely child-centred—which combines story, games, activities, discussion, drama and live music. A recent Familyzone saw 62 people present, 70% of whom were unchurched.

People with Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Christian or no faith heritages come to Familyzone. However, the Hills are quick to affirm that this is not a multi-faith gathering, but is an authentic expression of Christian worship—even while it looks very little like 'church'. People come to Manningham Salvos because they have an interest in spirituality. Here they find a community of Christian faith 'with no walls'—if they walk through the door they're considered a Salvo.

This pattern follows that of Jesus, who invited his first disciples to follow him with no prerequisite understanding about the kingdom of God. It was in the following that his disciples grew to have faith in Jesus.

Likewise, it is as people are welcomed into *(continues page 15)*

**We don't
serve the
community.
We are the
community.**

Banding together

As a lifelong aficionado of brass banding, Merv Collins is well qualified to write about the long history of the Melbourne Staff Band, says Dawn Volz.

Growing up in a little English corps at Tavistock in West Devon, Merv Collins has been steeped in Salvation Army brass band music ever since he was in short pants.

'My uncle was the bandmaster at the corps,' he says. 'I had other uncles on just about every instrument in the band, and my cousin Ivor, who I idolised, played euphonium before joining the Air Force Band, so perhaps that sowed the seed in my head that that's what little brass players could do.'

Fast forward 15 years and the then 21-year-old Merv found himself on a ship bound for Australia and a position in the RAAF Central Band under the leadership of Squadron Leader Laurie Hicks ('an absolute tyrant', Merv observes wryly). 'He was very English and he would say, "There aren't any good musicians in Australia", so he used to recruit in England.

'I passed my audition and came out to Australia, where I linked up with the Preston Corps Band, at that time an ambitious little band,' he says.

Becoming bandmaster at Preston in 1980—a position he held for 15 years—Merv adds, 'The first big gig we ever did was for the Centenary Congress held in Adelaide.' He was also director of the seminal jazz-rock big band, Solid Rock, in the 1970s and '80s.

Now retired from his musical pursuits as a professional trumpeter, high school music teacher, band conductor and adjudicator, Merv has rediscovered his passion for writing.

'I write, I think, because I've always read,' he says. 'When I was a kid I used to read walking home in the dark—while there was light under the lamp post I'd read, then run to the next lamp post and read again until there was no light, and then run to the next one. I think I've picked up good writing habits from doing that.

'I used to write a lot of reviews for *The Musician* in the old days and I also wrote a monthly series called "The Bandmaster Speaks".'

It's no surprise, then, that this self-described 'retired musician who writes' has spent the last year or so compiling the 125-year history of the Melbourne Staff Band. Prior to that he wrote *The Remarkable Mr Morrison*, a biography of 'Australia's master musician' James Morrison, published by Melbourne Press last year.

What inspired him to compile a history of the Melbourne Staff Band? 'I wrote a series of three articles about the history of the MSB for an English magazine called the *Brass Herald*, Merv says, 'and when their 125th anniversary came up I

thought that was a good basis for a book.

'Researching the history of the MSB didn't unveil many surprises, but finding out about the character of Norm McLeod, for instance, and Robert McAnally—and their persona in everyday life as opposed to when they were in front of the band—was fascinating.'

Besides his love of all things brass band, there's also Merv's personal connection to the MSB. 'Many of the members of the MSB since the mid-'60s have been my friends. Some have even been related to me, but I can't help that!' he says in the book.

'I talked to several past and present members, all of whom were most helpful and obliging. John Barclay, John Cleary, Alan Collett, Lynne Graham, John Smith

'The music can fill your soul and take you somewhere else.'

and the Staff Band itself supplied photographs, making this an altogether more attractive book.'

As far as the future of brass banding in general—and the MSB in particular—is concerned, Merv says no band has been more innovative than the MSB in meeting challenges. 'An MSB musical festival now is an attractive combination of the traditional and the most contemporary, backed by the use of multi-media technologies.'

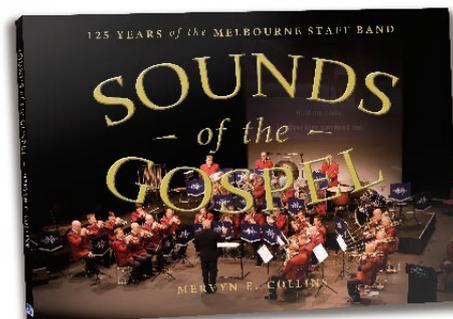
A recent initiative that also gives him heart is Just Brass, a music program for disadvantaged primary school aged children—'the biggest, best innovation that the Salvos have had in bands for years and years', he says.

For Merv, Salvation Army brass band music is defined as 'Sounds of the Gospel'. 'I can remember more musical occasions, more musical highs and thrills than ever I can remember any sermon,' he says. 'The music can fill your soul and take you somewhere else.' 🎵

Sounds of the Gospel: 125 Years of the Melbourne Staff Band, is available from Salvation Army Supplies, 95–99 Railway Road, Blackburn, Vic. 3130. Toll-free: 1800 100 018. Order online at www.salvationarmy.org.au/supplies. \$25.00 plus postage.



MERV COLLINS, CAMBERWELL, 1989





Lieut-Colonel Elsie Irene Hayes

Elsie Irene Edwards was born on 25 July 1928 and grew up in Tasmania. After completing her schooling, Elsie became a department manager at Palfreyman's Department Store in Launceston.

She made a decision to accept Jesus into her life when she was just 10 years old, and later felt God's call to full-time ministry.

Entering the Salvation Army Training College in Melbourne from the Launceston Corps in 1954, she became a cadet with the 'Shepherds' Session. On 13 January 1955, Elsie was commissioned and appointed to Thornbury East and then Fitzroy South (both in Victoria) as assistant corps officer. It was there that her blossoming friendship with Lieutenant Edwin Hayes resulted in their marriage on 17 December 1955.

Their married appointments included time as corps officers at Kaniva, Hamilton, Clayton and Coburg in Victoria. After service at 'The Open Door' and 'The Gill' in Melbourne, they returned to corps work for a term at Preston. Appointments followed as divisional leaders in South Australia and Northern Victoria, with their last appointment served in state social services leadership in Victoria.

They entered retirement on 1 January 1992, but continued to serve, called upon to oversee a number of corps and social centres.

Elsie was a warm and sensitive person who never sought highly visible public roles, but was able to encourage and support many people through her personal relationships and telephone ministry. She was a true servant of her Lord and Saviour and was prepared

to do whatever was needed to the very best of her ability, no matter the task. She was consistent in her life and ministry, witnessing to the saving grace and power of Jesus. Her faith remained strong even as ill health weakened her earthly body.

Lieut-Colonel Elsie Irene Hayes was promoted to Glory from Eastern Health Palliative Care (Vic.) on 9 May, surrounded by her family. She was 86 years old, and is survived by her husband, Lieut-Colonel Edwin Hayes and her children Joy, Sue, Philip and Stephen.

Major Kevin Grigsbey conducted a private committal service at Springvale Crematorium for the life and service of Lieut-Colonel Elsie Hayes, followed by a thanksgiving celebration service held at Inala Village Chapel on 19 May. The songs and Bible reading used in the service were selected by Elsie. Psalm 24 was read by close family friend Kay Taylor, while the territorial commander's tribute was delivered by Major Patricia Willhelme.

A Salvationist tribute was brought by Major Jean Smart and an inspiring family PowerPoint photo and interview tribute was presented by Lieut-Colonel Edwin Hayes, children Joy, Sue, Philip, Stephen and wife Wendy, and grandchildren Karla, Mason, Jackson, Cora, Kate and Bethana.

Major Cedric Barker supported the singing on the chapel's electric organ. The service commenced with the stirring Founder's song, 'O Boundless Salvation', and also included a song of personal testimony, 'My Jesus I Love Thee'. After a reflection from Major Grigsbey, the service concluded to the strains of 'The Glory Song'.

Have you recently been bereaved? Please submit a tribute of no more than 300 words and a photograph to
On Fire, PO Box 479, Blackburn, Vic. 3130, or email: onfire@aus.salvationarmy.org



Olive Mary McGeachin

Olive Mary Catlin was born in the United Kingdom on 17 July 1922 to Sydney and Agnes, and was one of four children. While in England they attended the Clapton Corps, and when

Olive was two years old they moved to Melbourne and settled in Bentleigh.

Olive worshipped with her family at a number of corps—Brighton, Melbourne City Temple, Bentleigh, Hawthorn and finally Waverley Temple. It was in 1952 that Olive became a senior soldier at Hawthorn Corps, where she was a keen songster and timbrelist. In 1963 Olive was appointed primary leader, and also loved attending home league and companion club at the corps.

Olive was a great supporter of the Hawthorn and Waverley Temple bands and supported her husband Alan in his ministry as a member of the Melbourne Staff Band for 10 years. She worked as a dressmaker, for Turners Catering, and for 20 years in a delicatessen in Riversdale Road for fellow Salvationists Jim and Floss Wilcox.

Olive had a great love for the children of the corps and particularly enjoyed their Sunday school anniversaries. Olive was always willing to help out at the corps, including assisting with catering.

She was known as a wonderful encourager, a deeply caring lady who was always interested in other people, and for her lovely, gentle nature and great sense of humour.

On New Year's Eve, Alan and Olive would holiday with other Salvo families in their caravan at Rye, and they also enjoyed travelling overseas with their good friends Norm and Gwen Trembath. Olive valued her visits by the home league secretary, Dell Harvey, from Waverley Temple during which they would pray together. She reflected the love and joy of knowing Christ as her personal Saviour.

Olive Mary McGeachin was promoted to Glory on 8 May, aged 92.

A service of thanksgiving for Olive's life was held at the Inala Village Chapel, conducted by Major Brad and Katrina Potter. Following Olive's favourite song 'O Man of Galilee', the family tributes were given by sons Howard and Wayne McGeachin, and members of Waverley Temple band played 'Christ is All'—another favourite of Olive's. At the conclusion of the service, the corps flag preceded the family in a march to the gates of Inala Village in a fitting tribute to a life well lived in God's service.

The speech

'I need to hear the speech again' is a familiar line in my favourite legal drama, *The Practice*. I've recently been watching this US series which aired some years ago, featuring a firm of lawyers doing battle with the district attorney in Massachusetts. Both sides face a range of challenges in prosecuting or defending people and, at times, they really wonder why they bother with the system at all. I love it when they unashamedly ask a colleague to remind them why they do what they do.

There have been times when I needed to be reminded of 'the speech' again, refocusing on the specific call to action God has placed on my life. In my experience, this happens when the constancy and immediacy of multiple demands cloud my vision, coupled with a life that can quickly get out of balance. In an ideal world I'd love to think that would never happen, yet I'm so very human and things occasionally need realignment. The interesting thing is that, conversely, there are times when I thrive and am energised by all I face; this happens when I am acutely aware that God is being honoured by what I do.

Ultimately, I think we all want to respond to God and live inspired and generous lives that will make a difference. God places deep within us a specific capacity to impact our world and we owe it to him to fulfil our potential. I love it that when I respond obediently to God there are ways he works through me that surprise me. Many times I've been absolutely amazed at what he has done using me. It really shouldn't surprise me that reaching out to others and demonstrating acceptance and care makes such a difference.

I mentioned that, although I know what God expects, there are occasionally times I need to hear 'the speech'. I am discovering that, while I am a quiet guy who enjoys time alone to reflect, spending time with others and engaging in grassroots ministry helps me keep the fires stoked up. One of the great joys I have these days is time with the Melbourne Staff Band where I find myself sharing community with mission-minded people—as well as sharing with Salvationists and friends across the territory. For me, the best strategy to keep my focus on mission is to actually *do* mission!

What am I continuing to learn? When the fire in my heart isn't stoked up and bright, it's time to refocus my vision and remind myself how Jesus did it.

'Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it' Hebrews 12:1–2 (MSG).

Lieut-Colonel Bruce Stevens

Secretary for business
administration



The cautioning Jesus

Geoff Webb shares a series on Mark's Gospel, focusing on special words or phrases that give insight into Jesus, his mission, and his call to be his disciples.

~ MARK 8:1–21 ~

This second feeding miracle appears to be set in a Gentile area. Four thousand people are fed with seven loaves and a few fish, after the disciples—surprisingly—seem concerned about where they would get food for such a crowd. Perhaps they have forgotten the previous miracle—or are they just being obtuse?

Some Pharisees arrive, seeking to be argumentative, and Jesus rebuffs them before leaving. What follows is a strange cautioning of the disciples from Jesus. He tells them to beware of the yeast of the Pharisees, but they misunderstand. They are worried that they have only one loaf in the boat. Perhaps Jesus is concerned that—like the Pharisees—the disciples are so focused on petty concerns that they cannot see God's reign breaking in among them.

So Jesus extends his caution: why are they concerned about no bread? When the Jewish crowd was miraculously fed, there were 12 baskets of leftovers. When the Gentile crowd was fed, there were seven baskets of leftovers. Do they not remember? Do they not understand? As readers, it's not surprising if we feel a little confused ourselves. What is Jesus trying to say?

Twelve is the number of the tribes of Israel—which connects with the earlier Jewish miracle. Seven is a number that symbolises completeness/fullness, which connects with the Gentile feeding. Such is the over-abundance evident with both miracles. Within the reign of God there is more than enough for all of Israel, and more than enough for the fullness of the Gentiles.

Why, then, should the disciples be so concerned about not having enough bread to feed themselves, when Jesus is clearly more than sufficient for the needs of all the Jews and Gentiles?

Jesus cautions us, too, lest we become so focused on petty concerns that we cannot see God's reign breaking in among us. Like the disciples, we need to remember that Jesus is sufficient for our needs. With the eyes of faith, we continue to remember his gracious provision for us. Then we too will understand.

Major Dr Geoff Webb is the Western Victoria divisional commander and vice-chair of the Army's International Theological Council.



Capturing the face of poverty

The Salvation Army's fourth annual national Economic and Social Impact Survey (ESIS), titled 'I Can't Continue to Live Like This', was released on Wednesday, 27 May.

The ESIS 2015 survey provided a detailed analysis of more than 2,400 responses across approximately 260 Salvation Army centres.

Territorial social policy consultant Carolyn Russell told *On Fire* that ESIS 2015 serves as 'a time capsule, capturing Australians' struggles and extreme hardships'.

'We are fortunate,' Ms Russell continued, 'to be able to carry out such research, which highlights the critical social issues for people who experience poverty and disadvantage, and advocates for better outcomes for individuals and their families. The qualitative and quantitative results reveal the experiences of some of the clients we help, as a representative sample of the greater group of Australians we aid each year.'

This year's survey captures the deprivation and disadvantage experienced by those who access Salvation Army Emergency Relief (ER) services. The respondents survive on inadequate income support and their children are directly affected by their family's lack of options and limited economic resources.

More than half of ESIS respondents are from single-parent households, 76% are renting, and 13% have no stable accommodation.

Of those respondents who are renting, 78% experience extreme housing stress and spend almost 60% of their income on accommodation expenses. This leaves respondents with less than \$18 per day to live on.

The survey captures data for more than 2,860 children. Of these, 60% are affected by severe deprivation. Almost two-thirds of children miss out on basic necessities such as out-of-school activities (65%), an internet connection (62%) and fresh fruit and vegetables every day (34%).

'Without these basic life essentials,' the report asserts, 'The Salvation Army is concerned that the future prospects for these children are likely to diminish and lead to increased poverty, lack of opportunity and chronic disadvantage.'

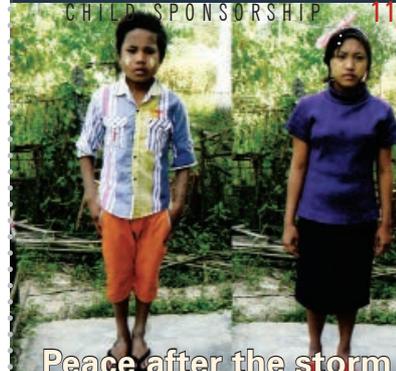
The Salvation Army uses ESIS to advocate for a fair and just response for all Australians, to ensure they can create the resources and develop capabilities to meaningfully engage and contribute in their communities. The Salvation Army's key message from ESIS is that the current political and economic climate may have a detrimental impact on already disadvantaged individuals and their families.

ESIS has proven to be an invaluable piece of research and has provided data to equip Salvation Army personnel, both in advocating on behalf of clients to the federal and state governments, and in appealing to the general public for financial assistance for those clients through the annual Red Shield Appeal.

It is hoped that the 2016 ESIS, as the fifth such survey, will include more trend and comparative analysis to examine changes over time for the client group.

More information can be found at www.salvationarmy.org.au/esis

Due to financial hardship,
75% had to cut down on basic necessities.
57% have gone without meals.



Peace after the storm

Myanmar is a country of challenges. Many face extreme poverty, and two in every five children below the age of five are undernourished. Some areas are still recovering from Cyclone Nargis which devastated the area in 2008. The simple wooden shacks common to the town of Dallah were particularly vulnerable—and The Salvation Army was there to offer help, and the hope of a brighter future. The Dallah Study Guide Program is popular in the small township and offers tuition support to children from very low-income families.

Mg Zin and his sister **Ma Hnin** attend the centre daily. Their father works hard pulling a trishaw, but the income it brings is low—and unreliable. The family know education is an important step in improving future prospects and are eager for their children to access it—but their small income can't cover costs.

Mg Zin is 13 years old and is a clever boy who likes language studies. He wants to become a doctor so that he can help people. Ma Hnin is 16 and enjoys science. She hopes she can be a teacher when she finishes school.

Can you commit to \$35 a month for one year, or make a one-off donation towards their future? Your generosity can change their lives, or the lives of many of Myanmar's other children.

To find out more, contact the child sponsorship team:

(03) 8878 4543

PO Box 479, Blackburn,
Vic. 3130

[childsponsorship@
aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:childsponsorship@aus.salvationarmy.org)

[www.salvationarmy.org.au/
childsponsorship](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/childsponsorship)



ALICE SPRINGS— THE WATERHOLE, NT

SUSAN DOW // Ten members of The Waterhole have signed up to volunteer for an hour of their time on the days that they visit the centre. This covers the many tasks that are needed to be done to ensure that The Waterhole runs smoothly for the benefit of all members and visitors. Volunteers wear a distinctive Salvos T-shirt to show that they are 'on duty'. Above: Volunteers **Janie, Graham** and **Terry**.

APY LANDS MINISTRY, NT

MAJORS DENIS AND KATHLEEN WHITE // Tony and Diane, volunteers from Oakden Salvation Army, Olive from Ingle Farm, and a Catholic friend Carmel, joined Majors Denis and Kathleen White on the latest trip to APY Lands.

Denis and Kathleen also assisted with a series of Bible studies and meetings run by Uniting Church support worker Rev. Peter Greenwood and his colleague Rev. Dr Rob Bos in Mimili, Fregon, Ernabella and Amata.

A Good Friday remembrance included a walk through Amata following a heavy cross cut from the surrounding bushland.

Easter Sunday morning was a joyful celebration of singing, waving branches, Easter eggs and hugs before, and during, the communion service served by Aboriginal leaders.

During the weekend, stories were heard of senior church leaders who were profoundly affected by Salvation Army open-air meetings in Alice Springs in the 1970s.



BERWICK, VIC.

CAPTAINS PETA AND TROY PITTAWAY // Colin and Linda Gould were accepted as adherents on 21 April, when Majors Winsome and Kelvin Merrett conducted the meeting.

Above Left: **Major Kelvin Merrett, Captains Troy and Peta Pittaway, Major Winsome Merrett**. Right: **Linda and Colin Gould** with **Captain Troy Pittaway**.



DARWIN, NT

MAJOR DARRYL ROBINSON // Eighteen men attended the Darwin Men's Breakfast on 18 April. Western Australia Divisional commander, Major Wayne Pittaway, was guest leader and shared his testimony. Following the breakfast, 10 men went tenpin bowling.

Major Wayne was the guest speaker at Darwin Corps at the Sunday meeting, speaking on celebrating life in Christ. He also presented prizes to the top three bowlers.

Above left: The top three bowlers, with **Major Wayne Pittaway** (far left), L-R: **Major Darryl Robinson** (RHQ), **Graham Lee** (Darwin Corps), **Joe Koler** (Salvos Stores). Above right: **Captain Gideon Lumuli**.



OAKDEN, SA

CAPTAIN KAREN McIVER // In April, a 24 Hours of Prayer and Fasting event was held, in which the different stations placed around the hall gave people alternative ways of praying and reflecting (above right).

Activities included music, children's crafts, painting, a prayer tree on which to place prayers, and a labyrinth to give an experience of a slow prayer walk that enabled people to reflect on what they saw, heard and thought.

Throughout the 24-hour period, 20 people attended, with some leaving and then returning for more.

MORWELL, VIC.

LIEUTENANT ASHLEY PROCTOR // At the last Messy Church, the story and message of Joseph were explored. A full-size colourful coat, bread, gift boxes, beards, family pictures and dream pictures were made based. After the celebration time everyone shared in some hot and tasty baked potatoes.



PLAYFORD, SA

MAJOR GLENDA DADDOW AND MAJOR CINDY SHELLENBERGER // On 5 April, Kylie Kassel was enrolled as a senior soldier (left). Kylie has been attending meetings for five years and in the past few months the Lord has been speaking to her about soldiership. It was a privilege for the corps to witness this special occasion in her life.



SOUTH BARWON, VIC.

CAPTAINS MAL AND TRACEY DAVIES // On 24 April, South Barwon and Geelong Corps bands joined together to present an Anzac Tribute Concert, held at St Mary's Basilica, the largest church in Geelong.

The concert included music—connected with the Anzac theme—by Salvationist composers, including 'The Triumph of Peace' by Eric Ball, 'Anthem of the Free' by Dean Goffin, 'Music of the Trenches' by Ian Jones and 'Abide With Me' by Sam Creamer.

Roger Trigg's 'Strong to Save' was introduced by his mother, Lieut-Colonel Pam Trigg, who spoke of Roger's motivation for writing the arrangement.

The evening also featured vocal solos from gifted stage performer Deborah O'Toole, including a memorable a cappella version of 'Danny Boy'.

A brief message was provided by Captain David Day of the Geelong Corps and concluding comments were delivered by Captain Mal Davies of the South Barwon Corps.

Above: Bandmaster **John Collinson** with **Lieut-Colonel Pam Trigg** at the Anzac Tribute concert.



Above, L-R: **Jenny Drew, Robert Adami, Terry Gobell, Fay Wilson, Leigh Wilson.**

GAWLER, SA

CAPTAIN DARREN COX // On 15 March, Jenny Drew was sworn in as a senior soldier and Robert Adami, Terry Gobell, Fay Wilson and Leigh Wilson were accepted as adherents. Four more people will be undertaking membership courses after the Red Shield Appeal.

WVD YOUTH, VIC.

CAPTAIN KARYN WISHART // More than 40 young people and leaders attended the WVD 'Colours of Life' youth camp at the Lady Northcote campsite.

Guest speaker and artist, Lynton Allen (right), helped attendees explore life through his paintings. He spoke from Psalm 139 about being created in God's image, created for a purpose.

Brad Ellis led worship in the house and around the fire. Drawing from John 8, TYS Captain Craig Farrell reminded the group that life is colourful and we need to be the light that brings brightness to the dark places of our world.

Activities included riding mountain bikes, canoeing, the giant swing and flying fox and testing inner adventure resources through the high ropes course.

The camp highlight was the 'Colours of Life' obstacle course where everyone ended up looking like the rainbow (right).



SURREY HILLS CHINESE CORPS, VIC.

AUXILIARY LIEUTENANTS ALAN AND AMY WU // On 1 May, Australia Southern Territory's first auxiliary-lieutenants, Alan and Amy Wu, were warranted at Surrey Hills Chinese Corps by Majors Winsome and Kelvin Merrett.



ABOUT PEOPLE

Births Commissioners Aylene (VIC Chaplain, Salvos Stores) and Raymond Finger and Majors Lyn and Peter Lindstrom, a granddaughter, and Majors Brian and Evelyn Golding, a great-granddaughter, Claire Catherine, 5 May. Majors Lyn and Ron Cochrane (EVD) and Majors Heather and Lance Sharp (CBC, EVD), a granddaughter, Aisha Jayne, on 25 May. Major Winton (MCD) and Captain June Knop (THQ), a granddaughter, and Majors Albert and Doreen Knop, a great-granddaughter, Mabel Joy, on 23 May. Majors Brian and Jenny Pratt (EVD), a granddaughter, Ella Rose, on 12 May. Majors Alan and Val Laurens, a great-grandson, Nathaniel Alan Tinker, on 20 April. Captain Helen Zhou (MCD), a granddaughter, Nina, on 12 May. Captains Gillian and Russell Anderson (NVD), a grandson, Noah Russell, on 27 April.

Promoted Captain Darren Cox, to Major, on 26 May.

Retirements *Effective 1 June:* Major Glenda Daddow, Major Val Wilson.

ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

Commissioners Floyd and Tracey Tidd
13 June—MSB: Pre-Tour concert, Melbourne

Colonels Peter and Jennifer Walker
17 June—Retired Officers Fellowship Meeting, Camberwell, Eastern Vic.

Melbourne Staff Band

13 June—Pre-Tour Concert, Melbourne
20 June—International Tour, Europe

FINNEY'S REVIVAL LECTURES - EDITED BY COMMISSIONER FREDERICK BOOTH-TUCKER

'During the earlier half of the nineteenth century, Charles Finney, the well-known American Evangelist—described by the General as a Presbyterian Salvationist—delivered a series of lectures on "Revival of Religion" to his own congregation in New York.

'Upon publication the lectures attained wide circulation, and, although wellnigh a century has since elapsed, they still exert a far-reaching influence, the principles they set forth being little affected by changing conditions.

'Finney was strongly of the opinion that spiritual harvests can be gathered with as much certainty as harvests of wheat or rice or potatoes, and that it is wrong in soul-saving to work to cast upon God the responsibility of our failure. "He that winneth souls is wise," not, he that tries to win them and fails. The causes of failure, also the conditions of success, are herein fully explained.'

~ Frederick Booth-Tucker, August 1926

Support your minister

'And it came to pass when Moses held up his hand that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand Amalek prevailed.'

~ Exodus 17:11

You will remember this passage and how Aaron and Hur held up Moses' hands until Amalek was defeated. Moses' attitude denotes prayer. The action of Aaron and Hur typifies the duty of churches to co-operate with their pastors in prayer and effort. It is of utmost importance that churches should co-operate with ministers in producing and carrying on a revival.

THE DEVIL'S WORK There are some things that Christians must avoid if they would support their ministers.

By all means avoid utterly the idea, both in theory and practice, that a minister is to promote revivals alone. Many persons are prone to take a passive attitude, as if they had nothing to do. They have employed a pastor and expect him to feed them with comfortable sermons. That is the way, not to Heaven, but to Hell. Where there is no church, or very few members, God may promote a revival without such help. He did so with the apostles. But where there is a church whose members will not work, their influence is worse than infidelity. It is impossible for them to take neutral ground. Professors can in this way do the devil's work better than by open opposition, because they retain their influence, whereas if they opposed everybody would say they have no religion. If inactive, they are like soldiers leaving their general to fight the enemy alone while they look on.

Do not complain about your minister not having a revival if you are not doing your own duty. It is a common thing for churches to blame their minister when he is perhaps much more awake than they are. Again, it is very common for Christians to complain of the low state of their church and pastor, when they themselves are low—forgetting that a church is made up of individuals and that their own low state may constitute a stumbling block. The church cannot awake till each member

takes hold of himself and humbles himself before God and repents and wakes up and does his duty, instead of putting all the blame on the church or organisation to which he belongs.

Do not let your minister kill himself by attempting to carry on the work alone, while you refuse to help him. It is not uncommon for ministers to lay down their lives in a vain and prolonged effort to create a revival where the church refuses its co-operation. An elder went to ask a minister to come and revive a cold dead congregation. They had two good ministers. One had worked himself to death and the other had broken down in health. The minister replied to the elder, 'God forbid that you should have a third come and rock your cradle while you sleep on! Let the congregation repent of their sin and wake up, and then God will send them another minister!' They did so, broke down, and a revival followed. Churches do not realise how often their coldness and backwardness may be the cause of the death of ministers. They work and toil and pray and agonise, till they wear out and die, and then perhaps the church will blame them for working too hard.



PLAIN, POINTED PREACHING Be careful not to complain of plain, pointed preaching, when its reproofs fasten on yourselves. Do not rebel against the truth and call it personal. Preaching cannot be too plain. Some say the faults of the church should not be exposed before the world. A church that refuses to be rebuked cannot expect a revival. Sometimes a church becomes alarmed, lest plain, pointed preaching should offend ungodly members of the congregation, who are wealthy and help to support it. Such a church can never have a revival. Christ can do very well without the money of the ungodly and the object of preaching should be to get them converted.

ASSIST YOUR MINISTER Do not take sides with the wicked in any way, as, for instance, when they complain that the preacher is pointed and personal. Do not admit for a moment that such preaching is wrong or imprudent, or you will

strengthen the sinner in his impenitence. What is personal preaching? No individual is benefited by preaching until he is made to feel that it means him. To whom is your minister to preach, if he is not to mean those to whom he preaches? Better send him away.

If you mean to assist your minister in promoting a revival, do not, by your lives, contradict his preaching. If he preaches that sinners are going to Hell, do not give the lie to it by your levity and unconcern. It is like saying, 'Don't be afraid sinners, you are all right. Do you think we would laugh and joke if you were really going to Hell? If your house were on fire we should not do so, much less if your souls were really in danger.' What use is it to attempt revival in such a church?

EXTRAVAGANCE AND FOOLERIES Do not needlessly waste your minister's time. Do not keep him from his knees, or study or Bible, or soul saving, to talk to him about useless nothings. Remember his time is more precious than gold.

Be sure not to sanction anything that diverts public attention from the subject of religion. TO BE CONTINUED...

To read the original lecture in full visit www.charlesgfinney.com/1868Lect_on_Rev_of_Rel/68revlec03.htm

Or Wessel Helen (ed.), *The Autobiography of Charles G. Finney: The life story of America's greatest Evangelist—in his own words*, Minnesota: Bethany House, 1977

Manningham Salvos

(continued from page 7)

the community of faith at Manningham that they have the opportunity to see the Christian faith lived out week by week and conversations around faith can occur. Gradually people are coming to faith in Jesus.

Familyzone—attended regularly by 40–60 people—is a space for discussions around spiritual heritage with the emphasis firmly on the presentation of the truths of the Christian Gospel. In an attempt to deepen the understanding of those who come, an Alpha course is being run in conjunction with another local church.

Anne and Railton affirm that 'involvement in the community at Doncaster Salvos is not contingent on being a Christian. We believe faith is vital and we want to share the fact that Jesus is the revelation of God. People know this is a Christian community, and so the conversation begins.'

This centre is definitely not 'there' yet—although into its fifth year, the replant is still a work in progress. What is needed more than anything else are some core Christian families who will commit to building God's kingdom in this suburban mission. They are needed to simply be friends to the new families coming from the surrounding area.

None of this happens by accident. The progress of the replant at Manningham is a testament to the vision and hard work of Captains Anne and Railton Hill and the faithful people of Doncaster who follow the example of William and Catherine Booth in their willingness to think 'outside the box'—and then love those who come into the kingdom.

BRON WILLIAMS

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AUSTRALIAN TOUR 2015



Monday 19 October	Brisbane	Edmund Rice Performing Arts Centre
Tuesday 20 October	Grafton	Saraton Theatre
Wednesday 21 October	Port Macquarie	Salvation Army Hall
Thursday 22 October	Newcastle	St Philip's Christian College Theatre
Friday 23 October	Wollongong	Salvation Army Hall
Saturday 24 October	Sydney	Sydney Congress Hall
Tuesday 27 October	Adelaide	Adelaide Town Hall
Wednesday 28 October	Mt Gambier	Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre
Thursday 29 October	Ballarat	Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts

MSB125 Celebrations - ISB & MSB In Concert

Saturday 31 October, Melbourne, Robert Blackwood Hall

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

www.salvationarmy.org.au/ISBtour