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Coordinated approach to tackling issue of homelessness in Perth

■ OPINION

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Homelessness fight continues despite budget snub.

SCOTT SIMPSON | MANAGING EDITOR

HOMELESSNESS WAS THE CENTREPIECE of The Salvation Army's 2018-19 Federal Budget submission to the Turnbull Government. The submission called on the Government to: develop a comprehensive and long-term strategy to address homelessness and housing affordability; commit to 200,000 new units of social housing; and increase the Newstart Allowance by at least \$75 per week.

When the Budget was handed down on the evening of 8 May, it was met with general dismay by those organisations on the front line of Australia's homelessness problem. From a Salvation Army perspective, none of the measures to address homelessness it had called for in its submission were present. In one of its strongest responses to a Federal Budget in many years, The Salvation Army said the Government had failed to deliver on one of the biggest drivers of poverty and disadvantage in the country – the cost of housing.

On any given night, around 115,000 people are homeless in Australia. Some of these are sleeping rough on the streets, but there are also families sleeping in cars, people moving from house to house, staying with friends or family for a night or two at a time because they have no other way of putting a roof over their heads. And it's a growing problem – figures reveal that homelessness is up almost 14 per cent on this time last year.

In this issue of *Others*, we take a look at how The Salvation Army, working in partnership with the community, is providing support to the homeless in Perth. The Salvation Army has stepped up its efforts to care for people living on the streets of the city in recent

years, with Perth Fortress Corps and The Beacon crisis centre spearheading efforts to break the cycle of homelessness. You can find our feature article on pages 22-25 of this issue.

The National Vision Statement of The Salvation Army issues the challenge that, "Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight, alongside others ...". The dedication of Salvos and volunteers in tackling homelessness in Perth is a wonderful example of this statement in action.

AND ANOTHER THING ...

When William Booth returned home from preaching in the poverty-stricken East End of London and declared to his wife, Catherine, "Darling, I have found my destiny", little could he have envisaged the impact those words would have. It was 1865; the year The Salvation Army was born.

More than 150 years later and The Salvation Army now has an official presence in 129 countries and ministers to millions of people every year. Just a handful of weeks ago it elected its 21st General, with Commissioner Brian Peddle to take over as the Army's world leader in early August.

We feature a candid interview with the General-elect in this issue, in which he offers his thoughts on the future of the Army. I encourage you to take the time to absorb the interview; it's a fascinating read. ●

Scott Simpson is the Managing Editor of *Others*





22

Every week, a dedicated team of Salvos and volunteers hits the streets of Perth to tackle homelessness in the city.

Photo: Joel Gibson



Issue 07
July 2018
Cover Design:
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Others is a monthly publication of The Salvation Army in Australia. *Others* is printed by Focus Print Group, 25 Arctic Crt, Keysborough, Vic, 3173, Australia. Print post approved 100008173. Member, Australasian Religious Press Association.

All Bible references are quoted from the *New International Version* unless otherwise stated.

Subscriptions
Annual: \$24 (includes GST).
Available from: subscriptionsothers@aus.salvationarmy.org or phone (03) 8878 2303.

Advertising
Inquiries by email to: advertisingothers@aus.salvationarmy.org



**NATIONAL
VISION
STATEMENT**

Wherever there is hardship or injustice,
Salvos will live, love and fight,
alongside others,
to transform Australia one life at a time
with the love of Jesus.

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Salvation Story

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Identify, invite, invest in and inspire.

Maximising the gift of people who are The Salvation Army

WORDS | COMMISSIONER FLOYD TIDD

Among all the companies producing steel they stood out! They declared: “Our Product is Steel, Our Strength is People.” For almost 50 years in the steel industry they have lived their slogan, becoming recognised as one of the top 100 employers in Canada. They knew what mattered and built their company upon it – people.

Better Stewardship, as one of the six “whys” of the journey to a single national territory, calls everyone to answer not only the questions of why we are here (mission) and where are we going (vision) but also how we use the resources we have to achieve our vision (stewardship). We are committed to better stewardship at every level of the movement.

Our view of stewardship is founded on the biblical principles of ownership, responsibility, accountability and reward. All that we are and have belongs to God. God, as owner, has rights. We, as those to whom he entrusted that which belongs to him, are stewards with a responsibility. God calls us to account, and rewards the effective stewards.

Better Stewardship is about more than our budgets and buildings. We are a movement of people, who are all about people. The Salvation Army’s founder, William Booth, said: “We are a salvation people – this is our specialty – getting saved, and keeping saved, and then getting somebody else saved ...”.

When Jesus called the disciples to leave their nets and follow him, becoming “fishers of men”, he invited them to make his business their business. His business is people. Better Stewardship drives us to carefully consider our greatest resource – God’s people, our people. We can do better. At every expression of The Salvation Army, let us take a close look and consider how we can ensure that we maximise the gift of people who are The Salvation Army.

Jesus knew the power of people. Without budget or buildings, he created a movement that would continue long after he left the earth. He focused his leadership approach upon people; people who would be transformed by encountering the living God, and would live, love and fight to see other people transformed by meeting Jesus.

He identified people – not based on who they were but for who they could become.

He invited people – all kinds of people, even people no one else would consider, to follow him.

He invested in people – his time and teaching, his life and energy.

He inspired people – breathing fresh hope and life, with expectation arising from an awareness that the Kingdom of God was real and coming.

He involved people – took risks, believing in people to join him and grow with him, participating in his mission to save the world.

Look around where you are right now. Who are the people around you? Who can you identify, invite, invest in and inspire. Let’s open the doors and opportunities to involve others in what God is choosing to do in the lives of fellow Salvos and Australians as we share the love of Jesus.

Better Stewardship is our shared responsibility and opportunity. ●

Commissioner Floyd Tidd is National Commander of The Salvation Army in Australia



Tanzania Territory – Laying a strong foundation for growth.



How well do you know The Salvation Army world? This month, we give an overview of one of The Salvation Army’s partners in mission – the Tanzania Territory.

During 2017, the culmination of a capital development initiative enabled renovations to be made to the Mgulani Hostel and Conference Centre and the opening of the new territorial headquarters.

In addition, the territory commissioned 17 new lieutenants and conducted a territory-wide officers’ councils. Commissioners Benjamin and Grace Mnyampi, International Secretary and Secretary for Women’s Ministries, Africa, led this historic weekend.

Communities that border Lake Victoria have experienced growth and development. With support from the USA Central’s 20 New Corps initiative, the expansion has laid a strong foundation for continued ministry in this previously unreached area of the country.

Nearly 7000 people attended the territorial women’s meeting when Lieut-Colonel Mary Mkami, Territorial Secretary for Women’s Ministries, was the guest speaker. Her powerful message not only touched hearts but also provided a platform for the Army to be visible as a strong and vital part of the Evangelical Church in the country.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

New community programs were also a point of focus for the territory. Women’s Ministries began an extensive initiative of community mobilisation and

awareness of the need to combat domestic violence, specifically Female Genital Mutilation.

Although the territory is new to the fight, there have been amazing stories of young girls standing up for themselves, protesting in the community, and refusing to be violated. In this battle, the territory stands firmly on the foundation of righteousness and justice as it partners with other churches, international agencies and the community.

EDUCATION IMPACT

The territory operates two schools that provide centres of excellence in learning, critical thinking and Christian formation for almost 200 children.

The Matumaini centre is a residential primary school for children with disabilities, and children with albinism. In addition to education, the school provides physical therapy and operates a workshop to manufacture and repair walking appliances and wheelchairs.

Located on 160 hectares of rolling grasslands in the highlands of Ilemo, the Itundu secondary school provides education for local communities and boarding facilities for those outside the area.

The school, with almost 300 students, recently began practical training in farming and forestry in partnership with agricultural and forestry organisations.

AT A GLANCE

174	Officers
105	Employees
82	Corps
72	Outposts
2	Institutions
8581	Senior Soldiers
5000	Junior Soldiers

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

In 1950, at the request for assistance from the Colonial Governor, The Salvation Army set up Mgulani Camp to assist homeless and unemployed immigrants. This is now the site of Tanzania Territorial Headquarters.

The Salvation Army was registered in Dar es Salaam (the country’s former capital) in 1961. Tanzania became a separate Salvation Army command on 1 October 1998, and was elevated to territory status on 1 February 2008.

Q&A.

Interview with Australia's Salvation Army International Development team about its projects in Tanzania.

What projects do we have in Tanzania?

There are two active projects in Tanzania: 1. The Tanzania Education and Psychosocial Care and Support Program for Most Vulnerable Children (Recovery Centre); 2. A program empowering vulnerable and marginalised women through a village savings and loans association.

How are these projects building sustainability, improved lives, capacity, and hope, in Tanzania?

1. Since the early 1990s, Tanzania has been witnessing an increasing rate of human trafficking. As a response, this recovery centre project focuses on girls between the ages of 7-18 years old, who have been trafficked, or are at risk of being trafficked. Through the support, counselling, education and life skills training that is offered, these young girls are able to be rehabilitated in the hope that they are able to go on to have meaningful futures that facilitate the realisation of their full potential. To assist with the breaking of the human trafficking cycle, this project also works to educate the villages and communities where these girls come from, to stop the continued flow of trafficked girls in and out of Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania's most populous city), and to reinforce both the local and national government protection apparatus though increased engagement in the fight against human trafficking.

2. Poverty is a major social and economic challenge faced by a vast proportion of the

female Tanzanian population. Women struggle to send their children to school, to meet much-needed medical expenses, and to provide adequate nutritious meals for their families. To date, we have seen women increase their ability to invest in better familial nutrition, improve their living conditions, educate their children, provide adequate medical care, meet basic household needs, and also be empowered to make decisions independent of their husbands.

What is Australia learning from its relationship with Tanzania – culturally, spiritually or in any other way?

Australia and Tanzania are Partners in Mission, meaning that we have been linked to support each other both financially and in ministry, working together to strengthen one another in all that we do. Through this meaningful relationship, we share resources, stories, prayers, knowledge and much more. Tanzania has reminded us of the amazing levels of resilience that human beings can possess, of the importance of friendship and of fellowship first, and of perseverance to ensure that we truly put the needs of others first, particularly those that are most vulnerable.

How do you see the relationship with Tanzania going forward?

Australia's relationship with Tanzania is focused on the future. Together we will continue to grow as partners, supporting each other wherever possible. ●

How we are helping in Tanzania.

The Salvation Army oversees many projects aimed at bettering the physical, spiritual and emotional lives of Tanzanians, including:



Viewpoint.

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WORDS

DANIELLE STRICKLAND

Making peace in our world.

How listening could change everything

IF THERE WAS EVER a time for peace it's now. We need it, badly. And I don't mean the kind of peace that keeps quiet. That's a kind of keeping the peace that disguises itself as nice and kind but is instead a deeply passive insistence on the status quo.

People who “keep the peace” have the luxury of wilful blindness and are most likely those who have something to lose if true peace (justice/fairness/equality/rightness) was ever actually made. What we really need right now in our desperate world is true peacemaking. The kind Jesus suggested would usher in the Kingdom of God. Peacemaking – like troublemaking but turned upside down.

Peacemaking – people with voices who speak up for the underdog and go out of their way to get in the way of injustice, exposing the deep and dark places of racism, hatred, abuse, and oppression in the desperate belief that exposure is the first step on the train to healing. Peacemaking is an active presence of goodness in the world. It's a decision to get our heads out of the sand and live into the reality of our current global context. There is so much peace to be made. But where to begin?

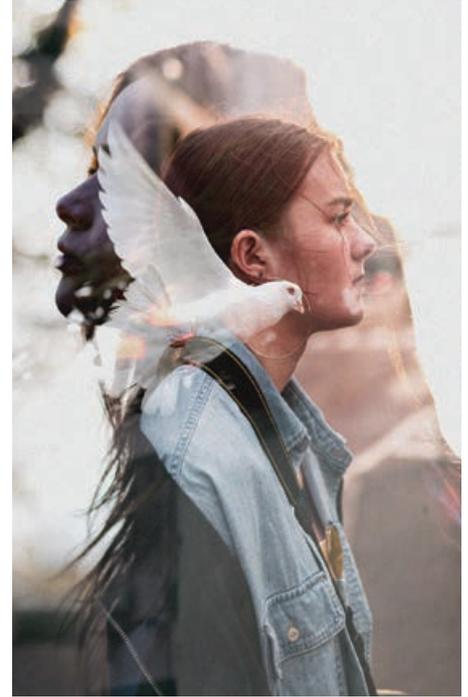
Recently, Amplify Peace (amplifypeace.com), an organisation I helped co-found,

led a group of women on a peacemaking pilgrimage to the Holy Land. It was a trip intended to veer far from the average one – going out of our way to get in the way of folks who were suffering and thriving in the midst of deep and horrible oppression. We wanted to get immersed in the realities of making peace, so we sought out people who were trying to do just that. People stuck in the midst of the long trauma of conflict but who were seeking to live a different way. People who looked and sounded a lot like Jesus.

We had a pretty simple framework that I think might be helpful to anyone who is wondering how to become a peacemaker in their own world. Listen – Learn – Live. It is this first way of making peace in the world – listening – that I want to focus on.

Listen. This is much harder than it first sounds. Listening is an act of solidarity with the person you are trying to hear. And this is where we get a bit specific. Whose voice have you not heard? And how can you begin to make some peace by choosing to listen to the voices of those whom you don't know? At the heart of every human being is a sacred beginning. And to find that human heart can take some uncovering of our own prejudice and distorted perspective, and the only way to get to that divine connection of a shared humanity is to listen to each other.

Many of the people we think we “know about” we have not met. This is because the world is designed to keep us apart, to separate us. And this separation increases fear and the fear keeps us in conflict. And peace is lost. So, peacemaking begins by choosing to move in the opposite direction of oppression and injustice. Those of us with the power to choose where we go and what we do and who we talk to can make the deliberate decision to listen to those we have not yet heard.



So, what might that journey look like for you? Identify whose voice you have not heard. It may be a new immigrant family from another culture, a person from another faith, someone socially excluded or left out of the narrative of our dominant cultural norms. Then seek them out. This is where it gets a little hard and when we realise that the kind of listening peacemaking requires of us will be a bit costly.

You may need to volunteer somewhere or make a trip or a phone call to someone who might be able to help you connect with someone you wouldn't naturally connect with. It will feel awkward and that's okay. You will feel like a beginner and that will be a great blessing. You will be the one asking for help – and that will be a great chance to live in the upside down kingdom of God. No wonder God called peacemakers blessed! ●

Danielle Strickland is a Salvationist who blogs at daniellestrickland.com. This is an edited version of the original article that appeared on her website.



WORTH
QUOTING.

The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives.
– D.L. Moody

WORDS

NARI MCGIFFORD

Because of her.

Join the movement for a better future

AT THE END of a long week, at the end of what has been a long couple of months, I leave my office and head to my car. As the sun sets and darkness falls, I see a woman from our community standing in the middle of the road as a bus approaches. She is staggering and seems unsure what to do. In the end, she lies down in the middle of the road.

Fortunately, the bus slows and navigates around her, but it doesn't stop. Neither do the next couple of cars. A small group of people gathered nearby, who have been watching proceedings, return to their conversations and their cigarettes. I take a deep breath, knowing my plans of relaxing with the kids and a movie this evening have just been bumped. I am grateful when a driver stops and helps me move the woman off the road. Then I'm faced with a dilemma – what do I do next?

You see, this woman is known in our community. She is indigenous, homeless and more often than not intoxicated. She is usually ignored, laughed at, mocked, judged or taken advantage of. Sometimes there are people who will look after her when she can no longer take care of herself, but not tonight.

I have the option of the police or the ambulance. Sadly, I choose the police. As I sit with this woman, concerned that if I leave she may wander back onto the

road – or as often happens, people will take advantage of her inebriated state – we traverse the many emotions of a person who has had too much to drink.

As I sit with her, with little option but to listen, I am given a glimpse into the life of a person who has experienced a life very different to my own. For more than 40 years she has been homeless, drifting around the community. It's in this moment I am reminded again that, while I've worked hard and made some wise choices, I've had it easy compared to many others simply because of where and when I was born and to whom.

In 2017, there was a gathering of the first sovereign nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent island peoples, at the National Constitutional Convention at Uluru. The convention penned the Uluru Statement from the Heart (referendumcouncil.org.au/event/uluru-statement-from-the-heart). Among other things, it says: "Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future."

It is in these moments that I pray and petition God for "Kingdom Now!" I plead for the vision of Revelation 7: "Great multitudes that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. In loud voices they cry out 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb'."

I follow this with the promise of God: "Never again will they hunger; never

again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (Revelation 7:16-17)

But praying and petitioning is not enough. The theme of NAIDOC Week (8-15 July) is: "Because of her, we can!"

It celebrates the role that women have played – and continue to play – as significant role models at community, local, state and national levels. As I've reflected on the hour I sat waiting with this woman, I've been challenged. I'm in a fortunate situation where I have many choices.

Because of her, I can:

- Turn away and hope someone else will stop.
- Judge her for drinking too much alcohol.
- Blame government, missionaries and colonialists who have gone before.

Or

- I can reach out and care.
- I can learn to (really) listen and to (really) hear.
- I can contribute to reconciliation and walk in unity.

At the conclusion of the Uluru Statement there is an invitation: "We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future."

Because of her, I choose to walk in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

Will you join this movement too? ●

Captain Nari McGifford is the
Corps Officer at Alice Springs.


**WORTH
QUOTING.**

There is no reward equal to that of doing the most good to the most people in the most need.
– General Evangeline Booth

WORDS

PETER HOBBS

The soldiership dilemma.

Have we missed Jesus' missional intent

TO BE A DISCIPLE of a rabbi in a Jewish system you had to be the best of the best. You had to be someone who jumped through a lot of systemic hoops in order for a temple rabbi to invite you to “follow me”.

It's interesting that when Jesus started his ministry, he changed the reality of disciple making. He shifted the requirement from being about moral motivation, to himself being the motivation. He empowered people who didn't fit the established temple/disciple mould. He connected with “unclean people”, those whom Jewish society wouldn't have allowed to get anywhere near the temple to worship God. For example, the tax collector Matthew would not have made the cut because his profession and the port where he collected taxes were a disgrace to the Jews. Jesus called the disgraced Matthew to “follow me”.

“Follow me” is what a rabbi says to the best of the best. So, when Jesus called the worst of the worst to follow him, he sent a strong message to the Jewish religious establishment that the mission had shifted. It was now not only for the Jews but for everyone, and this not only showed Matthew how special he was to God, but even more radical, that he could be a respected missionary of the Gospel and socially reconciled because of Jesus.

Jesus opened up the requirements for what it meant to be a disciple. He simply saved and then sent, simplifying discipleship to what he originally intended.

Why did he do this? I believe it was for intentional missional strategy. He made this change because God's answer to problem solving is involving all kinds of people. Jesus recruited people who spoke the cultural language of those around them and didn't let anything get in the way of his movement. He started a passionate and internally motivated Kingdom movement, got rid of the movement blockers, and empowered people to share the Good News that the Trinity would restore everything. He invited/recruited everyone to be involved in his mission without discrimination.

In a Salvation Army context, the idea of becoming a disciple is similar to becoming a soldier. To become a Salvation Army soldier, you have to do soldiership classes, promise to live a high and moral life where you're not going to drink alcohol and smoke, etc. Here's the problem: Jesus would make a great adherent. Soldiership not only excludes Jesus but it also excludes the majority of people within our society who don't wish to make these lifestyle promises.

Many people will say, “What's the problem? That's why we have adherency, which caters for people who don't want a ‘higher calling’.” However, this higher calling creates a two-tier exclusiveness, which Jesus opposed, and allows for unbiblical power and segregation problems within community. The adherents in my ministry setting are as equally passionate and active followers of Jesus as our soldiers, except the adherents can't become officers because they are not soldiers. They would argue that they are genuine soldiers because they have encountered Jesus, and he has

transformed their lives to the point where they now partner in the mission of God.

So, I ask the question, is soldiership as it exists today similar to temple discipleship in Jesus' day? A movement blocker? If so, how do we fix this? Well, the answer is to be like Jesus, remove the blockage and model a different reality. Soldiership would then be something close to: *Anyone who follows Jesus and acknowledges his presence in their life and who is part of our Salvation Army family on mission together, is a soldier in The Salvation Army.*

The benefit of empowering all people into a soldiership journey with Jesus like this, is that it creates an environment of equality without condemnation, simplifying soldiership to what Jesus originally intended. When soldiers are raised by being on mission with Jesus, we will also see a radical increase in spiritually mature apostolic and prophetic leaders in The Salvation Army – the type of leaders who pioneer movements.

I'm aware this could be a controversial topic within The Salvation Army, but no more controversial than it was for Jesus when he introduced it to Judaism 2000 years ago. Imagine existing volunteers, partners in the mission and those faithful adherent elders and leaders at our centres who have never been able to be soldiers because of a few lifestyle choices, now being seen as mainstream missionaries in The Salvation Army. Not only mainstream missionaries, but our future leaders and officers.

If ever the world needed a movement of soldiers it is now. The only requirement is Jesus, and he is enough. ●

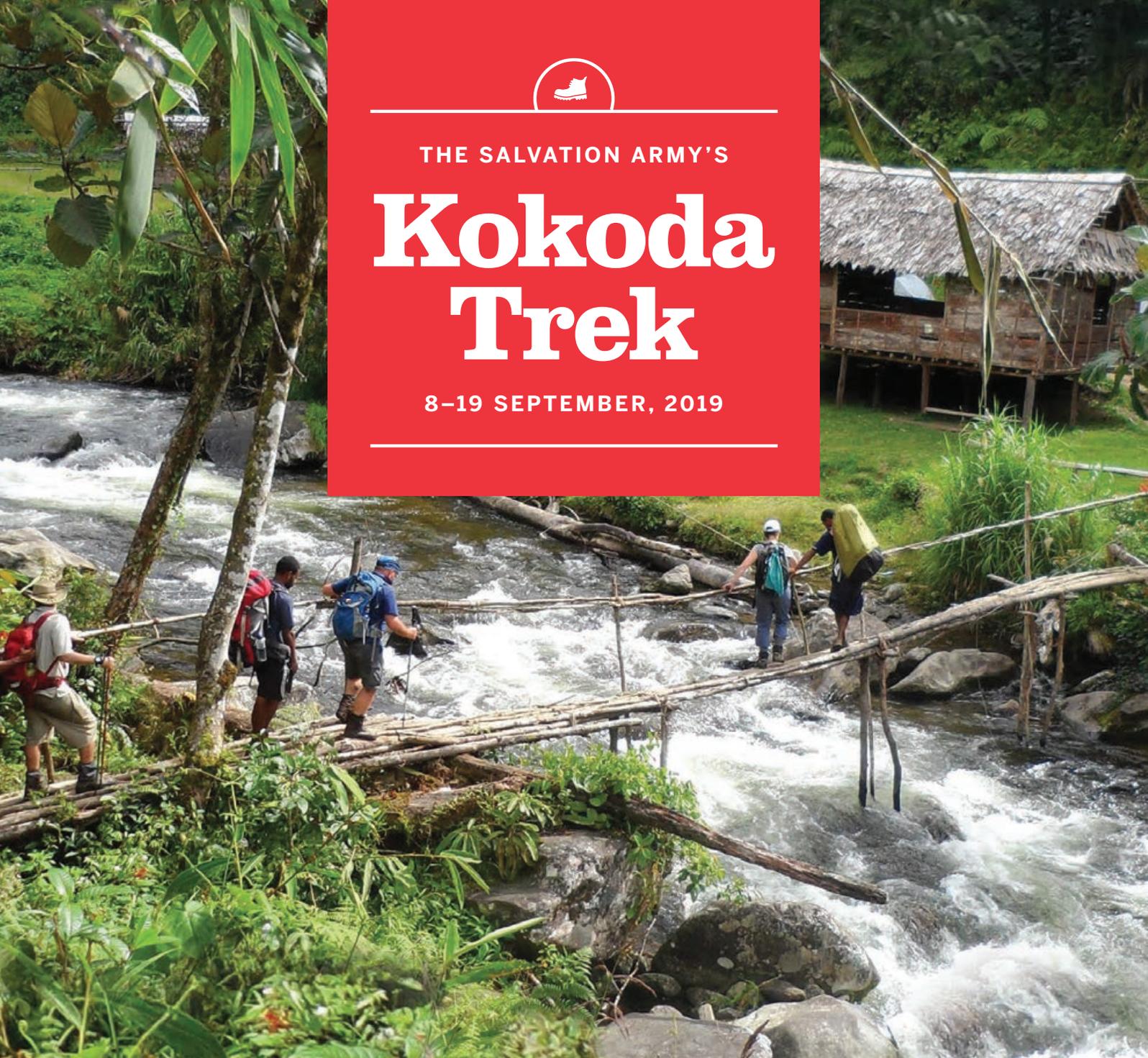
.....
 Captain Peter Hobbs is Corps Officer at Bellarine Peninsula.



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8-19 SEPTEMBER, 2019



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\$5,095 (dep. Brisbane)

\$4,095 (land only)

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\$770

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WORDS
CLAIRE HILL

Better Stewardship is a must.

Claire Hill talks to National Chief Secretary, Colonel Mark Campbell, about one of the six ‘whys’ of our National Transformation: Better Stewardship.

*Wherever there is hardship or injustice,
Salvos will live, love and fight,
alongside others,
to transform Australia one life at a time
with the love of Jesus.*

– National Vision Statement

To start us off, Mark, can you tell us what “better stewardship” means?

It’s really about us sitting back and asking: “How can we better utilise what God has given to us?” I think we’ve got to get better at two things. One is financial sustainability and, two, living within our means, both exercising a good level of faith. But it’s not just about money; it’s about buildings, property and, first and foremost, people.

Some Salvos have questioned the addition of a third Territorial Headquarters (THQ) building in light of the better stewardship goal. Can you help us understand why THQ Glen Waverley was needed?

Previously we had two territories with proportionate numbers of administrative staff on two THQ buildings (Blackburn and Redfern). As you would expect with our national headquarters being located in Melbourne, we’re now seeing more staff in Blackburn, less in Redfern, but less overall. Glen Waverley is an overflow to cater for the short term.

So there won’t be an increase to THQ officer and staff numbers?

Perhaps initially there might be, because we have the Transition Support Team helping us up until the end of the calendar year, but eventually there will be less officers and staff at a THQ level.

What other things are being put in place to help us achieve better stewardship?

We’re looking at the relationship between Salvos Stores and Family Stores. Could Salvos Stores manage Family Stores and give allocations to corps and manage it that way? It’s a question I think we need to consider. Then there’s Salvos Funerals – I think that has been a great initiative. Financial sustainability is not always about cutting things, it’s actually about the income side as well. And our national property team is looking at how we can utilise our properties more efficiently so that we house a number of expressions of The Salvation Army on one property. These are just a few examples.



Colonel Mark Campbell has spoken about why Better Stewardship is an essential component of the national transformation journey. Photo: Carolyn Hide.

If I'm working on the front line, will I have more money to spend or will I be asked to spend less?

It's not about, "THQ's going to give me another \$100,000 a year that I can do what I like with" for every corps. I think it's quite unrealistic to expect that. But I think those on the front line will find a new level of freedom in decision making. In the past, our levels of bureaucracy have sometimes strangled innovation and suffocated people's leadership. We've streamlined the leadership structure (with all divisional leaders now national leaders, and area officers close to the front line) which should help with this. We're also introducing an authority matrix which will give more authority to the front line. So if you're within your budget and your income is going well, you have every right to spend your budget. You don't need to go back to DHQ (divisional headquarters) for approval; you can get on with it! So from a stewardship perspective, they might not get more but they'll have more authority and responsibility over what they have.

So better stewardship is not just the responsibility of a few?

It's on all of us, from the National Commander down.

Is there anything else you would like to say to Salvos around the country about this topic?

Major Phillip McLaren mentored me for a while when I commenced in the public relations team. He would talk about 2 Samuel 24:24 when David said: "I will not offer to God that which has cost me nothing." Real sacrifice comes at a cost. There has been a cost to people at every level throughout our national transformation, in all sorts of ways – financially, emotionally, good people – and I want to acknowledge that. The thing is, if we want to offer something to the Lord that's better, it will cost us something. If we want to be known for being a spiritual movement that's transforming Australia one life at a time with the love of Jesus ... better stewardship is a must. ●

Better Stewardship is one of the six 'whys' of the National Transformation journey. Over the last few months in Others we have looked at Increased Innovation, Aligned Vision and Greater Impact. In the coming months we will focus on Stronger Partnerships and United Voice.

.....
Claire Hill is Communications Coordinator for the Transition Support Team.

The Six 'Whys'



Aligned Vision



Increased Innovation



United Voice



Stronger Partnerships



Better Stewardship



Greater Impact



Commissioner Brian Peddle, General-elect.

- 📅 **Date of Birth:**
August 1957
- 🏠 **Nationality:**
Canadian
- 💍 **Married:**
Rosalie Rowe, August 1978
- 🏠 **Home territory:**
Canada and Bermuda
- ⚙️ **Commissioned:**
June 1977

Appointments:

- Canada & Bermuda Territory, Corps (July 1977)
- Training College (December 1979)
- Divisional Headquarters (June 1985)
- Corps appointments (July 1988)
- Divisional Headquarters (June 2000)
- Divisional Commander (June 2001)
- New Zealand, Fiji & Tonga Territory Divisional Commander (February 2007)
- United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland Chief Secretary (June 2009)
- Canada and Bermuda Territory Territorial Commander (July 2011)
- International Headquarters International Secretary for the Americas & Caribbean (September 2014)
- Chief of the Staff (November 2015)

WORDS

SCOTT SIMPSON

Destination Down Under.

New world leaders bound for Australia

General-elect Commissioner Brian Peddle and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle will head to Australia later this year, for what will be one of their first major engagements after taking over as the new world leaders of The Salvation Army.

The Peddles, *pictured left*, will make the long trip from the Army's International Headquarters in London, to be the special guests at Still Others, a week-long national conference in Melbourne that will have as its centrepiece the official launch of the new Australia Territory. Other major events at the conference, which will run from Tuesday 27 November to Monday 3 December at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, are the commissioning of new Salvation Army officers, the "Our Christmas Gift" concert spectacular, a Salvo Expo, mission workshops, and youth and family-focused celebrations. For more information about Still Others, go to salvos.org.au/stillothers

The visit of the Peddles will bring to full circle the General-elect's involvement in the process to transition the Australia Eastern and Australia Southern territories to one Australia Territory. It was Commissioner Peddle who in his role as the Army's Chief of the Staff, made the announcement on the front lawn of Parliament House in Canberra on 1 March 2016 that the two territories would become one.

Commissioner Peddle was elected the 21st General of The Salvation Army in May, at a High Council that involved more than 100 of the most senior Salvation Army officers in the world. Commissioner Rosalie Peddle, the World Secretary for Women's Ministries, will step up to the role of World President of Women's Ministries. They will replace General André Cox and Commissioner Silvia Cox, who have been world leaders of the Army since August 2013.

"We are overwhelmed to say the least, but are deeply honoured and feeling somewhat unworthy by the momentous task that lies before us," says the General-elect. "We feel very much that we already love the international Salvation Army and it will not be difficult for us to embrace our diversity in our many countries and peoples around the world."

Commissioner Peddle has announced that Commissioner Lyndon Buckingham, an officer of the New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga Territory, will move into the role of Chief of the Staff.

The General-elect, who will assume the responsibilities of world leader when General Cox retires at midnight on 2 August, has, in an interview with the International Secretary for Communications, Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Venables, provided an insight into what the future holds for The Salvation Army under his leadership. ▶

Lieut-Colonel Brian Venables: *We have a very good outline of your history with The Salvation Army, but we want to know a little bit about you. What excites you? What gets you up in the morning? What makes your day?*

Commissioner Brian Peddle: Sleep and rest are a necessity but engaging a new day comes easy. I wake with three thoughts: First, I hope the family is okay, then I hope the Army is okay and finally I hope the world is okay – and all before you make the first coffee, through a check on social media. As an international leader I am keenly aware that while I am finishing my day, half the world is just beginning. The idea and thought that The Salvation Army is a 24/7 reality is quite intriguing. As never before, I am aware that the sun never sets on The Salvation Army flag. What excites me is the ongoing reality that people are engaged in mission, and the vibrant activity of the Army continues. The gospel is being preached, suffering humanity is being served, strategies are being planned, schools opening for children, a mobile clinic rolls into a needy community, or a meal is served. What gets me up in the morning is knowing that the Army has not been sleeping – it's a living organism and I engage with it as soon as I wake. I find that quite inspiring.

How did you come to The Salvation Army?

That was an interesting time in the life of my family. I credit my mum and dad, who were not Salvationists but were a bit uncomfortable with things that were happening in their local church. In obedience to God they started to go to the Army and sometimes I would go along. Early in that experience they found a really good place in the Army where they were welcomed and embraced. Before I knew it, we were attending! I was immediately taken by the music, by vibrant preaching. I was used to a very quiet, formal liturgical experience. I admit I was attracted, pulled

in and warmly welcomed and embraced by corps officers and people who displayed God's love and genuine interest in us.

So, there were other opportunities to be engaged besides family worship. Were you involved in the music sections or corps cadets [discipleship program for teenagers]?

No, I missed most of that by not showing up until I was 14-15 years of age. I had skipped some of these formative things that many of our Salvationists get to enjoy as kids growing up in the Army. Strangely that was never an issue. I soon became a soldier and without a lot of time in between was sensing a call to officership and not to be dismissive. The rest is history as I now get to lead this incredible Army that gave me space and a spiritual home as an uncertain teenager.

“

I am deeply aware that I need to be the 21st General for the 21st century.

”

Have your children been part of junior soldiers and corps cadets?

As an officer family we mostly remember two corps where our girls were nurtured and cared for by wonderful people who are still our friends today. They shared in all the programs which gave them the gift of music, contributed to their leadership capacity and helped develop their faith experience. It was wonderful and rewarding. One of my concerns is how we help our young people to be discipled in today's world. I'm concerned, for instance, about those very good formative discipleship programs (junior soldiers and corps cadets) that my kids participated in and I am not sure they are equally available now. You can be certain you will hear me say more in the future about our children and youth.

What will be your immediate focus as General-elect?

With the help of those around me I am already in transition mode! It does help that I have worked closely with the present General and I am already a part of every dialogue and initiative. Any handover will be easy due to a very positive relationship with General Cox.

What are your priorities?

There are agenda items that have been a part of us for the past few years – the Accountability Movement, the focus on child protection, the governance dialogue, with a focus on better systems and infrastructure. We have done that while still taking on the responsibility of winning the world for Jesus and growing the Kingdom. General Cox has enabled the Army to implement many important initiatives and I will continue to embed these things, but I don't think they will require as much of my attention. So, my sense of priority would be to redirect some of those resources that are no longer required to make sure we reinvest those energies in our unique mission focus, engagement with our officers and soldiers while articulating as clearly as possible God's present call upon the Army. The Army must again live up to its call to be a mission-focused Army. What I mean by that is every soldier, every officer, all of us together accepting our responsibility to be a valued Army in the world in which we live. This means that the two significant aspects of our mission statement – preaching the gospel unashamedly and serving suffering humanity – need to remain connected. I am deeply aware that I need to be the 21st General for the 21st century.

At this preliminary stage, what is your vision for the Army beyond August 2018?

We come to this role at an excellent time, where the Army is able to work out of a position of great strength. Moving forward and moving from strength to strength is probably what I need to say. I sometimes



roll around the phrase in my mind “forging a path into the future”. We stand on the shoulders of many good people and we honour them. They worked with the issues of their day to build a great and much respected Army, but we have to grapple with the issues that are confronting the Army in our day. We cannot be unclear or ambiguous about things that are of concern to our people around the world, yet we must do that within a diverse reality. We need to remember that while we are an international Christian movement we cross many cultural boundaries and we need to understand and respect the cultural context. We live in a rapidly changing world and Salvationists need to be safe in their belief structure and faithful but not disconnected. All of these things could appear to be in conflict, so as General, for the next five years, I intend to lead

One Army, and keep that One Army intricately connected and focused while we honour and deal with the diversity that’s all around. That will be a particular challenge, and to do it in a way in which the movement continues to impact the world in which we live.

As the General-elect of The Salvation Army what relationships both internal and external do you want to grow, enrich or build upon?

I will leverage on the diversity we have around the world. We have 59 territories and commands and three regions. I have not forgotten the [2015] Boundless Congress where, despite our many differences and the breadth of our diversity, our worship, our doctrine, our sense of mission brought us together as an Army family. There are committed

leaders who care for the Army daily and have been given responsibility to lead the Army in their part of the world. They are an extension of the General’s office and that relationship is very sacred. I want a responsibility to both honour and lead my leaders. My primary concern will be to have a positive consultative relationship with my leaders. I indicated to the High Council that if elected I would take on this role because I’m available to serve and, by God’s grace, I would do that with the partnerships and strengths in that room. Beyond that we have any number of relationships that are important to us. For instance, the ISJC [International Social Justice Commission] helps us to find ourselves at various tables and sitting in partnership with groups and organisations. Salvationists should watch carefully as agendas on the world scene ▶



develop and know we are engaged. There are constant appeals to the Army to put our name on any kind of manifesto, so we look at those and we say: “Is that a partnership we want to have; is that where we need to leverage?” I think some attention to those kinds of things needs to continue and then on a more local level be encouraged. Partnerships are important to us. We cannot make an impact in the world on our own.

Have you considered what strategies you could employ to stay connected to The Salvation Army family?

So far we have travelled to 30-plus countries in the world. Rosalie and I already have a huge heart that wants to embrace the Army. We’ll do that in a manner in which we only know how – that’s relationally. It’s our sense that the Army actually is embracing us. I went through a lot of my years as a territorial commander or a divisional commander saying: “Lord, don’t let me leave obvious handprints on the Army that are Brian Peddle’s”. In the past years the Army has actually been leaving handprints on me. Our interaction with the Army, our people, their sacrificial service and their sense of mission has changed us. So we look forward to connecting with people around the world – we identify with who they are, what’s important to them and how they want to be a part of the Army. So, embracing the Army with its diversity – nations, peoples, languages, cultures, worship – will be one of our greatest joys.

As General-elect, what is your view of the current state of affairs in The Salvation Army?

State of affairs? That could take a while! I look to the Army – and confess my knowledge of it is substantial – and I see it warts and all. We are not perfect nor do we have everything right but you would have to be a very pessimistic person to not see what God is doing. Being the Chief of the Staff for the past three years, my sense is that the Army is well and it has the ability to move forward and continue to discover and claim our place in the world. We have a number of unifying agenda items that we need to work on and though they will be difficult it will be for the good of the cause. We are strengthening a number of support mechanisms – finance and information technology platforms. These improved structures will enable us to do the things that come into view after that. Financially the Army is being well managed and we celebrate that while trying to figure out how we support the international Army in places where resources are not plentiful. That remains a challenge. I think the continuation of all of these will be important. The Army faces a bittersweet reality in the area of growth and advancement. We have to call for more soldiers, more [officer] candidates. In 10 years I want the Army to be a spiritually-vibrant, resourced-for-mission, fit-for-purpose Army. I want Salvationists to believe that God is doing a new thing among us. I refuse to limit God or consider for even a moment that our



(Above left) The Peddles with world leaders General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox. (Above) Brian Peddle in Australia with Commissioners Condon and Commissioners Tidd.

best days are behind us. What I would like to see is every junior soldier, every soldier, every officer engaged in the mission of the Army – winning souls, caring for suffering humanity and knowing that the Kingdom of God is growing.

How can The Salvation Army support the General?

To me that’s obvious; the prayers of God’s people will be the refuge that I will rely upon. Additionally, the wisdom of Solomon, the strategic approach of Joshua, and the courage of Peter are all needed. Salvationists around the world can pray daily for the well-being of the General, the agenda that’s in front of him, and all that will be required – courageous leadership and so on – to make sure that we’re not managing the Army but leading the Army. ●

This is an edited version of the interview with the General-elect. To read the full interview go to others.org.au/features

Lieut-Colonel Brian Venables is The Salvation Army’s International Secretary for Communications.

Salvation Army Generals.



1. William **Booth**
1878-1912

2. Bramwell **Booth**
1912-1929

3. Edward **Higgins**
1929-1934

4. Evangeline **Booth**
1934-1939

5. George **Carpenter**
1939-1946

6. Albert **Orsborn**
1946-1954

7. Wilfred **Kitching**
1954-1963

8. Frederick **Coutts**
1963-1969

9. Erik **Wickberg**
1969-1974

10. Clarence **Wiseman**
1974-1977

11. Arnold **Brown**
1977-1981

12. Jarl **Wahlström**
1981-1986

13. Eva **Burrows**
1986-1993

14. Bramwell **Tillsley**
1993-1994

15. Paul **Rader**
1994-1999

16. John **Gowans**
1999-2002

17. John **Larsson**
2002-2006

18. Shaw **Clifton**
2006-2011

19. Linda **Bond**
2011-2013

20. André **Cox**
2013-2018



21. Brian **Peddle**
2018-

High Council decision shows national leaders' commitment to Australia.

FACED WITH ONE of the biggest decisions of their officership, Commissioners Floyd and Tracey Tidd discovered just how deep their commitment to Australia runs. Both Canadians, the Tidds have been national leaders of The Salvation Army in Australia since early 2016, and leaders of the Australia Southern Territory for three years prior to that. They are overseeing the transition of the Army to one Australia Territory, due to be officially launched in January 2019.

Early on during the High Council, Commissioner Floyd found himself one of nine nominees to become the 21st General of The Salvation Army. He chose to decline, citing unfinished business in Australia as the primary reason. "It [the nomination] was a surprise to Tracey and I," he says. "We were humbled and honoured that colleagues in the room saw a confidence in us to take on that mantle of leadership. It was a bit overwhelming.

"Tracey and I spent some significant time reflecting and praying and really seeking God's intention. I felt very firmly and very confidently that God's intention for us is to remain in Australia and to see this Australia One project through, which we are more than excited to do!

"We have been working together with a dynamic team of officers, soldiers and employees for the last two years on this project [Australia One] and the year ahead is probably the most challenging, and at the same point in time the most exciting opportunity in the Australia One journey. We are committed with Salvationists and so many others across Australia to fulfil the work before us, repositioning The Salvation Army to be used by God to do a new thing in this great Southland of the Holy Spirit."

The Tidds have also expressed their support for Commissioners Brian and Rosalie Peddle, describing them as a "good move" for the Army.

"I think Brian Peddle as General is a good lead for us," says Commissioner Floyd. "He's been in this space for the last two and a half years as Chief of the Staff, and he knows the international scene well. He understands where we are functioning, how we are functioning, the agenda that's being pursued and is able to then build upon that agenda. So, I think it's a good move for us as an Army."

Commissioner Tracey, who knows Commissioner Rosalie Peddle personally having previously worked with her in their shared homeland of Canada, is encouraged by the international leadership she will bring to her role as World President of Women's Ministries.

"Commissioner Rosalie is a gifted and passionate officer," says Commissioner Tracey. "She has a passion for women's ministries not limited to the variety of programs that are offered around the international Army, but the unique impact that women in ministry and leadership can bring to the Army and the world. She has been the driving force behind a number of initiatives and I anticipate she will initiate change in a number of areas to see us more effective."

Six Australian officers were also involved at the High Council: Commissioners Peter and Jennifer Walkers (leaders of the Indonesia Territory), Colonels Rodney and Wendy Walters (leaders of the Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar Territory) and Colonels Kelvin and Julie Alley (leaders of the Papua New Guinea Territory). ●

- Scott Simpson



A light that never goes out.

Beacon centre offering hope to Perth's homeless

The Salvation Army has stepped up its efforts to care for people living on the streets of Perth in recent years, with The Beacon crisis centre and Perth Fortress Corps spearheading efforts to break the cycle of homelessness in the Western Australia capital.

WORDS

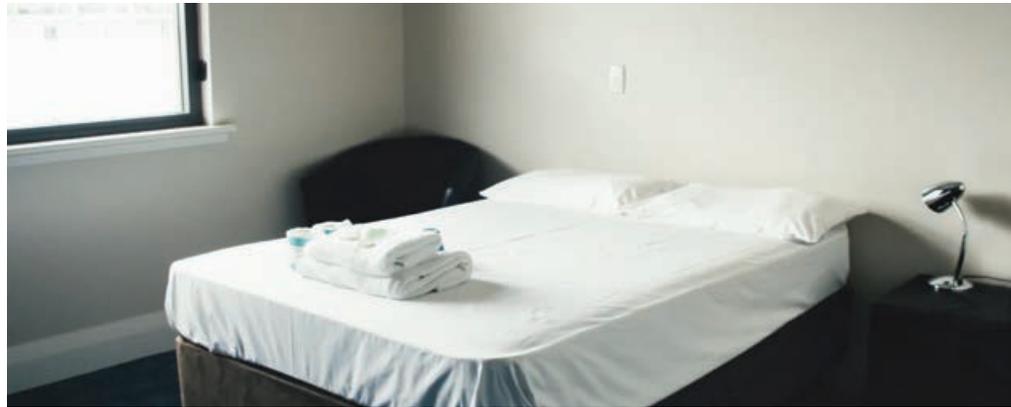
SIMONE WORTHING

The Salvation Army's Beacon crisis and transitional accommodation facility in downtown Perth is just that – a place of love, care and hope that shines brightly in the city. It's a place that restores broken lives and gives people the tools they need to heal, find a path out of homelessness, and reconnect with community.

The Beacon offers 12 crisis and 90 transitional beds to people who are experiencing homelessness and receiving Centrelink benefits. The facility has bedrooms with ensuites, independent living areas, and is set up like a small motel. The Beacon is always open. "We set people up for success," says Bev Wilson-Malcolm, the manager at The Beacon. "And we provide a holistic continuum of care and case management to help get people from the streets back into a community and living independently."

The Beacon focuses on the Key to Change Restorative Lifestyle Program, which builds on the keys to a balanced life. The four keys symbolise physical wellbeing (discover), psychological wellbeing (dream), social wellbeing (design) and spiritual wellbeing (destiny). "We give clients permission to dream, to design and to shape the future they want – centre to it all is the desire to change and to break the cycle of homelessness," explains Bev. "Together we work on what this looks like and what needs to happen to achieve it."

Through the program, The Beacon gives its clients access to a range of different professionals and services, including psychologists, dieticians, mental health services, addiction counsellors, a supported housing accommodation worker, street lawyers and others. "We try to get our clients' health looked at first and get them established on a case-management plan to see if they are willing to engage with us, and what services they will need," says Bev.



"We aim to get them healthy, debt-free, working on their issues and ready for a fresh start. We also offer a community living program for clients in the community with mental health issues and complex needs. Our outreach stream offers a range of services, including a mobile GP."

When clients are ready to move into the community, The Beacon assists them with furniture and other items to help make their house comfortable. "Most of our clients have come from the streets and so have nothing," says Bev.

NETTA'S NEW LIFE

Among those clients is Netta. She was a broken woman when she walked through the doors of Perth Fortress Corps last year. It was 29 October 2017, and Netta was homeless. "My husband, an ex-veteran, threw me out of the house," she recounts. "There had been many episodes of violence during the last year due to his alcoholism. He was violent, argumentative and unpredictable, nothing like the kind-hearted, beautiful man I met many years before."

At Perth Fortress Corps that morning, a Doorways community service case worker sat down with Netta, who broke down in tears while explaining what had just happened and that she needed help. Netta, who is also confined to a wheelchair and profoundly deaf, was feeling anxious and afraid about her future.

"My wheelchair means accessible accommodation is hard to find, but that



The Beacon Management Team (opposite page, top right) Mark Antick, Karen Coetzee, and Bev Wilson-Malcolm, who oversee the crisis accommodation service in Perth.

morning the church was able to find temporary accommodation for me," she says. "I had lost my family and my home, but I gained a whole Army of people wanting to help me."

Four days later, Netta moved into accommodation at The Beacon. "I have been living at The Beacon for five months now and they are working with me to find the right place for me to live on a permanent basis," she says. "Doorways has offered assistance, food, clothes and legal advice when needed.

"I count myself so fortunate to have met some amazing people during my stay at The Beacon. I am beginning to feel more positive now – I have a new life in Jesus, a new home and a much brighter future."

Netta was also recently enrolled as a soldier of the Perth Fortress Corps.

Two chaplains who have worked closely with Neta are Majors Ian and Deidre Dearing. They work on-site and are also available to accompany clients to court or offer support as required. More than 60 volunteers assist the 54 staff members at The Beacon. Corporations, schools and other professionals in the community also offer their services. The Beacon is funded by the Western Australia State Government. ●

WORDS

ANNE HALLIDAY

Dedicated volunteers team up to cater for city's homeless.

Working in partnership with the community is a key part of The Salvation Army's work among the homeless in the city of Perth. Every week hundreds of people in need are offered support and care through a breakfast program, a safe place to seek help and through weekend outreach teams. It is a team effort, driven by dedicated local volunteers drawn from local schools, corporate business, individuals from the community and members of Perth Fortress and other corps in the city.

"While The Salvation Army is known to do great works, we can't do it on our own," says Perth Fortress Corps Officer, Major Paul Hateley. "We need the resources from our community. Not just donated goods but time and expertise and talents." Major Hateley also said working closely with the

community resonated with The Salvation Army's vision to "fight alongside others". Two key ministries reach out to those doing it tough – a weekday breakfast and a weekend outreach street team. Both are driven by dedicated volunteers.

"The community in Perth are very generous with their time," says Bret Mulder, volunteer coordinator. "It does go back to the school partnerships we have developed. High school students are encouraged to offer their time and that really establishes the value of volunteering in them, which follows through into their adult life. I have spent about 30 years working for The Salvation Army in various roles. This role is probably one of the best I've done. It's part of a much bigger picture, helping people on the street and that is very satisfying."





BREAKFAST MINISTRY

The breakfast ministry was originally established by the Rivervale Corps in Perth's city centre. One of their most famous volunteers was the late Salvationist and local icon Shirley Mort. "At the time when the program started, Shirley was recently widowed and wanted something to fill her time," says Major Hateley. "She would get up at 5am and make all the sandwiches for the soup run."

About 10 years ago, Perth Fortress took over the work when Rivervale Corps closed. Currently they serve breakfast in two East Perth locations – Ozone Reserve on the river, as well as in nearby Wellington Square in the city centre – providing a breakfast meal for over 400 people each week. Throughout the day, those experiencing hardship can access additional services at the corps through the Doorways Program.

"We don't offer a complete day centre, but those coming in to request help or for a safe place can enjoy a barista-made coffee," said Major Hateley. "We

also have a shower block for those who want to use them. Many people facing homelessness are very fearful of their safety and don't sleep well. So they come to us during the day for a place of safety and often have a rest in our hall. A literal 'snooze on the pews!'"

STREET OUTREACH TEAM

For the past five years, the corps has been sending an outreach team out each Friday, Saturday and Sunday night, taking hot meals and other provisions to those sleeping rough around the city, serving more than 100 people across each weekend. "A lack of services was identified from Friday night to Monday morning and so the outreach team was started," said Ben Hollis, Assistant Corps Officer at Perth Fortress.

The Salvos partner with Oz Harvest, a charity that rescues surplus food from supermarkets and restaurants and redirects it to those in need. Every Tuesday, a local chef, Kate Strong, volunteers her time to cook meals for the weekend teams to distribute.



(Opposite page, left) A queue forms at the breakfast van; (Opp page, right) Local chef Kate Strong preparing meals for Salvos' street van volunteers (Above). Photos: Joel Gibson

"Last year there were some fairly large global issues that prompted me to look for a small way I could contribute in my own way to make thing better," she said. "I hadn't had much connection with The Salvation Army apart from volunteering for their doorknock appeal when I was younger. I find it hard that in such a wealthy country there are people who are not able to access the food and nutrition they need.

"The fact that we have quite a lot of food wastage as a society and at the same time have people who are struggling financially and nutritionally is quite frustrating for me, so I find it encouraging to be saving and utilising food that otherwise would have gone in the rubbish and people are benefiting from that. I have always deeply admired people who live by their beliefs and I feel that The Salvation Army is a good example of that." ●



WORDS

BILL SIMPSON

Lost and found for 133 years.

Technology closes doors on Family Tracing Service

Radical advances in the information age of the 21st century and the need to prioritise services are among reasons for The Salvation Army's decision to move away from its 133-year-old missing persons ministry in Australia. The Family Tracing Service closed at the end of June. Its closure followed a 12-month review of all Salvation Army services to prepare for the creation of one national territory out of Australia's Eastern and Southern territories, from the beginning of 2019.

The Family Tracing Service, first called Missing Persons Bureau, started in Australia in 1885 – initially in Melbourne, before spreading to Sydney and other states. It has reunited thousands of families in Australia and is regarded as one of the best known and successful services operated by The Salvation Army.

An Australian Institute of Criminology Study of Missing Persons for the Federal Government in 2008 reported: “The two most likely agencies to respond to missing persons incidents when they occur within Australia are the police and The Salvation Army Family Tracing Service.” The study also identified The Salvation Army Family Tracing Service, at the time, as the main non-government tracing agency

assisting with adult missing persons investigations within Australia.

According to Family Tracing Service estimates, it had been receiving up to 2000 requests for assistance each year for the past few years. It was successful in 85 per cent of searches. The Family Tracing Service responded mainly to requests from families seeking to find a family member with whom they had lost contact. After tracing the missing family member, The Salvation Army acted as a go-between for parties to determine if reunion was possible.

MEMORABLE REUNION

I recall a beautiful reunion arranged through the Family Tracing Service in 2016 when Lee, a woman living in Sydney, was reunited with her father, whom she hadn't seen since she was a young child 63 years earlier. He was living in Perth. Lee travelled to Perth to see her father. He had Alzheimer's disease. She was advised the visit may not provide the reunion she was seeking. ▶



The Salvation Army has been at the forefront of tracing missing persons in Australia since 1885 – whether it's been thorough research (top), being there during times of reunion (centre), or conducting interviews (bottom), thousands of families have been reunited.





◀ Above: A memorable moment in Perth when the Family Tracing Service reunited a father and daughter after 63 years.

As Lee showed her aged and ailing father a photograph of herself as a baby, her father said: “Oh, Johanne Lee (her birth name). Where is she?” Lee replied, “She is right here, Dad.” “Oh,” he said. And he hugged his daughter.

As quickly as the moment came, it went. The memory was gone. Lee was again a stranger in her father’s house. But the hug and mention of her name by her father left Lee with a precious memory for the rest of her life.

Not surprisingly, The Salvation Army involved itself in helping to find missing people in the early Army ministry of innovative founders, William and Catherine Booth. The service started in London a few months before Melbourne.

In London, it was officially called the Inquiry Office (or Department). Its team members were referred to as “hallelujah

detectives”. William Booth identified the Inquiry Office in his book *Darkest England and the Way Out*, as “a branch of rescue work”. He said The Salvation Army had “peculiar advantages” in trying to trace missing people.

One of the “peculiar advantages” was *The War Cry*, The Salvation Army’s national and international publication covering more than 100 countries. The *War Cry* each week published details of missing people. It still does in many countries.

General Booth also saw the Army’s many officers and soldiers throughout the world as another of the “peculiar advantages,” as they were able to spread the word about missing people. Modern technology, however, has allowed substantial change in the way things are now done, says Salvation Army National Secretary for Mission, Lieutenant-Colonel Lyn Edge.

For example, Facebook recently announced it had teamed with Australian-based Missing Persons Advocacy Network (MPAN) to trial new facial recognition technology. The technology allows missing people to be identified from photographs posted on Facebook pages seen by hundreds of millions of people around the world. MPAN is notified when a missing person is seen on Facebook.

EMBRACING CHANGE

Lieut-Colonel Edge said The Salvation Army had a responsibility to embrace change where it would bring improvement and enhancement of its services. “The Salvation Army’s work in family tracing has been an important part of our rich heritage, dating back to our early days,” she said. “We can rejoice and celebrate in thousands of families that we have played a role in helping to reunite.

“In this information age, getting hold of official records and documentation

is more accessible than ever (and easier for families to find for themselves). The regulatory environment around privacy is also changing. In light of these and other factors, we have made a decision to allocate our resources where we can have the greatest impact in supporting vulnerable people.”

Lieut-Colonel Edge said The Salvation Army had shown in the past that it could be flexible in stepping in when a need existed and then stepping away when circumstances changed. “The match factory set up in London in our earliest days to provide employment and safer working conditions is a great example of being responsive and also flexible in our ministry approaches,” she said.

“As we move to become one national territory in Australia, we again are needing to be willing to both step up and let go as our society changes. Throughout my life in ministry, it has been challenging to let go of meaningful programs. Even so, The Salvation Army needs to change in response to our changing world so that we can continue having a meaningful role in bringing about a more just and inclusive society.”

As part of its review of national services, The Salvation Army in Australia has identified accommodation and homelessness services (including domestic violence); alcohol, drugs and other addictions; chaplaincy; community engagement (local community response, including corps-based social); Doorways (emergency relief, case management, financial counselling, etc); and strategic disaster management as its priorities for the new Australian territory. ●

Bill Simpson is a contributing writer for *Others*.

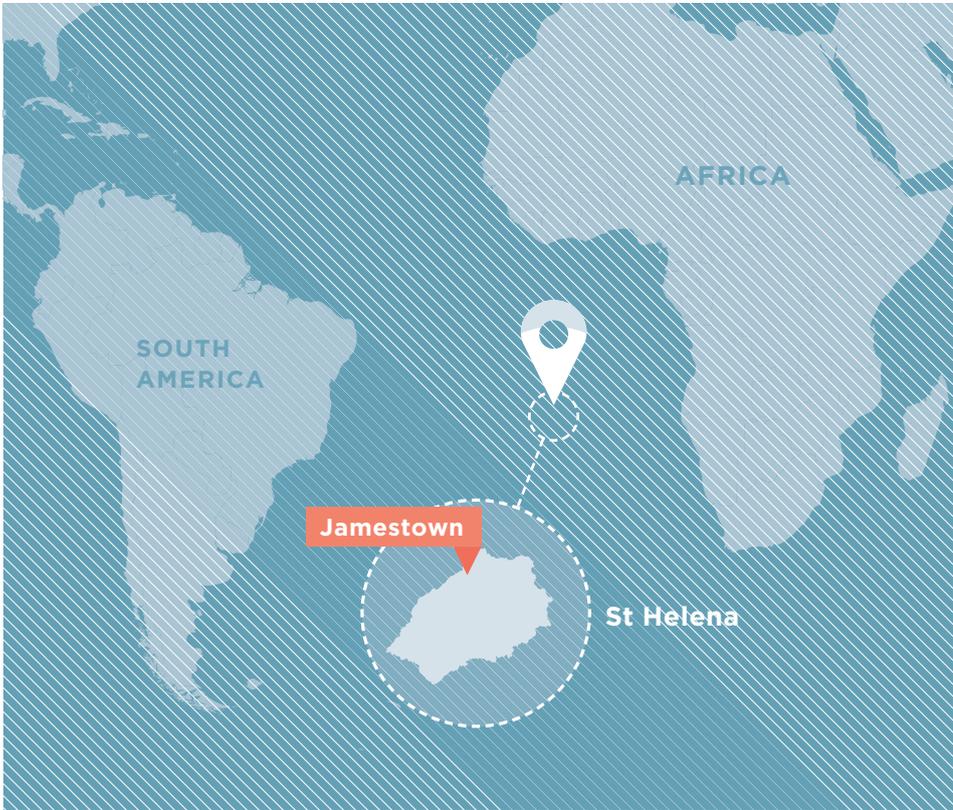
WORDS
SIMONE WORTHING

An aerial photograph of a tropical island, likely St. Helena, showing a bay with many sailboats, a town built on a hillside, and rugged mountains in the background under a cloudy sky.

Flying the flag in isolation.

World's most remote corps still thriving after 134 years

The small tropical island of St Helena is home to what is probably the most isolated Salvation Army corps in the world. Located in the South Atlantic Ocean, 4000km east of Rio de Janeiro and 1950km west of the Cunene River, which marks the border between Namibia and Angola in south-western Africa, St Helena corps is part of the Southern Africa Territory. ▶



St Helena

Population: 4534

Capital: Jamestown

Currency: St Helena Pound

Climate: Tropical

Area: 121km²

Official language: English

Anthem: *God Save The Queen*

Government: *Non-partisan democracy under constitutional monarchy*

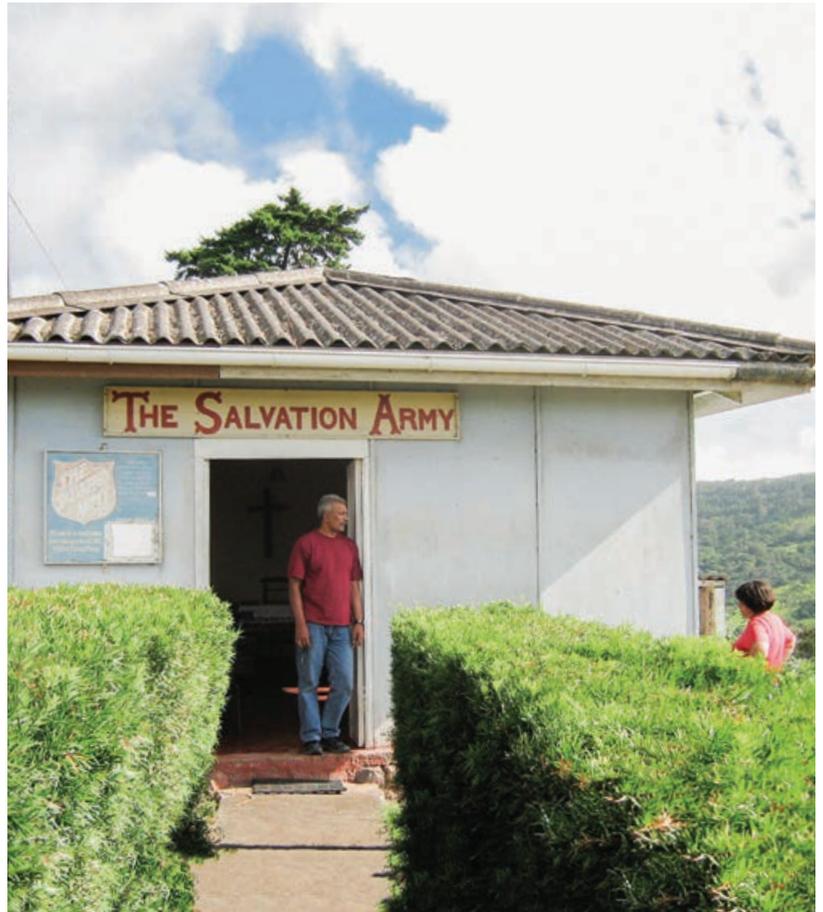
Discovered: *In 1502 by the Portuguese*

Colonised: *In 1659 by Britain's East India Company*

Famous past resident: *Napoleon died here in 1821 after being exiled on the island by the British in 1815*

Communications: *The island has two newspapers, television reception and Internet access*

Education: *Three primary schools and one secondary school*



The Salvation Army “opened fire” on St Helena in May 1884. A group of sailors known as “Blue Jackets” arrived from Simonstown in South Africa on board the HMS Opal and conducted a five-day evangelical outreach campaign. It resulted in many people making life-changing commitments to follow Jesus Christ.

More than 130 years later, The Salvation Army is still very evident on the 122sq/km volcanic island, once only accessible by ship taking five days from Cape Town and two days from Ascension Island, about 1126km away. In 2018, flights from Johannesburg take around six hours to St Helena.

Envoy Coral Yon is the Corps Officer on St Helena. “Up until 2007, St Helena has always had overseas officers appointed for up to three years, although some have stayed and served for longer,” says Envoy Yon.

“Due to a shortage of officers within The Salvation Army, especially in South Africa, it was decided to employ me on a three years’ single-spouse appointment. St Helena had already been without officers for three years, so [employing me] meant the ministry was still able to go on. I enjoy my ministry, although there are many challenges, mostly caused by isolation.”

In January 2018, Southern Africa territorial leaders, Commissioners Keith and Yvonne Conrad, visited St Helena. “This and other visits are beneficial and encouraging for me as I work in isolation to the other officers on the mainland,” says Envoy Yon.

“It is usually difficult for me to attend officers’ councils, prayer meetings or training workshops. It is also good for the wider public to see the leaders of The Salvation Army taking an interest in the affairs of St Helena and its Salvationist community.”

The Salvation Army has two halls that are used each week – the Jamestown hall in the capital, and the Half Tree Hollow hall outside the city where most people live. The Jamestown hall also houses a “Quality Seconds” thrift shop which operates each Friday and alternate Saturdays. “Every Friday we run a café here where people can stop by for tea and cake

◀ **Far left top:** Four long-serving Salvationists in St Helena after an open-air. **Far left bottom:** The visit of South African territorial leaders, Commissioners Keith and Yvonne Conrad (centre). **Left:** The Salvation Army corps at Deadwood. **Previous page:** Aerial view of Jamestown.

and traditional tomato paste sandwiches,” says Envoy Yon. “This is very popular.”

Most of the meetings take place at Half Tree Hollow, with numbers ranging from 40 to 100. “The people who come are mostly ‘Saints’ [the name used to describe the islanders] but occasionally we do get people that are not islanders worshipping with us,” explains Envoy Yon.

“There is another hall that used to be an outpost in Deadwood [called after the Great Wood that used to cover this area] and I am praying that we will eventually be able to get this place up and running again as it is en-route to the recently built international airport. For these types of projects, though, finances are always a factor.

“

“The Salvation Army is very well respected on St Helena. It’s a beautiful place to live and work and we can worship freely and peacefully.”

”

“The Salvation Army on St Helena operates similarly to other corps, but on a smaller basis. We worship every Sunday. We have a 13-strong brass band, a worship group and a ladies fellowship ministry once a month.

“We visit the hospital and elderly people’s home. As the officer, I sit on the prison visiting committee, the Children’s Safeguarding Board, and the Disaster Group. I also attend the Ministers Fraternal once a month with the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Seventh Day Adventist clergy.

“I am also on a rota to do the devotional thoughts for a week via the local radio and a written devotional for one of the local papers.

“At Christmas-time we have a full program where we go around the island bringing Christmas joy to the community. We also provide presents, parties and hampers for the less fortunate and the elderly.

“The Salvation Army is very well respected on St Helena. It’s a beautiful place to live and work and we can worship freely and peacefully.” ●

WORDS

FAYE MICHELSON

A very special 29 years.

Major Doreen Knop, 95, reflects on a rich life that included nearly three decades as a Salvation Army officer.

MY MOTHER WAS in The Salvation Army, but it was through my grandmother that I really became involved. When I was 12, my grandmother took me on a trip to Sydney, and for three months we stayed with my grandmother's sister, Maude Whittaker, and her husband, Alf. They were the Corps Officers at Sydney Congress Hall.

Maude and Alf's children were involved in all the sections – the songsters and the band – and I just became part of their family. You could say it was the start of my lifetime commitment to the Army.

I was in the Air Force during the Second World War, and some time later married Albert. We had three children and became very much part of the Hobart Corps. Albert had always wanted to be a Salvation Army officer – from when he was eight years old – but at this stage in our marriage I didn't feel the call.



Then one day the Lord spoke to me. When Albert came home, I said, "Do you still wish to go to college?". He said "yes", and within weeks we had packed up. We sold our business, we sold our home, which Albert had built, and we went to Melbourne Training College in 1956-1957 to be part of the *Faithful* session of cadets.

Going to the training college for a year was the greatest challenge of my whole officership. We left two of our children behind with my mother and sister, and took one of our sons with us, who stayed with another sister. Going without my family nearly broke my heart, but I felt I wouldn't have been able to do my training if the children had been there. I felt I had to do it.

At college, Albert and I were separated – men had to be on one side of the room, women on the other – except at dinner when I was able to go into the men's dining room and have my meal with him. We were together at night, of course, but we had single beds, which we pushed together – after all, we were married with three kids!

We just wanted to be corps officers, just wanted to serve the Lord in that way. Our first corps was at Orbost, in Victoria's high country, in 1957. It was very remote, almost like being on missionary service. It was a real experience, good training. We



Doreen Knop (above) with her husband, Albert, and their three children in the 1950s. Doreen (right) at an Anzac Day service in April this year.



had many exciting times over the 29 years of officership at our 12 appointments, as well as a few appointments in retirement. Most were in Victoria, with a few in Perth and Adelaide.

Norwood Corps in South Australia was a special place for us. When we moved there from Perth we felt absolutely drained, but when we got to Norwood the Lord restored us – we felt the Lord placed us in a spiritual oasis. Our time at Box Hill Corps was also a wonderful experience, with many trips held with our young people. We also had a home league of 100 ladies.

The Lord has taught me a great deal. I was quite shy to start with and had to learn to interact with people. I'm sure that's where God worked on me the most, showing me how to give myself to people, be patient and tolerant so that I could do his work together with Albert.

We were richly blessed in every appointment; those 29 years, I tell you they were very special. ●

As told to Faye Michelson.

O1.

JOSH MCDOWELL

SET FREE TO CHOOSE RIGHT

Review: Faye Michelson

THE FIRST CHAPTER OF popular American author and evangelist Josh McDowell's book, *Set Free to Choose Right: Equipping Today's Kids to Make Right Moral Choices for Life*, is

aptly entitled, "What were you thinking?" It's a question most of us bewildered/horrified/frustrated parents have asked – or will ask – our teenagers.

McDowell starts with the scenario of a teenage boy caught by his mother watching pornography on his computer late at night. Their ensuing conversation and argument set up the framework for a thorough discussion on moral issues – particularly porn – faced by today's young people. The fictional 14-year-old Jayden makes several appearances throughout the book, as a vehicle to draw attention to what an alarming percentage of kids his age do on their smartphones and other electronic devices.

His fictional parents effectively illustrate positive, as well as unconstructive, ways to respond to their teen's behaviour and his attitude to what he considers "right" and "wrong". McDowell constantly emphasises the point that while what we say to our youth is important, how we relate to them is critical.

At some stage, all our kids will face challenges involving issues such as sexuality, pornography, honesty and self-control. For parents and those working with youth who want to be prepared, McDowell presents strategies based on biblical foundations to motivate the next

generation – and indeed everyone – to develop a God-centred moral compass.

Set Free to Choose Right: Equipping Today's Kids to Make Right Moral Choices for Life is available at Koorong bookstores and online.

O2.

INTERNATIONAL STAFF BAND

LARSSON IN BRASS



THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF Band has recorded a new CD entitled *Larsson in Brass* to mark the 50th anniversary of the first Gowans and Larsson musical, *Take-over Bid*.

"I am grateful to the International Staff Band for this initiative," writes General John Larsson of the CD. "I believe the CD will be of interest to many Australian Salvationists not only because of the brilliance of the playing but also because of the way that the songs from our musicals have lived on in the territories.

"The 16 tracks are by some of the most outstanding arrangers past and present of Army brass music – and that includes Sam Creamer. They range from major overtures of our musicals to items based on single melodies, and from exquisite devotional numbers to sparkling cornet and trombone ensembles. Thirty-nine of my song melodies from the musicals and beyond are featured in one way or the other on the CD, and the booklet contains the lyrics of them all."

Larsson in Brass is available from Salvationist Supplies in Sydney (1800 634 209), Salvation Army Supplies in Melbourne (1800 100 018), and can be downloaded from www.spstunes.com

O3.

BEARERS

HOME

Review: Faye Michelson

BEFORE YOU LISTEN TO *Home*, the debut album of Bearers, do yourself a favour. Go to the website (bearersonline.com) and watch the video commentaries on its songs.

Bearers describes itself as more than a band – it's a collective expression of worship by youth of The Salvation Army in New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga. These are musicians, songwriters and artists who "want to win the world for Jesus". The commentaries not only give insight into the lyrics, they offer an introduction to the talented and passionate young people behind the high-energy synths and soaring guitars of its pop tunes.

The nine-track album is synth-heavy with heart-thumping electro beats set to lyrics pointing to our hope in God. The inspiration for these is mostly drawn from the Bible, but notably one song is influenced by The Salvation Army's founder. *Over and Again (Boundless)* – a reference to William Booth's *Boundless Salvation* – has a catchy, electronic beat that's great for contemporary worship.

In contrast to the energy of many of the other tracks, *El Roi, the God who Sees* is a slow-paced, reflective ballad, assuring us that we are never lost to God's sight. The song has its roots in Genesis, drawn from the despair felt by Hagar after she was cast into the desert with her son Ishmael.

Bearers' tagline might be "new music for a new generation"; but *Home* is an exciting album to inspire anyone, regardless of age. *Home* is available on all digital platforms.



Words Mark Hadley

NINE REASONS TO QUESTION 13 REASONS WHY

Channel: Netflix

Time-slot: On demand

Rating: MA 15+

The second season of *13 Reasons Why* has launched on Netflix, reigniting the controversy surrounding a series that centres on the suicide of a 17-year-old girl. Those in favour of the series say it shines a light on the distressing likelihood of suicide and self-harm amongst young people in the West. Those opposed simply ask: “Is it really helping?”

The key character of this Netflix series is Hannah Baker, a teenage girl who suicided. In the first season she leaves behind a box of tapes explaining the 13 reasons – the 13 people – who drove her to take her own life. The second season centres on a court case brought by Hannah’s parents against her school. As the story progresses, it becomes clear Hannah’s abuse was not an isolated occurrence, and the plot expands to involve other students who have been bullied or sexually assaulted, including one planning a school massacre.

During 2017, *13 Reasons Why* generated over 3.5 million social impressions in its

first week of release alone.¹ The show’s producers set out to feature powerful messages about mental health, and have been particularly active on social media, promoting the value of the series for teens in crisis. But health professionals are not so convinced. Here are nine red flags that should concern anyone contemplating *13 Reasons Why*.

01.

IT RATIONALISES SUICIDE.

The premise of the show is that Hannah had good reason for killing herself – 13 reasons, in fact. According to Katie Dhingra, a senior lecturer in criminological psychology, “... the series suggests that suicide is reasonable, given a particular set of circumstances.”² If a person facing similar problems were to identify with Hannah’s struggles, they might also begin to see suicide as a viable option.

02.

IT NULLIFIES THE SUFFERING OF OTHERS.

Suggesting there are quantifiable reasons for taking your life can actually invalidate others' pain. Psychologists point out that many distressed people are unable to identify their reasons for feeling suicidal, and *13 Reasons Why* will do little to validate their experience. The truth is, suffering is suffering, whether you can explain it or not.

03.

IT OFFERS AWFUL ADVICE.

The show laments that no one listened to Hannah, but the drama positively depends on teens keeping her tapes a secret. Some are clearly traumatised by what they have heard but determine that it's better to ignore parental and teacher concerns and deal with matters themselves. Instead of encouraging the connections that might help teens avoid suicide, the series actually undermines them.

04.

IT ROMANTICISES SUICIDE.

What happened to Hannah was terrible. The tapes she left behind reveal not only just how much pain she was in, but how incredibly she bore up under her circumstances. Now she's gone, everyone is suddenly aware of just how wise and lovely she actually was, and there's no doubt most feel terribly sorry. Maybe this is not the picture of death you put in front of someone who's struggling to find a reason to live?

05.

IT'S BUILT ON A FAULTY PREMISE.

Despite the tragedy inherent in teen suicide, others are not to blame for someone taking their life. Suicide is a deeply personal act. The assertion that others could have prevented Hannah's death if they'd acted, is only likely to hurt those who've lived through similar circumstances. Back to Dr. Dhingra: "Suggesting that there is always someone to blame when a person takes their own life is wrong and does nothing to alleviate the 'what if ...?' questions that torment people who have lost someone to suicide."

06.

IT BREAKS THE LINK BETWEEN SUICIDE AND MENTAL HEALTH.

The series rarely challenges the legitimacy of Hannah's perceptions. Her mental health is never credibly called into question. In fact, *13 Reasons Why* never mentions mental illness or even depression. Presumably because ...

07.

IT IS ENTIRELY TOO HUNG UP ON DRAMA.

The first season could be given a lot of leeway if only for raising this difficult topic. However, season two continues to rake over the coals of Hannah's tragedy, unearthing increasingly disturbing events at her school. Before long, it's hard not to see the producers cashing in on the very tragedies they're portraying. In truth ...

08.

IT BORDERS ON ABUSIVE.

The first season's suicide scene is especially prolonged and graphic. The producers defended this decision, stating it was important to show the reality of suicide. However, the second season applies the same approach to a boy being raped with a broomstick. Yet the reality is that the horror of both could be conveyed without traumatising some audience members, or desensitising others.

09.

IT OFFERS FALSE HOPE IN THE PLACE OF REAL HOPE.

This may be the strongest point at which a Christian can weigh in on the topic of suicide. The series suggests that Hannah somehow lives on in the lives of others, even though she has died. From beyond the grave, she is able to exact revenge on some, while finding new connections with others. This dangerously undermines the permanency of suicide. Yet Christians have the chance to offer a real alternative to the sort of pain that threatens to strip away all hope of connection. We can point to the God who has not only suffered in our place but offers the strength to overcome such in this life, and an end to all tears in the world to come. TV may suggest there are 13 reasons to die, but surely that is one worth living for. ●

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Mark Hadley is the culture writer for *Others* and is one of Australia's leading Christian communicators

1. L. Min, '13 Reasons Why' Is Netflix's Most Popular Show on Social Media, *Teen Vogue*, 12 April 2017, www.teenvogue.com/story/13-reasons-why-netflix-most-popular-show-social-media

2. K. Dhingra, Popular Netflix drama 13 Reasons Why sends out worrying messages about suicide, *The Conversation*, 31 May 2017, <https://theconversation.com/popular-netflix-drama-13-reasons-why-sends-out-worrying-messages-about-suicide-78008>

Lismore Salvo puts passion for Bible translation into action

▼ SALVATIONIST SAMUEL BACON is playing a key role in bringing God's Word to the people of East Timor.

A long-time member of the Lismore Corps in Northern NSW, Samuel is part of a small international team of Christians who have taken on the task of translating portions of the Old Testament.

A regular visitor to East Timor to assist in training Christian leaders, Samuel says about 95 per cent of Timorese claim to be Christian and are generally willing to receive God's Word. However, there is as yet no complete Bible in the local language of Tetun Dili, spoken by the majority of the country's 1.3 million people.

"The national leader of the Nazarene church is the

main translator, then we have another young Timorese man who attends a church planted by Kenyan missionaries, a Brazilian missionary and myself working on this," said Samuel.

The project is expected to be completed by 2022 with the aim of printing 1000 copies.

"I am driven by my passion to see people reading God's Word," said Samuel. "I have this sense of fairness; that I get to read a really nice Psalm and be encouraged every day, and my Timorese brothers and sisters don't. This spurs me on.

"Reading the Bible every day and getting to know God is critical in the Christian church and we need a renewed passion for God's Word and following Jesus. Reading God's Word is part of that."



▲ Samuel with a partially completed Old Testament, *Lia Fuan Hosi Testamentu Tuan*, which means "Word fruit from Testament Old".

Samuel first visited East Timor in 2004 with his wife and daughter. They later moved there and lived in the country for about nine years before returning to Australia in 2016 with four children. Samuel now travels to East Timor three times a year.

Although Samuel proudly wears his Salvation Army shirt

when he is in East Timor, there is currently no official Salvation Army presence or involvement in East Timor.

For more information on the translation project, or the visits to East Timor, contact Samuel at samuel.bacon@ae.salvationarmy.org

– Kevin Elsley and Simone Worthing

Freedom Partnership influences policy on forced marriage

▼ THE SALVATION ARMY Freedom Partnership's policy recommendations on forced marriage have formed part of the Australian Labor Party's response to this growing criminal issue.

Speaking at The Salvation Army's Redfern Headquarters in Sydney on 8 June, Tanya Plibersek, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and Clare O'Neil MP, announced that, should Labor win the next federal election, the party would adopt all of the Freedom Partnership's policy recommendations on

forced marriage as part of their response.

Jenny Stanger, Freedom Partnership National Manager, spoke at the Redfern press conference. She was joined by leaders of other non-government organisations including Laura Vidal from Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, Jennifer Burn from Anti-Slavery Australia, and sister Deirdre Gardiner from ACRATH (Australia Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans).



▲ Federal Opposition Deputy Leader, Tanya Plibersek, expresses her support of Salvation Army recommendations on forced marriage.



^ The Salvation Army will be a visible presence on the road between Sydney and Melbourne during next year's Red Shield Ride.

Cyclists get on their bikes for the Salvos

THE SALVATION ARMY has launched a new way for people to fundraise for its 2019 Red Shield Appeal – the Red Shield Ride. The 1400km, 10-day road cycle from Sydney to Melbourne will take place from 29 April to 8 May.

“When we launched the ride, we had 30 people apply to be part of it in the first two weeks,” said organiser Peter Cleave. “In terms of our engagement with donors this is a new demographic for The Salvation Army.”

The ride will stop in towns that have a Salvation Army

presence and organisers are working to connect with the local Salvos and the community throughout the ride.

“Most nights we will have guest speakers who will share about different aspects of our work throughout Australia,” Peter said.

All participants pay an entry fee and commit to raising a certain amount of money for The Salvation Army. It's hoped up to 100 riders will participate. All funds raised will go towards the national Red Shield Appeal.

For further information, head to salvos.org.au/redshieldride

Salvation Army joins scheme to support survivors of abuse

THE SALVATION ARMY last month announced that it would join the national redress scheme for the survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

Federal Social Services Minister Dan Tehan made the announcement that the Army, along with Scouts Australia, YMCA Australia and the Anglican Church, would formally opt-in to the scheme.

Representatives from the four groups, including The Salvation Army National Head of Government Relations, Major Brad Halse, joined the minister to signal their commitment. The Catholic Church also announced its intention to join the scheme.

Mr Tehan said the four organisations signing on has brought the coverage of the national redress scheme to 80 per cent of survivors.

“For nearly two years, The Salvation Army has been working alongside the Federal Government, and other non-government institutions and other key stakeholders, to contribute towards the development of a truly national redress scheme,” said Major Halse.

“We think this is a great achievement in the life of the nation and in terms of government process.

“We acknowledge the work that has been done – a great amount of work by the federal, state and territory governments to create what is really a comprehensive scheme to meet the needs of survivors.

“The Salvation Army has worked as constructively as we can with the Federal Government's taskforce in response to the Royal



^ Major Brad Halse's announcement was televised nationally.

Commission's recommendations, which we have fully endorsed, and today we reaffirm our commitment to this national redress scheme.

“We would obviously take this opportunity to again express our deepest apologies to survivors, and indeed their families. We acknowledge that past practices and procedures led in many cases

to the failure of the protection of children and we are profoundly sorry for the harm which survivors have suffered.

“We also acknowledge that we have broken the trust that has been placed by the Australian community in The Salvation Army and we are seeking ways to rebuild that.”

– Scott Simpson



▲ John Rogers, case worker and Reconciliation Action Plan team member in the Australian Southern Territory, holds the Aboriginal flag at the Sorry Day celebration at Palmerston Corps in Darwin.

Reconciliation Week events promote respect

THE SALVATION ARMY joined the wider Australian community in marking National Reconciliation Week (NRW), from 27 May-3 June. The theme of this week for 2018 was “Don’t Keep History a Mystery”.

Corps and centres around the country promoted and facilitated respect, trust and positive relationships between and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider Australian community in a number of different ways.

Northern Territory

The Palmerston Corps, Darwin, marked Sorry Day on Friday 25 May.

“It was a ‘Top End’ celebration, together with the Darwin Corps, and clients from our Sunrise Recovery Centre, Red Shield Hostel, Catherine Booth House, and those experiencing homelessness,” said Captain Katie Ryan,

Palmerston Corps Officer. “The focus was on reflection and bringing awareness of the day and what it was all about.”

Victoria

The Moonee Valley Corps Friendship Club members spent a reflective couple of hours discussing NRW on Wednesday 23 May.

Corps Officer, Lieutenant Erin Mains, said the group started their meeting by recognising the original custodians of their land, the Wurundjeri, before looking through the Bible Society book *Our Mob, God’s Story*.

The Salvation Army’s St Kilda Crisis Centre hosted a NRW community lunch with a Welcome to Country, music and sport as the focus of the day on 8 June.

Queensland

Brisbane Streetlevel Mission invited Lucy Davis, Indigenous

Engagement Coordinator for South East Queensland and Andrew McMahon, outreach worker, to give a testimony on NRW, and its 2018 theme, on 28 May. A team-building session followed with community members and volunteers, as Lucy and Andrew shared local stories from the Brisbane area.

Divisional Headquarters hosted a NRW Elders morning tea on 7 June. Several Elders picked a significant part of history and, in a yarning circle, shared why this part of history is important to them and how this part of our shared history affects them today.

Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah) held special NRW prayer sessions. Bundamba Corps, 35km south west of Brisbane, ran a special church service on Sunday 3 June to acknowledge NRW.

Townsville Recovery Services led a “Kup-Murri”

(underground cooking) activity with participants and staff on Friday 1 June, as well as a session from the Australians Together series.

New South Wales

Indigenous and non-Indigenous members of the Dooralong Transformation Centre community came together on a number of occasions to plan and deliver an event that would capture Reconciliation Australia’s theme of 2018, “Don’t keep history a history”, on 1 June.

The participants worked closely with The Salvation Army’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Coordinator in NSW, Sue Hodges, and with the support of Dooralong management and other staff, to plan and run the day.

– Simone Worthing and Faye Michelson

Indigenous Salvo leaders attend Grasstree Gathering



▼ FOUR INDIGENOUS ministry leaders from The Salvation Army were among 85 emerging and established Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian leaders who attended the recent Grasstree Gathering 2018 Theological Symposium in Sydney.

The Salvation Army representatives were Shirlu Congo, *pictured*, Eastern

Territorial Indigenous Ministry Coordinator; Chris Congoo and Sue Hodges, both Eastern Territorial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement coordinators; and Terrence Whyte, ATSI Youth and Children's Worker; as well as non-indigenous representatives of the Mission Support and Inclusive Australia teams.

The Gathering, first held in 2012, is the brainchild of Salvation Army supporter and Aboriginal Christian leader, Aunty Jean Phillips.

This year's symposium revolved around three significant projects.

The first is a collection of interdenominational online papers to be hosted by the Australasian Pentecostal Studies journal later this year.

The second project is the imminent launch of Australia's first Master's degree in Australian Aboriginal Theology. This will be offered in partnership with Ridley Theological College in Melbourne.

The third project is the central vision of the Gathering, to "celebrate, encourage, equip and inspire an emerging generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian Leaders".

Shirlu commented that it was inspiring and exciting for everyone gathering together, "learning how we fit" and yet "still be authentic in who we are as a diverse group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples".

"It was great to be able to walk alongside other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christians, particularly to be in the yarning circles where people feel safe to be honest and creative in how we interact through yarning, dance, song or silence," she said.

– Paul Knight

Indigenous 'Harry' making a comeback with Agents of Truth

▼ EVE, BALLY AND LOGAN – The Salvation Army's Agents of Truth, who have entertained and inspired children for 10 years as they represent the goals of the Army's mission – have an Aboriginal brother, Harry, who is about to make a comeback!

Harry will be joined by two new characters – Tori, from the Torres Strait, and Uncle Vin, a very wise old goanna. Uncle Vin is named after Uncle Vince Ross, Chair of The Salvation Army's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group.

The momentum from Reconciliation Week (27 May-3 June) encouraged Shirlu Congo, Australia Eastern Territorial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry Coordinator, to approach Rod Yule, Manager, Mission Support Team, Sydney, about

the possibility of bringing Harry back, and adding more agents.

Rod Allen, Senior Illustrator in the team, first created Harry for NAIDOC Week in 2011. Harry was the key player in a booklet for children, based around educating young people (and older!) on Aboriginal culture and history.

"Harry has been used with the other Agents of Truth since then, in Self Denial Appeal campaigns, but we are now producing an updated book using our new agents aimed at teaching everyone about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and helping them become more culturally aware," said Rod Allen.

The book – *Agents of Truth ... Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Team* – will cover topics including Welcome to Country,



^ Ready to join *The Salvation Army's Agents of Truth* on their next adventure are Indigenous characters Harry, Tori and Uncle Vin.

Reconciliation, the meaning of the flags, and other culturally relevant subjects.

"It is very exciting to learn about Aboriginal peoples' history, cultures and traditions and to celebrate the differences in food, dress, language and even skin colour," Shirlu said. "Jesus always treated people with kindness and respect no

matter how different they were."

Agents of Truth ... Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Team can be used at any time of the year, and is aimed at children aged 10-12. The book will be available for both Australia Eastern and Australia Southern territories through Mission Support at the end of July 2018. – Simone Worthing

North Brisbane's twilight markets a hit with the community

▼ NORTH BRISBANE CORPS' Twilight Community Markets has become an increasingly popular outreach event, as well as raising funds for the growing youth and children's ministry.

Run twice a year, the markets provide a fun night out for everyone, each time offering something different as well as the much-anticipated stalls, entertainment, coffee shop, thrift shop and food.

Participants from the Brisbane Recovery Services Centre (Moonyah), who attend Sunday meetings at the corps, also came to the last market event to help out.

"They just loved it," said Annie Senden, markets

coordinator who is a community member at the corps. "They want to feel part of the corps, and this is one way we can include them."

As part of the entertainment, Annie invites local schools to perform. Students from one local primary school attend Krash – a school holiday program at the corps for children from Prep to Grade 6.

Last month, the markets featured a petting zoo, pony rides for the kids, and a wide range of stalls. For the first time there was even a waiting list for stallholders.

"It's such a blessing to have people from the church, like Annie, offer their ideas and



▲ Entertainment for the kids and live music is a big part of North Brisbane Corps' Twilight Community Markets.

time to create such an epic event and raising much-needed funds," said Corps Officer, Major Donna Todd.

"At our last markets, we were amazed by the crowds and the buzz. For the first time we had our new Saturday Night Church running while the markets were on outside. Our wonderful property enables us to embrace and welcome our community onto our site and

God-willing, continue to build relationships.

"Local families really enjoy the atmosphere of this event. Families from the corps, youth and young adults also come along to meet local families, connect with them and invite them to our programs and activities."

The next markets will be held on Saturday 27 October.

– Simone Worthing

Red Shield Appeal plants seeds of hope around the country

▼ STORIES EMERGING FROM the 2018 Red Shield Appeal are proving that it's about so much more than fundraising, with Salvos building relationships through events and at community collection points.

Leading up to the doorknock weekend of 26-27 May, Red Shield Appeal launch events were held across Australia in big cities, regional centres and small towns, involving local business people, community leaders and supporters.

Other events associated with the Red Shield Appeal included partnership fundraisers such as

school "Red Days", "Sweat for the Salvos" gym fundraisers, trivia nights, golf days and even Salvos Stores "Op Shop for a Cause" evenings.

Salvos in Adelaide combined the Red Shield Appeal with National Doughnut Day, partnering with Krispy Kreme in that state to fundraise and promote The Salvation Army's history of serving coffee and doughnuts to World War One soldiers in the trenches.

"It's encouraging to see the innovation," said Andrew Hill, Community Fundraising Director for The Salvation

Army. "You're only limited by your own imagination ... and doing something together with people builds relationship and creates memories that last."

Andrew believes our brief conversations and interactions during the Red Shield Appeal may seem trivial, but 1 Corinthians tells us that we are to plant the seeds that God will grow (1 Corinthians 3:6-9). "I must have had dozens of significant little conversations with people. For me, it was made obvious that the Red Shield Appeal is not just about the money, it's about community

connection."

For Major Cathryn Williamson at Cowra Corps in south-west NSW, community collection points were about far more than fundraising.

"I got to have lots and lots of great conversations throughout the Red Shield Appeal. I had the opportunity to invite people to our groups like Home League and Kids in the Kitchen."

The Salvation Army has raised more than \$6.5 million from the doorknock weekend. The appeal officially ends on 30 June.

– Lauren Martin

Enrolments

GOSNELLS CORPS WA



CAPTAIN MARGARET COLLS enrolled Darryl Horn as a senior soldier on Sunday 20 May. Darryl is pictured with Corps Officer, Major Denise Ashby, Captain Colls, and Major Arthur Gibson, who took Darryl through his soldiership classes. The flagbearer is Geoff Robertson.

CHATSWOOD CORPS NSW



DIVISIONAL ENVOY GLENDA BROWN, Chatswood Corps Officer, enrolled eight junior soldiers at the corps' Friday night meeting, The Gathering, on 18 May. Pictured, with their prayer pals, are (left to right) Holly, Leila, Georgina, Jeremy, Kevin, Joshua, Kathy and Piper.

GOD'S SPORTS ARENA QLD



ENVOY BILL HUNTER accepted 11 adherents at God's Sports Arena on Sunday 27 May. Pictured are Bill, "whistleblower" Greg (far right) and (left to right) Callum, Gavin, Tracy, Louie, Steve, Claudine (front), Melissa, Jake, Debby, and Selina. Adherent Raj is not pictured.

MILDURA CORPS VIC



MAJOR BELINDA DAVIS, Corps Officer, accepted Denise (Necy) Wilson as an adherent on Sunday 10 June.

EASTLAKES CORPS NSW



MAJOR COLIN ROBINSON, Corps Officer, recently enrolled Gwen Baker and Maureen Stove as senior soldiers (pictured above left). Major Robinson also accepted seven adherents, (above right, left to right) Sylvia Gully, Abby Muendel, Annette Thomas, Jemma Haynes, Marcelina and Colin Patrick, and Michelle Abdilla.



others

Send us your enrolment stories.

We want to share your stories. Please send details, including date of enrolment, name of corps or centre, name of enrolling officer(s), soldier(s) and/or adherent(s), and a high-resolution photo to Simone Worthing at simone.worthing@ae.salvationarmy.org

Salvation Army considers next step in Vanuatu

THE SALVATION ARMY in Australia is considering what steps and direction need to be taken to engage and partner with the ongoing work in the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu.

National Secretary for Mission, Lieutenant-Colonel Lyn Edge, recently visited Vanuatu with Major Darren Elsley, the officer at Tweed Heads Corps, which oversees the Army's unofficial work in Vanuatu.

They visited the Army's outpost in the capital, Port Vila, and learned more about the second, more remote outpost in Aneityum, the southern-most inhabited island of the country.

"Our visit was all about information gathering, relationship building, ministry support and increasing our understanding of possible next steps," said Lieutenant-Colonel Edge.

Lieut-Colonel Edge focused on talking with senior soldier Lilyrose Sarilobani, the unofficial leader of the work in Vanuatu, and the children in her care.

"Lilyrose runs the outpost and looks after about 12 children," she said. "She ensures that the children are fed, go to school, and learn about Jesus. Resources are tight though."

The number of children coming to stay with Lilyrose at the outpost has been increasing



^ Lieutenant-Colonel Lyn Edge with some of the children who are linked to the unofficial work of The Salvation Army in Vanuatu.

since Cyclone Pam devastated the island in March 2015.

"Many of the local chiefs have been telling parents that, if they can't care for their children, to send them to The Salvation Army," explained Major Elsley. "The kids come and might stay for a day, a week, or several years."

"Lilyrose is their caregiver

and spiritual mother, but she has no income. Many of the kids come from difficult backgrounds of neglect and abuse, but they all become junior soldiers and go to school. Their living conditions are basic but they have such a happy and joyful spirit. It's just great to see!"

— Simone Worthing

New centre offers dignity, practical help and hope to Slovakia's 'social outcasts'

THE SALVATION ARMY'S community centre in the impoverished and marginalised Roma (Gypsy) settlement of Glejovka, on the outskirts of Pezinok, 25km north east of Slovakia's capital, Bratislava, recently celebrated its official opening.

The Salvation Army ministry team from Pezinok will run daily clubs for children aged 3-5 in the centre, as well as tutoring for school children, Bible studies, meetings, women's groups, and counselling. Training programs will also

be available for social workers, local community groups and government social services.

The new centre will also function as the Pezinok Outpost of The Salvation Army. The building features electricity, running water and comfortable furnishings – something new for the residents of the settlement who have lived as social outcasts for many years.

"The work done within this new centre will provide many opportunities for people to turn to Christ and transform



their lives," said Captain Vitalie Chiriac, Regional Leader in Slovakia. The country is part of the Netherlands, Czech Republic and Slovakia Territory.

^ Captain Josef Knoftíček, Pezinok Corps Officer, speaks to media at the opening of the new community centre in Slovakia.

Caterpillar farming to reduce malnutrition



^ Isaac and Minze, who are linked to The Salvation Army corps in Kilueka, display their harvest of caterpillars.

▼ A UNIQUE PROJECT being run by The Salvation Army in the Democratic Republic of Congo has begun the journey of working with locals to conserve and reintroduce caterpillar species to the local habitat in order to address the challenge of malnutrition.

The Army's United Kingdom with the Republic of Ireland Territory provides funding and technical support to the project, which aims to increase the production of caterpillars and forest cover in the Mandiba district. This will boost nutrition, create opportunities for income generation, and preserve the forests that are under threat from timber and charcoal burning.

The Salvation Army corps in Kilueka and the corps members are involved in the project, which hopes to expand and reach out to 50 more villages and seven schools within the next three years. This will benefit approximately 10,000 people.

'Smart beds' to help dementia patients in Toronto

▼ A SALVATION ARMY health centre in Canada has been awarded \$1 million to participate in research to advance pressure-injury management systems for people living with dementia.

The Toronto Grace Health Centre received the funding through the Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation's Industry Innovation Partnership Program.

The centre is a 119-bed hospital located in the heart of downtown Toronto and is owned and operated by The Salvation Army. The facility provides specialised care services to people who require complex continuing care, post-acute care rehabilitation and palliative care.

Volcano relief efforts intensify

EMERGENCY DISASTER SERVICES personnel and volunteers from The Salvation Army responded to those impacted by the recent Puna lava flow in Hawaii and the eruption of the Fuego volcano in Guatemala.

In Guatemala, Salvation Army emergency teams travelled to the affected area to offer assistance. That first contact made it possible to establish a strategic alliance with CONRED (the National Committee for Emergencies and Disasters) and the team moved to the Escuintla and

Alotenango shelters, which were in areas of direct impact.

Working with CONRED, Salvation Army teams have conducted need assessments, prepared and distributed food, drinking water and clothes, and supported emergency response logistics plans.

A vital part of the response is the provision of spiritual and emotional support. The teams in Hawaii assisted with meal coordination, hydration, and emotional and spiritual care at the shelters in Pahoia, Keaau, and Puna on the Big Island.



^ Salvation Army volunteers in Guatemala serve the community with emergency food and supplies in the wake of the Fuego volcano eruption last month.

They also oversaw and staffed a distribution centre in Pahoia that provided essential items to those in need, including breathing masks, tarps, torches, bottled water,

and sleeping bags.

In both Guatemala and Hawaii, The Salvation Army is working with other organisations to coordinate ongoing relief efforts and planning.

CLIFF JACOBS



CLIFF JACOBS was promoted to glory in Maryborough, Victoria, on 24 March, aged 96. A combined band of 26, led by daughter-in-law Aileen, gave Cliff a rousing send-off in a well-attended, God-glorifying service on 29 March, conducted by Maryborough Corps Officers, Captains Annita and David Allman.

Son Graeme and Cliff's three grandchildren gave tributes. Great-grandchildren Rhys and Eva presented a special poem and Bible reading, and former Corps Officer, Major Bruce Cassidy, prayed. Included in the service was the last song Cliff played on his cornet the Sunday prior to his peaceful passing, *Victory for me, through the blood of Christ my Saviour*. Another former Maryborough Corps Officer, Colin McMillin, led a very meaningful graveside service.

Thomas Clifford (Cliff) Jacobs commenced 96 years of life at Fremantle hospital in Western Australia in 1921, when his officer parents Tom and Margaret were stationed at York, east of Perth. Many appointments and nine schools later brought the family, now including brother Stewart and sisters Dulcie and Win, to Warrnambool, Victoria, where Cliff met his future wife Margaret Baudinette.

Cliff and Margaret attended The Salvation Army Training College, then served as single officers until their marriage in 1946. They were appointed together to Jamestown, South Australia, where son Graeme was born in 1948. Margaret reluctantly resigned from officership in 1949 due to severe health issues, but maintained a steadfast commitment to soldiership, giving many years of faithful service at the Warrnambool Corps, including 29 years as bandmaster.

Retirement from hospital management in 1985 brought Cliff and Margaret to Maryborough, Victoria, for more committed corps involvement and treasured engagement with grandchildren Brandon, Kristy and Melissa. Cliff continued living life to the full after Margaret's passing in August 2016, fixing watches for the thrift shop, enjoying his roses and cryptic crosswords, involvement with Probus and the friendly community of the Havilah retirement village where he still lived independently.

Cliff was a great servant of God, now gloriously reunited with his beloved wife and all God's children who've gone on before to enjoy true Boundless Salvation.

JEAN DADDOW



CAPTAIN JEAN LILLIAN DADDOW was promoted to glory on 21 May from her home in Glynde, South Australia, aged 99. Her funeral service was held on 25 May, conducted by Major Cindy Shellenberger, at the Ivan Butler Chapel in Klemzig, South Australia.

Jean, with her husband Harold, entered The Salvation Army Training College in 1945 from the North Fitzroy Corps, Victoria, joining the *Fearless* session. While in training, they left their two young sons, Allan and Graham, in the care of others as they were not allowed to go with them to college.

Following Commissioning in November of the same year, Lieutenants Harold and Jean, with their boys, were appointed as the Corps Officers of Yarraville Corps, Victoria, followed by Scottsdale and Moonah, Tasmania, and then Golden Square Corps in regional Victoria. Daughters Judith and Glenda were added to the family during these years.

In May 1951 they resigned from officership for a couple of years. During

this time their son, Brian, was welcomed into the family. In 1953, they were accepted back into officership, taking up an appointment as the Corps Officers of North Adelaide Corps, followed by time in Darwin.

Harold and Jean resigned again in 1958. But in 1974, they were accepted back into the work, appointed as the Corps Officers at Burnie, Tasmania, followed by Preston Corps, Victoria, and Norwood Corps, South Australia. They entered retirement from Norwood, choosing to remain in South Australia. Harold was promoted to glory on 25 October 2004.

In retirement, Jean was a homemaker and lovingly cared for Harold during his later years. She loved doing tapestries and needlecraft, but most of all she loved to read. She was a very caring person and took an interest in those around her. At the home where she lived, her room was the hub for many residents who came to Jean for a listening ear.

Our love, sympathy and prayers are extended to Majors Allan and Lorraine, Major Glenda, Graham and Gabby, Judith and Robert, Brian, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and family members.

Tribute reports.

To have a Tribute included in an issue of *Others*, please email your report of no more than 250 words and accompanied by a high-resolution (no smaller than 1mb) head-and-shoulders photograph of the individual, to others@aus.salvationarmy.org

The editorial team at *Others* will make every effort, but cannot guarantee, to print the report in the next available issue of the magazine.

About people

APPOINTMENTS

Effective 4 June

Lieut Khalia **McKintosh**, Assistant to the Corps Officer, Thornbury Corps, Victoria Division (pro-tem).

Effective 11 June

Lieut Ben **Hollis**, Corps Officer Armadale Corps, Western Australia Division (pro-tem).

Effective 18 June

Major Denise **Ashby**, chaplain Seaforth Gardens Aged Care, Western Australia Division; Lieut Gail **Sweeney**, Corps Officer, Swan Hill Corps, Victoria Division; Lieut Peter **Sweeney**, Corps Officer, Swan Hill Corps, Victoria Division.

Effective 29 June

Captains Fiona and Matt **Kean**, Altona Corps, Victoria Division, have been appointed to Canada and Bermuda Territory as Corps Officers at Chilliwack Community Church, British Columbia Division.

IHQ appointments, effective from 1 July

Lieut-Colonel Bruce **Carpenter**, a member of the International Finance and Accounting Standard implementation team within the Business Administration Department, IHQ; Lieut-Colonel Cheryl **Carpenter**, International Program Coordinator within the Program Resources Department, IHQ; Major Kaylene **Fyfe**, Assistant Under Secretary for South Pacific & East Asia Zone, IHQ.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Captain Jean **Daddow**, on 21 May; Envoy Frank **Pink**, on 30 May; Major Joyce **Cathcart**, on 4 June.

BEREAVEMENT

Major Neil **Dickson**, of his father, Phillip **Dickson**, on 10 June.

Engagement calendar

COMMISSIONERS FLOYD AND TRACEY TIDD

(NATIONAL LEADERS)

Gold Coast 30 June-1 July – Hope & A Future weekend.
Sydney 14-15 July – Basketball and netball presentation.

COLONELS MARK (NATIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY) AND JULIE CAMPBELL (NSWM/GENDER EQUITY ADVOCATE)

Furlough Mon 18 June–Mon 2 July.

Vic Tues 10 July – CREATE Creative Arts Camp.

*Sydney Thurs 12 July – ‘Because of Her Conference’
Port Macquarie (NSW), Fri 13–Sat 14 July – Port Macquarie Corps.

#Melbourne Mon 23 July – Leadership lectures to second-year cadets, Eva Burrows College, Ringwood campus (Colonel Mark Campbell).

Collaroy (NSW) Thurs 26 July – 3 Year Officers Seminar.

Arndale (SA) Sun 29 July – Arndale Corps.

Adelaide Mon 30 July – Thurs 2 August – South Australia/
Northern Territory Officers Fellowship.

#Colonel Mark Campbell only

*Colonel Julie Campbell only

WORDS
BILL MANNS

My life is a testament to God's work.

I was born in Australia and spent my early years in southern NSW. My parents divorced when I was eight, and my younger brother and I went with mum. She did a tremendous job raising two boys on her own.

We moved around a lot, eventually settling in Sydney's west. I was 15 and struggling with who was I and what my life was all about. My mental health was suffering. Then, one school holidays, my brother went to a Salvation Army "Max" camp. When he came home, he wouldn't stop talking about God; he'd say "God is here and God is great". I was like, "We've tried God before, in the Catholic school we went to. If God is so great, why are our lives so bad right now? The God thing doesn't work".

My dad called me on my 16th birthday – the first time in eight years he'd made any contact. He was drunk and told me



I wasn't his son, that I was an accident, a waste of space and that there was no hope or future for me. To me, they felt like "words of death". Later that night, I read Jeremiah 29:11. These words of life contrasted so completely with what my dad had said to me. I was like, "I should check this God guy out".

A few months later, I attended The Salvation Army's divisional youth "Discovery" camp. One night we had a Bible message on John 10:10. I felt so defeated. What was the point of all this? Did God really have a plan and purpose for my life; was there hope and a future? Really? I decided it was time to go a little deeper with this God stuff and try to find out who God really is.

Alone in my room, I told God that I didn't know who he was and, if he was real, he would need to show himself to me. At that moment, my mobile phone went off. There was no call, no email, no alarm, no text. That was weird, I thought. My phone was on top of my Bible, so I guessed that God might want me to read it.

I told God again that this was his one moment to save me. He had to show me that he was there. I closed my eyes and flipped open the Bible. My eyes fell on Mark 11:22: "Have faith in God." This was a transforming moment. I felt that God was intimately revealing himself to



Above: Bill Manns found love and forgiveness in Jesus after attending a youth camp. Photo: Shairon Paterson

me as I called out to him. I felt that, now, I had to make the call. It was time to jump right in. It was the best feeling ever. I knew I needed to start following Jesus, I needed this relationship with God and to have my life turned upside down. It was the moment I found faith.

From there, with the support of the officers from the local Salvation Army Chifley Mission in Sydney, my relationship with God went from strength to strength. I was determined to follow God and serve my Saviour Jesus, no matter what it might look like or cost. I found a message of love and forgiveness in Jesus, and I now wanted to share that message at every opportunity.

I now work part-time as a youth and children's worker at Chifley Mission and I'm studying for an Advanced Diploma in Ministry. The Salvation Army has invested in me and helped me encounter God through its camps and holiday programs. Jesus used that to flip my life around and I want to do the same for others.

My story is a testament to how God works. ●

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