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29 January 2011

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A fitting— —farewell

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- GOD'S LOVE IS NOT STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS
- MAJOR NIGEL BOVEY EXAMINES THE FEEL-GOD FACTOR
- KNOWING GOD BEATS BEING AT NO. 1, SAYS POP STAR-TURNED-PRIEST RICHARD COLES



- THE SIX NATIONS RUGBY TOURNAMENT KICKS OFF
- NEW BIBLE SERIES: ILLUSTRATED LETTERS
- THE CLUMSIES BOOK COMPETITION!
- KA! WORLD WELCOMES A BRAND NEW CREW MEMBER: GADGET GUY

THIS WEEK'S QUOTES FROM THE PAPERS

BIBLE FISH LEFT HIGH AND DRY

St Peter's fish, which has a legendary link to a miracle in Matthew's Gospel, could be wiped out in Israel's Sea of Galilee. The worst drought in 90 years has caused stocks to fall by 90 per cent in a decade. 'This raises real concerns of an ecological disaster that will occur following the loss of fish resources,' said an agriculture ministry spokesman. In the story, Peter opens the mouth of the first fish he catches in the Galilee to reveal a coin with which he can pay the temple tax.

Metro

CHURCHES TO MEET ONLINE

A new social networking website is set to help churches connect better. CT Connect (www.churchestogetherconnect.org), a project of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland... will offer individuals and local Churches Together groups a space for sharing news and opinions and making contact with each other.

The Baptist Times

METHODIST AND JEWISH LEADERS RENEW DIALOGUE

The revival of talks between Methodism and Judaism's national bodies in Britain have (sic) triggered hopes for a 'productive and continuing dialogue' between the two faith groups 'in 2011 and beyond'.

Representatives of the Methodist Church in Britain and the Board of Deputies of British Jews came together...

to pursue 'the way forward' for relations between the two communities...

Arranged and facilitated by the Council of Christians and Jews, the meeting was an opportunity for Methodist and Jewish senior leaders to share the 'hurt and concerns' felt by both sides after last year's controversy about the Methodist Church's stance on the conflict in the Holy Land.

Methodist Recorder

CHRISTIAN SIDELINING ATTACKED BY SUBDEAN

Since the 1970s deliberate attempts have been made in Britain to remove the Christian faith from national life, according to a cathedral chief.

The claim comes from Lincoln subdean Alan Sugden in the latest issue of the cathedral chapter letter...

The 68-year-old canon declares: 'There have been deliberate attempts over the past 40 years to remove social controls on behaviour – and, more seriously, to remove the Christian faith from the national life.'

The Church of England Newspaper

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND PUBLISHING SECRETARY Major Leanne Ruthven



Divine dividends



'God cares. The cross was the most eloquent demonstration of caring the world has ever known. The Salvation Army cares. It has been called and ordained of God to serve in the trenches of human warfare, to be a compassionate arm of the militant church.'

(Colonel Henry Garipey OF)

IT'S unlikely, I know, but should you ever find yourself consumed by a desire to know more about my overall philosophy when it comes to money, then I can but invite you to read a short story entitled *My Financial Career* in Stephen Leacock's marvellous book, *Literary Lapses*. It will explain things much better than I can. Suffice to say, my wife, Heather, takes good care of my finances, and I am entrusted with sufficient for the day. Beyond that, I try not to trouble her. Granted, my Auntie Vi left me £10 in her will when I was a boy, but I've struggled to scale such heights since.

I mention this in order to introduce the subject of investments. Not necessarily fiscal opportunities, but the spiritual investment of life and time and talents. This week, we focus on the Retirement Salute to General Shaw Clifton and

Commissioner Helen Clifton, Salvation Army officers who have invested their lives in the service of Jesus on five continents. Investing one's life around the world, for the sake of the world to come, is rewarding, but costly too. There's the packing and relocating, the finding (and funding) of schools, the adapting to vastly different cultures, the leaving of loved ones, coping with expectations, dealing with dialects and diets, and so on. With those decades of investment in mind, we warmly salute our leaders.

Salvationists across the globe are entitled to look to their leaders for an example; all along the chain of command runs the expectation that those entrusted with leadership have not only invested their all in matters eternal, but can, and should (precisely because of the nature of their investment) be reliable imitators of Christ. Experience, though, tells us that things are sometimes otherwise. Each of us, in 'our state of partial rebellion', as Colonel David Guy puts it on page 14, is capable of sin. All the more reason, then, for leaders to be supported in prayer and with the Christlike kindness General Clifton points us towards on this week's back cover.

According to Leonard Patrick O'Connor Wibberley in his splendidly titled book, *The Trouble With The Irish (Or The English, Depending On Your Point Of View)*, during the Irish potato famine of the mid-1800s the Parliament in London 'voted £100,000 to famine relief, in the same year it gave £200,000 to the beautification of Battersea Park'. One million people died in Ireland!

A failure to invest properly, or generously, can be catastrophic. As C. T. Studd put it: 'If Jesus Christ be God, and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for him.'

Might it be an idea for each of us to freshly consider the words of song 525 in our songbook? As an investment guide it guarantees great returns, the value of which will never go down.

MAJOR STEPHEN POXON, EDITOR

NEWS FEATURE

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Welcome to the High Council and Retirement Salute to General Shaw Clifton and Commissioner Helen Clifton

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General declares: 'Always put the Kingdom first'

London

THE past, the present and the future were all featured during the Welcome to the 2011 High Council and Retirement Salute to General Shaw Clifton and Commissioner Helen Clifton at the Lancaster London Hotel on Saturday 22 January.

Periods of solemnity blended beautifully with times of vulnerability, transparency, reflection and celebration during this international event.

Through a live web stream, Salvationists from every continent combined with the 800-strong Lancaster London Hotel congregation to praise God for the ministry of the General and Commissioner Clifton, and to encourage the High Council as it meets to elect the nineteenth General of The Salvation Army.

From the outset, purposeful worship, intentional formality and reverential humour, seamlessly intertwined the past, present and future aspects of the meeting.

The subdued, measured, processional entry of the members of the High Council, each pausing to salute General Clifton, followed by a rousing reception from the congregation was indicative of what was to follow.

Prayer for the High Council, as well as for the General and Commissioner Clifton, was a prominent feature – from the prayers of five international young people to those of Colonels Brian Peddle (Chief Secretary, United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland) and Rosalie Peddle (Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries, UKT).

Following a choric Scripture-based presentation by High Council members, Commissioner William Francis, the High Council President, said that the council is aware that it is being supported by the everlasting arms of Jesus and the prayers of the faithful from around the world.

Later in the meeting, during General Clifton's Charge to the



General Shaw Clifton

Members of the High Council, he urged the Council to 'enter into this sacred task [of electing the next international leader] with pure hearts and open minds, looking only for the guidance of the Holy Spirit'.

Commissioner Clifton reminded the High Council members that 'Salvationists around the world are thinking of you... and supporting you in prayer'.

The High Council members responded by saying that they will 'seek to know the mind of Christ, relying on his direction that the perfect will of God may be done'.

The congregation promised to

pray that God's 'love will unite you, his grace surround you and his power sustain you in your holy task'.

Bandmaster Bill Rollins (USA Eastern Territory) movingly commenced the Retirement Salute portion of the meeting when he sang 'All There Is Of Me'.

A photographic journey, Five Happy Years, pictorially portrayed significant moments from the past five years.

In his tribute to the General, Chief of the Staff Commissioner Barry Swanson emphatically stated: 'Shaw Clifton has a strong love of family. He and Helen have a very close, loving relationship. They complement each other. The General also has a genuine concern for officers and their families.'

Commissioner Swanson used the General's keen interest in English football team Tottenham Hotspur to reveal how the General enjoys life and has a keen knowledge of the world around him.

The Chief continued by saying

that the General's 'two most outstanding leadership characteristics are global vision and decisive action'.

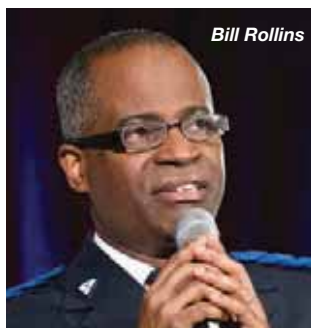
'He has a vision for a growing, holy, united Salvation Army and he put many steps in place to help this happen. During the past five years the Army has commenced ministry in thirteen countries – an amazing rate of growth.'

The Chief concluded his tribute by reading one of the General's favourite Scripture passages – Psalm 145.

When thanking God for the World President of Women's Ministries – Commissioner Helen Clifton – World Secretary for Women's Ministries Commissioner Sue Swanson said: 'I am a living letter to you on behalf of women from all over the world who would love to be here saying thank you.'

She especially thanked Commissioner Clifton for her godly capacity to know each of her team extremely well.

'Your amazing caring and email communication has been a blessing, helping us to understand that we are truly in ministry together. All the territorial women's ministries presidents around the world have experienced your love and your care.'



Bill Rollins



Gary Rose



Commissioner Clifton speaks supported by her family



A choric Scripture-based presentation by members of the High Council

Commissioner Swanson specifically thanked Commissioner Clifton for her bold and unique cry for justice for struggling women and children, especially through the While Women Weep (WWW) campaign.

‘You led us to work and pray for the justice God loves. We also thank you for the example you gave us when you single-handedly campaigned against commercial sex advertisements in your local paper – and won, with the advertisements being removed.

‘And women officers at IHQ will always remember you as a woman of intentional and powerful prayer – thank you.’

The commissioner concluded by saying that, while she had commenced by stating that she was a living letter to Commissioner Clifton, ‘in fact, you are the letter. As it says in 2

Corinthians, “It’s clear that you are Christ’s letter...”’

Two of Commissioner Clifton’s grandchildren, Hudson Collings and Hanna Clifton, then presented her with a basket of flowers prior to Commissioner Sue Swanson praying for the General and Commissioner Clifton.

In response Commissioner Clifton thanked everyone ‘for your very gracious reception of us today. It hardly seems possible that we are rapidly



*Chief of the Staff
Commissioner Barry Swanson*

approaching our retirement date.

‘Our lives have been so full and so busy for so many years that I feel unsure of what to expect in retirement. I very much want to devote special time to the children and to the grandchildren. Also, I want to collaborate with Shaw and help him, as much as I can, in the writing of an autobiography.

‘My heart is full of praise and thanksgiving this afternoon. God has been so generous to us through all the years since he called us into sacred service. He has granted us boundless grace, one day at a time. He has gone ahead of us into every appointment and situation. He has blessed us beyond measure.’

Commissioner Clifton made special mention of the love and support of their children Matt, Jenny and John. ‘Their love and support have been such a blessing. So too has the love of our



*Commissioner William Francis,
the High Council President*

precious children-in-law: Marcus and Lynne, soon to be joined by Naomi – the wedding is planned for July this year.’

The commissioner also thanked a number of women who have worked closely with her in recent years: Commissioner Janet Street, Commissioner Lyn Pearce, Commissioner Sue Swanson, Captain Teresa Everett and Major Lynn Gibbs.

She went on to say: ‘I want to emphasise the special place that God gives to women in the Army. I am proud of our women soldiers, local officers and officers. I am so pleased that more women have come into the High Council. It has been very meaningful to me to support my husband in his determination to promote more and more women officers to senior positions. God bless the women of the Army!’

‘It has been wonderful to see the miracle of the Army in so many places in the past five years. We have been received with grace and warmth everywhere. It has been thrilling – a real blessing – to find the Army well, healthy and fruitful across its five zones. I want you to be proud of the Army to which you belong.

‘I pledge my prayers for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>>

High council convenes

Sunbury Court

THE seventeenth High Council convened and elected Commissioner William Francis (IHQ) as President, with Commissioner Betty Matear (UK THQ) elected Vice-President – the first married woman officer to be elected to this position. Commissioner Max Feener (USA Southern THQ) has been elected chaplain. The opening proceedings, including the election of the President, were presided over by the Chief of the Staff (Commissioner Barry Swanson).

Commissioner Francis, assisted by Commissioner Matear, will guide the High Council through the procedures required to elect the Army’s nineteenth General.

Commissioner Francis noted that 65 per

cent of the High Council members ‘are here for the first time’. He also reminded the council: ‘We are here for one purpose only – to elect the next leader of The Salvation Army and we need to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us.’

At the conclusion of a devotional time led by the Chief, the High Council members moved into small clusters for prayer.

In the lead-up to the High Council, during the General’s Consultative Council (GCC), the Army leaders attended a reception in the State Apartments of John Bercow, the Speaker. Mr Bercow was effusive in his thankfulness for The Salvation Army. He welcomed the members of the GCC and said that the Army’s non-judgmental caring service to the community was much appreciated in the Houses of Parliament.

He was visibly moved as he spoke of the Army’s compassionate ministry of love throughout the world over 146 years. He acknowledged that as the members of the High Council came to select a new world leader ‘you will have help from on high as you make the decision’.

General Shaw Clifton thanked Mr Bercow for his encouragement and support of the Army and presented the Speaker with a copy of the 2011 *Year Book Of The Salvation Army* that also includes a photograph of the Speaker from a previous meeting with the General. – L. R.

■ News, videos and photos from the High Council can be viewed online at salvationarmy.org.uk/highcouncil – from which the official announcement of the General-elect will also be streamed.



◀◀◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

High Council. God will give guidance.

‘My husband and I will step aside when the time comes and we will offer our full support to the next General – and if that General is married, we will offer the same support to the General’s spouse. I know you will all do the same.

‘Thank you for your prayers for me in recent months. Please continue to pray. I will pray for you, thanking God for loving, faithful comrades and knowing that we belong together to Jesus, our wonderful Saviour.’

The Retirement Salute portion concluded with Gary Rose (Kettering) magnificently singing ‘All Under God’, accompanied by the International Staff Band and Enfield and Bromley Songsters. The words of the song were written by Stephen Pearson, inspired by the writings of the General, and the music was composed by Richard Phillips. Lieut-Colonel Rob Garrad (IHQ) narrated the spoken parts – which directly quoted the General. Flautist Paige Miller (Kettering) was also featured in this song.

When leading into his message, General Clifton said he wouldn’t speak for long – as he had seen many a good meeting ruined by the preacher speaking for 45 minutes – and he kept to his word.

He also mentioned that no doubt everyone was hungry. ‘But I want you to be hungry for God so come to the mercy seat and eat, then move so others can come.’

In reflecting on his term as General, he shared a number of statistics. ‘We have flown 300,000 miles, plus driven many miles in the UK. We have officially visited 40 different countries during 52 separate overseas campaigns, plus 10 official engagements in the UK. We have made more than 50 visits to the International College for Officers. While General I have risen to my feet to speak on more than 650 separate occasions and we have travelled for 3 to 4 months of every year.

‘I share these statistics because some people think I’ve been a sick General. But I haven’t been sick apart from two three-month periods. And one of the great things about the Army is that

The united songsters of Bromley Temple and Enfield Citadel



when you are in trouble it is terrific. We have experienced the Army at its best during our difficult times.

‘We have been the constant recipients of the prayers of the whole Army. It is a wonderful thing to know that you are prayed for all over the globe. Thank you for your prayers. I know you will pray too for my successor. Your prayers are the powerhouse of the Army.

‘Please pray for the High Council. Please receive my successor with genuine warmth and support. Please pledge your prayers for the next General whoever he or she may be. I look forward keenly to working with the General-elect until I retire on 2 April to ensure a smooth and helpful transition.’

After reading from Luke 12:22–34 General Clifton declared that we can trust God for the Army’s needs. ‘He has it covered – the needs of the High Council, the needs of the smallest corps, of the newest soldier or junior soldier, of the Salvationist bond workers in Pakistan who can’t get out to worship and for the humblest expression of social outreach and concern. We must pray for the Army but we don’t need to lose any sleep over it.

‘Always put the Kingdom first. Seek first the Kingdom of God and all other things will be added beyond measure. We love the Army but the Army is not God. God raised up the Army and wants it to stay raised up, so put the Kingdom first.

‘Also, “Do not be afraid, little flock”. We are his little flock. We are barely two million people in 123 countries. It sounds a lot but by some measures we are small. However, be bold in faith. Be brave in the heat of battle. Be

fruitful for me, says the Lord.

‘Tonight we ask God for new trust and new courage to serve him. We come to the cross together to kneel and find new strength for service,’ said General Clifton.

Immediately the appeal commenced, people started moving to the mercy seat and it was soon lined with those going deeper with God.

Earlier in his message General Clifton had thanked his family for their support and also expressed joyful surprise that their three children had pursued officership.

He specifically thanked former Chief of the Staff Commissioner

Robin Dunster and current Chief, Commissioner Barry Swanson, his executive secretaries Lieut-Colonels Miriam Frederiksen and Rob Garrad and Major Richard Gaudion, his private secretary when Territorial Commander in the United Kingdom for two years and then for five years in the office of the General.

Regarding his wife, he said: ‘There are no words to encompass what Helen means to me. We have loved each other since she was only 14 years old. She married me when she was 19 and 4 years later we became cadets together. We were commissioned together, served on five continents together and now we retire together.

‘We are in the hands of Almighty God whose hands are safe and loving in every circumstance.’ – L. R.

■ More than 1,500 computers were linked to the live streaming of the event. More than 200 people also followed the meeting via brief tweets from the High Council profile on the Twitter site.

■ The meeting can be viewed at www.salvationarmy.org/highcouncil

A view from the pew

THE welcome to the 2011 High Council and retirement salute for General Shaw Clifton and Commissioner Helen Clifton was a relaxed yet dignified gathering befitting the significant occasion it was, writes Major Leanne Ruthven (*Editor-in-Chief and Publishing Secretary, THQ*). Throughout the meeting the focus was on God, not individuals.

High Council members entered the hall with little fanfare but to great appreciation. Listening to them taking part in the choric Bible reading confirmed, for me, the segment’s title – As One. Male and female voices could be heard yet none stood out and neither could any accent be discerned. In fact, they sounded like an ordinary group of people – people serving a God who chooses to do astounding things through those he calls.

The evening held many highlights, in particular the General’s tribute to his wife, her thanks to all those who have prayed for her during the past few months and the evident love and care of their family. Then there were the superb contributions of the UK Territory’s musicians, along with the General’s reminder that we can trust God with the Army. Its needs – however great or small – ‘are covered’.

The people sitting near me at the back of the hall represented the spectrum of those who belong to our organisation: young and old; officers, soldiers and friends; some in uniform, some in work clothes and some in tracksuits. Together they confirmed that the Army is for everyone.

And, as the Chief of the Staff (Commissioner Barry Swanson) reminded us, there were many around the world watching proceedings via the web. As we sang the final chorus it was moving to think about others in different time zones – some who woke early, some who stayed up late – singing with us: ‘The world for God! The world for God! I give my heart! I will do my part!’

Model students study Army trends

Blackpool South

AS part of their BTEC course, students from Blackpool and the Fylde College and Blackpool Sixth Form College have begun a working partnership with the corps charity shop, whereby donated clothes are given a new lease of life and used in window displays.

Shop manager Paul Hill came up with the idea of asking the young people to create new and innovative designs by cutting off sleeves, creating dresses out of skirts – and much more. Recent designs include a tartan jacket turned into a dress and a long skirt transformed into a cape. The intention is to help the fashion students with their studies while enabling them to understand a little about the work of The Salvation Army.



Gemma McNair, a graphics, photography and fashion tutor at the sixth form college, said that one of the requirements of students on the course was

to recycle old clothing and turn a garment into something new.

The invitation to work with the Army has proved to be a

rewarding experience for students, teaching them about the importance of recycling and the way in which the Army raises some of its funds. – W. C.

Thousands receive Army aid and supplies

Haiti

THANKS to a grant from the Canada and Bermuda Territory and a donor from the Bahamas, Salvation Army clinics have provided essential resources to those infected by the nationwide cholera epidemic. Antibiotics, soap, bleach and oral rehydration supplies are essential in the fight against the disease.

Working closely with the Organisation of International Ministry in the Place de la Paix Internally Displaced Persons camp, The Salvation Army is providing help for 13,000 in the camp and 2,000

College Verena students. Bethel Clinic, under the administration of Captain Felix Ezech, operates a cholera treatment centre in Fond-des-Nègres.

Cholera is an easily treated disease, but can be fatal if treatment is not started quickly. A pressure washing machine has been purchased to improve disinfecting protocols at the clinic. Many Salvation Army corps and schools are reporting infections in their communities; the Couyot community is of particular concern because access to medical assistance involves a five-to-seven hour walk.

As the death toll in Haiti approaches 3,500, The Salvation Army continues to provide ministry to those infected and prevention support to vulnerable communities. – R. B.

SA assists with relief efforts

Brazil

THE Brazilian Government's Civil Defence Authority (CDA) asked The Salvation Army to provide emergency relief to the victims of the floods and mudslides that killed more than 500 people in the state of Rio de Janeiro.

Salvationists and volunteer helpers provided physical, emotional and spiritual relief in areas designated by the CDA. Access to the three affected towns, between 60 kilometres and 130 kilometres from Rio de Janeiro, was difficult with a number of roads destroyed by the mudslides.

Collection points where food and other necessary supplies could be donated were established in the city.

Territorial Communications Director Major Teofilo Chagas coordinated the Army's response.

Volunteers from Rotary International also assisted the Army in its relief effort.

Hope in Haiti

Haiti

A MEETING to commemorate the first anniversary of the Haiti earthquake of 12 January 2010 took place under tarpaulin outside the damaged Port-au-Prince Corps, led and supported by territorial leaders Colonels Onal and Edmane Castor, Lieut-Colonels Lindsay and Lynette Rowe (THQ), divisional leaders Majors Lucien and Marie Lamartinière, DHQ staff, officers of the Haiti Recovery and Development Office and community leaders and representatives from other NGOs.

The meeting commemorated the disaster and celebrated new beginnings. Victims were remembered and survivors given recognition. Groups from the Port-au-Prince Corps and College Verena provided music, and Major Lucien Lamartinière preached a challenging message in which he encouraged those present to consider the example of Nehemiah as they rebuild their country.

Immediately after the memorial service Salvationists, led by the territorial leaders, marched to a

new set of buildings that will serve as the Army's College Verena School, whose buildings were severely damaged. These are the first Army buildings to be constructed since the earthquake as part of a massive rebuilding programme. Two wooden buildings will house 23 students of the school, and will double as the temporary home of Port-au-Prince Corps. Thanks to the efforts of Major Jean Volet (who is on secondment to Haiti from Switzerland, Austria and Hungary Territory), the classrooms can be transformed into a large open space that will seat up to 700 people. Advisory Board chairman Hervé Denis, who was bereaved of his mother when the earthquake struck, shared a moving testimony. He said he considered his service with The Salvation Army as an important way to honour her. The Territorial Commander brought words of encouragement, reminding the congregation that General Shaw Clifton and Commissioner Helen Clifton were supporting them in prayer, and that many countries and territories around the world were helping the reconstruction of the Army in Haiti. – C. B./H. B./A. S.

CORPS PRESS REPRESENTATIVES

are reminded to send reports to salvationist@salvationarmy.org.uk – to arrive no later than ten days after the event. Reports can also be sent by post to *Salvationist*, The Salvation Army, 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BN

Flood relief around the clock

Australia Eastern

SALVATION Army emergency relief volunteers in the states of Queensland and New South Wales (NSW) worked around the clock to provide assistance to the tens of thousands of people affected by the flood crisis.

In most areas this was the worst flooding for 36 years. A number of Salvation Army properties were affected. Around 12,000 homes and 2,500 businesses were flooded in the Brisbane area alone with 118,000 buildings left without electricity.

More than 75 per cent of Queensland was under water and adjacent northern areas of NSW were also affected. When rivers had peaked residents and emergency workers began the massive clean-up operations and plans were put in place for the long-term rebuilding phase.

The Salvation Army has direct input into the long-term recovery plans. Major Rick Hoffmann (South Queensland DHQ) was appointed to the Flood Recovery Task Force. The major's appointment was made in response to a letter from Queensland Premier Anna Bligh to Territorial Commander Commissioner Linda Bond.

The Salvation Army emergency services teams continue to work tirelessly to feed flood victims, volunteers and State Emergency Service workers as well as providing comfort to the grieving.

In the Brisbane area the Army ministered at five major evacuation centres that cared daily for more than 2,000 people; 200 residents of a Salvation Army aged care facility on the outskirts of the city were among the many thousands evacuated.

Captain Mark Bulow was in the country city of Toowoomba when a devastating wall of water hit on 10 January. He said: 'You could hear the wall of water before you could see it. Some kids were playing in the water on the side of the road and people were just yelling at them to get out of the way. Within seconds, cars, industrial containers and other huge objects were being swept down by this torrent of water.'

'People were in shock. We

couldn't believe it and everyone just went quiet. It was one of those things you never, ever want to see again. I felt so helpless.'

The captain and his wife, Captain Jo-Anne Bulow, together with their emergency services teams, have been involved in the relief and clean-up effort. They spent time with a man whose wife and two of his children lost their lives when the floodwaters swept away the car in which they were travelling.

The team also provided relief in a number of smaller towns. People from the community, including physiotherapists and counsellors, offered their help.

When Majors Bruce and Margaret Dobbie returned to Ipswich after eleven days of relief work in Rockhampton, they assisted at one of the four evacuation centres in their own city. Salvation Army emergency service teams from non-affected areas of the country arrived in Queensland to assist the ongoing relief effort.

Community volunteers and food donations at all flooded centres greatly boosted The Salvation Army's ability to respond to the crisis. – S. W.



Adherent member Cassie George (Maesteg) celebrates her 100th birthday with corps officers Captains John and Ann Pugh; the band and songsters played and sang some of Cassie's favourite songs

Plenty of prizes

Thornaby

FOURTEEN months after the recommencement of young people's work in the corps, prizegiving took place under the direction of corps leader Territorial Envoy Gordon Hull. Young people participated by playing instruments and singing. Members of the Sunday school sang a song entitled 'Hey, Hey'.

Prizegiving also presented the corps with the opportunity to

Ministry to earthquake victims continues

New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga

THE streets in Christchurch, New Zealand, carry the scars of the 7.1 magnitude earthquake that struck on 4 September 2010. Thousands of families face ongoing anguish, uncertainty and the residue of fear exacerbated by the 3,000 aftershocks.

Salvation Army officers and volunteers working with those affected by the disaster tell of families facing financial catastrophe, anxious children still refusing to sleep in their own beds and adults who prefer to sleep in their garden sheds rather than risk a major aftershock in their homes at night.

They talk of broken marriages, depression, nerves jangled by aftershocks, overcrowded houses as families seek refuge from their condemned homes with family and friends and mounting frustration as homeowners wrestle with what the future holds. The uninsured face financial ruin. Around 3,300 families could be unable to move back into their homes for

up to three years, according to the Earthquake Commission's latest geotechnical report.

The Salvation Army expects that demand on its services will rapidly expand once people's savings or insurance support are exhausted.

Linwood's corps officer, Major Mike Allright, said: 'Each day we have new people coming to us. They include business and employed people who have reduced work hours or have lost their jobs. They have tried to survive on their own but have come to the point where they are really struggling.'

Territorial Commander Commissioner Don Bell visited affected areas early in the recovery phase. He said that the value of the efforts and sacrifices of the Salvation Army teams, and particularly the Australian teams, should not be underestimated, but warned that a good deal of work lay ahead. 'Homes and businesses have been lost and many families' futures remain uncertain. The Army will stand with these people for as long as it takes,' he said.

Alistair Graham, who was appointed to manage the ongoing earthquake recovery work in Canterbury, said: 'The Army's compassionate response has been highly valued in the communities. It is phenomenal – The Salvation Army at its best.'

Divisional Commander Major Clive Nicolson (Southern) said: 'Probably no city or organisation can be totally prepared for a large-scale emergency. The situation changes by the moment and you need to be able to change your plans as a result. Over the weeks since the earthquake that is what The Salvation Army has been doing – responding to needs as they arise.' – J. H.



reflect on progress made. In recent months six junior soldiers have been enrolled, with three young people taking preparatory

classes. Nine are learning to play instruments, six are in a timbrel group and five take part in a singing group. – C. H.



Matt and Ollie run for money

Booth House

HAVING completed three sponsored half marathons, Matt Wooton and Ollie Lambrechts gave the £360 they raised to three initiatives at a presentation held at the Swindon Lifehouse. Matt has been a resident there since May 2010 and Ollie was on a six-month work placement as an animateur.

The money went to the Broad Green Breakfast Club, which provides a cooked meal for homeless and vulnerable people six days a week; Gloucester House Addictions Rehabilitation Centre's Buy A Bed... Save A Life appeal; and Booth House Residents Fund, to enable the purchase of recreational equipment.

Representatives from each project were there to receive the

cheques. Pictured are Matt, Ollie, Acting Manager Sue Tollington (Gloucester House), Angus Macpherson (chairman of

the Broad Green Breakfast Club charity) and Deputy Centre Manager Major Roy Milner (Booth House). – A. P-S.



Young People's Sergeant-Major Steve Field (Petersfield) celebrates his retirement after 26 years' dedicated service; he is pictured with divisional leaders Lieut-Colonels Graham and Kirsten Owen (far left and right), Vanessa Saunders (second right), who succeeds Steve as YPSM, and corps officer Captain Linda Read. Steve said that the biggest joy of serving as YPSM was to see young people take hold of the faith and believe it for themselves.

Hatfield Peverel: A ladies fellowship evening compered by Jean Bryant (Hadleigh Temple) featured the Silver Service Songsters and timbrelists and included items such as 'Love Me Tender' and 'Goodnight Sweetheart'. The timbrelists played to marches including 'Montreal Citadel'. Major Gillian Dicker (DHQ) brought a humorous monologue entitled 'Heaps Of Stuff' and corps officer Captain Glenda Holifield presented Mary Wellar with a bouquet in recognition of years of service to the fellowship. – P. H.



Bandsman Kenneth Kilgour (Greenock) receives donations from Fiona Taylor of the 'Greenock Telegraph' after a Christmas toy appeal, organised by Maureen Pentland

More books published online

THQ

IN response to requests, two further books have been published in the UKT website's free OnLine Library.

To Love And To Cherish is a handbook for Salvationist counsellors dealing with couples preparing for marriage. Originally intended for private distribution only, it was then revised and printed in 1990 for wider use, but not afterwards reprinted. Officers and others running pre-marriage courses can now download the complete book as a PDF file retaining the original format.

The 1969 *Handbook Of Doctrine* (sometimes known as 'the red book') was published by General Frederick Coutts, replacing one originally prepared under Bramwell Booth. Although *Salvation Story*, republished last year as *The Salvation Army Handbook Of Doctrine*, has remodelled its material, there are those who still find the red book to be a valuable theological tool. For this reason it has been published in the OnLine Library, downloadable as separate chapters in PDF format.

The United Kingdom Territory's OnLine Library continues to expand, making available books and texts which may be out of print or otherwise hard to obtain, and all for free. Visit salvationarmy.org.uk/library to access its resources. – B. T.

Children feature in family service

Sale

DIVISIONAL Children's Officer Hannah Browne led the first family service in 2011. Children featured in the prayer time and in an interactive How Well Do You Know Your Child? quiz.

The entire corps family had been given a card with an inkblot on it – representing a stain in their spiritual experience. They were invited to take the inkblot to the altar and then to make a thumbprint on a poster to indicate their stain-free life. Very soon the poster was covered in prints made willingly by children and adults. – A. D.

Picture: KRIS CAFFINS, Greenock Telegraph

■ We should value the ISB's link with Parliament

IT was most interesting to read Nick Lilley's letter (*Salvationist* 15 January) about the Parliamentary Carol Service.

In 1986 when I was IHQ Public Relations Secretary and Executive Officer of the International Staff Band, Salvationist Derek Foster – then MP for Bishop Auckland and now Lord Foster –

contacted me on behalf of the Speaker's Chaplain to see whether the Army could conduct a carol service in the Great Hall at Westminster for MPs, peers and their staff.

I approached International Staff Bandmaster Lieut-Colonel Ray Bowes to see if we could respond positively. He readily agreed. The carol service was followed by a reception in the magnificent Speaker's Apartments arranged by the Christian Ladies Group. This Christmas just gone will have been the 25th

consecutive occasion on which the Army has fulfilled this task.

It is an immense privilege and a wonderful opportunity for the Army to share the good news of the Saviour's birth with those who work in Parliament and a great tribute to the ISB that it has maintained the service for so long.

An outcome of the link with Parliament is that this year the Speaker has invited members of the High Council to a reception in his apartments and I am sure all those going will enjoy the experience.

**Arthur Thompson,
Commissioner,
Worthing**

■ Bible studies sharpen our focus

MAJOR Noel Wright's Bible study (*Salvationist* 15 January) – 'Run to make a difference' – was challenging, informative and easily readable.

The major outlined some encouraging points about what it means to be a member of The Salvation Army (indeed, the Church) in 2011, and I am especially grateful that he concluded his study with a reminder to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

It is the easiest thing in the world, sometimes, to keep our eyes fixed on the Army and, albeit inadvertently, focus on

secondary issues at the possible expense of Kingdom issues. Major Wright has lived up to his title of Mission Development Officer by helping to sharpen our focus.

I particularly liked his very helpful interpretation of the verse in Hebrews in which we are told that we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses. His explanation that 'the emphasis is not that they are looking down at us, but that we are looking up at them' showed me that verse in a new perspective.

My thanks to Major Wright and to *Salvationist* for this helpful article.

**Reginald Branston,
Manchester**

READERS SENDING LETTERS BY EMAIL SHOULD INCLUDE THEIR NAME, FULL RANK IF APPLICABLE AND FULL POSTAL ADDRESS

ADVERTISEMENT



Children are the shape of the Kingdom

The conclusion of a two-part feature adapted from a keynote address given at Soul Pursuit by the Territorial Commander and Commissioner Betty Matear

CHILDREN don't come into worship to be distracted or amused – they have to be involved. They might cry, fidget and need calming when we want them to be orderly, but we mustn't assume they have to fit in with the way the 'big people' do it. We must go beyond just accommodating children, entertaining them or even giving them a moral compass. It's all about Jesus. Our role is to support and help them walk with Jesus, through their childhood and into adulthood.

We have been entrusted with the truth, which we have to share and explain as humbly as we can. Our faith is true and it works. We are entrusted in 2011 with a new generation who may know nothing of Jesus. How do we explain gospel truth to them?

Christians, especially those responsible for the faith development of young people, have to help them mature in faith. Never assume children know what is right. Never assume they will pick it up on the way and experience will teach them. Keep on reminding them. Teach them the difference between right and wrong. Teach them the truth about Jesus.

We read in Philippians 4:8 and 9 (all

quotations from *New International Version*): 'Whatever is true... noble... right... pure... lovely... admirable... excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Whatever you have learnt or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice.' This is truth and lifestyle. We are entrusted with the future.

Colossians 3:16 tells us: 'Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.' Believe it, live it, model it.

Jesus builds his Church on people like us. We acknowledge we are not the most perfect, not the most brilliant, strongest or most intellectual, for the Church of God is not built on human strength. Grace comes to ordinary people – to sinners – and makes them saints.

The key to this is that Christianity is something we receive. We have to know the message and share what we know.

'Continue in what you have learnt and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learnt it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith

in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:14 and 15).

We must know Jesus, make him known and make disciples. It is about helping young people grow in their faith, to become followers of Jesus. To do that, we become part of their lives and journey with them.

There are three key areas that they need to be instructed in –

- the plan of salvation
- the meaning of salvation
- their Heavenly Father's care (as seen in our lives).

Somewhere in the middle of action songs and activities, where they can enjoy themselves, there must be a strategy for these key areas. Our goal is most precious and urgent, for we know that young people might be here this week and gone the next. What keeps them coming back is more than the glitzy, high-tech razzmatazz that we might or might not provide. It is true for children who are young in chronological years as well as children who are young in spiritual years – the quality of their relationships with significant people is key.

We share our lives, convictions and knowledge with our children to introduce them to Jesus, so that they can be like Jesus and see his relevance to them. We want to be clear that this is the mission of the whole corps. This is more than programme activity, more than modern-day methods, more than incidental teaching – all of that will move on and pass away. We want young people to meet with God. Now that is some special meeting to make a priority!

Discipleship is person-orientated rather than knowledge-orientated. It is relationship-orientated rather than rule-orientated.

Our key principles are to

- disciple for a lifelong faith
- reflect on children from a biblical perspective
- recognise and encourage the potential in children
- build a framework in which children can grow.

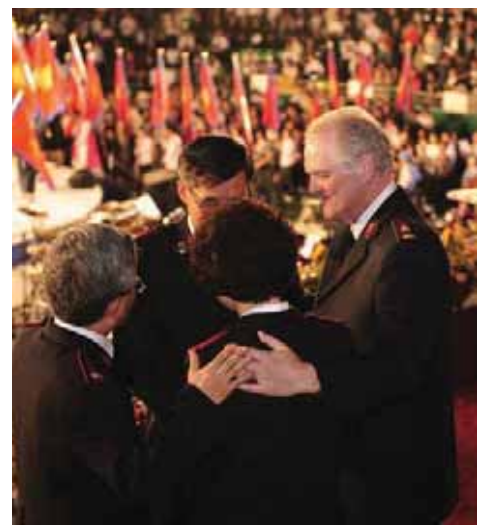
Teaching our children about God's love is an essential responsibility. We are laying deep foundations. We are building the Kingdom – and children are the shape of the Kingdom. ■

■ **Soul Pursuit is the UKT children's workers conference**

FIVE HAPPY YEARS



Clockwise from left: General Shaw Clifton and Commissioner Helen Clifton with children and carers from The Haven and Sunshine House, Sri Lanka Territory; cutting the ribbon to the new extension of the Hotel Auberge, Congo (Brazzaville) Territory; being welcomed to Old Orchard Beach, USA Eastern Territory; the General prays with Captains Lee, Min-ho and Chang, Mi-hyun, officers of the Korea Territory pioneering the work in Mongolia; being welcomed in Calcutta, India Northern Territory; Commissioner Helen Clifton with children in Soweto, Southern Africa Territory





Clockwise from top left: being interviewed by ten-year-old Torbjørn Solevåg in Norway; with children at Camp Junaluska, USA Southern Territory; at a commissioning in the United Kingdom Territory; with the Territorial Songsters, Aizawl, India Eastern Territory; the General and Commissioner Helen Clifton with former President George W. Bush and Mrs Laura Bush, with Charles and Dee Wylie; with territorial leaders Colonels Lalzamlova and Nemkhanching and the British High Commissioner in Sri Lanka

Led into temptation

Colonel David Guy begins a four-part series entitled *The Temptations Of Jesus*

THE story of Jesus going into the wilderness and being tempted by Satan is found in three Gospels – Matthew, Mark and Luke. They all agree that the Spirit led Jesus into the wasteland.

Mark uses a particularly strong verb: 'The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness' (1:12 *New Revised Standard Version*). The Holy Spirit – who had come upon Jesus following his baptism, immediately prior to this temptation experience – filled his heart with an overmastering urge to seek solitude, to be alone with God. For me, it is helpful to suppose that Jesus – truly human as well as divine – needed time to think and pray before beginning his mission. He had just had an overwhelming experience when he came up out of the River Jordan (Luke 3:21 and 22), where John – reluctant because of a sense of his own unworthiness (Matthew 3:13 and 14) – had baptised his cousin.

A voice from Heaven had said: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased' (Mark 1:11 all further quotations from *New International Version*), and the Spirit had descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove.

Now he must be alone with God while he

pondered the significance of this, and how the tremendous work of bringing about the Kingdom of God on earth must be accomplished. He needed time, space and solitude – and for 40 days he had them. But at the end of that time he was tempted.

So it would seem that these three fierce temptations came about because Jesus obeyed the inward urge of the Holy Spirit. Had he gone home quietly to Nazareth, he

These three fierce temptations came about because Jesus obeyed the inward urge of the Holy Spirit

would not have been open to temptation in the same way. Indeed, this is explicitly stated: 'Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the Devil' (Matthew 4:1).

Led by the Spirit into temptation? Can this be true? Experience confirms that it can be so. All those who have obeyed the inner prompting that led them into a new way of life or path of service find that they

face temptations they would probably not have had if they had not responded.

Let us be clear. All human beings are tempted in one way or another. If we refuse to follow the path of obedience, the prompting of the Spirit, we will still find ourselves beset by the old familiar temptations. If we follow the way God indicates, we shall face novel attacks upon our souls but be given strength to make resistance possible. If we draw back, we may suppose that the old temptations will return and – in our state of partial rebellion – we will lack the strength to repel them.

The temptations of the obedient man or woman are sometimes new and different, that is all. Or perhaps not quite all; they may come with particular force, because of our circumstances arising out of doing God's will for our lives. And that seems to have been the case with Jesus in the desert.

The first temptation – to turn stones into bread – came to Jesus when he had been fasting and was weakened by hunger. No doubt there had been times when Jesus had felt hungry, but this would be the first time he had felt quite such an urgent need for food. There was an extra power to temptation now.

Notice too that all three temptations came when he was in the wasteland, far from the supporting presence of family and friends. Some of his followers have also experienced how that can be a factor. He could not go to the synagogue, as was his custom. He was cut off from all customary means of spiritual refreshment and was at his lowest physically. It was then that the Tempter piled on the agony. But Jesus was victorious.

Another cause of the power of these particular temptations lay in their timing. These three suggestions had a bearing on how Jesus would accomplish the purpose to which, at his baptism, he had become finally committed. What had before been interesting theoretical questions now confronted him as immediate issues.

The path of consecration, obedience and service may be accompanied by special times of testing. But, like Jesus, we may find that they are followed by times of triumph and usefulness to God's Kingdom: 'Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside' (Luke 4:14). ■

■ **Colonel Guy worships at Bromley Corps in retirement**



Right, wrong or just 'inappropriate'?

asks John Coutts

LONG, long ago, when the world was young – or rather when I was – I lodged at 24 Bushnell Road, Balham, London. The house belonged to Miss Dorothy Hunt, a pillar of the Congregational Church, and one of the generation that never married, perhaps because so many eligible young men had fallen in the First World War.

Dorothy was a woman of wise kindness, generous deeds and good stories. Here's one of them.

One day, while on the way to the funeral of a friend, she began to have doubts about her hat, which bore a colourful floral decoration. Was it 'appropriate' for such a sad and solemn occasion? Might it give offence?

After anxious thought – for in those days it was deemed inappropriate for ladies to appear bareheaded on such occasions – Miss Hunt removed her hat. She handed it to the usher and slipped into the back row of the crematorium chapel, where few would notice that she was bareheaded.

The organ played, the congregation rose, the coffin entered... and there – placed appropriately on top – lay Miss Hunt's floral hat!

This tale is a parable for our times, for it puts the spotlight on that questionable adjective 'inappropriate', which has crept into our language from Latin and is attempting to drive out the good old English words: 'right' and 'wrong'.

Some months ago I read a sad story in the newspaper. The big boss of a well-known computer company had been forced to resign as a result of his – wait for it – 'inappropriate behaviour'.

At first sight that seemed tough. Did he turn up at a funeral wearing a loud tie? Had he used the wrong fork to eat the entrée at a posh dinner? Such blunders shouldn't be sacking matters! But his alleged misdeeds were far more serious: to me, if true, they were plain 'wrong'. And yet the company saw fit to describe them as 'inappropriate'.

Let's pinpoint the difference with an example from the year 1692. Was the

notorious massacre of Glencoe 'inappropriate'? The wretched Captain Campbell of Glenlyon – who commanded the killers and spent the rest of his life regretting it – knew very well that he had done grievous wrong.

Beware! Nowadays the dubious word 'inappropriate' keeps spreading through our moral discourse, feeding on the widespread belief that good behaviour is simply a matter of taste. This assumes that something which 'feels right' for me must 'be right' for me. If I say 'stealing is wrong', I simply mean 'I dislike stealing'. (Philosophers call this theory 'emotivism'.)

The objection is obvious: many burglars enjoy their work: does this mean, that stealing is 'right' for them? You won't take that line if your own house has been ransacked. Such doubletalk makes you want to eat dear Dorothy's floral hat.

Let us admit one reason for public reluctance to make simplistic judgments about 'right' and 'wrong': it is true that many moral choices are far from simple. My father – the late General Frederick Coutts – was an airman in the First World War and a pacifist in the second. And as a schoolboy, facing National Service, I struggled with the same dilemma. But I never thought that my decision would depend simply on 'liking' or 'disliking' the possible use of the atom bomb.

Take heart: the word 'inappropriate' occurs nowhere in the Bible, and is gloriously missing from the teaching of Jesus. Our Lord pulled no moral punches. He didn't think that right and wrong were mere matters of taste. His eternal words don't suggest that our behaviours are sometimes 'inappropriate'. Instead, he gives us both warning and promise: 'If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in Heaven give good gifts to those who ask him' (Matthew 7:11 *NIV*).

For Jesus, right and wrong are objective truths because they are rooted in God whose nature is love and whose ways are just.

So let's allow expressions like 'inappropriate' to play their proper but limited role in dealing with questions of good taste. In weightier matters of good and bad conduct, let us not shrink from publicly using those shocking and scandalous five-letter words: 'right' and 'wrong'. ■

■ John is a poet, performer, author and translator who worships at Stirling Corps

*Our Lord pulled no moral punches,
He didn't think that right and wrong
were mere matters of taste*

**Diane Pearson
Kevin Joyce
Soldiers
Leamington Spa**

DIANE, who had earlier links with the corps, played an enthusiastic part in corps life as an adherent member for some years before she felt the time was right to commit herself to soldiership.

Kevin's wife, Jackie, brought him to the Army, where they were married last year. Kevin describes becoming a soldier as 'coming home'. Corps leader Territorial Envoy Leanne Wallis enrolled Diane and Kevin as soldiers. – L. W.

**Nathan Laidlow
Soldier
Gloucester**

NATHAN was enrolled as a soldier by corps officer Major Adrian Allman during 131st corps anniversary celebrations.

He has attended the corps all his life and testified that he had learnt to rely on the Lord at all times. – A. B.

**John Spavins
Jean Spavins
Adherent members
Winton**

METHODISTS Jean and John moved to the area two years ago and were looking for a place of worship. They met some corps members when on holiday, a friendship blossomed and they were invited to the meetings. John testified to feeling very welcome and totally at home. He now welcomes people to the corps every Sunday morning.

Corps officer Major Heather Grinsted welcomed Jean and John as adherent members. – G. T.

**Bob Parker
Pat Parker
Barbara Balch
Lucy Newland
Adherent members
Bishop's Stortford**

BOB and Pat had links with the Army years ago through their children and have attended the corps for a number of months.

Barbara was looking for a spiritual home. Lucy worshipped at the Army before moving to the area. She shared that her faith had wavered and felt that it was the right time to make a recommitment.

All four said that the welcome they received at the corps led to their continued attendance and commitment.

Corps officer Lieut-Colonel Alan Hart welcomed Bob, Pat, Barbara and Lucy as adherent members. – A. H.

**Ann Stevenson
Soldier
Sleaford**

ANN started to attend the Saturday coffee morning and assisted as a helper. She then began to worship at the corps and was welcomed as an adherent member.

She testified that through a series of health problems she was reassured by a phrase used at the Bible fellowship, 'God is always at your shoulder'. It was during a stay in hospital that she was convinced she should make a further commitment.

Corps officer Major Joy Caddy enrolled Ann as a soldier. – N. M.

**May Denney
Linda May
Soldiers
Great Yarmouth**

MOTHER and daughter, May and Linda were adherent members and felt that God was calling them to take a further step. They are both actively involved in the corps and the Care and Share shop.

They chose the song 'Give Thanks' to reflect their testimony and corps officer Lieutenant Rob Symons enrolled May and Linda as soldiers. The corps then celebrated their new members with a faith lunch. – R. S.

**Bongani Gumbo
Busani Gumbo
Soldiers
Barking**

TWIN brothers Bongani and Busani celebrated their fourteenth birthday just two days before corps officer Major Nigel Schultz enrolled them as soldiers. Their family are Salvationists and they arrived in the UK from Zimbabwe some years ago. Both are keen members of the ALOVE youth group. – N. S.

**Liam Duggan
Matthew Humphreys
Ieuan Jones
Ethan Smith
Junior soldiers
Swansea**

CORPS officer Major Alan Green enrolled Liam, Matthew, Ieuan and Ethan as junior soldiers during the 128th corps anniversary weekend.

Best friends Liam and Matthew attended the parent-and-toddler group and later they went to Sunday school. Ieuan and Ethan attend with their families and are enthusiastic members of the corps – already learning to play instruments.

All four asked searching questions during their junior soldier preparation classes. – W. P.

Colin Weir
Soldier
Airdrie

COLIN testified to how it had taken a great deal of time and deliberate consideration before he decided to take the step of becoming a soldier. An enthusiast by nature, he wanted to make sure that this was one decision that was not spur of the moment – it was a decision to last a lifetime.

During the meeting in which corps officer Major Bruce Smith enrolled him as a soldier, Colin played the trombone solo 'Peace Like A River' with band accompaniment and sang a solo verse in the songster piece 'In Jesus' Name'. – B. S.

Lina Nsiamundele
Soldier

IN her testimony, Lina spoke of the many challenges she had encountered on her physical journey from Africa and also on her spiritual journey. She has worshipped at the corps for a number of years with her four children and her brother and sister but admitted that she had fought God's calling for her commitment. Corps officer Lieutenant Valerie Short enrolled Lina as a soldier.

She also welcomed Heather and Patsy as adherent members.

A committed Christian for many years, Heather first attended worship a number of months ago following many conversations. She also attends the Cheeky Monkeys parent-and-toddler group in her capacity as a childminder and nanny and received an invitation there to go to Sunday meetings. Heather said that she had finally found her spiritual home as a number of her family, past and present, are connected with the Army.

Patsy has been a regular and valued member of the worshipping community at the corps for a number of years. She was delighted when the lieutenant welcomed her.

A former junior soldier, Stewart returned to the Army about two years ago, worshipping with his grandfather, parents and two brothers. A valued member of the corps, he helps with the Sunday school and youth club and felt that the time was right to make a formal commitment.

Christine lives next door to the corps and is a frequent visitor to the charity shop, often engaging in conversation with the officers and staff. On one such occasion, she readily accepted an invitation to worship at the corps. She is now an enthusiastic member of the fellowship and decided to make the corps her spiritual home.

Lieutenant Julian Short welcomed Stewart and Christine as adherent members. – V. S.

Sarah Padley
Soldier
Workshop

SARAH was invited to the meetings by a corps member she met at the gym. She felt welcome in the fellowship and found a place where she could worship God.

Corps officers Major Nasreen and Captain Ashley Dawson enrolled Sarah as a soldier. – A. D.

Millie England
Junior soldier
Hull Icehouse

MILLIE has been going to the corps for some years with members of her family. Their initial contact with the Army was through Millie's grandparents – Mrs Captain Beryl Cordy and the late Captain Ross Cordy – and the Wadsworth family. Her uncle, Captain James Wadsworth (Dublin City), had the privilege of enrolling Millie as a junior soldier. – W. P.

NEW COMMITMENTS IN JANUARY

63 Soldiers

39 Adherent members

33 Junior soldiers

Out of 135 new commitments reported in *Salvationist* in January, 12 joined children's activities; 10 were invited by a friend; 5 received support through a difficult time; 3 were charity shop volunteers; 2 first came to a corps drop-in centre; 2 attended a coffee morning; 1 was a charity shop customer; 1 joined Cameo; 1 joined the home league; 1 joined a craft club; 1 was a Salvation Army trainee worker; 1 was evacuated to the hall after a fire; 1 was a Lifehouse resident

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARMY PEOPLE

The following appointments, decided upon by the General, have been announced by the Chief of the Staff:

Effective 1 February:

Lieut-Colonels Merle and Dawn Heatwole (currently serving in USA Central) to be Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries of that territory, with the rank of colonel. They succeed **Colonels Nestor and Rebecca Nüesch** who will be retiring from active service.

Effective 1 April:

Lieut-Colonels Michael and Joan Parker (currently serving in the United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland) to be CS and TSWM, Indonesia, with the rank of colonel.

LOCAL OFFICERS APPOINTED

CSM Joyce Knott, Hereford; **CS Karen Chessell**, Isle of Wight; **CT Stuart Riley**, Upper Norwood.

MARRIAGES

Stuart Handley to **Evonne Taylor-Bosworth** at Stapleford by Major Les Taylor; **Matthew Roberts** to **Rachel Johnson** at Sherburn Hill by Captain Scott Linnett.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Platinum (70th): **John and Mrs Joan Jenkins**, Tunbridge Wells (formerly Plumstead) (9 February).

DEDICATED TO GOD

Tristan Samuel James, son of Chris and Judith Bracken, at Belfast Sydenham by Captain Leanne Corder.

BEREAVED

Major Connie High of her sister Jessie Brown; **Lieut-Colonel Brenda Oakley** of her mother Florence Sheridan; **David Swansbury** and **Cheryl Jones**, both Parkstone, of their father Rtd RS Cyril Swansbury, **Colonel Gordon Swansbury** and **Ruth Burr, Olive White** and **Eva Willis**, all Poole, **Harry Swansbury**, New Zealand, and **Muriel Padfield**, Canada, of their brother; **Songster Ida**

Westwood, Pat Rubbini and **Clive Salt** of their father William Salt, **Songster Ann Griffiths** of her mother Lily, all Willenhall; **Bandsman Kevin Starkes**, Poole, of his wife Margaret, **Bandsman John Starkes**, Boscombe, of his mother; **Marion Bollom** of her husband David, **Mark Bollom** of his father, both Twickenham; **Mary Harry**, Swindon Citadel, of her brother; **Hazel Parkinson, Margaret Peacock** and **David McKean**, all Consett, of their mother May McKean.

RETIRED OFFICERS

Retirement addresses: **Mrs Major Jean Harry**,

[REDACTED], Lincoln [REDACTED];
Mrs Brigadier Olivia Bell, [REDACTED];
[REDACTED], Cradley Heath [REDACTED];
Major Maureen Wiffin, [REDACTED],
[REDACTED], Maidenhead [REDACTED];
Mrs Major Florrie (Margaret) West, [REDACTED];
[REDACTED];
[REDACTED], Dover [REDACTED]; **Mrs Major Irene Sherratt**, [REDACTED], Warrington [REDACTED].

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Cyril Bush, Joyce Bush, Yeovil.

Aux-Captain Eric Buchanan from Aberdeen on 13 January.

Aux-Captain Annie Buchanan lives at [REDACTED], Montrose [REDACTED].

Major Vera Turner from Ruislip on 17 January.

A close friend, Brigadier Lilian Riches, lives at [REDACTED], Ruislip [REDACTED].

Major Mary Taylor from Ealing on 18 January.

A brother, Mr Raymond Taylor, lives at [REDACTED], Bishop Auckland [REDACTED].

Major Trevor Plant from Bournemouth on 21 January.

Major Iris Plant lives at [REDACTED], Bournemouth [REDACTED].

(Scotland Council), Th 3 Feb*; Carlisle Citadel, Sat Sun 6; Ushaw College, Durham (local officers conference), Sat Sun 20; Sunderland Millfield, Sat Sun 27

*wife will not accompany

ENGAGEMENTS

THE CHIEF OF THE STAFF

(COMMISSIONER BARRY SWANSON) AND COMMISSIONER SUE SWANSON:

Sunbury Court (High Council), Sun 23 Jan - Mon 31

THE TERRITORIAL COMMANDER (COMMISSIONER JOHN MATEAR) AND COMMISSIONER ELIZABETH MATEAR:

Sunbury Court (High Council), Sun 23 Jan - Mon 31; North Scotland DHQ (Scotland Council), Th 3 Feb; William Booth College (spiritual day), Wed 9; Sheringham, Sat Sun 13; Crewe, Sat Sun 20

THE CHIEF SECRETARY (COLONEL BRIAN PEDDLE) AND COLONEL ROSALIE PEDDLE:

Portadown, Sat Sun 30 Jan; North Scotland DHQ

TRIBUTES



MAJOR JANET BROWN

THE major was promoted to Glory after 57 years' service. Janet was born in 1929 in Alloa. Her father was a miner and life was hard during her early years. Her brother Kenneth was born six years later and one of her proudest memories was that she was allowed to choose his name. They were very close and remained so throughout their lives.

When their mother died, Janet vowed to look after her 'wee brother' – a role in which she served very well under difficult circumstances, as her father remarried and his new wife did not care too much for his children.

This caring nature, which came to light at an early age, was formative in her development. She also took inspiration from the Bible and its gospel message.

Cadet Janet Brown entered the training college from Raploch in 1953 to join the Shepherds Session and, commissioned the following year, was appointed to Kinlochleven. Subsequent appointments took her to Kinning Park, Buckie, Invercairn, Dundee Hilltown, St Monance, Dundee Cherryfield, Brechin, Bathgate, Lerwick, Cullen, Gorbals/Govanhill, Townhead, Shotts and Shettleston/Tollgate.

In 1969 she was joined in ministry at Kinlochleven by Auxiliary-Captain Mary McGehan. They continued working together at Cowdenbeath, Penicuik and Maddiston.

A complete change of work came in 1972 when Major Brown was appointed officer-in-charge of The Salvation Army Conference Centre at Balvonie. This was without doubt her favourite appointment – providing hospitality to the many and varied people who visited for conferences or holidays. Throughout this she was ably assisted by Mary.

For a few months she was transferred to IHQ, but soon returned to Balvonie. Her final appointment in 1985 was at the Army's holiday home at Broadstairs as officer-in-charge.

In 1990 Major Brown returned to Scotland to begin a well-deserved retirement in Glasgow, where she and Mary enjoyed a more leisurely pace of life. Having travelled the length and breadth of Britain throughout her service, she was very proud of her home.

When her friend died, a large part of her life was taken away. However, she was privileged to be supported by the many friends they had made through the years. This was also true in her latter years, when failing health brought many obstacles and numerous stays in hospital. Again the support of her many friends, neighbours and Army associates throughout these times was a great comfort to her.

Her niece Sandra and other family members take encouragement from the knowledge that she is now with the Lord. – S. D.

ON THE AIR

BBC Radio 4 (92–95FM, 103–105FM):

Sunday Worship (8.10 am) will be broadcast from Staines Corps on Sunday 6 February, featuring the International Staff Songsters and Staines Band.

Angel Radio (101.1FM and online at

angelradio.moonfruit.com): Derek Dunn will present a programme of Salvation Army music on Sundays at 10 am (repeated on Thursdays at 5.30 pm).



MRS BRIGADIER EDITH MANNING

AFTER 80 years of officership, Mrs Brigadier Edith Manning was promoted to Glory at the great age of 103 from

The Salvation Army's Dewdown House in Weston-super-Mare. As Edith Dale she was born in 1907 in Sunderland, where she later attended an Anglican Church but – in her own words – was 'a nominal Christian'.

Moving to London to train as a nurse, she became friends with another Anglican student. One Sunday they were late setting off for the service and the church bells stopped ringing, signifying that the service had started. Her friend continued on to the church, but Edith was reluctant to go in late and instead followed The Salvation Army band back to the hall. She responded to the appeal that was given and was gloriously saved. She 'didn't feel too different' but the next morning became aware that the sky seemed more blue and the world a nicer place.

Edith became a cadet from Clapham in the 1929 Fighters Session, the first in the new Denmark Hill training college. Before marriage to Captain Albert Manning in 1934, her appointments included Oldham, Newcastle and Manchester Oak Avenue.

The couple met through Albert's sister – a matron at one of the Army homes where Edith was stationed – who told him: 'I've found just the girl for you.' Despite his initial misgivings, they fell in love as soon as they met.

The Mannings served together in Men's Social Work appointments throughout the United Kingdom, including Macclesfield, London Spa Road, Clevedon and Liverpool. They retired from Bristol in 1966.

Edith's spiritual leadership showed a passion for souls, wherever she worked in the service of the Lord, with a faith that never wavered.

She was also a forthright evangelist; her son Keith recalls an occasion when she was seated next to an Orthodox Jew during a flight to Israel. By the time they arrived, he was converted to Christianity.

Edith's love for her husband, two children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren shone through clearly. Her family already miss her greatly, but know that she is safe in the arms of Jesus. – K. M.



CORPS SERGEANT-MAJOR KEN MARLOW, ROTHWELL

THE youngest of seven children, Ken was born in 1937. The family moved

to Rothwell in 1939. Ken attended the local church school, but was no angel! He later discovered The Salvation Army, where people took an interest in him.

Taught to play the drum, he was still playing 55 years later.

He met his wife Sandra in 1963 when the Methodist Youth Club met at the Army. They married in 1965, and had two sons – Andrew and Julian – and five grandchildren.

Ken gained community respect for his efforts and commitment as scout leader and received a prestigious award from the Scout movement for 50 years' service.

He served Jesus wholeheartedly, and was full of faith, love and humour. – J. C.



BANDSMAN DESMOND DANIEL, SWINDON CITADEL

DESMOND was promoted to Glory soon after becoming unwell en route to a band carolling engagement. Born to officer-parents in Hull in 1934, he travelled extensively with them throughout the UK. After National Service he joined them at Cradley Heath, where he met his wife Mildred.

Following marriage in 1957, the couple soldiered at Birmingham Citadel before moving to Swindon in 1965 with their daughters Melanie and Cheryl when Desmond commenced work with the local council. He later changed career and became a social worker.

At Swindon his corps service included responsibilities as band sergeant and YPSM.

Desmond conscientiously continued as a bandsman despite great health difficulties. His sudden passing was a shock to the corps and community. – K. S.



CORPS SECRETARY MRS JULIE DUCKETT, WREXHAM

JULIE, a fourth-generation Salvationist, was brought up at Stockport

Heaton Norris Corps. As a teenager, she attended the Central and West Yorkshire Divisional Music School and twice attained the Top Brass Student Award.

Moving to North Wales with her

parents, Julie soldiered at Wrexham where she married and served as a bandswoman, songster, young people's sergeant-major, corps sergeant-major and corps secretary.

Julie was always vibrant and positive and her lively sense of humour was evident to all. This character trait continued to shine through the last eight years of her life, as she battled against serious illness with great determination.

Julie had a resolute and unshakeable faith and trust in the Lord whom she loved and served. – C. D.



DEPUTY SONGSTER LEADER CLIFFORD JUSTICE, WORTHING

CLIFF was promoted to Glory very suddenly, aged 55, while on holiday

in New Zealand. Born at Sutton, he moved with his parents to Worthing in 1960. Cliff was principally a man of humour and great faith, which manifested itself in his everyday life and work as an accountant.

His musicality was such that he held the positions of YP band leader, deputy bandmaster and bandmaster at Worthing and Horsham and, because of his love of singing, was also deputy songster leader.

He is greatly missed by his parents, brothers and sister, and by his wife Sue, their children and grandchildren.

Family and friends are assured he is now in Heaven with the Saviour. – R. J.

PLEASE note that pressure for space means tributes have to be edited. This has caused pain to some family members when tributes have appeared in shortened form. To avoid such distress it is requested that soldiers' tributes submitted for publication should be no longer than 120 words. We will then make as few changes as possible. Good quality pictures will be included with tributes.

Salvationists gather for New Year Rally

Irvine

THE corps in Ayrshire united in Fullarton Parish church, Irvine, for a New Year Rally. Divisional Commander Major Vic Kennedy encouraged the congregation to consider personal spiritual renewal. He was supported by Ayr Band, Kilbirnie Songsters and Kilmarnock Singing Group, who contributed a mime to 'The Servant King'.

Corps leader Territorial Envoy Lexie Andrade led the meeting and Christians from the town joined in worship. The Rev Neil Urquhart welcomed everyone to his home church and the Deputy Provost (Councillor Ian Clarkson) was the guest of honour.

During the afternoon, members of Irvine Corps undertook outreach in the town centre while an ensemble from Ayr Band played hymns in the Rivergate Mall. – L. A./E. F.



WRITINGS THAT WILL INTRIGUE AND INSPIRE

Major Ed Forster reviews *Selected Writings of General Shaw Clifton* (volumes 1 and 2)

THESE selected writings of General Shaw Clifton will inform, inspire and surprise. Together these books succinctly, yet incisively, cover a wide range of vital subjects from moral and ethical issues to spiritual teachings and Salvation Army processes and policy. They provide an insight into the heart and mind of the author as he shares from his practical experience and the challenges he has faced in a wide variety of appointments on five continents.

The General has personally selected each of the articles included in this anthology. He has chosen the articles and papers from his writings that he says 'have mostly been confined either to the pages of *The Officer* magazine, which has an officially restricted circulation, or to those in senior leadership in The Salvation Army'.

'Volume 1,' the General explains, 'consists entirely of some of my early articles in *The Officer*. Volume 2 ranges more widely and comes right up to date, often dealing with key matters of international Army policy.'

The articles in volume 1, which were written between 1974 and 1999, begin with a selection related to Martin Luther and his statements concerning the 'priesthood of all believers'. General Clifton calls it a beautiful concept that was considered extremely radical at the time that Martin Luther coined the phrase. While the concept is more widely understood and accepted today, the General says that he believes it has become misused and that it has become a slogan for diminishing the separate role of clergy. He believes that people have come to feel, mistakenly, that 'anyone can do anything within the Church'.

Volume 1 goes on to address such subjects as Christian ethics, abortion, race relations, voluntary euthanasia and the just war. He also covers the explosive subject of nuclear war and the Christian conscience regarding the nuclear bomb itself. The General, who was born within weeks of the dropping of the nuclear bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, comments about his keen awareness of having been among the first people to have lived their whole life in the post-nuclear age, and his deep consciousness related to this subject. He was especially moved to have had the opportunity to visit and pray at the Atomic Memorial Site in Hiroshima since becoming General.

The General also ranges widely with his straightforward views on topics from heresies to homosexuality. The theologically minded will find his series on the 'I Am' statements of Jesus immensely stimulating. He also includes a short compendium on his favourite psalms and observations on God the Father.

In volume 2, written in the decade between 2000 and 2010, he shifts primarily to the Army's mission, purposes, functions and specific activities in which it has been engaged. He begins with the topic of Behaving Well In A Multicultural Army. His observations on this subject were first given in a presentation at the International Millennial Congress in Atlanta, USA, in June of 2000. In his opening remarks of the address, which was given to Salvationists with an interest in ethics, the General said: 'Each moment is an ethics-filled moment. Choices about behaviour come thick and fast throughout each day. It is all so relentless!' He then asked a series of challenging questions to set the stage for what would follow. 'What to do? How to do it? When to do it? Is it right? Is it kind? Is it biblical? Is it Christlike?'

If you've ever wondered what it takes to be a thinking Salvationist, the General has an interesting series of opinions on the subject in his tribute to General Frederick Coutts. His article about one of the Army's most revered former leaders reads like a 'how to' on holiness and on becoming a godly person through a deep fascination with the word of God, as well as through serious intellectual pursuits.

The General spends most of volume 2 sharing his insights from writings or addresses that were given after he took office as The Salvation Army's international leader in 2006. He begins that series, however, with a uniquely personal presentation – his High Council nomination speech. He relates how he was accepting this third nomination for the position of General over a period of years, not because of the expectations of others, but that he was driven 'only by a desire to obey God'. He further commented that 'no person should accept a nomination for General if they cannot accept the outcome with genuine joy'.

During the five years that the General has served in office, he has addressed a wide spectrum of audiences, including members of various faiths, his own consultative council, the doctrine council and Salvationists around the world. The latter part of volume 2 features elements from these addresses as well as interviews with both Army and secular publications.

Both of these volumes contain immense insights into the thinking, beliefs and philosophy of Shaw Clifton. He speaks the truth in love as a strong Christian leader, as an avid reader and a highly educated scholar. His thoughts are shared boldly after

many seasons of observation and research. He readily admits, in one of his articles, addressed to Salvation Army officers, that 'stress affects us all. No officer can expect to be exempted.' The challenges of his own life have been used by God to rouse others in their thinking and to give them a clarion call to be all that they can be for the Kingdom. ■

Selected Writings of General Shaw Clifton (volumes 1 and 2) are available priced £4.95 each or £7.50 for the two volumes (plus postage and packing) when ordered together from Debbie Condon at IHQ. They are also available from Salvation Army trade and supply stores around the world and online at Amazon.co.uk

■ Major Forster is Editor-in-Chief for National Publications and National Literary Secretary, USA

